

OBSERVER REPORT FORM

University Place City Council

Date: June 7, 2021

Name of Observer: Kresha Warnock

Present: Carolyn Belleci, Mayor; Steve Worthington, Mayor Pro Tem; Javier Figueroa, Council Member; Kent Keel, Council Member; Ken Grassi, Council Member; Howard Lee, Council Member, Pro Tem; Denise McCluskey, Council Member; Stan Flemming, Council Member, Javier Figueroa.

Others present: : Matt Kazer, City Attorney; David Swindale, Development Services Director; Steve Sugg, City Manager; Gary Cooper, Jennifer Hale, Public Safety Manager, Mr. Decker

Agenda approved – moved, seconded and carried

Public comments – None submitted

Consent Agenda – moved, seconded and carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Multi-Family Tax Exemption (Town Center South) ((Kevin Briske, City Planner, Matt Kazer, City Attorney presenters)

No Public Comments have been received, so public comment section closed.

Moved for approval for the motion to designate the area from 40th to 44th on Bridgeport Way W. as a Multi-Family Tax Exempt Area (Moved, Seconded, and approved)

Amended to designate that this exemption would only apply to these blocks on the East Side of Bridgeport.

For precise description of the designated area see Substitute Exhibit C in linked document:
See map of potential areas, on pp. 111 and 112.

http://cityofup.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/City_Clerk/CouncilMeetingPackets/2021/06-07-21%20RM2.pdf

Most of the discussion revolved around the decision to limit the designated area to the East side of Bridgeport. The same blocks on the east side of Bridgeport also contain abandoned properties and would benefit from development, but the Council felt that by allowing this area to be proposed as an MFTE at a later date allowed the Council more negotiating room.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

UPMC Title 23 Telecommunications Amendments (David Swindale, Development Services Director)

To pass an ordinance to amend Title 23 of the Telecommunications amendment. Must be updated due to need for 5G Internet and be in compliance with Federal Spectrum Act.

The ordinance update was moved, seconded and approved.

Memorandum of Agreement of University Place Veterans' Memorial Plaza at Cirque Park
(Gary Cooper, presenter)

The Council formally voted to work with the University Place Veterans' Committee to develop this Memorial Plaza on the mound of the entrance to Cirque Park. City will share some responsibilities; Veteran's group will have primary responsibility for construction and some maintenance.

Moved, seconded, and approved.

City Manager Report (City Manager, Steve Sugg)

By early August, the hybrid council meeting system should be up and running. Chambers should be ready for first meeting in September.

Public Safety Member Jennifer Hale discussed animal licensing fees. Discussed Operational Plan to promote animal licensing compliance.

STUDY SESSION:

GGLO Update: Homestead Park(Mr. Decker, David Swindale, Development Services Director)

Process and Timeline:

Develop Preliminary Park Program Program and Framework—2020

Solicit input from Public (completed)

Working on Master Plan Approval – Jan-Jun 21

Public Outreach section:

- 1) Park is pretty under-utilized
- 2) Most popular elements – Natural character of park, restorative (tranquil)
- 3) Concerns – safety (lack of sight lines); not enough space

Recommendations:

- 1) Protect natural setting of the Park
- 2) Retain or transplant rhododendrons
- 3) Add a Restroom
- 4) Enhance safety by establishing clear sightlines, expanding walkways and adding lighting.
 - Design slide pretty much meets these needs.
 - Trying to get Schematic design approved (June and Design)
 - Design Development (July and Aug.)
 - City Council Review – Aug 21
 - Construction Docs
 - Bidding and Negotiations
 - Construction complete spring 2022

The Council was supportive of moving ahead with the improvements of Homestead Park. The primary concern was the cost of the proposed restroom, which several thought was unnecessary. Mayor Belleci disagreed and suggested that a restroom is essential, especially for the elderly.

Housing Action Plan: Clay White, David Swindale

Goal to provide ideas for actions the city can take

Example 1 – Opportunities to provide a variety of housing types (Sufficient land for housing (low income, single and multi-family, group homes.))

Example 2 – Options to incentivize housing and mitigate displacement

Example 3 Ways to reduce development costs and timelines

[Growth Management Act (GMA)]

The presenters said that the proposal presents a toolkit rather than a specific action plan designed to be seen as a finished project in looking at the housing needs of the community. Council Member McCluskey suggested it be named a toolbox rather than a “plan”. Concern about aspects of the proposal, like subsidizing housing and adding multi-story buildings. Name “Housing Action Plan” comes from the state agency to whom the plan will be submitted, but the planners agreed that the wording on the proposal could be modified to indicate that this was not an “approved plan”.

R-3 zoning reviewed. R-1 and R-2 (low density). You would have to have a zone where densities are higher. Posing question of should we and where?

Mayor suggested planning commission look at this toolkit to see how it fits with our community and prioritize some of the actions.

Adjournment at 9:40 pm