



## MINUTES OF THE MISSION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

October 6, 2021

The Mission Community Development Committee met at the Powell Community Center and virtually via ZOOM on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. The following Committee members were present: Sollie Flora, Ken Davis, Arcie Rothrock, Trent Boultinghouse, Hillary Parker Thomas and Debbie Kring. Mayor Appletoft was also in attendance. Councilmember Nick Schlossmacher was absent. Councilmember Boultinghouse called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following staff were present: City Administrator Laura Smith, Deputy City Administrator Brian Scott, City Clerk Audrey McClanahan, Assistant City Administrator Emily Randel, Public Works Director Celia Duran, Public Works Superintendent Brent Morton, Parks & Recreation Director Penn Almoney and Deputy Chief Kirk Lane.

### **Public Comments**

Councilmember Boultinghouse reminded the public they can participate via the chat feature on Zoom. All comments would be visible to the group.

There were no public comments.

### **Public Presentations**

#### **Approval of Planning Commission Case #21-07 for Zoning, Preliminary Plat, Preliminary Development Plan, and Special Use Permit for the construction and operation of a Sanitary Sewer Pump Station at 5701 Roe; Johnson County Wastewater, applicant**

Mr. Scott reported that the Planning Commission considered application #21-07 in September from Johnson County Wastewater (JCW). JCW has operated a sanitary sewer pump station since the late 1950s and is scheduled for needed facility improvements. Before work can begin, JCW must make improvements to facilities that feed into it, including demolition of the existing 60-year-old pump station on Roe, and construction of a new, larger pump station on the same site. Because JCW is making a long-term investment on the site, they have been in negotiations with KDOT to purchase the property. This will entail filing a preliminary plat with the Johnson County Recorder of Deeds, rezoning the property, approval of a preliminary development plan for the site, and approval of a special use permit.

The Planning Commission voted to recommend to the City Council approval of the rezoning of the property, the preliminary plat, the preliminary development plan, and the special use permit. JCW representatives will be at the City Council's regularly scheduled meeting on October 20, 2021 to answer additional questions.

Councilmember Thomas asked about community engagement and if surrounding residents needed to be notified. Mr. Scott replied that State Statute requires notification for all property owners within 200 feet of the project site.

### **2021 Market Season Updates**

Ms. Randel thanked Council for their support for the 2021 Mission Market season and presented the following updates:

- For the seventh season, the market was back to in-person
- Vendor turnout increased which was helped by referrals
- Thursdays was beneficial for vendors that sold at other markets during the weekends
- Themes/events this year incorporated the Olympics, open mic night, bring your own baby pool and the Johnson County COVID-19 vaccine clinic
- Attendance has grown for patrons outside of Mission and surrounding neighborhoods
- The Market was picked as one of the takeover markets for National Farmer's Market Week
- 1 of 5 finalist for The Pitch's best farmer markets in the metro
- Plans for 2022 include site improvements such as a water fountain, trees and tables as well as additional electrical power
- The taco pop up bar was a success and staff is looking into similar events for the future

All expressed appreciation for a successful 2021 market season and look forward to continued improvement in the 2021 season.

### **Action Items**

#### **Acceptance of the September 1, 2021 Community Development Committee Minutes**

Minutes of the September 1, 2021 Community Development Committee were provided to the Committee. There being no objections or corrections, the minutes were accepted as presented.

#### **Resolution of Support for Climate Action KC Plan**

Ms. Smith explained that in April, the Council had the joint work session with the Planning Commission, Sustainability Commission and Parks and Recreation Tree Commission, to review the Climate Action KC's Regional Climate Action Plan. Climate Action KC is a nonprofit regional collaborative bringing more than 100 elected officials and community leaders together to reduce emissions, invigorate the economy, promote public health and improve the quality of life across the Kansas City region.

The Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan (CAP) aims to transform the metropolitan area into a more resilient, equitable and healthy community. An ambitious set of interrelated strategies will help to mitigate climate change by achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and adapt to and bounce forward from the many risks climate change poses. The Mid-America Regional Council and Climate Action KC have worked to bring together broad and diverse community perspectives and technical expertise to develop a set of goals and actions that comprise the Climate Action Plan. The plan creates a new platform to build on, intended to accelerate and scale up existing efforts through new models of collaborative regional leadership.

Interim net zero goals focus on local government operations (by 2030), energy generation (by 2035), and homes and buildings (by 2040).

The Sustainability Commission recommended for approval at their May meeting. As the next step in the process, Council must take formal action in support of the plan through a resolution. Staff will then be able to complete additional research before the 2023 budget process and turn the endorsement into action. Ms. Smith recommended creating a focused working group that would include Council, staff and various board and commission members to complete this review and develop recommendations.

Councilmember Flora emphasized that this was a significant priority of the Sustainability Commission and made it a precedent at their goal setting retreat to work with other boards and commissions for successful implementation. Councilmember Kring commented that the City's Sustainability Commission is extremely active and engaged in every aspect of environmental sustainability throughout the community.

Councilmember Thomas added that she is excited to see this resolution come forward and believes that Mission's collaborative approach, with the Council and Commissions, could be a model for other communities. Councilmember Boultinghouse commented that he is in favor of the resolution and has shared the information with constituents to help move forward in that direction.

Councilmember Davis recommended the Resolution endorsing the KC Regional Climate Action Plan, recognizing its goal of a Net-Zero metropolitan region by 2050, and committing to review and implement, as appropriate, the solutions and strategies included in the plan be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the Committee agreed, this will be on the regular agenda.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Parking Restrictions**

Ms. Duran explained that the City has numerous "no parking" signs throughout the streets which lack uniformity in spacing, language, locations, etc. Also, it is costly to maintain signs and staff receives regular requests to either remove or add additional signs. Staff recommends adopting an ordinance which revises the Municipal Code to prohibit parking on all main trafficways and certain main trafficway connections as well as develop "Parking Sign Design Guidelines and Operating Procedures" for residential streets.

The prohibited parking on main trafficways, section of the ordinance, would also change the streets listed as main trafficway connections. This would restrict parking on these higher volume streets and allow enforcement regardless of whether "no parking" signs are posted. "No parking" signs would still be allowed to be posted on these streets, and other streets not listed in the ordinance, if parking continues to be an issue. The intent is to reduce the number of unnecessary signs and reduce the maintenance costs associated with these signs. The main trafficways and connections include: Broadmoor St., 56th St. to 61st St.; Foxridge Dr., within City limits; Johnson Dr., within City limits; Lamar Ave., within City limits; Martway St., within City limits; Metcalf Ave.,

within City limits; Nall Ave., within City limits; Roe Ave., within City limits; Roeland Dr., within City limits; 51st St., within City limits; 63rd St., Nall Ave. to Roe Ave.; and 67th St., within City limits.

For parking within residential areas, staff is recommending a set of operating procedures that include the following:

- Parking will be prohibited on streets if there is a clear and present safety or operational issue present as determined by Staff (i.e., site distance restriction, etc.).
- “No parking” signs will be posted on specific sides of the street based on street width:
  - 26.0’ Or Greater Street Width: Parking allowed on both sides of the street
  - 22.0’ to 24.0’ Street Width: Parking restricted on one side of the street
  - 20.0’ Or Less Street Width: Parking restricted on both sides of the street
- In residential areas where there are large traffic generators adjacent to residential streets (i.e., parks, schools, businesses, multi-family, etc.), residents may submit a petition for addition or removal of “no parking” signs. The petition must be approved by over 50% of the homeowners along any affected street segment.

Councilmember Flora asked about streets that pass between cities, like 67<sup>th</sup> Street, which may have differing regulations, and if there will be a plan for communication and outreach. Ms. Duran explained that any of these streets can be adjusted with additional signs, if needed, but the goal will be to reduce sign pollution. Councilmember Davis thanked Ms. Duran for this plan, adding that he liked the systemic approach when outlining this issue. Councilmember Inman commented that the street between 55<sup>th</sup> and Lamar was very narrow with a lot of cars that park on the road. Ms. Duran committed to reviewing both 67<sup>th</sup> Street and 55<sup>th</sup> Street prior to presenting a final recommendation. Additional discussion continued on locations of “no parking” signage. This will be an action item at the November Community Development Committee meeting.

### **Temporary Sign Code**

Ms. Smith advised that Staff has received several questions in the past few months regarding temporary signage. This has included questions about political signage as well as signage in residential areas. The most current sign code was updated in 2017, regulates for public safety as well as a detriment to property values, and includes the following standards:

- Allow individuals to convey their message through signage (Reed v. Town of Gilbert, U.S. Supreme Court, 135 S.Ct. 2218, 2015, prohibits cities from regulating signage based on content)
- Further the objective of the City’s Comprehensive Plan
- Protect the public health, safety and welfare
- Reduce traffic and pedestrian hazards
- Allows temporary signs to be posted in all zones with regulations to size, location, time allotment, etc.
- Signs cannot be posted in a right-of-way without a permit

- The sign owner is responsible for removal but the City may remove a sign that is in violation

Ms. Smith notes that many of the regulations adopted in the 2017 code were more focused on commercial districts in an effort to reduce visual clutter. The City has seen an increase in residential signage for anniversaries, birthday parties, individual messaging, and so the climate has changed which could be reflected in future revisions.

Councilmember Rothrock asked if this topic was brought for discussion because of the recent political signage. Ms. Smith replied that the code has needed possible revisions for awhile and political signage is regulated by State Statute. The current conversation is more focused around the influx of the new types of signage and messaging.

Councilmember Davis agreed that if staff would do additional research, it would be useful to revisit and assess some alternatives for improving the code based on staff experience and the received complaints. Councilmember Kring supported staff looking into this issue and asked if there would be any conflicts with freedom of speech. Ms. Smith answered that freedom of speech is balanced in every sign code revision and would be incorporated as part of the analysis.

Councilmember Flora commented that she agreed that the current signage code needs revisions such as providing the definition of a temporary sign. Councilmember Rothrock supported additional conversation as well and would like to ensure that the businesses, or anyone that wants to display a temporary sign, has the same opportunity as an elected official. Ms. Smith closed the discussion by explaining that if the Council has interest then the steps to revising the zoning code would require a more specific steps including public hearings. Staff will work to develop a proposed timeline to be presented at a future meeting.

### **WCA/GFL Service Issues**

Mr. Scott explained that over the last several months, complaints and concerns about trash service provided by WCA/GFL have been increasing. These have included missed pick-ups of recycling, yard waste and/or trash. In July, after meetings with WCA, it was determined that the company was working with several temporary staff, who were not familiar with the routes. However, the concerns were not addressed. Staff has met with WCA again and they will be reviewing their weekly reports to assess those issues and provide additional support over the next 30 days. At the end of each day, WCA dispatch will provide air traffic, GPS reports of all the streets to the customer service, route and operational managers. Additional customer service representatives will also be brought on-board. A report will be brought to Council, in November, to provide an update on the progress.

Ms. Smith added that performance standards were included in the contract with WCA/GFL which were discussed at the recent meeting with their representatives. However, it would be more beneficial to work together and hold them accountable for those standards then terminate the contract since it would be difficult to get a comparable contract in the trash hauler environment today.

Councilmember Thomas requested that she has personally experienced a number of missed pick-ups, as have her neighbors. She would like staff to provide more frequent updates – perhaps monthly – on the status of issue, concerns and/or their resolution.

### **Park Conceptual Planning Process**

Mr. Almoney reported that during the September 29 work session, staff committed to providing a formalized timeline and process for moving the conceptual park plans to more final versions for Council's review. Also taking into consideration the residents' feedback, on the DirectionFinder survey, indicating the importance for park updates. All the work done to date has helped narrow the focus to a smaller number of preferred improvements and forecasting the impact on operations and maintenance at the crucial next steps.

Conceptual plans have been introduced for three of the major parks:

#### **Mohawk Park**

- Funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Additional funds included in 2022 budget for construction of restrooms/pavilion
- Final restrooms/pavilion design contract to be brought to Council in November
- 4-6 month construction schedule
- No significant changes needed to final design

#### **Waterworks Park**

- Stakeholder meetings and public meetings have provided feedback for plan revisions
- Staff recommends no additional public meetings, to keep project on time
- Consensus was reached on the scale, scope and location of the proposed improvements

#### **Broadmoor Park**

- Concept design presented at June 29, 2021 public meeting
- Dog park amenities was considered in the design which staff recommends to be changed to Streamway Park
- Improved maintenance of the park, including walking trail, was preferred

Staff will continue to research maintenance needs to align with the upkeep of existing amenities as well as any potential new amenities. The entire conceptual process, and maintenance recommendations will be presented before the end of the year to the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission. The Commission will then provide input and a recommendation for Council. In January/February 2022, Council will review those recommendations at their goal setting session which will allow for continued work sessions and final review and approval of priorities in advance of a renewal election for the dedicated parks and recreation sales tax.

Councilmember Boultinghouse confirmed that if this schedule proceeds as recommended, one of the only finished improvements, before the mail ballot election in 2022, will be the tennis court repairs at Andersen Park. Mr. Almoney replied that it would be part of City messaging to make

sure all the improvements are outlined and communicated effectively. Councilmember Thomas suggested considering moving the mail ballot election to summer, knowing that there would be a construction site at Mohawk, tennis courts installed at Andersen and a farther gap between the last mail ballot election. Ms. Smith replied that the Election Commission will be responding with applicable timeframes for the 2022 election for continued Council review and discussion.

### **Department Updates**

Ms. Smith provided the following updates:

- Shawnee Mission North Homecoming Parade will be Friday, October 8, and will travel east down Johnson Drive to Lamar and end at 6000 Lamar.
- Mission Family Picnic is scheduled for October 9 with an earlier start time of 5pm. There will be fireworks as well as a beer garden hosted by The Rotary.

### **Meeting Close**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting of the Community Development Committee adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey M. McClanahan  
City Clerk