



CITY OF TOPEKA

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL
City Hall, 215 SE 7th Street, Suite 255
Topeka, KS 66603-3914
Tel: 785-368-3710
Fax: 785-368-3958
www.topeka.org

Date: September 17, 2024

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: 1st Floor Conference Room; Cyrus K. Holliday Building 620 SE Madison
(*virtual attendance option also available*)

Committee members present: Council members Sylvia Ortiz (Chair) and Neil Dobler. David Banks was absent.

City staff present: Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley, Senior Attorney Brandy Roy-Bachman, Utilities Director Sylvia Davis, Planning and Development Services Director Rhiannon Friedman, Public Works Deputy Director Jason Tryon, Budget Manager Josh McAnarney, Todd Workman, Amanda Knowland, Mark Schreiner, Dalton Beightel. Virtual: Nicole Malott

Call to Order

Chairwoman Ortiz called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. Committee members introduced themselves.

Approval of August 22, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

Committee member Dobler made a motion to approve the August 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Chairwoman Ortiz seconded. Motion approved 2-0-0.

Club Car Wash and Dollar Tree -Project No. 601137.01- Resolution

- Adjustment to access control to the Final Plat of the Community Plaza Subdivision

Braxton Copley, Assistant City Manager, stated there is a concern with the traffic flow into the Club Carwash 2524 SE California Ave. There is concern with a significant number of car accidents. The City of Topeka has approached the owners of Dollar Tree and Club Carwash to propose a solution to include closing the current access opening and creating two new access openings that will improve the inflow and outflow of traffic to the property, added storage, and adding traffic safety. Currently, in the plat on California Avenue this section is restricted to be able to remove access. He stated that the resolution is needed to close off access to the existing location and be able to create a new access at the north and south ends into Dollar Tree and Club Carwash.

Copley added that there is a companion case through Shawnee County for the condemnation. There has been no response from owners of Dollar Tree to sign the access restriction documents. The Club Carwash owners requested ten thousand. He added the City will be spending \$130,000 to complete the project and be give Dollar Tree and Club Carwash a new driveway access; therefore, the City did not believe the compensation was a fair request.

Chairwoman Ortiz expressed her concern for this area and supports the new in and out access. She asked for clarification on the name of the business and passed on her concern on the in and out access. Copley confirmed that the name of business is Dollar Tree. The frontage road will be closed off. There will be access to make a right hand turn into Dollar Tree. There will be no medians on California Avenue.

Committee member Neil Dobler asked for to confirm who is paying for the project. Copley confirmed the City of Topeka is paying.

MOTION: Committee member Dobler made a motion to approve the request. Committee member Ortiz seconded. Approved 2-0-0.

2024 FIRM: Facilities Improvements Project No. 131083.12

Jason Tryon, Public Works Deputy Director gave information on the current FIRM budget which as a result of bids coming in below cost estimates on other projects within this program this project is able to be achieved. The Public Works Department is proposing that some of those funds be used in two areas in City Hall. He added the spaces are currently occupied by Human Resources (HR) and Probation were not designed with those departments in mind. As a result, various doors into HR are unsecured. In order to provide an adequately private environment for HR business we are introducing additional doors that can be secured and accessed by employee badges. In addition, the Probation office does not have a private restroom facility to perform urine analysis testing as required. This project will allow for a properly secured environment and privacy for both departments to function.

Chairwoman Ortiz asked for clarification where the bathroom will be. Tryon confirmed it will be in the Probation office.

Council member Dobler added that he is in support of the project to make the necessary improvements.

Tryon stated there is no voting necessary for the facilities project and added the Public Works Department wanted to inform the committee.

CIP Amendments

Josh McAnarney, Budget Manager, provided preliminary information on possible future CIP Amendments. The finance department is proposing to change the following CIP Project funding sources:

- 2023 CIP: Amend the funding source for Project No. 241078
 - 2023 Infill Sidewalk Program from GO Bonds to Federal Funds Exchange (FFE) for \$600,000.
- 2024 CIP: Amend the funding source for Project No. 141036
 - 2024 Traffic Signals Program from a split of \$400,000 FFE and \$800,000 GO Bonds to fully Federal Funds Exchange funded for a total of \$1,200,000.
- 2024 CIP: Amend the funding source for Project No. 601160
 - Neighborhood Infrastructure (DREAMS 1) from Cash to GO Bonds for \$1,500,000.
- 2025 CIP: Amend the funding source for Project No. 131088
 - Facilities Improvement, Repair, and Maintenance Program (FIRM) from Cash to GO Bonds for \$2,300,000.

By changing the DREAMS funding from cash to bonds, the City will free up \$1.5 million in cash for the 2024 Operating Budget, resulting in a higher ending reserve balance for 2024 than originally projected. To be mindful of bonding costs, the finance department also proposed that the 2024 Traffic Signal Program and the 2023 Infill Sidewalk Program be funded through the Federal Funds Exchange in order to offset the move from cash to bonds for DREAMS 1.

McAnarney added the finance department suggested that future consideration be given to switching the 2025 Facilities Improvement Repair and Maintenance Program from cash to bonds to reduce expenditures in the 2025 Operating Budget. These considerations will be addressed at a later date.

Braxton Copley asked McAnarney to clarify that the CIP Amendments presented is what is being presented for budget approval for the September 17, 2024 meeting.

Other Items

Chairwoman Ortiz spoke to 5th Street and Van Buren Street; one-way road, east bound. She added that she has seen many car accidents and believes drivers are going down the wrong way. She requested there be some added painted pavement signals that would help drivers with the traffic instruction.

Braxton Copley, Assistant City Manager, responded that Public Works would review the specific intersection. He added that there have been recommendations to convert some one-way streets back to two-way streets; with the Polk-Quincy Viaduct project there has been a delay to review the traffic flow of the downtown area once all the project is constructed.

Adjourned 11: 24am

This meeting can be viewed online at: <https://youtu.be/jBQknKLYIYg>