

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE
DISTRICT ONE
FEBRUARY 4, 2010**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Phil Dyer, Mayor
Harry LaRosiliere, Mayor Pro Tem
Lee Dunlap, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner
Ben Harris
Mabrie Jackson (resigned)
Lissa Smith
Jean Callison

STAFF

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager
Bruce Glasscock, Deputy City Manager
Mark Israelson, Assistant City Manager
LaShon Ross, Assistant City Manager
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

The Plano City Council met informally at 7:01 p.m., Thursday, February 4, 2010, at the Plano Centre – Northbrook Room, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, Texas. All Council Members were present with the exception of Mayor Dyer and Mayor Pro Tem LaRosiliere. Council Member Callison arrived at 7:10 p.m. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dunlap welcomed those in attendance and introduced Council, Staff and other officials in attendance. He spoke regarding the structure of the Council where all members represent citizens across the City.

Budget Update - 2009 Bond Referendum

Director of Budget and Research Rhodes-Whitley spoke to preparations for Fiscal Year 2010-11, departmental reductions of \$12 million, a projected decrease in property value of 8%, declines in sales tax revenues and increases in fees from the North Texas Municipal Water District passed through to consumers. She reviewed the budget calendar and advised that Plano's property tax rate is one of the lowest in the Metroplex due to tax exemptions. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley responded to a citizen question, advising that the City is on a take-or-pay contract with the water district and will incur price increases regardless of the amount of rain received.

Economic Development Progress Report

Plano Economic Development Board Executive Director Bane reviewed the facilities that opened in 2009 including Cigna-Regional Headquarters, Diodes, and Hope Center. She spoke to the number of jobs brought to the City, value of improvements and history of the economic development fund. Ms. Bane spoke regarding the value of incentives, identifying companies, and advertising Plano as a business friendly community with low costs and a top city for working families. She spoke to the challenges of a maturing city, the impact of other cities with 4A and 4B funds and Plano's opportunities for redevelopment and infill with retention as an important element.

Ms. Bane spoke to companies utilizing the internet for site selection and stressed the need to shop in Plano as other cities use sales tax dollars for economic development. She responded to a citizen, stating that the cost per job has not been calculated and that improvements are spread across the City.

Oak Point Park Update

Parks and Recreation Director Fortenberry spoke to Oak Point Park's 801 acres of land with hard and soft trails connecting to other parts of the City and reviewed events/programs. She responded to questions, advising that the timeline for expansion of trails to the west has been hampered by the budget and spoke to their locations and connection to other communities.

District 1 Community Investment Program & Street Improvements - 14th Street Construction Update - DART Improvement Plans at Parker - Parker Road and US 75 Interchange Improvement Plans

Director of Public Works/Engineering Upchurch advised regarding a park erosion control project including seven locations east of U.S. 75, work towards establishing railroad quiet zones throughout the City, intersection improvements at Spring Creek Parkway/Jupiter Road and Parker Road/Spring Creek Parkway, work on Jupiter Road between Summit and Technology Drives, widening of Chaparral Road, and reconstruction of 14th Street from K Avenue to Ridgewood Drive. He spoke to Ridgewood Drive rehabilitation, water line repair west of Murphy Road, Avenue R construction, work on Split Trail Road and 15th Street from G Avenue to US 75, reconstruction of G Avenue to US 75 with funding from TxDOT, pavement rehabilitation on Jupiter Road, and work on K Avenue from SH 190 to Chaparral Road. Mr. Upchurch advised there would be neighborhood work beginning in the fall (US 75/Jupiter Road/14th Street/Park Boulevard and 14th Street/Plano Parkway/Jupiter Road/Shiloh Road), provided an update on progress at US 75 and Parker Road advising that the project should be complete by November 10, and advised that DART parking has added over 500 spaces.

Mr. Upchurch responded to questions, advising that construction on K Avenue and US 75 are not scheduled at this time but that he would look into maintenance. He advised that there are no plans for the Douglass Community at this time and spoke to the lack of neighborhood support in the past for sidewalk installations as they would require five foot easements from property owners. Mr. Upchurch spoke to the design of westbound 18th Street at G Avenue and stated that Staff will review the left turn access from G Avenue onto 16th Street. He advised that the City cannot tax others who use DART services and Director of Planning Jarrell advised that the Plano Housing Authority can be contacted regarding the sale of units near the Douglass Community. Mr. Upchurch advised that 14th Street west of G Avenue will be addressed for reconfiguration after the area redevelops.

Downtown residential and commercial leasing activities

Director of Planning Jarrell spoke to new businesses and restaurants in the Downtown area, building rehabilitation and delay of the mixed-use project at 15th Street. She responded to citizens, advising that a parking garage will be included in the mixed-use project and that 14th and 15th Streets have the capacity to handle traffic.

Code Enforcement Overview

Director of Property Standards O'Banner spoke to code enforcement governing the look and feel of a community through city-wide inspections for nuisance and violations. She spoke to the purpose of promoting maintenance and improving the quality of life, working towards voluntary compliance, collaboration with other departments and groups and working with the community. Ms. O'Banner spoke regarding efforts towards quality customer services and provided information on common violations advising that 78% are proactive in nature with 22% reactive. She advised that in 91% of the cases compliance is voluntary with 9% enforced and spoke to the impact of House Bill 2086 wherein the City must offer to remove graffiti, upon refusal provide a 15-day notice and assess expenses. Ms. O'Banner spoke to the impact of foreclosures on the City, demolitions in District 1, and responded to questions regarding the maximum number of residents per house, advising that occupancy limitations are established by minimum floor area required for sleeping, living and dining purposes and further that in 2009 there were 56 locations reviewed with four requiring a change in living conditions. She responded that there is no limit on the number of vehicles that may be parked at an address, but that there are regulations for manner in which they are parked.

Council Member Miner opened the floor for general questions. Police Chief Rushin spoke to the number of officers on roadways in response to a citizen's concern regarding speeding traffic and he further requested citizens provide input on violations and red-light runners. Director of Planning Jarrell advised that the sale of Plano Housing Authority property is subject to their board's approval. City Manager Muehlenbeck responded to a citizen's concerns at 11th Street and F Avenue advising that caution lights are for use in school zones. Ms. Jarrell advised that plans for a low income property at the 13th/14th Street Connector are going through state approval and must include a change in zoning. Traffic Engineering Manager Neal advised that when vehicles are parked properly on streets, emergency vehicles can move through and that Staff will review locations noted by citizens. Mr. Muehlenbeck responded to a citizen, advising that Plano Centre has been successful in covering most of its operations/maintenance costs; however, it turns away shows because of its small size and he spoke to developing a larger facility.

Assistant City Manager Israelson spoke to printing future notices on the reverse of utility bills rather than including additional paper and to citizen access via the web site for those receiving online billing. Ms. Jarrell spoke to retail center property owners driving the change in development by improving their locations, thus bringing in more stores so citizens may shop in Plano. Council Member Miner advised that the Council can review the scheduling of the roundtables to vary the months in which particular districts are addressed. Mr. Upchurch advised that Staff will look into spacing of street lights in the Douglass Community and that the lights themselves can be addressed with Oncor. Council Member Miner and Ms. Bane spoke to 38% of economic development occurring in District 1 and Ms. Jarrell advised that zoning changes will allow for restaurant and retail services in the Research/Technology District. She advised that while development has slowed, more is expected in the area and spoke to the requirements of chain stores limiting their application in the Downtown area.

Council Member Miner thanked those in attendance. Nothing further was discussed and the meeting was closed at 9:02 p.m.

Lee Dunlap, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary