

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION NOTES
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO

7500 W. 29th Ave.
Wheat Ridge CO
June 13, 2016

Upon recess from the Regular City Council Meeting
(For audio recording go to 1/15/2016. Start at Position 1:43)

Present: Mayor Jay, Councilmembers Duran, Hoppe, Urban, Davis, Pond, Fitzgerald and Mathews. Also City Clerk Janelle Shaver; City Manager, Patrick Goff; Administrative Services Director, Heather Geyer
Absent: Councilmember Wooden

Mayor Jay convened the **Special Study Session** at 7:59pm.

Public Comment on Agenda Item

Vivian Vos (WR) attended the four meetings of the DIRT Task Force and reported that it was very informative. She encouraged people to attend these meetings.

1. DIRT Task Force Report

Heather Geyer reported that Carly Lorentz had been the staff liaison for the DIRT Task Force, but she is out of town. Anne Brinkman, member of the 2007 DIRT Task Force, and Ruth Baranowski, Chair of this year's task force, were present for discussion.

Ms. Baranowski listed the members of the Task Force and gave opening remarks.

Chairperson: V. Ruth Baranowski – District IV

Co-Chair: Gerald (Jesse) James – District II

Charlie Myers – District I

Anne Brinkman – District I

Teresa Urbanowski – District II

Mike Griffeth – District III

Tony Pestonatto – District III

Martin Killorin – District IV

- Categories included parks and trails, roads and streetscape, undergrounding, storm sewer and drainage, facility improvement, IT and land banking.
- Previous criteria was used and they added a category: Environmental Sustainability.
- They met six times; they changed the 2007 ranking system of 0-5 to 0-10.
- The packets contain their final prioritization, comments, and recommendations for future DIRT task forces.

Discussion followed. Ms. Baranowski and Ms. Brinkman answered questions from Council and offered their thoughts. Topics included:

- The 38th Ave and Wadsworth projects were both included for evaluation.
- Improvements to Anderson and Rec Center were moved up and joined together because of programming.
- Re: Land banking on the Kipling Corridor. They were swayed by the number of police calls to that area. It ranked higher than the other land banking opportunity.

- Gold Line was seen as an opportunity for growth to benefit the City. It was a high priority for all member of the committee.
- Clear Creek Crossing (CCC) lacked info about when CDOT's plans would happen; too many unknowns. Task Force chose to focus on what we have now.
- There is a desire for continuity for the next task force. The scores were not artificially lowered or raised to skew the ranking. The comments were added for clarity.
- Recommendations for next time: Give more time so members have time to research the projects and staff has more time to prepare information. Have it every four years.
- Evaluation from the TAP report was not considered for the Ward Road station.
- Any partners besides Arvada? Not many options; projects are mostly within the City.
- One thing that helped this time was that the criteria was already in place from 2007.
- Possible concepts for Gold Line or CCC? No. Cost was considered. CCC has public works issues; they mostly focused on the roads. The Gold Line took priority because it's here, now, immediate.
- Anything not worth the money? Utility undergrounding received lower priority -- unless it's part of another project. Some sentiment that 38th Ave Streetscaping isn't worth the money. The 2nd landbanking ranked low. They ranked what was presented.
- The cost and method of funding were not criteria. It was felt that is Council's job.
- Any conflicts on the Task Force? No. They had different opinions, did discussion, and arrived at agreement. If there was mixed opinion that is noted in the report.

Mr. Goff suggested another study session on this so long range planning could begin.


- Some projects (example: IT) have a small price (\$200K), but didn't hit criteria. They felt a need for another category for helping the city; the only criteria they used were economic and helping the citizens.
- Past projects were reviewed. Reality is that projects will be done when/how they can. They saw what the City accomplished. 7 years is too long; grant timing is involved.

Ms. Baranowski and Ms. Brinkman encouraged Council to support the recommendations for future task forces: Include some former member and do this every four years so there can be carryover for task force members and the City Council.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' MATTERS

Zach Urban offered thoughts and prayers for the Orlando victims.

The Special Study Session was adjourned at 8:42 pm.



Janelle Shaver, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON June 27, 2016

George Pond, Mayor pro tem

The preceding Minutes were prepared according to §47 of Robert's Rules of Order, i.e. they contain a record of what was *done* at the meeting, not what was *said* by the members. Recordings and DVD's of the meetings are available for listening or viewing in the City Clerk's Office, as well as copies of Ordinances and Resolutions.