

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL  
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE  
DISTRICT FOUR  
August 23, 2007**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pat Evans, Mayor  
Sally Magnuson, Mayor Pro Tem  
Jean Callison, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Shep Stahel  
Scott Johnson  
Loretta Ellerbe  
Harry LaRosiliere  
Lee Dunlap

**STAFF**

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager  
Frank Turner, Executive Director  
Bruce Glasscock, Executive Director  
Rod Hogan, Executive Director  
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney  
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

The Plano City Council met informally at 7:11 p.m., Thursday, August 23, 2007, at Plano Sports Authority StarCenter, 6500 Preston Meadow, Plano, Texas. All Council Members were present with the exception of Council Member Stahel. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Callison arrived at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Evans welcomed those in attendance and identified the Council districts. Mayor Evans spoke regarding Council Members being elected and serving the City at large and the benefits provided. Staff in attendance introduced themselves.

**FY 2007-2008 Budget Presentation - FY 2007-2008 Community Investment Program Presentation**

Director of Budget and Research Rhodes spoke to combined budget expenditures in the amount of \$388,717,084 with the largest portion being for Public Safety followed by Water and Sewer, General Government, Debt Service, Parks and Recreation and Sustainability and Environmental Services.

Ms. Rhodes spoke to General Fund projected revenues with the largest portion of resources coming from taxes (property and sales). She spoke to the assessed property valuation for the City of \$24.5 billion, the increase of \$1.1 billion in value being the largest since 2002 and the majority due to commercial development with new growth in the amount of \$568 million. Ms. Rhodes spoke to the City of Plano offering exemptions including one for a general homestead and those for individuals over-65 or disabled. Ms. Rhodes advised that these exemptions translate into \$22.9 million in lost property tax revenue. She spoke to the impact on revenues of the over-65 tax freeze and tax increment financing districts.

Ms. Rhodes spoke to Plano implementing a two-cent property tax increase in 2006-07 for an Economic Development Incentive Program allowing the City to stay competitive. She compared the City of Plano tax rate to other area cities that do not offer exemptions and spoke to a leveling out of sales tax revenue.

Ms. Rhodes advised regarding the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Recommended Budget including \$6 million for economic development incentives, \$5.6 million for a 0-5% merit increase for non-civil service employees and 4% for civil service, \$3.7 million for public safety additions and program increases, \$3.7 million for new general obligation debt, \$3.2 million for North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) increases and \$2.6 million for health insurance increases. She spoke to the Community Investment Projects coming on-line in the amount of \$1.5 million.

Ms. Rhodes spoke to the Water and Sewer Fund and usage in water of 19.8 billion gallons versus the 26.78 billion in the "take or pay" contract and the cost to the City of \$7.8 million. She advised regarding the Community Investment Program which funds the City's infrastructure and the greatest expenditure being in the area of streets, followed by parks and reviewed key dates on the budget calendar

The floor was opened to questions and Director of Public Works Foster advised regarding the recent sewer spill associated with a contractor stating that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality can assess penalties which would be the contractor's responsibility. He spoke to review of sewer lines for upgrade or replacement. Ms. Rhodes spoke to income derived from other sources including solid waste revenues, civic center fees and parks and recreation fees. She spoke to reviewing the NTMWD contract and Executive Director Hogan spoke to the contract being in place since 1988 and the requirement that all participants unanimously agree to a change. He spoke to the calculation of fees and direct operating costs and growth in the area. Mr. Hogan spoke to new projects coming on board to increase capacity, restrictions on the use of creek water and looking long-term to decrease per capita consumption. He spoke to finishing out some recreation projects and to use of the capital reserve fund for street repair. A citizen complimented the City on park maintenance and spoke to issues on school property.

Mayor Evans spoke to the importance of sales tax and to buying in the City to keep taxes low and maintain the value of services for the property tax dollar in the City.

## **Recreation Center Update**

### Muehlenbeck Center

Recreation Manager Fox provided an overview of the Tom Muehlenbeck Center including its location, size and budget. He spoke to receipt of input for development of the facility and features including wireless internet accessibility, food service, game room, arts and crafts room, preschool activity area, fitness areas, indoor walking and jogging track, group exercise and dance studio, gymnasiums, indoor and outdoor pools and aquatic classroom.

Mr. Fox spoke to pedestrian access and recreational trails within the site, an art piece included for the lobby, membership fees allowing access to all centers and the grand opening on November 2, 2007.

### Carpenter Park Expansion

Mr. Fox spoke to renovation/expansion and concepts developed during the last bond referendum including addressing the age of the center, limited fitness area, lack of swimming pool, desire for a second senior center and original plans for expansion. He spoke to trends in recreation including multi-generational programming, warm water pools and to planned spaces and facilities including a swimming pool, expanded fitness area, added classroom space and development of an outdoor skate park with controlled access. Mr. Fox spoke to design in Fiscal Year 2007-08, construction in 2008-09 at a budget of \$6.6 million and additional public input meetings.

The floor was opened for questions. Mr. Fox advised that studies are being done regarding transportation in the City including access to recreational facilities. Mayor Evans spoke to development of senior programs and to working on transportation issues. Mr. Foster spoke to the cleaning of major arterial streets and Director of Planning Jarrell advised that the former Wal-Mart property on Park Boulevard and Preston Road has been sold and that there are plans to rebuild retail on the site. She spoke to there being very few undeveloped multi-family locations in the City.

### **Community Investment Projects – District 4 - Street Repairs/Improvements/Resurfacing**

Director of Public Works Foster advised that street and sanitary sewer repairs are almost complete on Custer Road and spoke to the status of repairs on 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Park Boulevard and sidewalks along Spring Creek Parkway and Plano Parkway. He advised regarding sanitary sewer rehabilitation in the Green Oaks area and reducing infiltration from storm water. Chief Engineer-CIP Cosgrove responded regarding contractors having a specified time period for completion of projects and to sewer and drainage projects.

Traffic Engineering Manager Neal responded regarding the timing of traffic signals to allow flexibility in their operation and implement movement throughout the City. Mr. Neal spoke regarding challenges in the area of Coit Road and SH 190 and dialogue with the City of Dallas regarding cycle lengths at the intersection. He responded to questions regarding the movement of traffic through school zones, the City's plans to expand the red-light camera program and the sharing of monies received from their operation. Mr. Neal spoke to u-turns at intersections allowing for continuation of traffic flow, advised that Staff would review issues of ingress/egress at the northeast corner of Parker Road and Coit Road, and spoke to the Safe Streets Program and/or police enforcement in neighborhoods.

Director of Property Standards O'Banner spoke regarding notification of property code violations and deed restrictions that may address issues of "yard art." Executive Director Turner advised that unless prohibited by deed restrictions, solar collectors would be allowed in the City following the permitting process.

Ms. O'Banner spoke to review of programs to reinvest in older neighborhoods and Ms. Jarrell spoke to the use of federal block grants. Mayor Evans spoke to keeping neighborhoods, streets and alleys in good condition.

Mayor Evans responded regarding the Day Laborer Center and having workers report there rather than being on streets or in neighborhoods. City Manager Muehlenbeck advised that the City utilizes bonded contractors for projects. Police Chief Rushin advised that local law enforcement has no authority to address immigration and spoke to the policy of advising Immigration and Customs Enforcement to address specific situations. He spoke to 85% of the City participating in Crimewatch and the success of the National Night Out Program.

Mayor Evans requested citizens contact the City if they have concerns regarding their neighborhoods, thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

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**Pat Evans, Mayor**

ATTEST:

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Diane Zucco, City Secretary