



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Richland City Hall ~ 505 Swift Boulevard

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

City Council Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Thompson called the Council workshop to order at 6:06 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

Attendance: Mayor Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Christensen, Councilmember Kent, Lukson, Lemley and Alvarez were present.

Also present were City Manager Reents, Assistant City Manager Amundson, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Police and Emergency Services Director Skinner and City Clerk Hopkins.

Agenda Items

1. 2018 Regional North-South Travel Capacity Study

Mr. Rogalsky said the purpose of this workshop item is to provide Council with an overview of a proposed multi-agency study aimed at evaluating mid-to-long range strategies for addressing north-south travel congestion in Richland.

He explained that in 2017, the Benton Franklin Council of Governments (BFCOG) published Transition2040. BFCOG is our region's cooperative agency tasked with satisfying state and federally mandated transportation planning responsibilities. Transition2040 uses, as its primary analytical tool, a computer model that represents regional travel patterns on our street network. Key inputs to the model are current and projected land use, population, employment, and street network. The plan projects significant population, employment and congestion growth over the coming two decades. The plan suggests that congestion will worsen even if all of the planned road improvements identified by agency staff are completed and even if transit use increases as projected.

Since Richland is the agency most impacted by travel congestion in our region, staff proposed, as part of the 2018 budget, a planning study to build on the work included in Transition2040 and to develop a long range strategy for congestion mitigation. Transition2040 predicts worsening congestion, but does not select or prioritize efforts or projects to address the issue. Staff has solicited interest from potential study partners and developed a draft study plan.

Mr. Rogalsky said staff will review the draft study plan with Council and solicit input on the draft study plan prior to reaching out to study partners to formalize a partnership agreement. He anticipates formal Council action later in the spring to establish partnering agreements for the study.

Councilmembers had a question and answer period with Mr. Rogalsky on the topic.

2. Council Chamber Security

Police Chief Skinner reviewed emergency procedures for Councilmembers in the event an active shooter should enter the Council Chamber during a meeting. He detailed an exit procedure and described what an active shooter event would be like. He also reviewed what precautions are taken at this time, during Council meetings. He said the new City Hall Council Chamber is designed to handle emergency situations.

Councilmembers had a question and answer period with Police Chief Skinner on the topic.

Other

Mayor Thompson gave an update on the current debate regarding the collected criminal justice sales tax and Benton County Commissioners.

Adjournment

Mayor Thompson adjourned the workshop at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Hopkins, City Clerk

FORM APPROVED:



Robert J. Thompson, Mayor

DATE APPROVED:

March 6, 2018