

**STUDY SESSION NOTES  
CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO**

**April 18, 2011**

Mayor DiTullio called the Study Session to order at 6:33 p.m. Council Members present: Davis Reinhart, Joseph DeMott, Karen Adams, Wanda Sang, Mike Stites and Joyce Jay. Also present: City Clerk, Michael Snow; City Treasurer, Larry Schulz; City Manager, Patrick Goff; Police Chief, Dan Brennan; Administrative Services Director, Heather Geyer; Community Development Director, Kenneth Johnstone; Economic Development Manager, Steven Art; Public Works Director, Tim Paranto; Municipal Court Administrator, Kersten Armstrong; Planner, Sarah Showalter; Staff and interested citizens.

Council Members Berry and Langworthy were absent.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Staff Report(s)

a) Collection of Outstanding Debts

Mrs. Armstrong discussed staff's proposal to utilize collection agency services as another tool in the collection of outstanding municipal court fines. Collection fees will be assessed in addition to the balance outstanding to the City for those fines referred to a collection agency. An Ordinance requiring approval by Council will be necessary, as well as a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek and use a collection agency service. Any costs incurred by the City to use collection services will be more than offset by the projected increased collections. The Ordinance will allow the City to use collection agencies to pursue any outstanding debts to the city. However, this service is currently only intended for pursuit of court fees. A First Reading of the proposed Ordinance will heard at the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Council Meeting.

b) Prescription Take Back Day

Chief Brennan announced the first of two community events to be held on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The first is a second annual Prescription Take-Back Day, to be held from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Exempla Lutheran Medical Center. The program is intended to provide a means for citizens to dispose of unwanted medications safely. All prescription and over-the-counter medications, as well as used and unused needles will be collected. A pharmacist will be in attendance to answer questions.

c) Child Safety Fair

The second event to be held on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 is a Child Safety Fair, to be held at Wheat Ridge Middle School from 11:00am-3:00pm. This is particularly an opportunity to provide services to minority and low-income citizens, but is open and appropriate for all citizens. Free inspection, disposal and replacement of child passenger safety seats will be provided, as well as bike safety, crime prevention, code and pet issues, and child ID kits. A total of \$4,000 worth of child car seats will be given away at the fair, all funded through grants and by participation by local agencies and businesses. No City general fund dollars will be required for the event besides police staff time, which was previously budgeted in the City's 2011 expenditures.

d) Defining Landscaping in Chapter 15

Chief Brennan discussed the need to define "dead and dying trees" and to add definition of "landscaping" to Chapter 15 in the Code of Laws. An Ordinance proposing these amendments will be heard on first reading at the Council meeting of May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Council Member Langworthy arrived at 6:53pm.

e) 38th Avenue Corridor Plan Update

Mr. Johnstone updated Council on the ongoing development of the Corridor Plan. Many suggestions, themes and feedback obtained during previous meetings have been incorporated. The next stake-holder meeting will be held May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 5:30pm at the Active Adult Center and a public meeting will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 6:30pm at Wheat Ridge Middle School to present concepts and traffic alternatives.

f) Potential Rezoning of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Area

Mr. Johnstone and Ms. Showalter led discussion of a city-initiated rezoning to Mixed-Use Zone for the Transit-Oriented Development zone around the Ward Road commuter rail station (NW corridor). Property owners in the area will be notified of a May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting to present and discuss the plan. A majority of the Council indicated support of staff proceeding with the public meeting and pursuit of the rezoning.

g) Mosquito Mitigation

Ms. Geyer presented a staff proposed plan to conduct mosquito mitigation action in limited locations throughout the City (memo amended to this packet). Council expressed support for the proposed plan.

## 2. GOLD Line RTD Intergovernmental Agreement

Mr. Paranto outlined specific design and funding elements in the IGA with RTD including road construction, streetscape designs and stormwater improvements (Gold Line RTD station plans amended to this packet). Municipalities are required to contribute 2.5% of the construction costs for its development. That portion required by Wheat Ridge is valued at approximately \$1.5 million, which will be fulfilled by completing storm water drainage improvements the City had already intended to complete along Ridge Road from Ward Road to Simms Street. Light Rail crossings at Tabor, Parfet and Miller Streets will be constructed as “quiet crossings” in the proposed plan. Staff is proposing to bring the IGA to Council for approval at the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting.

## 3. Business Development Zone and Agreement with Reglera, LLC

Mr. Art discussed plans by Reglera LLC for an expansion of its current facilities in Wheat Ridge which will generate significant permanent and temporary jobs in the area. Reglera is asking the City for a refund of 50% of the use and building permit fees for two phases of expansion which would amounting to an estimated refund of approximately \$40,500 as incentive to the company. Granting this refund requires the establishment by Council of a Business Development Zone and an agreement with Reglera. Council was unanimous in support of the recommendation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55p.m.



---

Michael Snow  
City Clerk