

STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
City of Spokane
Public Infrastructure, Environment, and Sustainability
July 26, 2021

Committee members present in person, phone or video

Council President Breean Beggs, Committee Chair
Council Member Michael Cathcart, Vice Committee Chair
Council Member Kate Burke
Council Member Lori Kinnear
Council Member Candace Mumm
Council Member Karen Stratton
Council Member Betsy Wilkerson

Council President Beggs called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.
<https://vimeo.com/579596808>

Review and approval of minutes

Council President Beggs asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 28, 2021 meetings.

- Action taken
- Council Member Mumm moved to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2021 meeting as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Kinnear

Discussion items - Items were presented in a different order than reflected in the agenda and minutes.

A. Council Requests

1. Consent items for discussion
2. Legislative update (if needed)
3. Smart Water Meter/flow device upgrades
Steve Burns presented on costumer installation and explained that the City has been metering water for over 100 years with many technologies used over that time. Last fall the City upgrading to the Neptune metering system the goal is to be able to fully standardize the system. Smart meters are now the priority for Spokane's water system.
4. Northeast PDA update
David Guthrie, NEPDA Executive Director, explained the NEPDA includes about 1600 acres shared between the city and the county of mostly industrial land. The

area is one of the most challenged demographic in the community. According to the ZoNE Project, 58% of single mothers in our community reside in NE Spokane. Additionally 48% of Spokane's property crime and 49% of the community's violent crime occurs in NE Spokane. One of the challenges is infrastructure and the history of underinvestment in the area. Unpaved roads in the NEPDA One of the goals of NEPDA is to create a competitive industrial market and to do so involves an effort to pave roads and put in infrastructure. David noted the difficulty of recruiting quality employers that pay good wages and provide good benefits. NEPDA has recently submitted a RAISE grant and is working to submit a TIB grant and would appreciate Council's support. Another challenge is due to turn of the century land plats and inadequate right-of-way which is not wide enough for a complete streets initiative. There will be a tremendous challenge to connect with the North South Corridor and acquiring that right-of-way. Working to reclassify some streets in order to apply for some future grant funding to improve those roads. Another barrier to development is that over 700 parcels exist with less than a quarter acre of land which could be a hindrance for building out infrastructure.

B. Staff Requests

1. Envision Center interlocal agreement

David Steele and Dawn Carber presented on the interlocal agreement between the City, County and Workforce. David explained the agreement runs for the duration of the lease and the County has negotiated a 21 month lease extension at a rate of 18k per month. The County will pay this upfront and every three months, all parties will get their third portion. The City will finish paying out the extension that Council previously approved a few months ago, at the end of August. The City will get to back-bill the other parties for their portions. Dawn gave an update operations and sustainability of the Resource Center. Dawn shared future plans for acquiring funding for rent payments: 1.) funding opportunity called basic food employment training through the Washington State Human Services that can create an opportunity to generate revenue which could help with rent funding 2.) partners to help contribute – Envision Center will have an opportunity to negotiate rent with new partners i.e. an incoming apprenticeship provider 3.) Operations will be written into all grants that Envision works on with focus on operational grants. Envision Center is open for business and a majority of staff has returned. Community training has resumed i.e. inclusion and equity initiatives and re-entry programming. There will also be new marketing and communication efforts happening in the community.

2. 2021-2023 Consolidated Homeless Grant Program agreement

Jonathan Mallahan of Catholic Charities explained that the organization has entered into a contract to purchase an operational 15 unit motel located at 2905 W Sunset Boulevard. They are acting on an opportunity to take advantage of the State's recent emergency housing notice of funding availability (NOFA), whose purpose is to quickly add emergency, permanent, supportive and other forms of

housing and services for people who are experiencing homelessness in Washington. Catholic Charities learned of the opportunity and it is their request that the City might be interested in partnering. Catholic Charities was able to get the hotel under contract in just one weekend and are on track to submit a grant application with the City's support. The organization plans to operate this location as transitional family housing, which is serving families who are working to find permanent housing. The proposal is a request for a commitment to service the local match for the acquisition price for the project which is approximately \$300k. Additionally a commitment to work with Catholic Charities on future operating support will be sought as the City has identified housing needs as an important issue to solve in Spokane.

3. 2021 Action Plan component of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Community Development for CDBG, HOME, and ESG federal grant programs
Debbie Cato presented on behalf of Matt Davis and requested permission for CHHS to accept a \$9,611,051 grant renewal award from the Office of Family and Adult Homelessness and sub grant funds to awardees of the CHHS five year RFP. This is a combination of \$1,392,813 in CDBG base funding, \$368,900 for permanent support of housing for chronically homeless families and \$7,849,338 for housing and essentials needs programs for CHHS and the subrecipients.
4. Fluoridation grant amendment and resolution
Marlene Feist presented on a final amendment to the agreement with Arcora Foundation.
5. Civil infraction authority clarification
Mary Maramatsu of City Legal explained how legislative changes are affecting the ability of some City employees to write civil infractions. The ordinance is a clarifying ordinance to reaffirm the fact that certain officials who are City employees and government officials have always had authority to issue civil infractions consistent with their regulatory functions. That has not changed, however, the law which takes in account limited commissions has now reorganized those under law enforcement. In response, the City has looked at those departments that have previously been considered limited commission officers – parking enforcement, code enforcement, fire marshal – and they do not derive their authority from law enforcement. Instead it is from the municipal code which spells out the enforcement authority. To ensure there is not a gap in service, this simply adds language to clarify their authority.

Strategic Plan Session

- A. Priority Strategy 1. Rapidly accelerating street pavement maintenance projects
 - No report for this meeting.
- B. Priority Strategy 2. Repurposing public property to stimulate private investment

- No report for this meeting.

C. Priority Strategy 3. Sustainable city

- No report for this meeting.

Executive session

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Prepared by:

Shae Blackwell

Approved by:



Chair