

Public Works / Finance Committee



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, January 27, 2020

3:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

REGULAR AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Sandra Kelly, Brandy Sullivan, Gina Taruscio

OTHERS: Council Vice President Art Bettge

STAFF: Mia Bautista, Bill Belknap, Megan Cherry, Tyler Palmer, Alisa Anderson, Laurie M. Hopkins

1. Approval of the January 13, 2020 Public Works / Finance Committee Minutes (ACTION ITEM) - Laurie M. Hopkins

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes, amend minutes, or provide staff further direction
Approved as presented.

2. Latah County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Project List Approval (ACTION ITEM) - Bill Belknap & Alisa Anderson

Latah County is currently updating the 2011 Latah County All Hazards Mitigation Plan which includes and covers all cities within the County. In early January of this year, City Staff received a request to identify and prepare a list of hazard mitigation actions the City may pursue to reduce the risk and impact of hazards facing the community. This request was distributed to the relevant City Departments including Police, Fire, IS, Public Works Services, Planning, Engineering and Parks and Facilities to compile a list of potential hazard mitigation actions. Inclusion of the mitigation actions in the Plan will allow the City to continue to receive various grant funds for emergency response planning and equipment and will assist the City in pursuing additional grant funding for the identified projects in the future.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval of the proposed hazard mitigation action list; or provide staff further direction

Belknap introduced the item as written above and described hazard and mitigation actions each City department felt were possible. Options of barriers are already being researched for the hazard to protect crowds from terrorism. Emergency response communications hazard is due to the age of the repeaters and some parts of the city where the repeaters have difficulty reaching the radios, as well as some buildings are difficult to communicate in. FMA requires each county to have a hazardous mitigation plan in order to participate in the grant programs. If a project hasn't been added to the plan, it would not be eligible. Each county sponsors a plan and includes each city within their district. The UI is also included in the Latah County plan. Cyber security is a risk but wasn't considered a hazard to include in this list. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council regular agenda.

3. Transportation Alternatives Program South Main Pedestrian Underpass Grant Application (ACTION ITEM) - Bill Belknap / Alisa Anderson

Following the construction of the Troy Highway pedestrian underpass, the City and Moscow Urban Renewal Agency jointly funded a study to assess the feasibility of the construction of a similar underpass on South Main/U.S. 95 just south of the south couplet intersection. The study included conceptual designs, cost estimation, and a wetland delineation of the project area. As previously reported to the City Council, the study indicated the pedestrian underpass construction was feasible and would have negligible impact upon flood elevations within the area. The proposed underpass will enhance non-motorized transportation use of the pathway system and improve pedestrian safety in the project area. The proposed project is supported by the Moscow Pathways Commission, Moscow Transportation Commission, and Moscow Urban Renewal Agency. City Staff have prepared a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant application to assist with funding the project which is before the Council for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval of the Transportation Alternatives Program grant application for the South Main Pedestrian Underpass Project; or provide staff further direction.

Belknap introduced the item as written above including a detailed background, aerial photos and a conceptual design. The proposed underpass would have negligible impacts upon flood elevations that are anticipated to be mitigated at the design phase. Similar to the White Avenue underpass, the South Main underpass is also anticipated to be inundated with flooding 4.1 days per year. The old Highway 95 bridge was slated to be removed in 1997 but was determined to be considered historic. Due to deterioration, the structure is no longer considered to be eligible for the National Register. Gritman has indicated that removal of the bridge would be a condition for donation of property necessary for the underpass construction. Staff believes that there could be an opportunity to salvage and repurpose portions of the existing guardrail into an historical interpretative station along the pathway. The project would include the construction of sidewalks along South Main to provide a north-south pedestrian route through the area and also present the opportunity to extend the Sweet Avenue creek restoration work eastward to the current bridge. The application deadline is 2/2/20. Belknap laid out the cost estimate and the grant funding proposal. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council consent agenda.

4. Approval of Subrecipient Agreement for the FEMA Advance Assistance Paradise Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Study Project (ACTION ITEM) - Bill Belknap / Alisa Anderson

Following flooding events in the spring of 2017, in consultation with FEMA officials the City was encouraged to apply for a Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant to identify and construct potential flood hazard mitigation actions to reduce property damage from flooding events on Paradise Creek. After an extended review period and multiple requests for additional information, the City's application was shifted to FEMA's Advanced Assistance Program which is intended to fund advanced studies to assess and identify potential flood hazard mitigation actions. The City was recently notified it has been awarded \$295,200 in grant funding to support the study. The total estimated study cost is \$393,600 with \$98,400 in local match (which includes \$10,000 in pre-application engineering, \$41,600 in City staff in-kind labor match for project administration, and \$46,800 in local cash match). On January 22, the City received the attached subrecipient agreement from the Idaho Office of Emergency Management for review and execution by the City.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval of the Subrecipient Agreement for the FEMA Advance Assistance Paradise Creek Flood Hazard Mitigation Study Project; or provide staff further direction.

Belknap introduced the item as written above. The study will explore potential flood hazard mitigation alternatives and determine the most viable method to resolve flooding issues. The study area is upstream of Mountain View Park to the Paradise Creek crossing of the Troy Highway near the intersection with Styner and White Avenue and will include survey of current conditions, assessment of hydrologic conditions and development of hydraulic model. Staff anticipates a year timeline. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council regular agenda.

REPORTS

Moscow Arts Commission Strategic Planning Report – Megan Cherry

Cherry said a ton of input from the community has been contributed to this document. She went through the timeline and some of the items in the plan are already being worked on, and in some cases complete. The MAC history will be added to the plan and the commission will establish metrics to help understand health of the arts programs and review parts of the plan on a monthly basis. The Commission updated the organizational chart so the strategic plan aligns with the committees. Promotion timing and delivery of the invitations to gallery openings has helped increase attendance. Aligning with art industry standards is important as Moscow is a leader in Idaho cities. Want to create more partnerships around the region. Providing a multitude of options for public are input may assist in reaching other audiences. Rather than trying to do a project at a lower cost project, can build up the 1% funds and even fundraise to provide creative business partner compensation. Arts has a program for registration for all programs and the department has the opportunity to cross list RFQ's on multiple listings.

ADJOURN

The meeting closed at 4:04 p.m.

