

Planning Commission Work Session
November 26, 2013
NDS Conference Room

Commissioner's Present

Dan Rosensweig - Chairperson
Kurt Keesecker
Genevieve Keller
Lisa Green
Natasha Sienitsky

Staff Present

Jim Tolbert-Director NDS
Missy Creasy
Ryan Davidson
Lisa Robertson

Mr. Rosensweig convened the meeting at 5:05 pm and turned the meeting over to Ms. Creasy.

Ms. Creasy provided a list of reminders of meetings including the joint work session on December 5th on the SIA with City Council that will take place from 7-9pm at Cityspace. There will also be a luncheon with the West Main consult December 6th from 11:45am-1:15pm. Please let Margot know if you plan to attend. There will also be a West Main Street Community meeting at Carver Recreation Center December 7th from 10-2 pm. We will be having our regular meeting December 10th and as of right now, quorum is a concern.

Ms. Creasy turned the meeting over to Mr. Tolbert.

Mr. Tolbert passed out a report and informed the Planning Commission that he and the City Manager put together a report to show how funds have been spent that the Planning Commission recommended for different projects. He went over the report and explained why funds were spent in certain areas and not in other areas.

Ryan Davidson, Budget Analyst, reviewed the proposed Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2015-2019. He showed the GIS project created to show a visual of potential projects. He showed what information would be shown if you were to click on the different areas.

Mr. Keesecker like what he saw. He can really see things coming together and suggested integrating a way to show streets or projects integrated into our streets.

Mr. Davidson stated that the current map is difficult to add to but perhaps there will be opportunity in the future. He noted that the criteria and process for the CIP has not changed. He also discussed proposed expenditures such as public safety and the firing range.

Ms. Green asked why funds were getting approved if the space for the range has not been approved by the County. She also asked how they are looking at replacing fire trucks. What type of trucks will they be replaced with?

Mr. Rosensweig asked what can be done to make the equipment align with the streets.

Ms. Creasy stated that the Commission cannot tell the fire department what to buy. Only suggestions can be made.

Mr. Rosensweig suggested having a future work session with the fire department to discuss working together concerning streets.

Ms. Keller asked if things could be linked together such as lighting, trees and sidewalks.

Mr. Davidson stated that the fundamental flow in the CIP needs to be backed up to relate to the total cost of the project.

Mr. Rosensweig asked why Meadowcreek wasn't funded in the CIP and Mr. Davidson stated that the Parks Department felt a lot of it could be done in house.

Mr. Rosensweig feels that the CIP is not consistent with the funding schedule for HAC. He would like to know why we are a year behind.

Ms. Keller stated that there were low scores for small area plans and low funding for small area planning for the SIA. She wanted to know how certain areas scored so low.

Mr. Davidson stated that certain projects are done on a case by case basis and looked at differently.

Mr. Rosensweig would like for Mr. Davidson to go back and see where there is money is that is sitting and not being used and that can be allocated into the SIA and small area planning.

Ms. Creasy stated that the Commission provides recommendations to Council concerning what you would like for them to look, how the committee has allocated the funds and where the funds should be moved. Suggestions can be made during the public hearing to Council as to where certain funds should be allocated to different projects.

Mr. Rosensweig opened up the time for the public to speak.

Bruce O'Dell would like the streetscape looked at on Locust, Meade, East High and East Market streets. The neighborhoods in these areas are very interested in what will be occurring.

Mr. Rosensweig thanked Mr. Davidson for his hard work and stated that the Commission would now discuss previous suggestions on how to make the meetings more efficient. It was noted that everyone would like for the meetings to be more efficient. They would like to have a 10 minute time limit on applicant's presentations. During the preliminary discussion they feel that it would be appropriate to spend more time.

Ms. Green feels that she is interrupted when she is trying to get her point across. She feels a lot of the Commissioner's change their mind after they have listened to the report. She would like the applicant to focus more on the changes they have made from a previous meeting.

Ms. Keller would not like to lose the function to provide some community dialogue. She feels that if you jump to conditions it will lead to approval of every project.

Mr. Keesecker feels that he can find a way to turn his issues into conditions.

Ms. Robertson stated that they could facilitate a discussion that will help them work towards a motion.

Mr. Rosensweig thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.