



Agenda Sheet for City Council Meeting of:

03/29/2021

Date Rec'd

3/15/2021

Clerk's File #

RES 2021-0022

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Bid #**Agenda Item Type**

Resolutions

Requisition #**Agenda Item Name**

0650 - 5TH AVENUE INITIATIVE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Agenda Wording

A resolution recognizing the 5th Ave Community Strategy developed by the 5th Ave Initiative stakeholders & community as a declaration of priorities & actions to revitalize East 5th Ave between Liberty Park & Thor/Freya Streets in the EC Neighborhood.

Summary (Background)

The 5th Avenue Initiative Community Strategy is a neighborhood-led effort to revitalize & reimagine East 5th Ave in the EC neighborhood. It represents the culmination of a multi-year process of community engagement & by residents, businesses, & community leaders in collaboration with the City & agency partners. The community strategy presents an inclusive vision with recommended actions for improvements, programming, & community building for businesses & residents along East 5th Avenue.

Lease? NO

Grant related? NO

Public Works? NO

Fiscal Impact

Neutral \$

Budget Account

#

Select \$

#

Select \$

#

Select \$

#

Approvals

Dept Head

MEULER, LOUIS

Council Notifications

Study Session\Other

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Approved by Spokane City Council

on 3-29-2021

DocuSigned by:
Jeri Foster
City Clerk

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RESOLUTION NO. 2021-0022

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 5TH AVENUE COMMUNITY STRATEGY DEVELOPED BY THE 5TH AVENUE INITIATIVE STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITY AS A DECLARATION OF PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS TO REVITALIZE EAST 5TH AVENUE BETWEEN LIBERTY PARK AND THOR/FREYA STREETS IN THE EAST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD.

WHEREAS, the 5th Avenue Initiative is a neighborhood-driven effort in partnership with the City of Spokane that builds on previous community discussions and efforts to revitalize the East 5th Avenue area from 2016 and 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the East Central neighborhood and East 5th Avenue community are one of the most diverse areas in the City with strong communities of African Americans, Asians, Marshellese, and Hispanic/Latinx; and,

WHEREAS, the 5th Avenue Initiative was identified as a priority focus under former Mayor David Condon's administration for concerted efforts to counter decades of systemic disinvestment rooted in redlining and the impact the I-90 freeway construction caused to the community in the 1950s; and,

WHEREAS, the discussions initially began as a way to address and heal from these challenges that the 5th Avenue community feels has not been adequately addressed socially, economically, or equitably; and,

WHEREAS, the City helped re-engage a stakeholder group of residents, businesses, property owners, community organizations, and agency partners in 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the City secured the services of an independent contractor and community liaison for the purpose of facilitating the process and engaging the community (OPR 2019-0977), and signed a contract on October 28, 2019 with Pastor Rodney McAuley with Spokane Youth for Christ; and,

WHEREAS, the City and facilitator held a series of 3 community meetings and 2 forums to discuss priorities and issues, and identify and explore community actions from November 2019 to February 2020; and

WHEREAS, challenges identified by the neighborhood include a lack of identity and coordination for 5th Avenue; underutilized and underinvested commercial areas; a need for traffic calming, pedestrian and streetscape improvements; a need for preserving affordable housing; addressing the pressures of gentrification and

displacement; and a desire to preserve neighborhood parks and expand amenities; and,

WHEREAS, the 5th Avenue Draft Community Strategy was prepared and shared with stakeholders in February 2020, to reflect the diverse community in the 5th Avenue area, present a community vision that is inclusive and unified, and provide strategic actions for improvements, programming, and community building along 5th Avenue, prior to the project being paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the 5th Avenue Community Strategy documents the desires of the 5th Avenue stakeholders and community for City decision-makers as they consider future funding and implementation measures for City plans and projects; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission recommended the Spokane City Council approve the resolution recognizing the plan on February 24, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the 5th Avenue Initiative and Community Strategy carries forward momentum among the community to enhance the quality of life for residents at every life stage and economic condition, hoping that this will result in a strong community and strong economy that uplifts the 5th Avenue community with pride and investment; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 5th Avenue Community Strategy is recognized as a written record of the 5th Avenue Initiative stakeholders' and community's ongoing desire and effort to revitalize 5th Avenue, encourage equitable development, and create a vibrant, healthy, active, safe, and connected community for all neighbors, businesses, and community organizations.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 29 day of March, 2021.

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:
Mike Piccolo
Assistant City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
Jenni Pister
City Clerk

