



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard

City Council Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Christensen called the workshop meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Mayor Christensen, Mayor Pro Tem Richardson, and Councilmembers Jones, Kent, Lukson, VanDyke, and Whitten were present.

Also present were Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Fire Chief Huntington, Energy Services Director Whitney, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Development Services Director Jensen, Finance Director Allen, Human Resources Director Paulsen, Parks & Public Facilities Director Hester, and City Clerk Rogers.

Agenda Items

1. Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program and Speed Limit Policy Update

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided an overview of the functional classification of the City's streets. Significant feedback has been received from the public in recent years regarding traffic speeds throughout the city. The supported concerns led to the review of the Neighborhood Traffic Safety (NTS) Program and speed mitigation. The Police Department and Public Works Department are the two primary departments that participate in traffic speed responses. The responses have been categorized into the areas of education, enforcement, and engineering.

Chief of Police Clary and Sgt. Swanson outlined the Police Department's efforts to reduce speed driving, then reviewed speed management tools and speed-reducing countermeasures utilized to enforce traffic safety. Speed-reducing measures include the reactivated traffic enforcement unit.

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided a historical overview of the NTS program history and traffic engineering's approach to reducing speed. Public Works Director Rogalsky stated that the Public Works Department researched various approaches to engineering interventions for speed management, then presented traffic calming solutions for council consideration.

Staff recommends funding NTS program enhancements through the existing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with a proposed increase in funding. Staff sought Council feedback on the proposed approaches. Transportation & Development Manager D'Alessandro was in attendance to assist in responding to traffic calming solution

inquiries.

Detailed information can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation included with the agenda packet. Council provided comments and asked questions throughout the presentation.

2. Discussion of 2024 Legislative Priorities

Deputy City Manager Schiessl introduced the City's contracted state lobbyist, David Arbaugh. Mr. Arbaugh described his role, offered best practices for effectively supporting or opposing legislative priorities, and suggested recommendations for possible inclusion in the City's 2024 legislative priorities.

The purpose of tonight's discussion is to prepare for the October 24, 2023 City Council workshop meeting in which specific legislative priorities will be discussed with the invited state and federal elected representatives. Council engaged in a discussion with Mr. Arbaugh regarding and various legislative topics, legislative priorities, and ranking legislative priorities.

3. 2024 Budget Presentation

Finance Director Allen provided a comprehensive overview of the preliminary 2024 Budget. Department Directors provided a high-level overview of their department's current projects, programs, developments, and major initiatives for 2024. Detailed information can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation included in the agenda packet.

Staff responded to Council inquiries throughout the presentation.

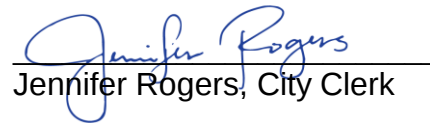
Adjournment

Mayor Christensen adjourned the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

APPROVED:


Terry Christensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: October 3, 2023

DATE PUBLISHED: October 4, 2023