

MINUTES

Eugene City Council
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

March 12, 2018
5:30 p.m.

Councilors Present: Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Claire Syrett, Chris Pryor

Councilors Absent: Emily Semple, Betty Taylor, Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the March 12, 2018, Work Session of the Eugene City Council.

1. Committee Reports and Items of Interest from Mayor, City Council, and City Manager

Council Discussion

- Report from Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission: approved resiliency planning efforts to evaluate assets.
- FEMA funds are covering approximately 75 percent of winter ice storm costs from last year.

2. WORK SESSION: River Road-Santa Clara Neighborhood Plan Project Update

Senior Planner Zach Galloway, along with John Belcher from the River Road Community Organization and Kate Perle from the Santa Clara Community Organization gave an update about the River-Road Santa Clara Neighborhood Plan. Julie Fischer with Cogito, a firm specializing in public engagement strategies, was also at the table to answer questions.

Council Discussion

- Appreciative of all the work being done.
- The conscious effort to embrace and welcome new people into the process speaks well to the intentions of the planning work being done right now.
- Electronic report and updates are being distributed through the City's website, interested parties list, and social media.
- Interested in the proposals and critical action plan, testing them on a wider level to see if there is investment and commitment to the proposals.
- Great to see that small groups are reflecting difference voices and demographics.
- Setting the bar high for process, involvement, and innovation for neighborhood planning.
- More information requested about the Federal grant awarded to the City and to LTD to look at development potential and financial feasibility, outreach and collaboration with the neighborhoods, and to develop a vision for what the River Road corridor will look like.
- The plan is to come back to Council with key milestones throughout the project.

3. WORK SESSION: 5th Street Market District Expansion Project Update

Community Development Director Michael Kinnison, along with Brian Obie and Casey Barrett of Obie Companies, gave an update about the proposed 5th Street Market District Expansion and highlighted opportunities the City has to partner on the project.

Council Discussion

- Believe the market district will be a jewel of the community if constructed property.
- More information requested about waiving height limitations for potential sign at top of building.
- Legal counsel advised that land use questions should be held until the project is ready to bring to Council at a quasi-judicial hearing.
- Taking a parking lot and turning it into something productive and useful is admirable.
- It is great to expand something that is already familiar and successful and tie it to downtown and the riverfront development.
- Concerned about parking and traffic issues the development might bring.
- More information requested about why it might be more expensive to develop downtown and why the project might be hard to develop without MUPTE.

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elena Domingo
Deputy City Recorder