



Approved

**MINUTES
CITY OF DUBUQUE LONG RANGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION**

5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

City Council Chamber, Historic Federal Building

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Chad Darter; Commissioners Mark Dolson, John Pregler, Alan Vincent, and Charlie Winterwood.

Commissioners Excused:

Commissioners Unexcused:

Staff Members Present: Laura Carstens, Jill Connors and David Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Darter at 5:30 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE: Staff presented an Affidavit of Compliance verifying that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

MINUTES: Motion by Vincent, seconded by Winterwood, to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2016 Long Range Planning Advisory Commission as submitted. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye - Vincent, Winterwood, Pregler, Dolson and Darter; Nay – None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

ACTION ITEMS: None.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC: None.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION: None.

ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Amended and Restated Urban Renewal Plan for the Downtown Industrial Economic Development District: Staff Member Connors presented the request for expansion of the Dubuque Industrial Center Economic Development District to add the Subareas H, I and J. She reviewed the property subject to the request. She noted the City is interested in purchasing the land because it is contiguous to existing City-owned

industrial land that can be expanded.

Staff Member Connors reviewed potential partnerships with Dubuque County, noting that adjacent Dubuque County land will be included in the district to provide incentives for development of County facilities. She explained that through a joint agreement with the County, the City can include the land in a City urban renewal area. Recommending including areas H, I and J to continue economic development in the city.

Commissioner Pregler noted Staff's recommendation appears in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan. He asked how recent businesses that go out of business impact tax increment financing (TIF) in Urban Renewal Districts. Staff Member Connors explained how TIF is rebated. The Commission and Staff discussed how TIF is structured and how agreements may differ.

The Commission complimented the cooperation and planning with Dubuque County. The Commission and Staff discussed the mutual benefits.

Motion by Vincent, seconded by Dolson to approve the Amendment of the Dubuque Industrial Economic Development District Urban Renewal Plan. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye - Vincent, Winterwood, Dolson, Pregler, and Darter; Nay - None.

2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Teska and Associates Presentation: Mike Hoffman, Project Manager, Teska and Associates, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the City of Dubuque's new Comprehensive Plan and the Imagine Dubuque community engagement process. Mr. Hoffman reviewed the project team. Bob Barber, Orion Planning and Design, introduced himself and reviewed other team members not present that will be assisting with the Comprehensive Plan. Diane Williams, BDI, introduced herself and noted she will be working on the economic and market analysis of the plan to will help make sure the economic development portion of the plan is clear and attainable.

Mr. Hoffman reviewed the types of engagement noting the importance of creating an equitable process and plan. He reviewed the technology component. He indicated the process will be transparent to build trust in the community. He noted that we want to make sure we maintain momentum and make the process fun and engaging.

Mr. Hoffman reviewed the engagement plan. He reviewed the logo, branding efforts, website, App, website video, comment wall, workshop kit, and promotional materials. Mr. Hoffman reviewed key participants and activities for the project noting the business community, planning staff, technical team, leadership team, LRPAC, Working Groups, Focus groups, cultural groups, board/commissions, workshops, and area partners.

Mr. Hoffman reviewed his sustainability will be incorporated into the plan. He noted how urban design will be included. He reviewed the plan will have a developable land analysis, land use, multi modal transportation, infrastructure and hazard mitigation included in the plan. Mr. Barber reviewed how social and cultural vibrancy will be addressed noting health, housing, historic resources, cultural resources, education, public safety and parks and recreation. Ms. Williams reviewed how economic prosperity will be addressed taking a look at past efforts, local, regional and national trends, peer and competitive review, and a development and redevelopment analysis.

Mr. Hoffman reviewed how the plan will be created noting it will short, concise and relatable and highly illustrated. The details will be contained in an appendix. Mr. Hoffman reviewed how the plan will be implemented. He reviewed costs and funding, tools, and metrics.

Mr. Hoffman reviewed the timeline. He reviewed key meetings and topics and the Commission's involvement. Mr. Hoffman reiterated the importance of an equitable process and plan.

The consultants took the Commission through an exercise, asking Commissioners to offer a headline for what they would like to see in Dubuque in 10 years. Commissioners offered the following: Dubuque on Target to reduce greenhouse gas by 50% by 2030; City of Dubuque falls 25% below legal debt limit; Dubuque hosts Para-Olympics at the new Millwork District Park; Dubuque is the best place to own a bicycle; Dubuque develops a great workforce; and Dubuque MRT Side Trip route completed.

The consultants asked the Commission to discuss current opportunities and threats in the community toward our environmental/ecological integrity. The Commission and staff identified opportunities such as the need to improve multi-modal east west transportation in the city, past efforts to develop an aquatics center, implementation of the Catfish Creek Watershed Management Plan, better grade separation with the railroads, improved air quality, the South Port and other riverfront master plans as opportunities. The Commission noted threats include lead poisoning in the community, the current state of sewer infrastructure is old and undersized, the potential for flooding of Chaplain Schmitt Island, and the need for a plan in the event of a levee or flood wall breach.

The consultants asked the Commission to discuss current opportunities and threats in the community toward our economic prosperity. The Commission and staff identified workforce shortages, skills gaps and wage gaps that have been recently studied and reported as threats toward economic development. They also noted the need to provide workforce housing and reduce poverty. The Commission noted the importance of having the right people with the right skills in the right places in order to grow our economy. They identified opportunities such as the Southwest Arterial and surrounding development, the importance of our educational institutions in recruiting and retaining businesses, and the productivity of people in the Dubuque area as an opportunity

noting John Deere as an example. They also noted the river and historic resources are big opportunities for our economic wellbeing as historic resources are a draw for tourism.

The consultants asked the Commission to discuss current opportunities and threats in the community toward our social/cultural vibrancy. The Commission discussed the arts community, artwork, Riverwalk, River Museum, Art on the River, Arts Master Plan, and Art Museum as opportunities. The Commission identified threats include crime noting people's different perceptions of crime, homelessness, a lack of affordable housing, and concentration of assisted housing noting it is mostly concentrated downtown. The Commission identified distributing a variety of affordable housing, the health community need assessment study and health plan, maintaining great hospitals and health care, and more healthy local foods would be opportunities. The Commission noted there's a better opportunity for residents to make better lifestyle decisions. Staff noted a threat would be the affordability of quality food as there's a greater disparity of availability of healthy food options for low income people.

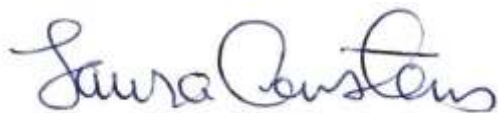
The consultants gave the Commissioners a homework assignment due in one month. They handed out project cards and paperwork. The Commission was requested to help promote the planning process, take a picture and upload to the project website, propose groups they think should be engaged, and think about and share their vision for Dubuque.

Commissioner Pregler reiterated the importance of making sure the Commission stays engaged as much as possible, noting Commissioners should participate where and when they can and want. He noted that this is the citizens' plan and having engagement from the citizen board members will help with support and buy-in.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Vincent, seconded by Pregler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye - Vincent, Winterwood, Dolson, Pregler and Darter; Nay - None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager

10/20/2016

Adopted