



CITY OF REDMOND
Community Development Department

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DOWNTOWN URBAN RENEWAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 12, 2012

City Hall Conference Room A, 716 SW Evergreen Avenue, Redmond, Oregon

Advisory Members: Chair Tory Allman, Vice Chair Steven Boothroyd, Brad Smith, Carol Nelson, Ginny McPherson, Ken Streater (*absent:* Rachel Winkler, Robert Gomes, Will Van Vactor)

City Staff: Heather Richards, *Community Development Director*; Jon Williams, *Economic Development Project Manager*; Cameron Prow, TYPE-*Write II*

Visitors: Camden King, *City Councilor*; Trish Pinkerton, *Redmond Spokesman*

(scribe CP's note: The minutes were created from an audio recording and notes taken at the meeting. The three digits after the motion title show the number of members voting in favor/against/abstaining.)

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Allman called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Action Items

1. RFP for US Highway 97 Beautification Project

Ms. Richards presented a memo summarizing the background of this project. The Redmond Urban Renewal Agency commissioned a concept master plan in 2011 to prioritize enhancement projects for the US Highway 97 corridor between Veterans Way and the North Interchange. Design services are needed to produce the construction plans and specifications for the bidding process. These documents will enable the City to better estimate the cost of construction which is expected to begin in fiscal year 2012-2013. Cost of design services is estimated at \$30,000.

DURAC concerns included *City Council's priority on Highway 97 beautification, weight given to local contractors, and evaluation criteria for contractor selection.*

Motion 1 (6/0/0): Vice Chair Boothroyd moved to direct staff to issue a Request for Proposal for Design Services for the Redmond Downtown Urban Renewal Plan's Highway 97 Beautification Project, based upon the 2011 US 97 Reroute Gateway Beautification Project Plan. Ms. McPherson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. Discussion/Update

1. DURAC Open House – Review and Evaluation

Mr. Williams said that the open house was well attended. Visitors valued having the information and opportunity to discuss it. Phone calls following the event were generally favorable and recommended holding an annual open house.

Ms. Richards said that staff received a lot of property-specific questions.

DURAC members suggested using this year's process as a template. Chair Allman commended staff for their presentation and responsiveness to questions.

2. Downtown Parking – Discussion

Mr. Williams summarized his research of this issue which was prompted by an October 2011 petition from several downtown merchants. He has met with the Downtown Merchants Association and the City conducted an online survey. A 2008 DURAC subcommittee recommended strategies to create a more friendly customer environment. Short-term solutions include improving signage for public parking (wayfinding project), maps directing business owners and employees to park on 5th Street and side streets between 7th and 8th Streets, and not restoring time limits. Updating the 2003 downtown parking study would be a good next move.

Ms. Richards said that a new parking study would identify current demand, provide strategic planning data, and reassure potential new businesses that sufficient parking exists to support their operations. Staff will provide an update at the April 2012 meeting.

DURAC concerns included *feedback from residential tenants, impact from increase in tenants, timing of study and benefits expected, study cost, impact of new downtown amenities (Centennial Park, ice rink, hotel), and impact of Highway 97 reroute.*

3. Urban Renewal District – Flower Planting (6th Street, Centennial Park, Eastern Y)

Mr. Williams said that plantings in 2011 took place in early June. The City provided the flowers, gloves, wheelbarrows, tools, and water bottles and coordinated the volunteers. For 2012, the City would like to plant more perennials than annuals and has hired a designer.

Bridge Church has been doing the planting on 6th Street and has now volunteered to also do the Centennial Park planting.

Ms. McPherson volunteered to manage the Eastern Y planting and will coordinate with City staff on the date.

DURAC members and staff thanked Ms. McPherson for her willingness to help.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilor King said that new Redmond Development Commissioners will be sworn in on March 16 and discussion will begin on RDC's 2012 work plan.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (None)

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Williams said that the Redmond Hotel study is moving forward. Results are expected in May 2012. There will be a public meeting of property owners in the Business Medical District on April 4, 2012.

CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Allman reported that he will be presenting a summary of DURAC achievements for 2011 at the City Council work session on March 13.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Chair Allman adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

APPROVED by the Downtown Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and SIGNED by me this
____ 9th ____ day of _____ April _____, 2012.

ATTEST:

 /s/ Tory Allman
Tory Allman, Chair

 /s/ Heather Richards
Heather Richards, Community Development Director