

Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission

Agenda Item

Date: July 24, 2018

Item No: 9

Item Description: City Council Joint Meeting Review

Background:

On July 9th the Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission held a joint meeting with the City Council. Several items were discussed and Chair Cihacek and Vice Chair Wozniak had an opportunity to respond to a couple of items, particularly Organics Recycling and Tiered Water Rates.

For those commission members that were not able to attend, and for interested members of the public, it is strongly suggested that you view the meeting online prior to the July 24th PWET Commission meeting. You can view the meeting by going to the following page (link below), and then clicking on the bookmark located on the lower right side of the page for item 4C (at 1 hour 19 minutes into the meeting):

<http://webstreaming.ctv15.org/viewer.php?streamid=3065>

Recommended Action:

Review notes from the Joint Meeting with the City Council, determine any follow up tasks and establish a preliminary list of topics for consideration over the next calendar year.

Attachments:

- A. Request for Council Action form from July 9 Council Meeting
- B. Draft July 9, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes (excerpt)
- C. Brief notes highlighting topics addressed during the Joint Meeting

ROSEVILLE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: July 9, 2018
Item No.:

Department Approval



City Manager Approval

Item Description: Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission Joint Meeting with the City Council

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission meets with the City Council to review activities and accomplishments and to discuss the upcoming year's work plan and issues that may be considered. The following are activities of the past year and issues the Commission would like to take up in the next year:

Activities and accomplishments:

- Pathway Master Plan Update
- Transportation Plan Update
- Ordinance Updates
 - Fats, Oil and Grease Ordinance (Chapter 802)
 - Grading (Chapter 803.04)
 - Stormwater (Chapter 803.05)
 - Right-of-way Management (Chapter 717)
- Green Step Cities - Appointed Green Team, Reviewed current Green Step status, preliminary review of Complete Streets and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy
- Review and discussion of Organics Recycling options
- Participated, received and reviewed studies from U of MN environmental science Capstone projects (organics recycling, stormwater pond assessment, parks assessment, urban tree canopy, Green Step Cities, stormwater outreach, natural resource volunteer program, right of way vegetation management, public art and way-finding)
- Received Sanitary Sewer Inflow and Infiltration Study results
- Meeting with Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District for public meeting on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of Phosphorous into Bennet Lake
- Continued discussion of Campus Solar Options – Recommendation to participate/subscribe in the Community Solar Garden project
- Review of Water Utility Rates – discussion of modifying tiered rate structure

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29 Work Plan items for the upcoming year:

- 30 ○ Water Quality – Review of upcoming or in place TMDL’s, recent and upcoming water
31 quality projects, future needs and recommendations, looking at water from all three
32 sides – potable, storm and sanitary.
- 33 ○ Water Rate Analysis – Continued discussion on tiered rate structure
- 34 ○ Use of Solar to offset City’s electric consumption
- 35 ○ Achieving Next Green Step City step
- 36 ○ Regular Annual Items – MS4 Annual Report, Eureka Annual Report, Review of proposed
37 Utility Rates, Public Works 2019 Work Plan, Green Step Cities Update

38 Questions or Concerns for the City Council:

- 39 ○ What are the City Council’s and PWET Commission’s steps for advocacy of
40 additional/enhanced east/west transit routes and other issues of transit accessibility?
- 41 ○ What is the Council’s desire for continued efforts on Organics Recycling?
- 42 ○ Are there any other topics the Council would like the PWET Commission to address over
43 the next year?

Prepared by: Marc Culver, Public Works Director

Attachments: A: PWETC 2017-2018 Meeting topic summary

B: Proposed Topics from 2017 City Council/PWETC Joint Meeting

EXCERPT FROM THE DRAFT JULY 9, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission Joint Meeting with the City Council

PWET Chair Cihacek and Vice Chair Wozniak thanked the Council for the opportunity to discuss the Commission's accomplishments and work plan going forward.

Chair Cihacek noted that the Council's feedback this evening on the scoring rubric can easily be incorporated. He then briefly highlighted the accomplishments of the past year:

- Pathway Master Plan Update
- Transportation Plan Update
- Ordinance Updates
 - Fats, Oil and Grease Ordinance (Chapter 802)
 - Grading (Chapter 803.04)
 - Storm water (Chapter 803.05)
 - Right-of-way Management (Chapter 717)
- Green Step Cities - Appointed Green Team, Reviewed current Green Step status, preliminary review of Complete Streets and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy
- Review and discussion of Organics Recycling option
- Participated, received and reviewed studies from U of MN environmental science
- Capstone projects (organics recycling, stormwater pond assessment, parks assessment, urban tree canopy, Green Step Cities, stormwater outreach, natural resource volunteer program, right of way vegetation management, public art and way-finding)
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- Review of Water Utility Rates – discussion of modifying tiered rate structure

Chair Cihacek then reviewed the Work Plan items for the upcoming year:

- Water Quality – Review of upcoming or in place TMDL's, recent and upcoming water quality projects, future needs and recommendations, looking at water from all three 32 sides – potable, storm and sanitary.
- Water Rate Analysis – Continued discussion on tiered rate structure

- Use of Solar to offset City's electric consumption
- Achieving Next Green Step City step
- Regular Annual Items – MS4 Annual Report, Eureka Annual Report, Review of proposed Utility Rates, Public Works 2019 Work Plan, Green Step Cities Update

Chair Cihacek then presented a few questions/concerns for the City Council:

- What are the City Council's and PWET Commission's steps for advocacy of additional/enhanced east/west transit routes and other issues of transit accessibility?
- What is the Council's desire for continued efforts on Organics Recycling?
- Are there any other topics the Council would like the PWET Commission to address over the next year?

Councilmember McGehee stated she is happy with the PWET's work this past year. She noted it is an ongoing conversation to get the east/west line, particularly down to Larpenteur, as well as finding a way to get people on one side of Rosedale over to the other side. She noted she is very interested in the Green Steps Cities program as well as solar.

Councilmember Willmus commented on organics and noted many people would like to see the convenience of curbside organics. The question is what moves it along sooner rather than later. He expressed interest in solar and would like to learn more about the tiered rate structures for water usage.

Councilmember Laliberte concurred on the other Councilmembers' stated support for both solar and curbside organics. She recalled the Commission talked about the warranty program for sewer pipes. She thinks it is a big concern for people that they have aging infrastructure in their front yards.

Councilmember Etten expressed support for solar. He noted the City keeps bringing up transit; he asked about the District rep with the Met Council.

Chair Cihacek responded there has been difficulty in setting up a meeting with the Met Council representative.

Councilmember Willmus noted that it should be communicated on an administrative level to the Met Council that their interaction is necessary particularly on these specific issues.

Councilmember Etten asked about the tier rate structure.

Chair Cihacek noted one goal will be to identify those heavy users and work with them to reduce consumption.

Councilmember Willmus stated it is important to be aware of household size; he does not want to be punitive towards larger households. That is a factor when some of these things come forward.

Mayor Roe commented that education of the residents about organics recycling should be a priority. It is important to look at what are the largest contributors to that waste that could be going into organics recycling. He also suggested considering offering bonuses or rebates, as a way to incentivize those who reduce water consumption year over year.

Councilmember Laliberte asked whether the PWET Commissioners have received the work and conversations the Council has had about the water rates as well as the work of the Finance Commission.

Mayor Roe confirmed the PWET Commission has looked at the water rates.

Chair Cihacek noted that conservation is one issue, but the other issue is that the tiers may no longer match usage

Vice Chair Wozniak stated that people have strong opinions about infrastructure. Perhaps the rates should be revisited to ensure it is keeping up with repair needs.

Councilmember McGehee commented on the ionized pipes situation, noting that it has been determined to be cheaper to have repair service done to the affected pipes rather than obtain the warranty. She also noted that whatever comes to the City in terms of solar is a good deal, because though the sunrays are free, the process is not free. As the City works on the issue of flooding, it is important to keep in mind the openness and green space and the aesthetics along with that.

Mayor Roe suggested PWET look into the history of recycling in Roseville, to see if anything can be learned from its origins in terms of how the infrastructure came to be.

Councilmember Willmus commented that conversations should be had with Ramsey and Washington Counties. They now have the ability to start processing organics at their recycling facility. Those are the conversations at a local level that should begin, and education is part of that. The more convenient it is, the more likely it is that residents will participate.

Chair Cihacek noted the reality is it will take four or five years to roll out a program, because there is no existing facility in the County ready to adapt to organics.

Councilmember Willmus noted the conversations can happen at the Council level as well.

Mayor Roe emphasized these are conversations that should happen in partnership with neighboring communities.

Vice Chair Wozniak stated he works for Ramsey County. He corroborated the notion that it is a 4- to 5-year horizon for getting maybe a blue bag or something similar to it set up at Newport. It will involve new technologies, new sorting equipment, artificial intelligence, as well as finding new markets for these materials.

Councilmember Etten asked about the destination of the organics currently being collected at the collection spots.

Vice Chair Wozniak responded he is not involved in the current program; Waste Management is the vendor. He believes it is going to a compost site in Rosemount, which is the only area that receives organics locally. There is no place in the East metro for composting or processing organics. Composting may not be where this process is headed with collected organics; it may be anaerobic digestion with collected organics, which is likely 4 to 6 years out.

Joint Meeting Review:

Below are some very brief notes from the Joint Meeting with the City Council.

Items from Chair Cihacek's overview:

- Living Streets/Complete Streets Policy
- Water Quality
- Transit....what more to do?

Items addressed by City Councilmembers:

McGehee:

- Green Step Cities (Tree Canopy/Tree Diversity, private and public; Bird City)
- Green Space Requirements (zoning)
- Flooding issues – Stormwater drainage

Willmus:

- Organics – Blue Bag/Curbside
- Solar – Ground Mount
- Tiered Water Rates
- Private Service Warranty Program – How is it working?

Laliberte:

- Blue Bag Organics Recycling
- Solar
- Private Service Warranty Program

Etten:

- Solar....
- Organics – curbside
- Water Conservation – how to actually change behavior?

Mayor Roe:

- Organics – Education
- Transit – lobbying groups
- Water Conservation/Tiered Rates ...bonuses for water use reduction?
- Undergrounding of Power Lines?