



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM

CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor McGriff convened the meeting at 6:07 PM.

PRESENT: 5 - Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, Commissioner Mike Mitchell, Commissioner Adam Marl, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Mayor Denyse McGriff

STAFFERS: 9 - City Manager Tony Konkol, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Assistant City Recorder Evan Lee, Parks and Recreation Director Kendall Reid, Public Works Director John Lewis, Police Chief Shaun Davis, Finance Director Matt Zook, Library Director Greg Williams, Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. List of Future Work Session Agenda Items

Tony Konkol, City Manager, reported that the next work session on January 9, 2024 would include presentations and discussion regarding the topic of engaging a Destination Marketing Organization, as well as a general reevaluation of the future work session items list.

Commissioner Marl requested that a discussion of 2024 July 4th celebrations be scheduled.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Oregon City 20-Year Master Plan

Mr. Konkol introduced a discussion regarding long-term and current City facility needs and asked the Commissioners to provide guidance for prioritizing facility projects.

Brandon Dole and Margaret Wilson of Scott Edwards Architecture offered a presentation regarding the state of sixteen of the City's various facilities.

Mayor McGriff asked whether the City owns the 7th Street Fire Station and Mr. Dole offered to research this.

Mayor McGriff observed that the City Elevator would eventually require maintenance and Mr. Dole said that the elevator would eventually be added to the master plan.

Commissioner Mitchell asked how potential State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) analysis of the pool property site would affect that facility. Mr. Dole replied that future use of the building would be pending SHPO verification of pre-territory-era site significance.

Mayor McGriff asked whether the City's deferred maintenance practices have affected the current state of the pool building. Mr. Dole replied that at this time the building is at the end of its life and requires either extensive renovation or replacement. He also observed that new aquatic facilities are generally being built

with more amenities than the current building offers and that other locations may be better suited as aquatic facility sites.

There was discussion about sizing of the facility for Oregon City constituents rather than for regional use. Mr. Dole observed that a new facility with multiple pools could resolve the current facility's crowding issues, as well as code and accessibility issues.

There was discussion about future possibilities for the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center site and whether alternative uses might be considered. There was also discussion about the site's significance for State history and its tourism value.

Commissioner Mitchell expressed concern about the usage of Urban Renewal funds for the End of the Oregon Trail Center. He also suggested that the nearby Stimson property be considered in the context of future uses of the End of the Oregon Trail site.

There was discussion about the house currently being used at the Cemetery both for Cemetery-related operations and for Parks and Recreation operations. There was consensus that facilities should be improved for the services currently offered without expanding funeral services offerings, and that Cemetery facilities should be limited to Cemetery-related operations rather than sharing space with Parks and Recreation.

There was discussion regarding the possibilities of establishing two facilities at the Cemetery, one for front-of-house services and one for operations, or building one facility to accomplish both purposes.

There was discussion about potential uses for the Buena Vista Clubhouse and about whether a Master Plan should be created for Atkinson Park.

Commissioner Smith suggested adding addresses to descriptions of properties designated "old" or "new," for the sake of clarity. There was discussion about the pros and cons of eventually moving City Hall, including customer service and amenity offerings. There was discussion about how the Engineering and Planning departments and staff can be moved closer together or their services coordinated in other ways to reduce travel for those who need these services.

There was discussion of potential uses for the 7th Street Fire Station building and about the Fire District's current facility needs. Commissioner Smith asked that the documents clarify that the Fire District has no immediate plans to leave the location.

Mayor McGriff asked what the City's responsibility is regarding the maintenance of the Amtrak station facility and Mr. Konkol offered to research this question. Commissioner Smith suggested revisiting the question of transforming the facility into a fully functioning train station. There was discussion about the benefits of maintaining the lease held by the restaurant at the facility.

When asked about when to involve the public in these facility use discussions, Mr. Dole recommended doing so after short- and mid-term goals were identified.

Commissioner Mitchell said that acquiring public support for projects would be necessary for success, especially for the facilities currently at the end of their functional life. Mayor McGriff suggested using the recent library renovation process as a model for community engagement.

The Commission took a break from 7:50 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

3. Clackamette Park Master Plan

Mr. Konkol introduced discussion of two aspects of the Clackamette Park Master Plan: the park's capacity to host events and the location of its RV park.

Mayor McGriff suggested that, as public feedback had indicated a desire to move the RV park to make way for pedestrian use of the river area, the Commissioners could request studies of possible new locations in order to reach consensus on how to proceed.

Commissioner O'Donnell recommended moving the RV park to the lot that fronts the Clackamette Cove. This lot is an Urban Renewal property.

Commissioner Smith objected to moving the RV park to a proposed site next to McDonald's on the grounds that it would nearly halve the number of available RV sites and would reduce the park's attraction as a destination site. He also suggested that public support for the McDonald's-adjacent site might decrease if the public were offered alternate site plans.

There was discussion about the history, landscape, and accessibility of the Urban Renewal site adjacent to Clackamette Cove as a potential RV park site. There was consensus that Staff be requested to research this property as a potential RV park site and to return to the Urban Renewal Commission with information.

There was discussion about whether the boat ramp at Clackamette Park can be moved, or angled, or removed, and there was consensus to request confirmation from the Marine Board that the boat ramp cannot be moved or angled differently.

4. McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project Update (CI 22-002)

John Lewis, Public Works Director, provided a brief review of the alternatives for the walking path adjacent to the Willamette River. Lewis offered to return on January 17th after an open house meant to gauge public opinion about priorities for the walking path. Mayor McGriff suggested prioritizing vehicle speed control next to the walkway.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5. Update on City Projects

Mr. Konkol provided a brief update on current projects and goals. He provided an updated cost estimate for the Quiet Zone project, consisting of an addition of \$650,000 to the original 2019 estimate of \$2.6 million. He said that the Commission had approved the intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to begin work on this project and that he would provide regular updates. Commissioner O'Donnell suggested contacting the Grande Ronde tribes to see if they would like to contribute to this project since it would benefit their planned hotel construction.

Mr. Konkol reported that research was underway to address encroachments at the Promenade. He reported that the Historic Review Board had approved plans for the Cayuse Five Memorial, and that collaboration on the Inadvertent Discovery Plan was underway with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla. He reported on a recent meeting with the Confederate Tribes of the Grand Ronde to discuss a future presentation about progress with tumwata village.

Mayor McGriff said that County Administrator Schmidt was willing to discuss the Courthouse with the Commission and asked for follow-up on this possibility. The Mayor also expressed a desire that the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde present the Commission with an update on tumwata before offering presentations to neighborhood organizations.

Commissioner Smith observed that "tumwata village" is printed in lowercase on the Grand Ronde's website regarding the project, and he requested confirmation that the Commission is transcribing the site's name with the correct linguistic style.

Commissioner Marl asked for confirmation that the approved design for the Cayuse Five Memorial was the redesign recently made in consideration of tree issues. Mr. Konkol confirmed that it was.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Commissioner O'Donnell

- South Fork Water Board

Commissioner O'Donnell had nothing new to report.

7. Commissioner Smith

- Clackamas Heritage Partners
- Oregon City Tourism Stakeholder's Group
- South Fork Water Board

Commissioner Smith reported that the Clackamas Heritage Partners had recently discussed maintenance of the End of the Oregon Trail building, and he suggested discussing the extent to which the Clackamas Heritage Partners should participate in plans for the future of that facility.

8. Commissioner Marl

- Citizen Involvement Committee Liaison
- Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4)
- Clackamas County I-205 Tolling Strategies Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee Liaison

Commissioner Marl reported that though ODOT had cancelled the Transportation Planning Hearing for Oregon City originally scheduled for December 2, there was a possibility of a new hearing being scheduled for January 6, 2024. He also observed that other meetings were taking place in the greater Metro region and suggested that Oregon City residents be encouraged to attend.

9. Commissioner Mitchell

- Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) – Metro Subcommittee
- Clackamas County I-205 Tolling Diversion Committee (alternate)
- Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) (alternate)

Commissioner Mitchell reported that the C4 Metro Subcommittee was to meet the following evening to receive an update on the progress of the Regional Transportation Plan.

10. Mayor McGriff

- Clackamas Water Environment Services Policy Committee
- Clackamas Heritage Partners (alternate)
- Downtown Oregon City Association Board
- Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)
- Oregon City Tourism Stakeholder's Group
- South Fork Water Board
- Willamette Falls and Landings Heritage Area

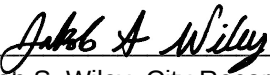
- Willamette Falls Legacy Project Liaisons
- Willamette Falls Locks Authority
- Youth Advisory Committee Liaison

Mayor McGriff discussed her meeting with the Counsel General of Japan in regard to the City's sister city relationship with Tatashima, Japan. Mayor McGriff also talked about her meeting with Governor Kotek, along with Metro Counselor Christine Lewis, and the topics discussed, which included reducing burdens on the land use zoning regulations coming from the state and the local opposition to the tolling of the I-205 interstate.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGriff adjourned the meeting at 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder