

SPECIAL P.M. CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD JULY 15, 2014, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Tory Allman – Joe Centanni – George Endicott – Camden King – Ginny McPherson – Jay Patrick

COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ed Onimus

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith Witcosky – City Attorney Steve Bryant – Airport Director Jeff Tripp – Police Chief Dave Tarbet – Public Works Director Bill Duerden – City Engineer Mike Caccavano – City Recorder Kelly Morse – Community Development Director Heather Richards – CIS Administrator Sheri Cleveland – Deputy Director Jason Neff – Deputy Director Jodi Burch

MEDIA PRESENT: Leslie Pugmire-Hole, Redmond Spokesman

Mayor Endicott called the workshop to order at 6:30 p.m. and explained that the City Communications Plan (Exhibit 1) will be moved to the end of the agenda.

DISCUSSIONS

A. City Communications Plan, Heather Cassaro (Exhibit 1)

Communications Manager Heather Cassaro presented the Council with an overview of the City's proposed strategic communication plan while describing its purpose and what it achieves. Key components of the communication plan include:

- Municipal image and customer service
- Communication consistency
- Technology
- Citizen engagement
- Emergency communication

Ms. Cassaro accepted questions from the Council.

B. Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan and 2014/2015 Annual Action Plan, Heather Richards (Exhibit 2)

Community Development Director Heather Richards described for the Council the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program which is authorized under Title I on the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The purpose of the CDBG program is to develop viable urban communities for low- and moderately incomes persons by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities.

Mr. Richards explained the elements of the CDBG program, regulated oversight of the program, national objectives, the timeframe for CDBG task force planning, and considerations for the Consolidated Plan. Redmond's current demographic trends indicate the following:

- Large concentration of families (68 percent)
- Low incomes (median income 25 percent lower than county)
- Persons below poverty line has doubled in recent years (21.6 percent)
- Age in place / retirement growth (9 percent annual growth in 55 to 75 year olds)
- Rental housing supply is extremely limited (1 percent vacancy rate. Over 50 percent of the population has a housing cost burden of over 35 percent of HHI and is trending upwards.)
- Homelessness is increasing

Ms. Richards also reviewed results of a survey which included employment characteristics; population characteristics such as ethnicity and education; job distribution; wage trends from 2006-2012; business

information, and affordable housing statistics. The goals of the Consolidated Plan and percent of funding allocation over the next five years* are:

1. Provide decent affordable housing and work towards homeless prevention (50 percent)
2. Increase economic opportunities (15 percent)
3. Support agencies that provide public services serving low- and moderate- income residents (15 percent)
4. Remove barriers to accessibility
5. Further fair housing

*Administration and planning (20 percent)

Ms. Richards shared the fiscal year 2014/2015 Annual Action Plan Summary goals and funding allocation. The goals are:

- Goal #1: Affordable Housing Supply and Homeless Prevention (\$77,727.00, 5 units)
- Goal #2: Increase Economic Opportunities (\$24,300.00, 9 jobs created or workforce trained)
- Goal #3: Support Public Agencies Providing Services (\$25,000.00)
- Goal #4: Remove Barriers to Accessibility (\$25,000.00)
- Goal #5: Administration and Further Fair Housing (\$38,000.00)

Councilor King expressed concern with spreading the funds too thin and suggested that focusing resources in one area that serves the greatest need may have the biggest overall impact in all of the areas. Councilor McPherson explained that the Housing and Urban Development regulations are so stringent that many of the areas must be ready to go with their expansion of facilities and/or services. Council continued their discussion and Ms. Richards addressed questions.

C. Proposed Development Code Amendments for Residential Design Standards for Single Family Dwellings and Duplexes, and Fence Standards, Heather Richards (Exhibit 3)

Ms. Richards stated that the purpose of the discussion is to provide information pertaining to a proposed Development Code amendment scheduled for a public hearing before the Council on July 22, 2014. In May 2013, the Council adopted a set of residential design standards which would implement Council's goal of Great Neighborhood Principles as well as Redmond Comprehensive Plan goals and policies of quality neighborhoods, and respond to community concerns over Redmond's "curb appeal". In spring 2014, Central Oregon Builders Association (COBA) and several developers met with City officials to express their concerns with the new standards. The Urban Area Planning Commission (UAPC) held three work sessions and a public hearing on the issue.

Developer concerns included screening of mechanical equipment, building design (house repetition), roof and wall design, and fences. Ms. Richards compared the current Development Code language and described the proposed amendments while showing examples of the requirements.

UAPC Chair Evan Dickens and UAPC Commissioner Anne Graham spoke to the Council regarding the UAPC's efforts to work through these issues, their considerations of affordable housing, and the intent of the standards. Mr. Dickens noted the UAPC had many varying opinions due to the complexity of the issue, but were able to reach an agreeable recommendation.

In response to questions from Mayor Endicott, City Attorney Steve Bryant stated that in an effort to continue transparency, those Councilors who have been contacted by COBA should declare so at the upcoming public hearing.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Prepared by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 22nd day of July, 2014.

/s/ George Endicott
George Endicott, Mayor

ATTEST:

 /s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder