



Planning & Public Safety Committee

June 9, 2015

Summary and Motions

Chair Mossotti called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m. All Committee Members, Akers, Bledsoe, Farmer, Gibbs, Henson, Kay, Lamb, Scutchfield, Mossotti and Stinnett were in attendance.

I. May 12, 2015 Committee Summary

A motion was made by Farmer to Approve the May 12, 2015 Planning and Public Safety Committee Summary and Motions, seconded by Akers. The motion passed without dissent.

II. Greenway Plan & Manual

Derek Paulson, Commissioner of Planning, Preservation & Development, gave a presentation of the Greenway Plan & Manual.

Bledsoe inquired about some of the older items on the list of greenways that are maintained by the city, and if they would be grandfathered into any changes or have implications for prior agreements. Paulson replied that for many of the sites there are no timing issues or money to maintain them, so they have not accepted them yet. Bledsoe further inquired what the cost would be. Paulson stated the 43 spaces are in varying stages and each case will need to be determined and ranked in terms of further maintenance, which will factor into which greenways are accepted. Bledsoe stated she wants to see prior projects and agreements respected in their ranking system.

Akers inquired why greenways would have been accepted initially knowing that the maintenance costs are high. Paulson replied they have different goals for each type of greenway and noted there are both environmental stewardship and quality-of-life goals in addition to the potential for community benefit in these areas.

Akers inquired about their timeline. Paulson stated they have to acquire stakeholder input for the Greenway Manual prior to moving forward. Paulson stated next they will undergo a ranking process. Paulson informed this would be a gradual process.

Scutchfield stated many of these sites are in her area and inquired if this includes properties the city does not own but currently maintains. Paulson stated the 43 properties do not include those. Scutchfield stated she would like to request signage to help educate neighborhoods about height of grass, etc. Scutchfield inquired if this list is being looked at by the Parks

Comprehensive Plan, to which Paulson stated he does not believe they are. Scutchfield stated she feels they should be included.

Henson inquired if the City is still taking on agreements to maintain greenways. Paulson stated if the Urban Service Area is expanded there may be opportunities to add more greenways. Henson inquired about property owners that have been maintaining greenways and if they will continue. Paulson stated this will have to be addressed as they go through the Greenway Manual discussions.

Lamb inquired if Man O' War is shown on the map. Paulson stated they can provide another map for her district.

Mossotti expressed concern about large greenways spaces that are currently in limbo and the liability involved. Mossotti noted the cost to homeowners. Paulson stated their goal is to speed up this process as soon as they can. Stated these factors will go into their decisions.

III. Design Excellence Proposal

Vice Mayor Kay introduced the Design Excellence update. There were several speakers who gave public comment and Bledsoe yielded her time for a speaker.

Scutchfield stated she does not feel there had been sufficient time to discuss areas of concern, stating she feels this adds too many regulations on downtown residents and they are forgetting about their outside districts.

Lamb stated she has further questions, also.

Mossotti inquired for the Council's pleasure on this issue.

Kay stated this has been before the previous Council for a year and a half and the current Council for a year, in addition to being in Committee three times. Kay stated a delay would mean 3 or 4 months before it could be picked up again. Kay stated his desire for Council to move the ZOTA forward to the docket.

Mossotti noted the motion is only for the ZOTA. Kay stated that the ZOTA is the governing document which refers to the Design Excellence standards and guidelines and would incorporate all of the changes in the full Design Excellence proposal.

Akers noted Council could hold further discussion during Work Session if the issue is moved to full Council.

Lamb inquired about the expected launch date on the Accella program. Paulson stated they have just renegotiated the scope of work and they hope to have it up and running by next spring. Lamb stated she is supportive of Design Excellence but does feel incentives are a very

important function that needs to be in place before going forward. Lamb stated they could not implement the policies without incentives in place. Lamb further inquired about the items under regulatory incentives and their pending litigation, inquiring if Council can speak on these issues or if they will need to be in a closed session.

A motion was made by Farmer to call the question, seconded by Gibbs. The motion failed by a 3-6 vote. (Aye: Farmer, Gibbs, Kay Nay: Akers, Bledsoe, Lamb, Mossotti, Scutchfield, Stinnett)

Stinnett inquired if the motion includes the text amendment and if the text amendment also creates the board for Design Excellence to which Kay replied that it replaces the existing Courthouse Review Overlay Board with the new Design Excellence Board. Stinnett inquired about the incentives and when the process will be in place to make it easier to go through the development process. Kay stated the Commissioner stated it was ready to go. Stinnett asked Kay to clarify what exactly this is, noting he has not seen it vetted. Paulson clarified that what they had discussed was the Infill Facilitator, noting that this was not speeding up the process, but rather facilitating it. Stinnett asked for further clarification. Chris King gave some examples. Stinnett inquired if there was a list of what issues would be handled by Planning staff, and stated it is outlined in the ordinance. Stinnett stated it would be helpful for the public to have this clearly outlined.

Janet Graham, from Law, spoke to Lamb's prior question and stated she was not familiar with the document and was not comfortable responding to the questions. Lamb reiterated that incentives are important and she does not want to "put the cart before the horse". Kay stated it is important to start the process, noting that incentive pieces can be added as they move forward.

A motion was made by Kay to send to full Council the Design Excellence ZOTA, seconded by Farmer. The motion passed by a 6 – 2 vote. (Yay: Akers, Gibbs, Henson, Kay, Lamb, Mossotti Nay: Bledsoe, Stinnett)

IV. Food Truck Fire Safety

In the interest of time it was decided to postpone this topic until the next meeting of the Committee.

V. Items Referred

A motion was made by Bledsoe to adjourn, seconded by Akers. The motion passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

DS 6-17-2015