



Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee
Council Chambers
February 3, 2009
5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Brian Dalton, Penny Cox, Mayor Jim Fairchild, Randy Hunter, Ken Jacroux, Chelsea Pope, and Ken Woods, Jr.

Absent: Nancy Adams, Ron Dodge, Sue Rohde, and Ken Woods, Jr.

Staff: Assistant City Manager Kim Marr, Community Development Director Jason Locke, and Recording Secretary Laurie Roberts.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dalton opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. He introduced an audience guest and new Dallas resident, George Irving.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 9, 2008

The minutes of December 9, 2008 were approved as presented. Kim Marr advised that she was in attendance, which was so noted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Dalton called for public comments. There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on discussions with ODOT regarding angled parking on Main Street

Locke reported on a meeting with ODOT staff, Dan Fricke and Angela Kargel, in which they discussed diagonal parking. At the conclusion of the meeting with ODOT, Kargel asked for an outline of reasons for the diagonal parking and stated she would take it to the State Traffic Engineer, Ed Fischer. She noted the largest hurdle may be the average daily trips (ADT) that exceeded 6,000. Locke explained to her that the criteria are such that things like the wording of should vs. shall allows thing to be taken into account.

Locke advised that there will need to be some preliminary design and parking study work to prepare a presentation of findings, and the City wants to know if the diagonal parking will work before starting. He noted that Concept B is the same as the others but includes parallel parking, and Kargel indicated she thought that would be acceptable. He added we are waiting to hear back from Kargel so we can figure out how to proceed.

Dalton asked for comments from the Committee about the diagonal parking on the one block. After comments, he confirmed the group consensus was still strongly in favor of diagonal parking.

Shein asked why the 6,000 trips per day is a factor, and noted it's only a 20 mph speed zone. Locke explained it has to do with mobility through traffic.

Scroggin asked about the removal of parking on the east side of Main Street. Locke stated that is a dynamic factor that works in our favor, and mobility can be offset since we aren't using it. Discussion was held regarding examples of traffic flow in other communities. Locke explained what will matter is the interpretation of the ADT number and how strict ODOT sticks to that number, and they have to follow procedures similar to us but their staff is positive and willing to go to bat for us. Dalton asked if it mattered that we are excited and it will change the dynamic of the downtown. Locke noted that the staff conveyed that to them.

In response to comments, Locke advised that the trellises cant' block the visual clearance.

Scroggin asked about using approved funding to reimburse the City for excess staff time used on Urban Renewal. Locke explained prioritization of work, the technical aspect of the project, and the Council's position regarding funding for staff time. He added that if there is a positive response from ODOT, the staff recommendation would be to move forward.

Jacroux asked if there were any recent ADT counts. Locke stated the one presented was from two years ago and was over 7,000, and it hasn't decreased.

Cox asked if there were other cities with diagonal parking downtown. Locke stated one was Depoe Bay, but it has completely different circumstances. He noted we have intersection offsets, and hopes it will be upheld. Fairchild mentioned an alternative route. Locke stated the truck traffic is negligible on Main. Dalton noted the history of diagonal parking and the attempt to replicate it. Shein noted the buffer zone is designed to help with interference. Locke stated that email item #3 covers that.

Scroggin asked about Polk County support for the plan. Locke stated he's not sure about it and will get information to clarify comments and get any issues resolved.

Cox asked if this is an ODOT administrative decision. Locke stated the ODOT staff wasn't real clear and it may be the decision of the regional manager, or it could go to the Oregon Transportation Commission and some form of public process. Dalton suggested if there were hearings the committee could offer to attend. Locke noted that if the group and the Council are supportive, and there aren't any clear reasons for ODOT not to approve it, there is a good chance for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Paver Stone selection of SE Mill Street Demonstration Project:

Dalton reviewed the project concept. Locke reported on the variety and display at Western Interlock. He defined efflorescence. He explained that at the Mill Street site there is a 3' strip from the back of curb towards the building for a total of 9'. Since there are many complex patterns available, a field trip to the vendor could be beneficial. Discussion was held regarding the various items to consider, the half block up to the Theatre, and where the pavers would go along Main Street. They reviewed the area that would be widened with the pavers, and noted they are not a permanent element and are relatively inexpensive. In response to a question

about durability, Locke noted that for the type of use, the pavers easily last 20 years with perhaps some treatment for maintenance and appearance. Dalton noted a tree ring is also needed. Jacroux asked if a prototype could be constructed for the vine trellis structure showing construction, costs powder coating, etc. Dalton mentioned maintenance of vines.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Dalton called for member comments. There were none.

STAFF COMMENTS

Chair Dalton called for staff comments. There were none.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. After adjourning, the Committee went to view the street light and various stone examples in the Civic Center.