

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE
DISTRICT ONE
March 22, 2012**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Dyer, Mayor
Pat Miner, Mayor Pro Tem
Lissa Smith, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Harris
André Davidson
James Duggan
Patrick Gallagher
Lee Dunlap

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Glasscock, City Manager
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager
Paige Mims, Deputy City Attorney
Alice Snyder, Assistant City Secretary

The Plano City Council met informally at 7:06 p.m., Thursday, March 22, 2012, at Plano Centre, Northbrook Room, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, Texas. A quorum was present. Mayor Dyer welcomed those in attendance and introduced Council. He spoke regarding the structure of the Council where all members represent citizens across the City. He informed the citizens that there will be no election this year and that there will be an election in May 2013. He spoke to the lake elevation at Lake Lavon being full which hasn't occurred in two years. He encouraged citizens to continue to conserve on watering. Staff introduced themselves.

FY 2011-2012 Budget Update

Director of Budget and Research Rhodes-Whitley advised that the Three Year Financial Forecast will be presented to Council on Monday, March 26, 2012. She advised the total combined operating budget for 2011-12 is \$410 million. She stated that the Central Appraisal District's preliminary estimate for next year is that existing home values will be relatively flat with a little new growth for the City. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley stated that sales tax for this year is up \$4.1 million primarily due to a \$3 million positive audit adjustment from the State Comptrollers Office.

Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke regarding the budget calendar. She spoke to the Citizen Survey and responded to citizen questions regarding the sales tax audit adjustment and the City's base sales tax projection, which she informed, is \$57 million. Mayor Dyer encouraged citizens to spend money in Plano.

Economic Development Progress Report

Director of Economic Development Bane spoke to creating job opportunities, diversifying the economic base to cushion against economic shock, and increasing the tax base. She spoke to contributions made by companies and efforts of Economic Development through outreach and recruitment; retention and marketing; and business expansion. Ms. Bane reviewed past and recent projects (Pizza Hut, Denbury Resources, Encana Oil & Gas, Capital One, O'Neil Digital Solutions, Hyundai Capital America and Golden Living (GGNSC)), utilization of the web site, challenges and opportunities. She reviewed the establishment of the incentive fund in 2006 and spoke to almost 13,000 jobs retained or created through the economic development fund since its inception with a median salary of \$78,000. Ms. Bane stated the fund has been well distributed around the community and that small businesses have also benefitted. She encouraged citizens to shop in Plano and to do business-to-business sales in Plano.

Stage 3 Water Conservation Measures

Director of Public Works Cosgrove spoke to the water situation rapidly changing due to recent rainfall. He spoke regarding Stage 3 which includes watering one day every other week from November-March, which was expanded in December to include April and May. He spoke to the success of conservation efforts and stated the City is still unable to use water from Lake Texoma (28% of the supply). He stated due to recent rainfall, the forecast is looking better in regards to drought conditions and indicated the City is not in a drought area. Mr. Cosgrove informed attendees, as of today, the elevation at Lake Lavon is 492.34 feet and two other reservoirs have gone up as well in the last three days. Mr. Cosgrove stated the City Manager will be meeting with the North Texas Municipal Water District to discuss lessening restrictions. He asked citizens to continue to conserve water. Mr. Cosgrove responded to questions from attendees clarifying the current water restrictions, addressing the actions currently being taken for the zebra mussels, and the plans of building a new pipeline.

Community Investment Projects (CIP)/Street Repairs/Improvements – District 1

Director of Public Works Cosgrove reviewed recently completed projects in the district including Chaparral Road from Avenue K to the east City limits, 14th Street from Avenue K to Ridgewood Drive and the Southeast Industrial Water Tank repaint project. He spoke to projects under construction including Jupiter Road at Summit Avenue and Technology Drive. Mr. Cosgrove spoke to future projects including Stadium Pump Station, Split Trail (old Highway 5) from Avenue K to Spring Creek Parkway and Park Boulevard (pedestrian crossing). Mr. Cosgrove spoke to intersection improvements on the Park Boulevard Corridor (Alma Road, Avenue K and Jupiter Road), Parker Road Corridor (Alma Road), Los Rios Boulevard (14th Street and Plano Parkway) and Shiloh Road and Plano Parkway. He spoke to pavement improvements at Alma Road from 15th Street to Hedgcoxe Road, Avenue K from PGBT to Chaparral Road, Plano Parkway from Avenue K to Los Rios Boulevard, Alma Road, Parker Road, US 75 and Park Boulevard corridor. He spoke to sidewalk improvements in the Technology area.

Mr. Cosgrove responded to a citizen, advising that the City has created a bike route system through Plano (168 miles). Director of Parks and Recreation Fortenberry advised regarding the use of Google Maps to locate bike routes/trails. Mr. Cosgrove responded to citizens inquiring about intersection improvements, median improvements and overflow of manholes. Mayor Dyer thanked the citizens again for their water conservation efforts.

Community Development

Director of Planning Jarrell spoke to the transformation of the Downtown area. She spoke to few vacancies, new and diverse businesses in Downtown Plano as well as renovations and new construction (Sutton Place Antiques, Posh Nosh, Daisy's, former Art Centre of Plano building which is now Bedrock Manufacturing and 14th/J Avenue). She spoke of the Southern Land Project (currently Eisenberg Skate Park) which will begin demolition in mid-April and impact downtown parking. She also anticipates DART's paid parking program will impact parking elsewhere in the downtown area due to overflow.

Ms. Jarrell spoke of the Cottonbelt Commuter Rail Line and the possibility of two station locations in Plano (12th Street/Avenue K and Shiloh Road). She stated the Cottonbelt Line would go from southwest of Ft. Worth to Wylie, possibly Greenville in the future and that a benefit would be the line would go directly to DFW Airport. Ms. Jarrell stated that currently there is no funding for the construction of this line and DART and the Council of Governments is considering ridership and construction costs to determine the location of stations. Ms. Jarrell stated there is a lot of community support and that a petition in support of the two Plano stations was presented to the DART Board by the Chamber of Commerce, Historic Downtown Plano Association and the Southeast Plano Business Alliance.

Ms. Jarrell spoke of the Research/Technology District and attraction of residential development. She stated a zoning request change is coming forward to the Planning & Zoning Commission for the area east of Los Rios Parkway around 14th Street.

Mayor Dyer introduced Director of Public Information Conklin to talk about the "*Fix it Plano Program*." Ms. Conklin spoke to the program allowing citizens a broadened opportunity to report concerns, track work requests and review maps for current conditions. She spoke to access via the internet, telephone, or text with a smart phone application, and the ability to forward photos to the system. Ms. Conklin advised that Staff also provides information regarding issues.

Director of Policy and Government Relations Israelson spoke of a new program "*Blackboard Connect*" that the City will be implementing in the next 5-6 weeks. He stated it is a mass communication module allowing citizens to choose services and a method of notification.

Mr. Israelson advised that the City has partnered with Utility Services Partners, Inc. to provide warranty coverage for service lines (water and sewer) from the street to the home. Mr. Israelson also stated that there are other similar services, but the City's official partner is Utility Services Partners, Inc.

Mayor Dyer opened the floor for general questions. Chief Rushin responded to attendees regarding the Day Labor Center, Mayor Dyer spoke to cities receiving DART services through agreements and to regional transportation. Ms. Jarrell spoke to the property at the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Avenue K. Nothing further was discussed and Mayor Dyer adjourned the session at 8:24 pm.

Phil Dyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alice D. Snyder, Assistant City Secretary