



TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Manager
Matt Horning, Interim Financial Services Area Administrator/Treasurer
Craig Hupy, Public Services Area Administrator
Cresson Slotten, Systems Planning Manager

CC: Tom Crawford, Interim City Administrator

SUBJECT: Council Agenda Responses

DATE: 1/4/16

CA- 2 – Resolution to Appropriate Funds and Authorize Share Funding with the Washtenaw County for Waste Diversion Site Feasibility Study for a New Drop-Off Station (\$34,805.00) (8 Votes Required)

Question: What is the basis for the 50/50 cost sharing and for the County taking the lead on this feasibility study? (Councilmember Lumm)

Response: The basis for which agency takes the lead and cost sharing is found in a number of factors. The County is currently undertaking an update of the countywide solid waste plan of which recycling/reuse is a large piece. The County is interested in increasing the waste diversion and year-round access to recycling for County residents beyond their current special waste drop-off events. It is important that any drop-off/collection scenario integrates with the county plan. Thus it makes sense that the County takes the lead with proper representation from all stakeholders in the county. It is important that all stakeholders' view points are represented. The cost split is based upon the approximate split of current and anticipated future users' residencies.

Question: Paragraph 5 of the MOU explicitly mentions input from the County's Solid Waste Planning Commission in the joint review of the study's findings, but there's no mention of input from any City body in that review process. What will be the mechanism

for City Council (and citizen) input and when is it expected the study will be completed and the discussions commence? (Councilmember Lumm)

Response: The study effort includes community outreach and stakeholder participation tasks, which will provide opportunities for stakeholders, including citizens to participate in the process. It is anticipated that these opportunities will include an online survey tool to allow stakeholders to provide comments and feedback on the draft plan, and a project webpage to inform the public about the initiative and related details/analysis/considerations and to furnish the public with an easily accessible forum for providing feedback. The conceptual plan and draft report will be presented to the City Council, as well as to the Washtenaw County Board of Public Works, the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Planning Committee, and the County Board of Commissioners. In addition, any future City participation in funding of future phases of developing a replacement DOS will be presented to City Council for approval. The Study is anticipated to take approximately six months to complete.

Question: Paragraph 6 of the MOU indicates that factors to be included in determining the construction cost sharing include past investments/land acquisition. If the project goes forward on the 13 acre site on Platt Road mentioned in the MOU, will the value of that land be based on current market/appraised value? (Councilmember Lumm)

Response: If the relocated DOS moves forward on the City site, the details regarding the valuation of the City's investment in this property will be determined at the time of the cost-sharing formulation.

DC-1 – Resolution to Encourage Support to Fund the Fire Protection Grant Program

Question: When Council passed this resolution in March 2014, GCSI had indicated to us that the State's full funding of the grant would require about \$8M more (full funding was \$17M vs. \$9M actual funding). What is the current status, and how much more would Ann Arbor receive over and above the \$940K we now get with full funding? (Councilmember Lumm)

Response: We do not have definitive advice yet from the state, but we expect to receive payments that are close to those received in the previous fiscal year. Additionally, the Michigan legislature passed a law in late 2014 that phases out the Driver Responsibility Fees over a four year period, beginning October of 2015. These fees are currently the major source of revenue for the fire protection grants. It is unknown how this change will affect future payments. If the fire protection grant were funded completely, the City could expect an additional \$1.3 million over what it receives now.

DB-1 – Resolution to Approve Grant Application to the USDA Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on the Drake Farm in Lodi Township

Question: I recognize this is the first step (to submit a grant application) and that an appraisal has not yet been completed, but do we have a sense of the property's value and what other local entities (County, Lodi Township) may also participate in the funding? (Councilmember Lumm)

Response: Development rights are anticipated to be in the range of \$4,000.00 per acre based on a nearby property appraisal that was completed in the fall of 2015. However, as stated above, each property is, of course, unique, so this should only serve as a guide.

The City plans to explore partnering with Lodi Township and Washtenaw County on this project, but neither group has been approached at this point in the process.