



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (CIC)

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, 625 Center Street, Oregon City

Monday, August 02, 2021 at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

STAFFERS: 4 - Senior Planner Christina Robertson-Gardiner, City Commissioner Adam Marl

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amy Willhite

Amy Willhite came before the committee in a citizen capacity. She has concerns over practices of the Community Development Department. She would like for the CIC to send a letter to the city commission asking them to investigate the Community Development Department practices whether those practices are written or not. There was a question raised about examples and details of the concerns. Some of those examples were postings behind bushes, misinformation given, emergency meetings that required a rapid and unexpected turnaround for applications, staff reports being given to developers before being presented at public meetings, staff records being adjusted and revised before they are presented at public meetings, and public notices going out with wrong dates and information. Amy is asking for an overall review of the Community Development Department versus an itemized review of any examples that may be placed in the letter.

Amy Willhite, as a member of the Citizen Involvement Committee, made a motion to send a letter to the City Commission to investigate the practices of the Community Development Department. This motion was seconded by another committee member. Motion carried. Ayes: Karla Laws, Dorothy Dahlsrud, Amy Willhite, Sara Peterson, Steve VanHaverbeke, Denise Beasley. Nays: Linda Baysinger, Dennis Anderson, Karin Morey. Abstain: John Kies, Hunter Pico, Bob LaSalle

Amy Willhite will draft the letter, and Bob will sign it.

Paul Edgar, Canemah neighborhood

Paul came before the committee today to make comment on tolling of the I-205 corridor. He feels the tolling will bring congestion to the side streets in Oregon City. He does not understand why Oregon City is being targeted for the toll and others are not. He would like the CIC to follow this issue.

PRESENTATIONS

1. John Lewis, Public Works Director- Public Works Update

I-205 Widening and Seismic Improvements: House bill 3055 was passed which will provide \$375 million in funding for phase 1a of the Abernathy Bridge section for widening and seismic improvements. On the West Linn side, the interchange of I-205 and Highway 43 will change to a roundabout, and the current northbound offramp will be removed. On the Oregon City side, there will be some slight reconfiguration to the on/off ramps of 99E as well as a sound wall being installed near the Cove Apartments. Final plans for Phase 1a is scheduled to be completed October 2021, and construction will begin in July 2022 with completion scheduled for 2025.

Vehicle Registration Fees: A \$30 per year county-wide vehicle registration fee was voted in February 2019 by the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners. Cities within Clackamas County will receive a distribution of 40% of those funds. Oregon City has created a plan for use of funds to balance the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists as well as addressing congestion management. The first projects will be focused on pedestrians and bicyclists to include sidewalk infills, traffic signal upgrades, and adding/removing flashing beacons where needed.

Molalla Avenue Streetscape Project: This project is on time and on budget. The original projected completion date was set for November 2021, and it is anticipated to be done a bit earlier.

Park Place Urbanization Plan: This plan is currently moving through the land use process aiming for sidewalks, crosswalks, and urbanization of rural areas.

Paving Project Updates: The annual chip sealing is complete. FEMA projects have been mostly focused on sidewalk improvements.

Utilities Update: Issues are being cleaned up around water boundaries where the Clackamas River boundary still includes some Oregon City customers who do not receive Clackamas River water anymore. The city staff is working with the Clackamas River Water District on this project.

The Canemah neighborhood will be getting new pressure reducing valves on their water lines which will cause some water shutdowns. There will also be small diameter work on 13th Street, work on the storm pond in the canyon, and Barclay Hills will have some improvements.

Sanitary Sewer: Some updates will be going before the City Commission on August 4th that will set up sanitary sewer rehab, and Rivercrest will be the first big neighborhood affected. John went over upcoming, completed, and design-phase projects.

Stormwater: A new stormwater SDC will be effective January 1, 2022. This is a one-time fee imposed on new development at the time of the development. This fee went

from \$956 per equivalent residential unit to \$1,070 per residential unit. Monthly rates increased to \$10.86 beginning January 1, 2022 with an 8% increase each year until 2026. Capital projects were also discussed.

Water SDC: The new rate was effective July 1, 2021. Public Works will be in front of the Commission to discuss what water ballot measures should stay. Upgrades are needed to help with water storage for fire suppression and summer demand. Capital projects were discussed.

Geologic hazard codes were updated.

Oregon City shuttles are moving around town now, and the schedule is posted online. These are on a fixed route but can divert if needed if contacted in advance.

The Oregon City Engineering and Operations Center is on schedule.

2. Lucinda Broussard, ODOT Tolling Program Director- I-205 Toll Project

House Bill 2017, "Keep Oregon Moving," was adopted. This looks at the bottlenecks on I-5 and I-205 and how they can be opened up as well as implementing a toll program. This bill gave the Oregon Transportation Authority Commission toll authority as well as the ability to set toll rates. A Value Pricing Feasibility Analysis was done to determine what points can be tolled such as I-205/OR 213 to Stafford and I-5 from Multnomah Boulevard to North Going Street. They are also doing a Regional Mobility Pricing Project that includes I-5 near the Interstate Bridge down to Boon Bridge and I-205 from Stafford Road to I-5. The need for tolling comes as a result of not getting enough money from the gas tax which has not been raised in 20 years. Most funding has covered only maintenance with no room for innovation. The system needs maintenance and improvements, but there is a \$325 million shortfall, and tolling can make up that gap. The benefits of tolling are improved travel times, reduced greenhouse gasses, sustainable funding for investments (improvements, bridges, I-5 corridor), and strategies and investments to advance equity and mobility. The cost of the tolls is not set yet, but it will be variable depending on the amount of traffic. At this point, it is unknown where the toll devices will be located. The earliest start for tolls will be 2024.

Concerns raised from the CIC are around pricing, congestions, travel time, programs the fund are being used for, and the possibility that the tolls will not end once the projects are paid for. Lucinda also made a presentation to the Training Advisory Committee that can be referenced as well through the Portland Police Bureau website.

3. Jerry Herrmann -The Cove Water Quality and Endangered Species-Mitigation Funding

Jerry discussed the history around how the Portland Harbor Superfund Fund collected money. There are funds available from there that help cities with work on their natural areas. Gladstone, Milwaukie, and West Linn have used close to \$100 million of the fund successfully. Jerry would like to see Oregon City proceed rapidly in order to not lose the opportunity to participate in the Lower Harbor Superfund Mitigation Fund and is asking the CIC to send a letter with a strong recommendation to move forward on this as there is less than \$200 million left of the original \$500 million. With this fund, the city does not need to hire any new staff to manage the projects because they are managed by professionals who do the legwork around getting the permitting and working with the many agencies that may be involved. Further, the mitigation trust fund puts the money into every project for long-term maintenance so the city does not have to cover it. Bob LaSalle has created a letter for this.

Amy Willhite made a motion to approve sending the letter Bob wrote to the City Commission to encourage starting the process of acquiring the mitigation funds for local natural area projects. The motion was seconded by Karla Laws. Motion carried. Ayes: Karla Laws, Dorothy Dahlsrud, Linda Baysinger, Dennis Anderson, John Kies, Amy Willhite, Denise Beasley, Steve VanHaverbeke, Bob LaSalle, Karin Morey, Sara Peterson, Hunter Pico.

STAFF LIAISON UPDATES

4. Staff Liaison Report

Kelsi McNall's is the staff representative who coordinated postcards and invoices for the neighborhoods, and her last day with Oregon City will be August 3rd. Christina will have the postcard budget available at the October meeting and will have updates for this at each meeting going forward. For home projects, she pointed the CIC to the "How do I?" section on the city's planning and building pages on their website so they can share that information with their neighbors. There is interest showing from people who would like to be involved in the neighborhood association. A reminder was put out to sign up for the monthly *Trail News* e-newsletter and to encourage neighbors to as well to get details about activities around Oregon City and at the library. If neighborhood chairs would like the city's notes before any developer comes to their neighborhood to make a presentation, Christina can be contacted for those. She will be also be working on some code updates to come into compliance with House Bill 2001 and will bring those to the Commission in August and the CIC in October to discuss them.

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. CIC Bylaws, Article V, Section 6 per HB 2560 -

Requires governing body of public body, to the extent reasonably possible, to make all meetings accessible remotely through technological means and provide an opportunity for members of the general public to remotely submit oral and written testimony during meetings to the extent in-person oral and written testimony is allowed
<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2021R1/Measures/Overview/HB2560>.

The CIC can no longer ban an electronic or telephonic vote which means that the bylaws will need to be updated. Future meetings will need to have the option for distance attendance. The City Recorder can help work with neighborhoods to help with accommodations to help with this.

ROUNDTABLE

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

Canemah – Linda Baysinger

Canemah is excited to be hosting an ice cream social so everyone can meet again face-to-face.

Rivercrest – Karin Morey

A groundbreaking was held for Silver Run Park.

Gaffney Lane – Amy Willhite

They are looking for a new place to hold meetings if anyone has any ideas. She is concerned about the amount of email Spam that is coming from so-called city entities. Christina discussed that they are working on it. Amy talked about the City Commission meeting being held in the new chambers and reminded everyone that the City Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Historic Review Board will be the groups that meet in the new space at this time.

Caulfield – John Kies

Asked if the City Commission meetings could be attended live, and Christina advised that they could be as long as the person is wears a mask.

Barclay Hills – Didi Dahlsrud

Didi expressed that Christopher Seggs (sp) on the City Planning Commission has an active lawsuit against the city. She believes he should step down from the planning commission as a developer. The second issue she brought up is that the message machine for the city planning building says it is still closed and suggests that someone update that.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.