REDMOND CITY COUNCIL PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE/ SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 Meeting Summary

Council

Kim Allen (Chair)
Tom Flynn
Hank Myers
John Stilin, (Attending Councilmember)
Hank Margeson (Attending Councilmember)
Pat Vache, (Attending Councilmember)

Staff

Lisa Singer, Senior Engineer, PW
B. Sanders, Senior Planner, Parks
Don Cairns, Engineering Manager
Jeff Churchill, Senior Planner
Pete Sullivan, Senior Planner
Eric McConaghy, Associate Planner
Kim Dietz, Senior Planner
Lori Peckol, Planning Manager
Michelle M. McGehee, MMC, City Clerk

Convened: 4:30 p.m. Adjourned: 5:34 p.m.

Committee Chair Kim Allen opened the meeting, noted Council members in attendance, and overviewed the agenda.

Cleveland Streetscape/Couplet Conversion/Downtown Park Building Demo Update

Ms. Lisa Singer, Senior Engineer, and Ms. B. Sanders, Senior Planner, provided an update on some items being brought to the Council on March 5, 2013. There are two supplemental agreements to the KPG Consultant Agreement. On January 29, 2013, a status report was given to the Council about the Downtown projects. The next three projects coming up are: Downtown Park building demolition, Cleveland Streetscape, and the Couplet Conversion. The Downtown Park demolition supplemental agreement will contain some final design services. The demolition will start in June 2013 and will last for a couple of months. The next project will be the Cleveland Streetscape, with construction beginning in September 2013 and will last approximately one year. Some of the changes in the supplemental agreements have occurred because of underground utility issues. The Couplet Conversion's two agreements are for the environmental process and the final design services for a total of approximately \$1.3 million. Construction should start by early 2015.

Ms. Sanders provided an update on the Downtown Park. The plans shifted from three phases to one phase because it became too complicated and expensive. The decision was made to design the ultimate park instead of using an interim solution.

General discussion ensued regarding making sure the needs of the current tenants of the buildings slated to be demolished are being met; questions related to the extent of traffic congestion as a result of the demolition was also discussed.

Transportation Master Plan

Mr. Don Cairns, Engineering Manager, announced that the adoption process of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) will begin in March 2013 with the Planning Commission. During 2012, the Planning Department worked on aligning the TMP with the City vision, aligning the language of the Capital Investment Strategy, and finally, drafting the document. The draft will be ready by the first part of March 2013. In May 2013, the plan will be presented to the Council at a study session. Adoption will be in the first part of July 2013.

Briefing on Upcoming Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Amendments

Mr. Pete Sullivan, Senior Planner, Mr. Eric McConaghy, Associate Planner, and Mr. Jeff Churchill, Senior Planner, previewed the upcoming Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Amendments.

Sustainable Redmond submitted applications for amendments:

- Add the definition for Technical Committee to the Comprehensive Plan glossary and to the Zoning Code.
- Revise code provisions regarding notice boards and neighborhood meetings for tree exceptions.
- Have minimum replacement ratios for trees and retention percentages.

The Planning Commission did not recommend changes to the Zoning Code and the Comprehensive Plan. They did advise staff to redesign the notice boards and ensure the ability for public comment on requests for exemptions. The Planning Commission also recommended to hyperlink the definition of "Technical Committee" in digital documents to the Redmond Municipal Code. On April 2, 2013, a staff report on these amendments will be presented to the Council. On April 9, 2013, there will be a study session with the Council.

General discussion ensued regarding how dangerous trees are taken care of, how effective the permitting process for tree removal is, and penalties available from Code Enforcement for illegal tree removal.

Mr. Churchill stated that there is a proposal to update the Overlake State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) planned action, by adding two environmental documents to it. The Planning Commission recommended going forward with the plan, and to look for ways to get the public more involved with the planned action process. A staff report is scheduled for the Council on February 19, 2013.

General discussion ensued regarding when these updates should be brought to the Council.

2013 Neighborhood Network

Ms. Kim Dietz, Senior Planner, stated that for the 2013 Neighborhood Network, the plan is to partner with the Redmond Police Department's Office of Emergency Management to promote the Redmond Ready program. The Communications Department is being utilized to reach out to the community. There is a social media campaign targeting each respective neighborhood. Ms. Dietz would like the Council members to help promote the event series by selecting one or two neighborhoods and attending that Neighborhood Network Redmond Ready event. At the event, the Council member would be asked to welcome the attendees and to speak during the welcoming message with the Mayor. Redmond Ready will be holding a mini-workshop to help prepare the neighborhoods for a disaster.

Briefing on Growing Transit Communities Draft Regional Compact

Ms. Lori Peckol, Planning Manager, stated that on February 19, 2013, there will be a staff report to update the Council on the Draft Regional Compact. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) gave five million dollars to this region to help create sustainable communities along the high-transit corridors. There is a lot of diversity in this region, so part of the grant requirement was a regional compact, to reflect the commitment of striving to reach the goals of this program. The three broad goals of this regional compact are: attracting growth along the high capacity transit corridor, providing affordable housing, and creating places where there is equal access. Currently, the language of the draft compact is being developed. It is a voluntary agreement, not a commitment to taking action.

Countywide Planning Policies

Ms. Lori Peckol, Planning Manager, reported that a resolution to ratify updates to the Countywide Planning Policies will be presented to the Council on February 19, 2013. This is the first major update since the planning policies were adopted in the early 1990's. It will include changes that have occurred in state law and policies.

Committee Work Plan Revisited

Ms. Michelle McGehee, City Clerk, asked if there are any updates to the Committee Work Plan. The Committee informed Ms. McGehee of one change, and would like more detail on the work plan to understand timing and scale of the items.