



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers

625 Swift Boulevard

City Council Special Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Alvarez called the Council special workshop meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Mayor Alvarez, Mayor Pro Tem Christensen, and Councilmembers Jones, Kent, Lukson (remotely via Zoom), Richardson and VanDyke were present.

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

Agenda Items

1. Richland Public Facilities District & Arts Center Task Force

City Manager Amundson introduced Steve Wiley, Chair of the Arts Center Task Force. Mr. Wiley provided an overview of the Arts Center Task Force's history and goals. Mr. Wiley then asked Richland City Council to take the following action:

- Amend the by-laws of The REACH to establish The Reach Foundation as the REACH operator;
- Support the Art Task Force's engagement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and local tribes for the purpose of identifying a site on land leased by the City for a Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center;
- Allow Richland residents to vote on a tax measure to support a Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center as a Richland Public Facilities District project;
- Consider a public-private partnership with the Arts Center Task Force to build a Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center in Richland.

Council engaged in a lengthy question and answer session with Mr. Wiley and other members of the Arts Center Task Force.

2. National Community Survey Results Presentation

Assistant City Manager Florence introduced Polco Senior Survey Associate Joe Dell'Olio, who presented the community survey results via Zoom. Mr. Dell'Olio gave a brief overview of the survey process before highlighting the following key findings:

1. Richland's economy is a strong community feature;
2. Many aspects of Richland's community design receive positive reviews, but

- residents identify some potential areas of opportunity for the City;
3. Most residents feel a strong sense of safety in Richland;
 4. Residents appreciate Richland's natural environment and recreational opportunities.

Detail in support of these key findings is available in the materials published in the agenda packet and in the PowerPoint presentation on file in the Richland City Clerk's Office.

3. Strategic Planning - Citizen Focus Groups

Assistant City Manager Florence shared with City Council the idea of creating focus groups to assist in guiding the City's upcoming strategic planning effort. Staff proposes inviting individuals to come together for the specific purpose of representing the following focused interests in the City: Economic Development/Vitality; Quality of Life; New Residents < 5 years; Community Leaders; and Boards, Commissions & Committee Chairs.

Council spoke favorably of the idea of creating focus groups to aid in strategic planning. Councilmember Kent suggested adding another category to capture residents with considerable longevity (i.e., > 20 years) to counterbalance the New Residents < 5 focus group.

4. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Discussion

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Finance Director Allen provided a detailed overview of the preliminary 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and its associated fiscal impacts. 65 projects are included in the proposed 2023-2028 CIP. The PowerPoint presentation is on file in the Richland City Clerk's Office.

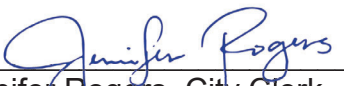
Adjournment

Mayor Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

APPROVED:


Michael Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: September 6, 2022

DATE PUBLISHED: September 7, 2022