

## June 23, 2020 City Council Questions; Staff Responses

Agenda item 5:

The mayor indicated in her remarks that she would put forward goals and processes for the proposed subcommittee/Task Force. Are there any other documents other than the staff report and draft resolution with this information?

*Response: All the information currently available has been provided. The Subcommittee may have additional information at the Council meeting.*

What type of facilitator/consultant is proposed? A budget of \$50,000 seems excessive for someone to facilitate 4-5 meetings. What is the anticipated scope of work and qualifications being sought? Who will solicit for and select this consultant?

*Response: It is anticipated that the consultant(s) selected will have experience facilitating large groups in public meetings as well as significant public safety experience. It is expected that the City Manager will engage the services of the consultant(s) with assistance from the Council subcommittee. The estimate was independently arrived at by the City Manager and a possible consultant.*

Agenda item 6:

How are the logistics handled for converting from the Farmers Market set-up on Thursday to the restaurant setup on Thursday night? Is there any overlap of areas of the FM and restaurant set-up? Is there anticipated to be adverse effect of the Farmers Market on the restaurants in that area? If so, what is being done to best minimize the adverse impact?

*Response: LAVVA has reached out to the restaurants along that section of State Street, and here is what is happening:*

- 1) Rick's will pull in their tables after they close so FM will be able to put booths in front.*
- 2) LAVVA needs to have another conversation with Zubi (Urfa) and Andrew (ASA). But previous conversations has the FM people giving additional space in front of those restaurants.*
- 3) As of now, Pho Cabin will only utilize the sidewalk. So there is no conflict.*
- 4) LAVVA talked with retailers and at the time they didn't know what they were planning, but most were not expanding their stores into the street.*
- 5) At this time, Pompeii will utilize the closed portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Street Friday-Sunday; not Thursdays. State of Mind is currently not utilizing 4<sup>th</sup> Street. If the Council approves a longer Open Streets program (at least 1-2 months), they will invest in tables and expand onto 4<sup>th</sup>.*

*LAVVA will get out again this week and talk with businesses along that stretch and will continue to work with the FM folks to make sure they are accommodating restaurants where needed.*

We previously asked for measures of success that could be tracked during the weeks of street closures (if approved). Have staff, the businesses, and others working on this effort identified any suitable metrics for identifying the success/lack of success on restaurants over the weeks if approved? Have any metrics been identified to compare impact on the retail businesses in the area, under current and what may be evolving County/State directives?

*Response: City staff identified two methods to measure the impact of street closures from this past weekend on both restaurant and retail businesses. We provided a quantitative survey to all downtown business owners to collect numbers on foot traffic and sales receipts comparing this weekend (June 18-21, 2020) to last weekend (June 11-14, 2020) and this weekend to this same weekend last year (June 20-23, 2019). We hosted two webinars today, one at 10 am and one at 2 pm, with business owners to collect qualitative feedback and hear first-hand experiences about their opinions on the weekend. The survey will close tonight so I will review the survey results and collect my webinar notes tomorrow morning to share with our design team at our meeting and then add it to the staff presentation for tomorrow.*

*Throughout the coming weekends, we will update the survey to collect new weekly data and measure success for our downtown restaurant and retail businesses. Additionally, we plan to continue hosting regular webinars to gain feedback from the businesses and find solutions to potential issues as they arise.*

*Engineering staff is also working with our transportation consultant on testing a people counting system. The first unit will be used at Main Street and First St. We hope to have the pilot system in place soon.*

#### Agenda item 7:

Please provide the State order regarding masks and ask staff to indicate where there are differences between that order and the options in the staff report.

*Response: Sent by Jolie to Council directly.*

#### Agenda item 8, Community Development:

It would seem that reducing the planned expenses for outside review/contractors while retaining the revenue has the effect of skewing the revenue/expense information. Also, there are no data in the staff report to allow a comparison of number of scrape/replace and other types of permits that can be used as a basis for comparison going into the year. Having this information would be an early warning system as to future decrease in single-family building and demands on staff. The goals should be to know on what basis we are expecting services to be sustained, so changes can be identified quickly for rapid adjustments.

*Response: CDD revenue projections in the budget are conservative, and if the expenses for the building division consultants are realized the CDD revenues will be above projections as the developer payments for these consulting services are flow through, that is payments are an expense borne by monies that are provided by the developer and reflect as revenue.*

*Although permit activity by type is watched it can be a somewhat misleading indicator as construction activity swings throughout the year for construction. Late winter and early spring can realize increases in permit activity for construction during the dryer seasons and while leading into the wetter season a reduction in activity. The projections reflect what staff is following and has heard regarding the larger projects, which provide a larger revenue stream, albeit on a schedule that is not nearly as seasonal.*

#### Agenda item 8, CIP

How is it that the council could approve the Community Center, knowing that it did not have funds on hand to allocate for the full costs, but cannot do so for the EOC?

*Response: Staff does not believe that the entire amount needed to complete the design and the construction of the EOC needs to be allocated at this time. However, if a construction contract is awarded this fiscal year, the City will need to commit to appropriating the necessary funds to complete construction in the next fiscal year budget.*

Agenda item 8, Parks and Rec

Are we not able to get any explanation of the assumptions behind the fees/revenue projections?

Response: From the staff report:

***Recreation & Community Services Department***

*FY 2020-2021 revenue reductions are based on the following assumptions and projections:*

- *Recreation is anticipating a 60% (\$740,000) reduction in projected revenue.*
- *Due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, completion of the new Community Center is now projected to be March 2021. Original projected revenue reductions accounted for losses from both rentals (\$308,000) and programs (\$196,000) due to reduced program and rental space from July to December 2020. This is based on actual revenue reductions experienced during the Shelter-in-Place orders mandated between March and June 2020.*
- *While the Community Center is still being constructed, new orders and a vaccine may allow limited and controlled facility rentals and program offerings between January to March 2021. Staff is projecting revenue reductions of \$142,000 for facility rentals and \$94,000 for programs.*
- *Once the Community Center is open coupled with additional new orders, it is projected that the revenue from April to June 2021 will be \$85,000 for facility rentals and \$54,000 for programming.*