



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, October 24, 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	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Richardson	Present
Councilmember Jones	Absent
Councilmember Kent	Present
Councilmember Lukson	Present
Councilmember VanDyke	Present
Councilmember Whitten	Present

Visiting Officials:

April Connors, Washington State Representative, 8th District
Stephanie Bernard, Washington State Representative, 8th District

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, Chief of Police Clary, Fire Chief Huntington, Energy Services Director Whitney, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Finance Director Allen, and Development Services Director Jensen.

Also in attendance was Richland's contracted lobbyist, David Arbaugh.

Agenda Items

1. 2024 Legislative Priorities Discussion with State Representatives

Deputy City Manager Joe Schiessl began the discussion by describing the City's efforts to develop Richland's 2024 legislative priorities, which are still in draft form but close to completion. DCM Schiessl also explained the purpose of the workshop discussion, which was to share Richland's specific asks and requested legislative amendments with the City's state representatives in hopes of generating a more effective voice for Richland during the upcoming legislative session.

City Council engaged in a discussion with Representatives Connors and Bernard, which included topics such as collaboration with other regional cities, BFCOG, Walla Walla Good Roads, etc. to create one voice, testimony and appearances at bill hearings, communication, affordable housing, and assigning a champion for each priority.

2. Columbia Point Tracts D & E Request for Qualifications Update

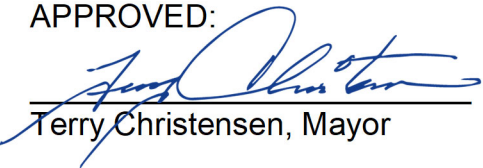
With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Economic Development Manager Mandy Wallner described Tracts D & E and the Request for Qualifications effort to find a developer who can bring project to the property that aligns with Council's vision. Economic Development Manager Wallner then introduced David Copenhaver, President of Cascadia Development Partners, a real-estate development company that successfully qualified to bid on Tracts D & E. Mr. Copenhaver introduced the team who accompanied him to the meeting and shared information about Cascadia. Mr. Copenhaver also shared images of a number of projects Cascadia has successfully completed. Additional information about the firm can be found at <https://cascadiadevelopmentpartners.com>.

Council engaged in a question and answer session with Mr. Copenhaver.

Adjournment

Mayor Christensen adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

APPROVED:


Terry Christensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Toni Fulton, Acting Deputy City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: November 7, 2023

DATE PUBLISHED: November 7, 2023