

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SUMMARY

June 3, 2019

Meeting Convened: 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium

Meeting Adjourned: 7:28 p.m.

City Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Chuck McDaniel, Phyllis Norris, Phillip Pe'a, Anna Stout, Duke Wortmann, and Mayor Rick Taggart.

Staff present: City Manager Greg Caton, City Attorney John Shaver, Deputy City Attorney Jamie Beard, Community Development Director Tamra Allen, Principal Planner David Thornton, Public Works Director Trent Prall, Assistant to the City Manager Greg LeBlanc, and City Clerk Wanda Winkelmann.

Agenda Topic 1. Discussion Topics

a. Update regarding the Comprehensive Plan Process

City Manager Caton welcomed members of the Planning Commission. Community Development Director Tamra Allen provided a brief summary of the process and introduced consultant Dan Garner with Housel Lavigne.

Mr. Garner reviewed the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan and noted there are nine steps in the process. Step 4 with "Issues and Opportunities" is being wrapped up with Step 5 (Visioning Workshop) beginning. Extensive community outreach has been conducted and continues in the form of focus groups, workshops, and online engagement. A "Visioning Workshop" will be held on July 16.

Top issues identified across focus groups included affordable housing, job growth, economic diversification and business growth, and bike and pedestrian transportation options. Additional issues identified in workshops and online engagement include traffic and traffic-calming measures and poor crosstown connectivity. Some of the issues identified by businesses include infrastructure, workforce readiness, and broadband. An "Issues and Opportunities Report" will be forthcoming.

After Step 5 "Community Vision, Goals, and Objectives," "Subarea Planning" will be explored in Step 6. There are still another ten months remaining before the project is complete.

Discussion ensued about identified issues, the level of community engagement, online engagement opportunities, participation by age bracket, the length of the survey, involving CMU to obtain feedback, outreach to neighborhoods, existing boundaries, advisory committee, and future outreach opportunities.

Agenda Topic 2. Next Workshop Topics

City Manager Caton reported that there will be a June 13th workshop with the Planning Commission to receive an update on the Downtown Development Authority's (DDA) Plan of Development (POD).

3. Other Business

Mr. Caton discussed the recent request by several citizens for the City to adopt a ban on all single-use plastic bags. Support was expressed by City Council for Mr. Caton to contact the citizens and inform them the Council is in the process of updating the Strategic Plan and will enfold sustainability efforts into the Plan.

Conversation ensued about developing a process to address citizen requests that concern policy matters. Discussing these items under "Other Business" during workshops received support by the Council.

Mr. Caton reported staff has been discussing ways to fund transportation needs in light of the recent failure of ballot question 2A. Councilmembers supported the idea of the formation of an ad hoc citizen committee that would address specific projects, the amount of the funding requested, and the language that would go on the November ballot. It was requested that each Councilmember send two names of suggested committee members to Mr. Caton.

Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 7:28 p.m.