

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL  
NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE  
DISTRICT TWO  
NOVEMBER 20, 2008**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pat Evans, Mayor  
Jean Callison, Mayor Pro Tem  
Harry LaRosiliere, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Pat Miner  
Scott Johnson  
Mabrie Jackson  
Sally Magnuson  
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 7:07 p.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2008, at the Tom Muehlenbeck Recreation Center, 5801 West Parker Road, Plano, Texas. All Council Members were present with the exception of Council Member Magnuson. Mayor Evans arrived at 7:13 p.m. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem LaRosiliere welcomed those in attendance and introduced Council and Staff.

**FY 2008-2009 Budget Presentation/FY 2008-2009 Community Investment Program Presentation**

Director of Budget and Research Rhodes-Whitley spoke to the 2009 Preliminary Bond Referendum, monies needed for streets and a \$164 million package recommended including funding for public safety facilities, library improvements, Plano Centre expansion, park improvements, recreation center, and street improvements. She spoke to receiving outside street improvement funding once a bond is passed, reviewed the location of projects, and spoke to the steady ad valorem tax rate in the City with a two-cent increase passed in 2006-07 for economic development. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke to commercial properties contributing 55% and 45% coming from residential properties, Plano having one of the lowest tax rates in the Metroplex and the effect of the 20% homestead exemption. She advised regarding the impact of bond passage, and the need for 1.97 cents to cover existing debt and 1.85 cents for operation/maintenance. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley reviewed prior bond election results and provided information regarding a calendar of upcoming events. She responded to questions from citizens, advising that the funds are needed for infrastructure and facilities, that there are no extra monies available in the budget, and spoke regarding the purchase of bonds and interest rates. Mr. Muehlenbeck advised that two cents of property tax dedicated to economic development is a policy decision made by the Council, spoke to matching funds that could be received from the County and stated if proposals fail projects will not be constructed.

### **North Texas Tollway Authority Update – GBT Ramps; NTTA North Extension/121 Update.**

Tom Diamond with HNTB, representing the NTTA spoke to the traffic counts on the Dallas North Tollway (DNT), possible improvements, public meetings and looking at alternatives for northbound/southbound traffic north of S.H. 190 including ramping improvements. He spoke to initiation of all-electronic tolling by the first quarter of 2010 and the impact of a proposed S.H. 121 interchange. Mr. Diamond spoke to focusing on implementation of projects, value engineering, workshops to review projects and determine impact and a presentation in January 2009. Steve Hankins with HNTB, spoke to S.H. 121, its costs and segments completed and under construction.

City Engineer Upchurch responded to an audience question and spoke to the final authority of NTTA following Council consideration and input. He spoke to City participation related to ramps and Mr. Diamond spoke to consideration of improvements on S.H. 190 to I-635 and responded regarding collection of tolls from vehicles without tags. Mr. Hankins spoke to the airport being the western end of S.H. 121 and it being a bond-financed project.

### **Community Investment Projects – District 2/Street Repairs/Improvements/Resurfacing**

City Engineer Upchurch spoke regarding improvements at Coit Road/Legacy Drive intersection; a widening of McDermott Road from Ohio Drive to Coit Road and projects at the intersection of McDermott Road and Robinson Road; left-turn lanes (Michigan style) at the intersection of Legacy Drive and Preston Road; near completion of the widening of Parkwood Boulevard, work on Razor Road from Hedgcoxe Road to Ohio Drive and widening of Communications Parkway from Parker Road to Spring Creek Parkway. He spoke to environmental issues at Communications Parkway north of Spring Creek Parkway, intersection improvements at Parker Road/Marsh Lane, work on Marsh lane south of Parker Road and on Plano Parkway from Midway Road to the western City Limits. Mr. Upchurch responded to questions, advising that Parkwood Boulevard has always been planned as a Type D thoroughfare south of Parker Road and stated Staff will review street signs at Parker Road/Marsh Lane.

Operations Manager Falls spoke to construction projects including Parker Road from Preston Road to the Dallas North Tollway, Legacy Drive from Preston Road to S.H. 121; Parker Road from Coit Road to Preston Road, Ohio Drive northbound and Preston Meadow Drive from Spring Creek Parkway to Legacy Drive. He spoke to street/alley repair in the residential zone bounded by Spring Creek Parkway, Preston Road, Hedgcoxe Road and Coit Road and to a study of the conditions of trunk lines within the creek basin. Mr. Upchurch advised that construction management on Parkwood Boulevard from Plano Parkway to Windhaven Parkway is related to utility factors. Traffic Engineering Manager Neal responded to question regarding the synchronization of traffic signals.

### **Arts of Collin County Update**

ACC Commission President, Steve Matthews spoke to the vision of the Arts of Collin County to create an environment where all residents can share and enjoy in the full diversity and vitality of the arts and the goals to create the finest regional arts center in America, establish an art park, create a community focus and pedestrian environment.

Mr. Matthews spoke to the donation of 126 acres in 2005 with a value of \$22 million, the construction of Exchange Parkway and design changes. He spoke to the Master Plan (Phase One) including a 2,100 seat multi-purpose hall, learning room, art gallery, multi-purpose classroom, meeting/event facilities, restaurants and *The Meadows* (event terrace, sculpture garden, creek walk and hike/bike trails). He spoke to twelve acres reserved for commercial development anticipated on S.H. 121 and to offering a venue for school, community and road house groups, along with arts education and reviewed major donors.

Mr. Matthews advised regarding the amount of monies raised through the foundation, the broad-based goals to raise funding through the private sector, estimated costs for operation/maintenance, and splitting any short fall among cities based on their population. Mayor Evans spoke to operations costing less than a branch library. She spoke to the need to have all funding in place for public buildings prior to ground breaking, monies for a price guarantee not being spent as yet and to the guarantee only being effective for 60 days following acceptance. Mr. Muehlenbeck advised that Plano Centre has different uses than the arts hall and that additional operation costs for the Centre are provided by hotel/motel taxes. Mr. Matthews spoke to discussions with other arts facilities that see ACC as a complementary use. He further responded regarding the advantages of a partnership among cities for the ACC and the model it sets for other regions.

Mayor Evans opened the floor and Mr. Upchurch responded that Staff will look into ribbons on trees at Parker Road/Marsh Lane. Police Chief Rushin spoke to the high resolution rate for burglary crimes; Plano's crime rate being one of the lowest in the state; work to educate citizens; and the use of statistics to guide strategies. He spoke to the Citizens Police Academy and Citizens Assisting Plano Police (CAPP) Program. City Attorney Wetherbee responded to a question regarding the complaint process for solicitors. Mayor Evans spoke to the importance of "Shop Plano First" and its impact on the property tax rate. Members of the audience complimented Staff and the Council on the tax rate and services provided. An audience member spoke to considering facilities/programs for those with physical and developmental disabilities.

Council Member Jackson invited citizens to *Council Office Hours* held the first Monday of each month.

Mayor Evans thanked those in attendance. Nothing further was discussed and the meeting was closed at 8:55 p.m.

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**Harry LaRosiliere, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem**

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**Pat Evans, Mayor**

ATTEST:

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Diane Zucco, City Secretary