

Subject: work plan feedback

From: Kirk Westphal
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:03 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: work plan feedback

Hi Commission and Staff:

I appreciate your hard work on organizing the work plan. The plan is clearly a very consequential document for the community, as it's designed to prioritize or delay the impactful initiatives you are considering.

It appears you have a very full agenda tonight before discussing the plan. I hope you will entertain option #3 or 4 in staff's memo ("propose amendments" and/or "request a modified Work Program for presentation/review at a future meeting"), preferably the latter so that you have sufficient time to discuss this document.

Please consider the following either tonight or at a future date when you revisit the work plan.

Clarifications for the existing plan:

1. Restore the former practice of assigning months to all the proposed action items, not just the ones close to completion. Dates will change, but assigning most things to an "annual" checklist has not been working in my view.
2. I appreciate that Washtenaw TC-1 now has a projected completion date (June); please assign tentative month deadlines for all upcoming items, such as Comp Plan adoption and building height and drive-through changes.
3. Does "UDC 10th Edition" in 2025 mean adopting the zoning changes that come from the adopted Comprehensive Plan?
4. Assign the placeholders for council directives to a separate TBD category; these resolutions rely on council subcommittee input and direction first, and at least one isn't slated for this year.
5. "Parking maximums" is listed under "Comprehensive Plan," but is this (and critical related issues like parking unbundling and cash-out) definitively in the consultant's scope? If not, please consider prioritizing them for 2024 as they can start having immediate equity, affordability, and climate impacts.

New items for the 2024 work plan:

1. Unless it's part of the consultant scope, correct the current inequitable impacts of highly subsidized on-street public parking for near-downtown residents. These permits are currently \$70/year, which equates to 3.5¢/hour (2000 hours/year) which privileges car owners to occupy scarce public space. Consider transitioning from residential parking permits to meters or

license plate payment. This will be an increasingly problematic issue as you implement increased density in current detached-house neighborhoods. This is a planning issue and should not be left to the city treasurer.

2. Upzone unbuilt and to-be-annexed single-family parcels, as recommended in the current plan. Prioritize the South Pond area behind Arborland as a start.

Sincerely,
Kirk Westphal
Ward 2