



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (CIC)

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, 625 Center Street, Oregon City
Monday, October 04, 2021 at 7:00 PM

This meeting will be held online via Zoom; please contact planning@orccity.org for the meeting link.

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: 9 - Karla Laws, Linda Baysinger, Dennis Anderson, John Kies, Amy Willhite, Sara Peterson, Steve VanHaverbeke, Bob LaSalle, Karin Morey, Denise Beasley

STAFFERS: 3 - Senior Planner Christina Robertson-Gardiner, City Commissioner Adam Marl, City Commissioner Denyse McGriff

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Polertise (sp) represented the Oregon City Parks Foundation in his comments. The foundation would like the CIC's help in encouraging the City Commission to have Oregon City join with other metro cities to participate in a No Ivy Day event on Saturday, November 20th to help in eradicate English ivy. The No Ivy League in Portland has a framework available for the city to follow to plan a No Ivy Day event to gather volunteers to control ivy growing in the city.

William Gifford is a resident of Oregon City here to comment on two points: The first is he has been contacted by several neighborhoods to get instruction on how to use the Zoom system he had set up for neighborhood associations. He would like to see the CIC provide education to neighborhoods so they can benefit from the use of Zoom. The second issue brought up is that he would like to see consistent email addresses for each neighborhood association so that when a chair leaves their volunteer position they do not take their email address with them.

Karla Laws, coming forward as a resident and a CIC chair, discussed land use issues on Holmes Lane. The concerns raised are using a traffic safety report from 2017 and doing a geological study during the 2020 forest fires with no soil sample on a creek bed. Barclay Hills had an appeal that is being nullified because of issues with the neighborhood's meeting minutes and bylaws. She feels that it is difficult to advocate for residents in land use and would like to see the city attorney represent the elect in cases rather than the city manager so that there is an even playing field for residents. Bob LaSalle mentioned that there will be a Land Use 101 informational meeting on October 14, 2021 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Bob advised Karla to email him with this item so it can be put on the next meeting agenda to discuss.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Downtown Update – Denyse McGriff, Vice President of Downtown Oregon City Association (DOCA) (www.downtownoregoncity.org)

Denyse offered activity updates in her presentation. Halloween is coming soon, and there will be Trick-or-Treating from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on October 29th. A companion pub crawl will be on October 30th. The mural above the restaurant, Don Pepe's, is getting refurbished, and more murals are proposed to go near the Live Edge Salon on Railroad Avenue and 6th as well as White Rabbit Ink on Main Street and 5th. A new Christmas ornament is ready for pre-sale, and it will be the 1936 Clackamas County Courthouse. Other ornaments that are still available for purchase are the Oregon City Municipal Elevator, Arch Bridge, Wagons at the end of the Oregon Trail Center, and the Courthouse. Next year's ornament will possibly be the Ermatinger House. DOCA is having informal conversations about the courthouse. The Virtual Oregon Trail Game Run is still going through next year. A new business is coming to downtown called The Glow Up and will be next door to Don Pepe's. Next year, the Arch Bridge will turn 100 years old, and some planning for a celebration has begun. Denyse welcomed a new board member, Laurie Bell.

2. Housing Choices Update-Christina Robertson Gardiner, Senior Planner

Christina provided a general overview of the Housing Choices Code Update Project for Oregon City in response to House Bill 2001. This bill was passed as a partial solution for addressing Oregon's housing shortage. The city must update their code to align with the bill by June 30, 2022 or the model code that was created by the legislature will prevail.

This bill requires that large cities allow duplexes on every lot and parcel of land that allows a single-family home. There are also allowances for triplexes, quadplexes, townhomes, and cottage clusters. A slide was shown of where the city already follows the bill and the new requirements needed. FAQ topics have been about the historic districts, geological hazards, parking, and private covenants and restrictions. The community can stay involved via the project page on the city's website, getting on the project mailing list, take a survey, ask Christina to present in your neighborhood, and attend or comment on public hearings in spring 2022.

3. Water System Plans & Upcoming Ballot Measure-Patty Nelson, Special Projects Senior Engineer (www.oregoncitywater.org)

Patty identified that there are \$81 million in projects for the water system focusing on maintaining the water system as well as its ability to recover from wildfires, major storms, droughts, and also provide water for everybody for many years. Some examples that show this need are the 2020 wildfires and the 2021 ice storm. The City's approach is to focus on repair and upgrading the water system. The water system is funded by Water System Improvement Fees, which were increased starting July 1, 2021, and the Water Distribution Fee that is seen on the Oregon City utility bill. Current annual water increases have been capped at 3%, and the city is seeking to

temporarily raise that increase for six years up to 6% as well as borrow \$38 million to pay for these projects. The requests for raising the yearly increase and borrowing funds will be on the November ballot, and these ballot measures can be reviewed at www.oregoncitywater.org.

4. OC 2040 Update - Laura Terway, Community Development Director (www.OC2040.com)

This is concerning the Comprehensive Plan Update which is a document that forecasts how Oregon City would like to look and function in 20 years from now for development, parks, transportation, capital project, et cetera. This plan is a goal policy that brings forth transportation, master plans, and codes from which policy recommendations come from. There has been a considerable amount of community engagement over the last year with good input from local groups, clubs, organizations, neighbors, surveys, paper mailers, interactive poster boards, and social media. The full statement for the plan can be found at www.oc2040.com. The vision is split into four categories: Diverse economy, connected infrastructure, healthy and welcoming community, and protected environment. There have been already been summits on the first three categories, and a summit for the fourth will be held on Zoom from 6:00-8:00 on October 7, 2021 as well as an in-person chat, Coffee and Comp Plan, on Friday, October 8, 2021 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Planning Division Office.

5. Housing Needs Analysis-Laura Terway, Community Development Director (www.bit.ly/ochousingneeds)

The housing needs analysis is used to determine what housing needs will be in 20 years and if there is enough supply to meet potential demand. The analysis will need to be redone every six years to stay up to date. Examples of data analyzed were existing quantities of housing, construction data and trends, ownership vs. rental, cost of housing, household income, and percentage of income spent on housing. The forecasted numbers for housing showed the need for 7,435 new units with the vacant land capacity for 7,266 new units. The next steps are that Community Development will go before the city commission on October 25th with a goal to get to through the adoption process before the end of the year.

STAFF LIAISON UPDATES

6. Staff Liaison Update

Christina encouraged attendance at the Protected Environment Comprehensive Plan summit and reiterated how to register. She also invited everyone to attend the Land Use 101 Zoom meeting that was discussed in Public Comments. Christina will have a 30-minute piece in this presentation that will be recorded for future use. Postcards: Christina let everyone know that she is the contact for postcards as of July. She has been able to turn around requests within 24 hours, but there is a delay in receipt of these cards in neighborhoods because of they are mailed out in bulk through the U.S. Post Office. She reminded everyone to subscribe to the monthly Trail News e-newsletter and forward the information to their neighborhoods and contacts as well.

Information was given about development applications and that interested parties can go to the Developer tab at www.orcity.org. The public records request process was covered for when a neighborhood has a meeting with a developer. The chair can contact Christina to get a copy of the preapplication conference notes. The form to request these notes is on the city's website on the City Recorder page, and the turnaround time is about a week.

GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Storage of Neighborhood Association papers - Steve Van Haverbeke & Bob LaSalle

This issue was brought up because the Park Place Neighborhood Association is at a point where they are having trouble storing all of the historic information and believe other neighborhoods may be having a similar problem. He believes there is a storage room available at the John Adams Fire Station across from the library, and Denyse McGriff confirmed this. She will send the code to interested neighborhood chairs.

8. Committee to Investigate Postcard Routing and Timelines.

Bob brought up the issue about postcards being received late as well. Christina offered some options that may help fix the issue: Consider first class mailing, go out for a new bid to request for services, and mentioned there might be a grant opportunity. Bob would like 2-3 volunteers to look into how this process can be more efficient timewise and financially. Karla Laws and John Kies volunteered. Some suggestions were using A-frame signs and/or lawn signs to help get the word out about meeting information.

ROUNDTABLE

For more information on upcoming neighborhood association meetings and contacts please visit: <https://www.orcity.org/community/neighborhood-associations>

Barclay Hills – Karla Laws

They will have a steering committing meeting next week, and some land use will be coming their way. There is a side committee that is researching the previous name of Barclay Hills, which was Elyville, and this group would like to entertain changing the neighborhood name back to Elyville. She asked if there will be elections this year, and Bob advised that nominations and elections will be in January.

Canemah – Linda Baysinger

The neighborhood had an ice cream social on August 8th that as very well received and attended. They had a recent meeting at the park and are struggling for a consistent meeting place. There will be some new neighbors coming in soon. There are plans to have a steering committee meeting soon as well.

Caulfield – John Kies

They had a neighborhood meeting on September 28th where Patty Nelson presented her Water Systems Plans and Upcoming Ballot Measures. They also had representatives from Willamette Falls Hospital and how that is going with their growth.

Gaffney Lane – Amy Willhite

They have a steering committee meeting on October 6th where they will discuss if they will have their November meeting. Amy is sitting on the committee to rename Filbert Run Park and reminded everyone they have until October 8th to fill out the Survey Monkey with suggestions for a new park name.

Hillendale – Sara Peterson

They are still trying to get going and are working with Tower Vista for their meetings. They are having a community meeting October 5th via Zoom with presentations from the fire department, Public Works, and others.

McLoughlin – Denise Beasley

Kelly Reid talked at their meeting about the Compatible Change Project and the revisions for definitions of new construction. They had an approval for solar panels for 815 and Monroe. The neighbors around The Father's Heart worked together, and the request for temporary shelter was denied pending more information. The Father's Heart wants to work with the neighborhood association to develop a Good Neighbor Policy which was a goal for the year. She is encouraging brainstorming with neighbors on what they would like to see happen with the Waterboard Park master plan, and they would like to host a community engagement event when everyone can meet in person. There will be a steering committee meeting this week.

Park Place – Steve VanHaverbeke & Bob LaSalle

They have a general meeting coming up on October 18th via Zoom. There has been disruption in the organization where the chair resigned and took with him the Park Place email address. The neighborhood is becoming very active in land use with the proposed developments.

Rivercrest – Karin Morey

They are going to meet soon via Zoom. There is a request from Gardner Middle School for a lighted monument sign and an update from Public Works. Karin clarified that Filbert Run Park was a placeholder name, and the survey Amy Willhite mentioned is for giving the park it's actual name.

Commissioner Marl

Two joint work sessions were held with the city of West Linn to focus on transportation issues that relate specifically to tolling, and they talked about a bike pedestrian budget connecting the two cities. Commissioner Marl went over details from two letters the CIC sent to the City Commission two months ago. One was for The Cove mitigation funding. The issue that came up

is that it is desired that The Cove becomes more of a public space, and the funds may be harder to access for public access spaces. The other letter was about the Community Development Department. There will be an investigation into the director. As it relates to the policies and procedures, he encourages everyone to be involved with the OC 2040 Comp Plan Updates which is where they will get to the root of the complaints by neighborhood associations.

Commissioner Denyse McGriff

Commissioner McGriff sent a letter to the editor of the Oregon City News which was published in last week's issue that made a request to the public to get back to her concerning citizen involvement. The article was "Oregon City must help citizens get involved with planning processes." She feels that Oregon City has done a great job in making opportunities available for citizen participation, but they cannot make someone become involved. She would like to have further conversations to get ideas on how to encourage Oregon City residents to engage in city processes.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 9:21 p.m.