

City of Anderson
Retreat Issues and Major Projects
May, 2010

Retreat Issues

- **Neighborhood and Transit Services**

- Neighborhoods and Housing Task Force
 - City Council appointed a Task Force composed of community members that can assist in developing plans to redevelop neighborhoods.
 - Neighborhood Revitalization Implementation Plan adopted by City Council at November 9th council meeting
 - Completed four (4) sessions of 2010 Citizens Academy
 - Neighborhoods and Housing Task Force Meeting on April 29, 2010 to give an update on Neighborhood Revitalization Implementation Plan and DHEC site selection process
- Murray/Franklin, Lincoln/Grant, McCully developments
 - Murray-Franklin/Lincoln-Grant/McCully Street are now incorporated in APD plan as catalyst development areas in neighborhood strategy plan
 - Land development agreement with Nehemiah Corp. executed December 9, 2010; housing construction to begin March 2010 on McCully Street
 - Meeting with City Manager and Assistant City Manager about consultant role and possible RFQ process for Murray/Franklin site development
 - Meeting with Jesse Wiles and Nehemiah Corporation on April 29, 2010 to discuss McCully Street development site plans, housing designs, updates, and property contract of sale amendment

- **Downtown**

- Parking Garage
 - Constructed 250 space West Whitner Street Parking Garage with retail component;
 - Began paid parking May 1st; continual monitoring of operations & maintenance;
 - Continue process to close out retail component
- Belk Site
 - Original plan: redevelop E. Whitner Street site with mixed use that has a 50-80 room hotel, 5,000 sq. ft. meeting facility, and 80-space underground parking garage as its first phase (Maintain info on conceptual ideas as well as positive responses from 13 local business/industry indicating an estimated 1600 – 1700 room nights on an annual basis, plus good interest in the meeting room space)
 - Development options, estimated costs and funding under consideration during second quarter 2010.
 - Request For Qualifications from design firms were advertised for a phased development of greenspace and façade improvements to adjacent building. The RFQ is due on 5/13/10.

- Streetscapes
 - Constructed 6 streetscapes, investing \$3 million in public infrastructure over 3 years
 - Closed out contract in 12/09; maintenance and coordination w/private sector ongoing; inspection on new construction ongoing

- Master Plan Projects
 - Implementing downtown master plan
 - Continued course of action identified by the public process: Continued streetscape on Main from River to Tribble; Develop additional partnerships to leverage resources (Connections Booklet – in circulation); Establish new programs and guidelines that further encourage development (fine-tune encroachment regulations – in process); transitioned downtown maintenance from contract to full-time employee
 - Initiated phase 2 parking/ directional signage; initiated structure to streamline event security, parking enforcement, etc. with implementation during 1st quarter
 - Initiated draft of economic development incentives, conducted work session 2/23/10; continue to refine, present to Council during April 2010.
 - The Economic Development Incentive Ordinance was approved; staff is now preparing an application and criteria to determine the incentive amount.

- Downtown Development Commission (see Master Plan above for more)
 - Established a nine-member group as an advocacy group to support the City's revitalization efforts through implementation of the master plan.
 - Identified the following as priority areas to accelerate: development of visitor advertising (regional market, too), packaging marketing piece for use with area hotels, and development and implementation of wayfinding plan
 - Completed downtown hospitality package for hoteliers; identified potential locations for directional signage at highway gateways – pricing in progress; signage expected to be completed by June 30
 - Continue this ongoing process of implementing the master plan, refining the management and maintenance details, all coordinated with TIF budget and general fund dollars

- **Recreation**
 - Master Plan Update/Swim Centers
 - The Recreation Department's 2000 Recreation Master Plan has been updated by Arbor Engineering.
 - School District V and City officials met with members of the Westside Community to discuss plans for Southwood site. SD5 officials agreed to obtain price to demolish Hudgens from contractor doing the expansion at the middle school.
 - Recreation Committee met April 28th and reviewed information pertaining to the Swim Center. Public input meeting scheduled for May 17th – Council Chambers.
 - DHEC has contacted School District V to schedule a meeting to discuss the future plans for Hudgens Building.

Major Projects

- **Courts**

- Study Court System and develop modification plans as needed
 - Review court system to maximize efficiency and fairness
 - PSC authorized City Manager's Office to conclude review and make recommendation to PSC
 - City Manager's Office and internal staff developed plan; reduced backlog of cases; and presented auditor's report and recommendations to Public Safety Committee 3-11-10

- **Fire**

- Station 3 – First Responder Fire Station
 - Completed and fully operational

- **Planning and Development**

- Emerging Leaders Program
 - Program is designed to provide a leadership development/succession planning effort to selected employees at the City.
 - Completed the inaugural program at end of 2008. Future programs with other employees will continue. Chris Eleazer to oversee 2009-10 program.
 - Class II began on September 24, 2009, and seven sessions have taken place.
- Imagine Anderson
 - Develop a community vision plan to serve as a catalyst for improving Anderson County over the next 20 years. The focus areas are Growth Management, Education, Economic Development, Health and Human Services, and Recreation.
 - Completed various focus area committees that are working to implement the elements of the plan. Plans such as this will typically see some elements implemented, while others may be revised over time.
 - Implement action plans over next 20 years.
 - The second Economic Development Summit was held on May 15, 2009.
- Comprehensive Plan Update
 - Update, in accordance with the 1994 SC Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act, Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Must be updated every ten years. Last revision was in 1999.
 - Staff will prepare this document along with limited field-work assistance from the Appalachian Council of Governments.
 - Complete Comprehensive Plan and adopt in the late summer of 2010.
- Long-Range Transportation Plan
 - Develop a long range transportation plan. This plan is a necessary tool that is generated as per the ANATS Policy Committee. It outlines existing conditions and provides recommendations for improvements to the City's transportation network. Last update was 2004.

- Updating projections and data collection for the transportation model are underway and will be complete in first quarter of 2009.
 - Present plan for ANATS in May 2010.
 - Adopt by the end of June 2010.
 - Housing Demolition Program
 - Council awarded the 2010 demolition bid to J&J Specialties.
 - Twenty (20) structures were demolished by the end of the first quarter of 2010. Special target areas include the Eastside, Alphabet Streets and the Southside.
 - Approximately 300 houses have been demolished since this programs inception in 2006.
 - Continue program that is ongoing with no completion date.
 - Abandoned Autos and Nuisance Abatement
 - Remove or abate all nuisances related to abandoned autos and overgrown lots. These programs directly impact aesthetics and the general safety of the City by eliminating inoperable vehicles and other hazards, such as overgrown lots and housing code violations.
 - Continue abatement program. Since January 1, 2010, approximately 71 autos have been tagged or covered. Over 124 overgrown lots and other property nuisances have been addressed since January 1, 2010.
 - Continue identifying and eliminating nuisances in the community on a proactive and complaint basis.
 - Continue programs that are ongoing with no completion date.
- **Police**
 - 5 year strategic plan (5YSP)
 - In July 2007, the APD submitted a 5YSP (2008-2012) to Anderson City management. The plan remains the blueprint for providing direction and guidance for improving the APD's operations, management and administration. The 5YSP identified the programs, projects, partnerships, and initiatives that the APD would implement or acquire in order to be more efficient in the services we provide and more effective in reducing crime and protecting citizens and residents. These programs are categorized under four areas - technology, training, reorganization, and community partnerships.
 - August 2009 Staff reviewed the 5YSP.
 - November 2009 Staff reported and documented progress made in the first two years of the 2008-2012 Police Five YSP. "Progress/Evaluation Report" posted on the APD website.
 - December 2009 Staff extended the original 2008-2012 5YSP to include years 2013 and 2014.
 - June 2010 APD expects to be audited by the South Carolina Police Accreditation Coalition to verify compliance with SCPAC and CALEA standards and principles.
 - South Carolina Police Accreditation Coalition assessors conducted an on site pre-audit review on April 14, 2010. Assessors recommended corrections in several areas of operations before final assessment for accreditation is conducted.
 - A second pre-audit review will be conducted in July 2010.

- September 2010 the APD expects the South Carolina Police Accreditation Coalition to conduct the final audit to verify compliance with SCPAC and CALEA standards and principles and award accreditation.

- **Public Works**

- Stormwater Projects

- Develop a stormwater program that complies with Federal and State Regulations, and improve 3 identified major stormwater projects.
 - Orr Street Regional Detention Ponds
 - Project completed
 - North Main Street Regional Detention Pond
 - Project completed
 - Huntington Hills Lake Restoration Project
 - Lake restoration project
 - Back filling earthen dam and seeding complete April 2010
 - Installation of flood control gates and trash racks May 2010
 - Ribbon Cutting in June 2010

- **Recreation**

- Nardin Field Upgrade

- Upgrade the Nardin Field area of the Eastside Recreation Complex for incorporation into the Recreation Master Plan.
- Other improvement project for Nardin Field has been placed on the hospitality projects cash flow priorities schedule.
- Final playground equipment installed at Rec. Center.

- **Utilities**

- ARJWS Dispute

- Resolved dispute with ARJWS board and staff over necessary Transmission Improvements to deliver 45 MGD peak demands to member agencies.
- Heard presentation on final design and recommendations at the April 2010 Board Meeting.
- Receive project bids and approve funding at the July 2010 Board Meeting.
- Complete project approximately by February 2012 within \$8.65M budget.

- RRWWTP Upgrade and Expansion Construction

- Upgrade and expand the RR Wastewater Treatment Plant to 9.5 MGD (\$26.6M).
- Held monthly progress meetings and made periodic site visits.
- Continue to monitor construction and hold monthly progress meetings.
- Complete project by April 2011. (Project is approximately 80% complete)

- Utility Master Plan

- Update the City's Water and Sewer Master Plan to determine capital needs and improvements for the next 5 years (FY2011-2015).
- Began prioritizing water/sewer system projects and estimating project costs.

- Identified improvements for immediate need from critical timing and compliance standpoint.
 - Complete capital plan and recommend capital budget to ensure completion by July 2010.
 - East/West Connector Waterline Relocation
 - Relocate existing 10" DIP waterline in conflict with proposed storm drainage along the future E/W Connector.
 - Met with SCDOT on site to discuss placement of new waterline and received all materials of construction.
 - Submit first request to SCDOT for reimbursement of the initial material cost and Begin construction in May 2010.
 - Complete construction in July 2010.
- **IT**
 - Computer replacement plan
 - Continue implementing our long range hardware replacement plan for all pc's, servers, and network equipment.
 - Completed the 2009 replacement schedule. This is an ongoing project that will be completed in phases on an annual basis.
 - Document retention policy
 - Develop a document retention policy that will establish guidelines for the retention of all paper and digital documents.
 - Project completed – training will be on ongoing effort.
 - Security cameras
 - Continue wireless security project for cameras in several locations downtown and two City parks.
 - Completed the following: Worked with Blue Ridge Security to develop a plan for the next phase of this project. This phase included 4 additional security cameras in and around the Belk Parking lot and additional wi-fi access points at the camera locations as well as on the new parking deck.
 - Project is ready to go – awaiting approval and funding.
- **General**
 - Communications Program
 - Continue City's communication program allowing the City to tell its story through the City's communication tool kit: ECTV, monthly marketing materials including videos, still photos, power point slides, direct mail, brochures, guest columns, and specialty promotions, all focused on retreat issues, major projects, and timely subjects.
 - 3+ Evaluation Committee work continues; shared committee results with City Council at Retreat; continuing to implement streamlined automated garbage collection with second area of focus as the alphabet streets
 - Continued work on segmented powerpoint series for use by Council, staff at variety of venues; submitted MASC achievement award application; planned for Citizens Academy segment for Current Buzz

- Continue this ongoing project including special activities, press releases, and new Current Buzz episodes
- Joint City/County Committee
 - Renewed Joint City/County Committee to explore areas of common interest that offer opportunities to work together for the betterment of the community.
 - Held first meeting on March 10, 2010 and shared list of joint projects and success stories with County Council Committee members and administrator.
 - Committee expressed desire to continue discussions; requested that staff develop topics or issues and supporting data for consideration by the Committee