



Community Development Committee

1. Community Relations

As requested by Council, we have scheduled Committee time to discuss options to improve community relations issues. Professor Landon Hancock of the Center for Applied Conflict Management has offered to participate in our discussion and share his insights into alternative processes that we may wish to consider that could in part be facilitated through the Center. I have attached information that Professor Hancock has forwarded to me in preparation for our meeting next week. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

These are sensitive and important issues to our community so I encourage Council to review Dr. Langston's materials thoughtfully and to give staff guidance on the direction Council would like the staff to pursue, keeping in mind the importance of a balanced approach and a desire for productive engagement.

Council Action

Review the information and direct staff accordingly.

2. Kent/Brimfield JEDD Boundaries

Dan Smith has been working with the Kent/Brimfield JEDD Board to modify the JEDD boundaries so that new businesses could be added to the district. Dan reports that several new business petitions have been received and the JEDD Board has voted in favor of adding the new business property locations pending Council and Township approval. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I encourage Council's support for the proposed amendment to the Kent/Brimfield JEDD boundaries.

Council Action

Adopt the proposed JEDD boundary amendments.

3. CDBG Rehab Program Guidelines

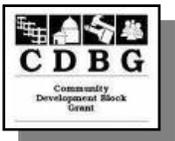
Gary Locke has requested Committee time for Council to consider modifying the regulations that we use to manage the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program. Gary notes that in 2003 Council adopted guidelines that allow the City to use funds from our CDBG program to install water and sanitary sewer connections under certain circumstances. Gary is recommending expanding the terms of those conditions to include funding for installation of storm sewer laterals as well. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The proposed modification would affect residents in the Area Q stormwater improvement project and it is consistent with the intent of the use of the CDBG funds so I encourage Council's support.

Council Action

Approve the proposed Rehab Program guidelines to include storm sewer connections.



Streets, Sidewalks and Utilities Committee

4. Summit Street Project ODOT Agreement

Jim Bowling and his staff have requested Committee time for Council to consider approving the ODOT Agreement for the Summit Street Improvement Project. This is a standard project agreement that is required whenever Federal funding is used in a local project. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The project funds are approved and appropriated, and we need Council's approval of the Agreement to enable ODOT to proceed with the project.

Council Action

Approve the ODOT Agreement and authorize staff to proceed with the project.

5. Utility Dedication at Kent Ridge

Jennifer Barone has requested Committee time to seek Council's approval for the acceptance of the water and sewer infrastructure to be dedicated from the Kent Ridge Assisted Living Facility. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

All of the appropriate inspections have been performed and the developer obligations have been met so I recommend Council's approval to accept the dedicated infrastructure items.

Council Action

Accept the water and sewer infrastructure from the Kent Ridge project.

Finance Committee

5. Ohio Public Works Commission Pre-Application Request

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council to consider approving submission of 4 City capital project pre-application requests (Middlebury Road water main replacement, SR59 Light Repairs, Longmere Pavement Replacement, Alley 4 Reconstruction) for Ohio Public Works Commission grant funding. These grant funds would enable the City to move forward on these important capital projects. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Given the City's current financial constraints I have encouraged staff to pursue all possible grant sources and Jim has put together a competitive proposal that I recommend for Council's support.

Council Action

Approve the submission of the proposed list of capital projects for OPWC funding.

6. Parks Levy

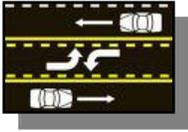
John Idone has requested Committee time to discuss replacement of a .50 Mill used for recreational purposes. In order to be added to the November ballot Council needs to decide whether to do a renewal or a replacement and pass an ordinance asking the County Auditor to certify the amounts to be generated. Then Council must pass a second ordinance to place the issue on the ballot. If renewed residents would pay based on 2005 property evaluations. If replaced, residents would pay based on current property evaluations.

Administration Recommendation

John reports that the levy brings in \$135,000 a year. He estimates that replacing it would bring in \$180,000 a year. Unless Council is willing to cut Parks and Recreation programming I would recommend supporting putting the levy on the ballot either as a renewal or replacement as John and the Parks Board is requesting.

Council Action

Authorize the .50 Mill as either a renewal or replacement.



Finance Committee (continued)

7. City General Operating Levy

It is time for Council to discuss renewing or replacing a 1.16 Mill that is used to fund City operations. In order to be added to the November ballot Council needs to decide whether to do a renewal or a replacement and pass an ordinance asking the County Auditor to certify the amounts to be generated. Then Council must pass a second ordinance to place the issue on the ballot. If renewed residents would pay based on 2005 property evaluations. If replaced, residents would pay based on current property evaluations. For information purposes I have included a levy schedule for City, County and School District levies; a chart of Levy yield; as well as the minutes from the January 2005 Finance Committee where this issue was last approved as a renewal. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

As previously reported, City income tax revenues for the first 5 months of 2009 are down by approximately 5% which is likely the result of economy troubles and the increase of the Streetsboro tax rate to 2% (matching Kent) which will result in an estimated loss of \$60,000 in income taxes from residents that live in Kent but work in Streetsboro. In addition, changes in the state local government funding allocation will result in a loss of \$113,000 in expected state revenues.

The General Operating Levy brought in \$311,000 in 2008 but the County Auditor is estimating a renewal to generate \$303,880 a year at a cost of \$25.70 on a \$100,000 home for next year. If the levy is replaced it is estimated to bring in \$419,000 a year or \$36.54/\$100,000 home – an increase of \$11 per home. If the levy is not renewed or replaced we will have to cut our budget and corresponding City services by an equivalent amount. As Council is aware, we are already in a cut and reduce mode and losing this funding source would exacerbate the already difficult problem of trying to balance our budget.

Council Action

Authorize either a renewal or replacement for the 1.16 Mill General Operations levy.

8. Cutter Oil Agreement Modification

Gene Roberts has been working with the owner of Cutter Oil to modify the terms of the natural gas well agreement that Council approved last year. Gene reports that the well location needs to be changed and he is requesting Committee time for Council's approval of the change to the Agreement. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the modifications to the terms of the Agreement.

Council Action

Authorize the modifications to the terms of the Cutter Oil drilling agreement as presented.

9. Garden Club Memorial Stone

Gene Roberts has received a request from the Garden Club of Kent to return the William W. "Biff" Staples memorial stone that is currently located on Haymaker Parkway (not visible) to the Kent Garden Club where it will be relocated to a visible location in honor of Mr. Staples. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Recommend Council support the return of the memorial stone in honor of Mr. Staples.

Council Action

Authorize staff to return the memorial stone to the Kent Garden Club.



Health & Safety Committee

10. Wireless 911 City / Kent State Agreement Modification

Bill Lillich reports that due to legislative changes enacted by the State of Ohio last year it is necessary to amend the City/Kent State Computer Aided Dispatch Agreement. Previously State 911 funds were distributed directly to the City and to Kent State since they are active public safety answering points (PSAP's). Although we will both continue to be PSAP's Kent State will no longer be able to receive funds directly. Instead, the Kent State funds will have to be passed through the City for distribution to Kent State. We need to modify the City/KSU Agreement and amend our budgetary appropriations to reflect this change. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

This is a procedural change that was necessitated by changes in the state law and it will have no financial impact on the City so I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed modifications to the City/KSU Dispatch Agreement and amend the appropriations ordinance.

11. Exterior Maintenance Code

As Gary Locke discussed during his overview of our neighborhood initiatives, the staff is prepared to bring back the Exterior Maintenance Code for Council consideration and approval. The staff has presented this proposal a couple of different times with Council and we would like direction for adoption and implementation. I have included a copy of Gary's summary sheets from the last Committee presentation for your reference. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I support the staff request for Council's approval to move forward with adopting the Exterior Maintenance Code and recommend an implementation schedule.

Council Action

Adopt the Exterior Maintenance Code and authorize staff to proceed with implementation.

Information Items (continued)

1. City Council Activity Report for the 1st Quarter of 2009

For your information I have provided a copy of the Activity Report for the 1st Quarter of 2009. Although Economic Development still occupied nearly one-third of our time, community and neighborhood issues received the greatest focus for the quarter at 42% of Council time. (attachment)

2. Interim Trash Service Information

With the passage of the citywide trash management initiative last week Gene has begun to circulate information concerning the implementation schedule and I have included a copy for you since you are likely to begin to get questions from residents. We will have more public information as we develop the plans further and we will be sure to provide copies to City Council as well. Our goal is to make the transition as smooth and convenient as possible for our residents. (attachment)

3. Planning Commission June 2, 2009 Agenda

Gary Locke has provided a copy of the agenda for the June 2 Planning Commission meeting. There are 3 items up for consideration: 1)Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority Site Plan approval at 1066 Fraternity Circle; 2)Jenny Adams Site Plan Review and Conditional Zoning Approval at 1393 Mogadore Road; 3)Ron Burbick Phoenix Project parking modification. (attachment)

