



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Tuesday, December 07, 2021 at 6:00 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE CITY COMMISSION:

The Executive Session began immediately after adjournment of the City Commission Work Session.

1. PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(2)(i): To review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Lyles Smith convened the meeting at 6:05 PM.

PRESENT: 5 - Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith, Commissioner Denyse McGriff, Commissioner Adam Marl, Commissioner Rocky Smith Jr., Commissioner Frank O'Donnell

STAFFERS: 10 - City Manager Tony Konkol, Assistant. City Recorder Jakob Wiley Interim Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, Parks & Rec. Director Kendall Reid, Economic Development Director James Graham, Assistant to the City Manager Lisa Oreskovich, Support Captain Bill Kler, Finance Director Matt Zook, Library Director Greg Williams, Assistant City Engineer Josh Wheeler

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. List of Future Work Session Agenda Items

Mr. Konkol, City Manager, reviewed upcoming meeting topics. The City Commission discussed preparation needed for the joint meeting planned with the Historic Review Board (HRB) and what important criteria to discuss. Also discussed were upcoming HRB appointments and City Charter revisions.

Mr. Konkol introduced Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, Interim Community Development Director.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Adoption of Park Place Urbanization Plan, An Amendment to the Transportation System Plan (LEG-21-00003)

Josh Wheeler, Assistant City Engineer, presented the staff report. The purpose of the plan is to provide a guideline for staff to use when private development is proposed. The Park Place Urbanization Plan has been submitted by the Public Works Department for adoption. File No. LEG-21-00003 amends the Oregon City Transportation System Plan to add the ancillary plan for pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular access within the Park Place neighborhood. The plan adds clarity for street designs within the project area, as well as a sidewalk prioritization plan. Public comments were sought through two neighborhood

meetings, two Planning Commission meetings, various emails to numerous agencies, two neighborhood surveys, and information was accessible on the project website. The Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions that they would like to see more bike lanes and more traffic calming measures in the neighborhood as the plan is implemented.

Mr. Wheeler reviewed existing pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular issues in the development, right-of-way impacts and the public outreach process. Sidewalk prioritization was reviewed.

Commissioner O'Donnell asked about the funding sources and Mr. Wheeler indicated that private developers would be responsible for the majority and grants and public works funding for any gaps.

Commissioner McGriff asked about the concern of parking and Mr. Wheeler indicated residents had expressed they wanted available parking on the Park Place roads. Also discussed was speed reduction and the width of certain streets.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked about acquiring the rights-of-way and Mr. Wheeler indicated that would happen on a case-by-case basis as development occurs. Also asked was the term "family friendly routes" and why streets without sidewalks were considered family friendly. Mr. Wheeler indicated there are certain streets that are safer due to less vehicular traffic because the streets are rural and narrower. There was discussion on the definition of a family friendly street versus a family friendly route.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked about street striping and Mr. Lewis indicated striping could be done very quickly. Mayor Lyles Smith commented that bike and pedestrian lanes will need to be prioritized, over the usual "vehicular first" approach. Commissioner McGriff asked about the process of in-filling sidewalks in subdivisions where they do not exist and Mr. Lewis explained how that process happens and how it is funded.

3. Oregon City Economic Development Strategic Plan Executive Summary

James Graham, Economic Development Manager, provided the staff report which reviewed the economic development vision under development. The 2022-2027 Oregon City Economic Development Strategy also builds upon the insights of the OC2040 Comprehensive Plan Update. The City's Economic Development Strategy offers goals and strategies aimed at fostering a diverse, resilient, and vibrant local economy. The Oregon City Commissioners adopted the first Oregon City Economic Development Steering Committee (EDSC) on June 3, 2020. The EDSC was charged with creating and implementing a holistic strategic plan designed to provide guidance and offer expertise in the crafting of Oregon City's economic recovery from the dramatic/negative impact of the COVID-19 virus and to recommend a framework for a more resilient local economy moving forward. The Committee began its work in the Summer of 2020 and ended in the fall of 2021. The Committee consisted of 14 members who reflected diverse views representing the for-profit sector, academia, government, and private nonprofits.

Mr. Graham reviewed the vision for the economy and the assessment of the local economy. The SWOT analysis was reviewed (Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats).

Ann Griffin, Economic Development Coordinator, discussed Goal 1 - business retention and expansion.

Mr. Graham discussed Goal 2 - business attraction strategy, focusing on target industries.

Ms. Griffin discussed Goal 3 - entrepreneurship goals and strategies.

Mr. Graham discussed the Goal 3 component of small business procurement initiative and development of new market opportunities for small businesses.

Mr. Graham discussed the tourism development component of the vision and establishing a brand for Oregon City.

Commissioner McGriff asked about the childcare material. Ms. Griffin provided some background information for the source of the statistics included in the presentation.

Commissioner Marl asked about the role of the City. Mr. Graham indicated the role of the City would be as an orchestrator and organizer with other entities such as Clackamas Community College and the chamber of commerce.

Commissioner Smith commented that urban renewal should be considered a threat to tourism development. There was discussion with Mr. Graham on the heritage sites and the funding involved and also promotion for city sponsored and community sponsored events and how there are different approaches involved.

Commissioner O'Donnell provided some feedback on the economic return, childcare issues, and land use topics in the vision summary.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked about the forgivable childcare loan program and why it was selected as the support program. Mayor Lyles Smith suggested that if childcare capacity is the issue, a subsidized price would not directly address capacity, but price. Mr. Graham provided background on the rationale for the forgivable loan concept. The Mayor did not support the loan program as presented.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked about the implication of an industrial park on the urban fringe and did not expect much support in the community. The Mayor expressed concerns about marketing businesses that may not be ready and able to deliver services due to the lack of hireable employees.

Commissioner Marl expressed concern about subsidizing one sector over another but recognized that childcare would free up residents to increase the workforce.

Commissioner McGriff discussed the purchase of property by the City and possible vertical building development versus horizontal development.

4. Oregon City Sidewalk Replacement Assistance Program

The City Commission took a break at 8:25 PM until 8:34 PM.

John Lewis, Public Works Director, provided the staff report. Oregon City Municipal Code identifies the property owner as the responsible party for abutting sidewalk repairs and replacement. Though trees provide benefits such as stormwater retention, wildlife habitat, and reduced energy consumption, street trees often cause damage to abutting sidewalks. Street trees have caused significant damage in neighborhoods across the city, although it was the Wasco Acres, Trailview, and Tracey Heights subdivisions enforcement letter that stirred our most recent discussion and resulted in this proposal for a new Sidewalk Replacement Assistance Program. At the May 25, 2021, City Commission meeting, the City Commission asked staff to address the neighborhood concerns with background and recommendations moving forward. August 10, 2021, was the first policy discussion on a proposed program followed by another Work Session discussion on October 11, 2021. The proposed funding program includes applicants can apply once a year and is reimbursable after the permit is obtained and the work is completed. The redlined changes made after the last presentation were reviewed.

There was Commission discussion on the tree removal component, credentials of tree service vendors and code requirements for homeowners that perform the sidewalk replacement themselves.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked if homeowners that took out permits from 2018 forward would be notified and Mr. Lewis that would be the case. Mr. Konkol commented that cases from 2018 would be addressed first and then move forward to 2019, etc.

Commissioner Smith asked if the program's look back would only go back to 2018. Mr. Lewis confirmed that the proposed program would only extend to 2018. Commissioner Smith suggested that the issues

went further back and the issue would return again in the future. Commissioner Smith believed the City was responsible for having the incorrect trees on the tree list in the 1980s and 1990s.

Mr. Lewis suggested using a system where applicants provide a permit and a receipt for the tree replacement as a requirement for reimbursement. Commissioner McGriff felt homeowner proof through a permit and/or receipts should be required and eliminate the 2018 date. Commissioner O'Donnell supported requiring a permit, homeowner receipts and verification by the City.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was no report from the City Manager.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

The City Commission did not provide individual committee reports.

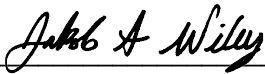
- A. Beaver Creek Employment Area Blue Ribbon Committee** - Appointed: Commissioner Frank O'Donnell
- B. Citizen Involvement Committee Liaison** - Appointed: Commissioner Adam Marl
- C. Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4)** - Appointed: Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith
Alternate: Commissioner Adam Marl
- D. Clackamas County I-205 Tolling Diversion Committee** - Appointed: Commissioner Adam Marl
Alternate: Commissioner Frank O'Donnell
- E. Clackamas Heritage Partners** - Appointed: Commissioner Rocky Smith, Jr.
- F. Clackamas Water Environment Services Policy Committee** -
Appointed: Commissioner Rocky Smith, Jr.
- G. Downtown Oregon City Association Board** - Appointed: Commissioner Denyse McGriff
- H. Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)** - Appointed: Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith
Alternate: Commissioner Denyse McGriff
- I. OC 2040 Project Advisory Team** - Appointed: Commissioners Adam Marl and Denyse McGriff
- J. Oregon Governor's Willamette Falls Locks Commission** – Appointed: Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith
- K. Oregon City Tourism Stakeholder's Group** - Appointed: Commissioners Frank O'Donnell and Rocky Smith, Jr.
- L. Oregon City/West Linn Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Concept Plan Project Advisory Committee** - Appointed: Commissioner Denyse McGriff

- M. South Fork Water Board (SFWB)** - *Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith, and Commissioners Frank O'Donnell and Rocky Smith, Jr.*
- N. Willamette Falls and Landings Heritage Area** - *Appointed: Commissioner Denyse McGriff Alternate: Commissioner Frank O'Donnell*
- O. Willamette Falls Legacy Project Liaisons** - *Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith and Commissioners Frank O'Donnell*

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lyles Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, Assistant City Recorder