

GMHB EXHIBIT 80

2024-01-16 City Council Transcript

0:28

don't

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | AGENDA APPROVAL

0:39

good evening Mr Mayor we are live thank you good evening and welcome to the January 16 2024 city council regular

0:46

hybrid meeting I'm mayor Sim nce this evening's hybrid city council meeting is being brought to you by zoom and is broadcast on the city's YouTube channel

0:53

we welcome everyone uh we welcome anyone wishing to watch the meeting live to join us at the city's YouTube Channel

1:00

via Zoom or at the meran community and Event Center welcome to all and thank you for joining us tonight council

1:06

members please have your microphones turned on for the roll call city clerk Andrea Larson please call the rooll thank you mayor nce council member

1:13

andrell here council member Jacobson here mayor nce here council member

1:21

Reynolds here Deputy Mayor rosenbom here council member wer has not joined

1:29

us yet and council member Weinberg here thank you Mr Mayor very good we have a quorum present next we have the Pledge

1:35

of Allegiance Council if you've joined us in council chambers please stand in the face the flag if you joined us on Zoom please mute and turn off your video

1:41

to ensure the US flag is

1:49

visible I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to

1:54

the Republic for which it stands one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for

2:06

all thank you we now move to approval of tonight's agenda if there's no questions may have a motion to approve the

2:12

agenda so moved second okay moved by council member Weinberg seconded by Deputy Mayor rosenbom city clerk please

2:18

callor rooll thank you Mr Mayor Marin I council member wer is still not

2:25

present Deputy Mayor rosenbom I council member Reynolds hi council member andrw

2:33

hi council member Weinberg hi and council member Jacobson hi thank you Mr

2:39

Mayor very good H motion passes the agenda is approved next up on the agenda we have the same Andrew's report for

CITY MANAGER REPORT

2:45

which we welcome city manager Jesse Bond uh good evening again and Casey

2:53

Thompson will be uh sharing her screen and helping me out thank you Casey um happy Tuesday January

3:03

16th close some of these boxes on my screen and that one too all right uh

3:11

Council and community members joining us tonight this is just a reminder that uh City Hall is closed uh should you need

3:17

to access the city hall team any of us actually the best way to do so is via uh

3:23

the city of merer Island customers service team and the phone number email address is there on your screen next

3:29

slide please upcoming meetings our next council meeting is

3:37

Tuesday February 6 uh we have quite a few board and commission meetings coming up the Arts Council is meeting this this

3:44

week January 17th uh the Planning Commission the following week January 24th and then the Parks and Recreation

3:51

Commission again at the beginning of February we keep all of our board meetings uh calendars and agendas posted

3:57

to our website at the web link that's there below on your screen next slide

4:03

please City updates I got a handful covering a range of topics today uh

4:10

first thing city council I wanted to just update you on uh City Hall Transitions and uh temporary

4:16

accommodations for our staff teams that have been displaced uh the relocation of

4:21

our Municipal Court to Newcastle City Hall is almost complete uh technology

4:26

work is done the carpet is going in and are scheduled for this week so many thanks to all the staff uh and

4:33

Consulting teams that have come come together to make that transition happen I think we're having a problem

4:39

with this microphone cutting in and out uh we are also meeting on site at City

4:44

Hall with our Engineers our vendor and our city staff to manage the um

4:52

installation and connection of the police department Modular Buildings I think you're aware that we have two

4:57

buildings coming into the city hall site in the next four to five weeks that will

5:02

house police operations and we'll have a third building coming in a little bit later this year there's quite a bit

5:09

involved in bringing these buildings to the campus we have to connect to utilities um and the like so that is

5:15

moving forward it's it's we're a little behind but uh we've got the right team together to make that

5:21

happen we are also uh here in the Slater room our new council chambers and we are

5:28

making continuing make adjustments Council since our first uh meeting in this room on January 2nd we've installed

5:35

a b monitor on the back wall it's no longer sitting on the pedestal we've removed one of the monitors from the

5:41

behind the dis to give you just a little more room and we're still working on the lighting uh so we'll keep making

5:47

adjustments and we certainly W welcome your feedback as well as anyone that's joining us online if there's anything we

5:52

can do to improve the broadcast uh please do let us know all right next slide please uh a couple Parks

5:59

maintenance updates uh first of all just a huge shout out to the maintenance crew although we didn't have snow during this

6:06

uh very cold weather uh window we had a lot of ice and uh freezing temperatures

6:11

so our crews have been working 247 for about this last 7 days to keep our roads uh clear and in good condition

6:20

and trails and parking lots as well uh we Parks maintenance has been out in the last couple of weeks when they weren't

6:26

dealing with winter weather uh doing some work in the Greta packet outdoor sculpture Gallery you can see the

6:32

picture there we've put uh down some chips which is a great benefit for tree health and it also looks really nice uh

6:39

we also have been doing some offseason repair work and we recently repainted

6:44

the interior of the restroom at Dean Children's Park so if you're out and about uh stop by and check all those

6:51

improvements out next slide please uh utility team also really busy

6:58

at work I shared this with you in the weekly email uh every week they're doing

7:03

routine maintenance and uh this last week they were clearing grit from the impellers at sewer pump station number

7:11

24 that is the picture you see there on the right this is done at all of our pump stations as pre preventative

7:18

maintenance to keep the sewage flowing which is certainly a good thing um we also wanted to just give a shout out uh

7:26

some some annual statistics our utility team completed video inspections on over

7:32

94,000 ft of sewer M and jetted and cleaned an additional almost 200,000

7:38

feet of Maine over the course of 2023 those are some really impressive statistics so many thanks to them for

7:45

their great work next slide please uh an update on the sewer Basin

7:53

40 project uh this you may recall is a sewer project that's happening right now in the mercerdale neighborhood Hood uh

8:00

we're in the process of installing 12,000 ft of cured in place pipe which

8:06

goes into the existing sewer Mains to prevent uh groundwater seepage and storm water runoff at the end of 2023 the

8:13

project was nearly done we had lined over 10,000 feet of the roughly uh 12,000 ft we have to do so uh great work

8:20

on that next slide please and uh we're going to continue

8:26

that project work is continuing even in the cold weather uh we're currently working in the backyards of a number of lakefront homes

8:33

in the 4,000 to 4100 Block of East Mercer way uh where we're in the process

8:39

of raising several manhole covers up to grade uh we expect to continue working

8:44

on this for the next several weeks and we'll let you know as soon as that project work is

8:52

complete water system improvements another major project happening right now uh
Crews have pressure tested the

8:59

new water main on 60th Avenue Southeast this is over in the East Seattle neighborhood
where we have a really

9:05

significant water B replacement project happening uh we're in the process of making
numerous connections to the new

9:12

Maine uh and we'll be doing work this project will be ongoing throughout

9:17

January um continuing to make the connections we're also working on water main
installation on 74th Avenue

9:25

Southeast which is um near 24th in the first Hill Neighborhood

9:30

uh so there we go all right and I think last but not least on the project update

9:35

Council we just closed to the survey on the RoR park playground this is the

9:41

first playground up for replacement under the new parks Lev so we'll have more
information coming on that and uh

9:49

the the public virtual public meeting on the playground replacement is January 30th later
tonight we'll be providing a

9:55

capital project update where we're we'll take a much closer look at all of the projects we've been working on uh and

10:01

also uh give a report out on the parks

10:07

Levy few upcoming events we have uh the island lanterns

10:14

return it's always a very festive time of the winter uh we'd love to have the entire Community to come out and

10:21

participate by making a lantern you can stop by the community center uh anytime

10:26

between now and January 30th um uh paint a lantern and then drop it back off and

10:31

it will be displayed February and March uh we're also hosting a community uh

10:37

Lantern painting day on Saturday J January 20th uh from 1: to 5: here at

10:42

the community center so we invite you to come out and join us for

10:48

that hey save the date uh it's never too soon to give a lookout to the summer

10:54

especially because it's about 22 degrees outside right now uh we are pleased to announce that summer celebration will be

11:01

Saturday July 13th a very similar program to the previous year we'll have

11:07

a daytime festival at mercerdale Park follow followed by fireworks and an

11:13

evening a band and Community celebration at Luther B Bank Park so save the date

11:18

July 13th and a few good news

11:26

items uh we want to say thank you to a very special yfs volunteer a longtime

11:33

food pantry volunteer Mary dur won the alliance of Eide agency's volunteer of

11:38

the Year award and will receive her award at a ceremony at the together Center in Redmond on January 18th uh

11:46

certainly a pleasure to work with Mary for all of these years we thank you for your hard work and uh giving back to the

11:52

Mercer Island community congratulations we recently hosted a

11:59

blood drive you've heard likely that uh blood supplies are critically low and have been for quite some

12:06

time uh we hosted a drive last week and provided 40 units of blood uh we wanted

12:13

to say thank you to all of our partners over the last year uh we through those

12:20

Partnerships um including mppa who's helped coordinate we're able to donate

12:25

100 units of blood and impact 200 lives so we're off to a great start and uh

12:30

looking to meet that goal or beat that goal in

12:36

2024 uh and Council now some uh sad news I'd like to share before I end my

12:42

presentation this evening I am uh really sad to share the news that our co-worker and friend

12:49

Carlen Johnson passed away on December 21st uh Carlen was an individual and

12:55

family therapist with Youth and Family Services for the past 11 years uh since

13:00

she joined our team in July of 2012 you know she's absolutely

13:06

exemplified warmth wisdom and compassion and just made her an incredible

13:12

therapist as well as just an amazing friend and Guiding Light for our team uh we were certainly very lucky to

13:19

have Carlen on the Mercer Island team for the time that we did and and very sorry uh that that has come to an end uh

13:27

on behalf of the city of Mercer R we'd like to extend our heartfelt condolences to Carlen's families friends co-workers

13:34

and the many clients she served uh she will be greatly missed and Council I know that the yfs team is working on a

13:42

bench donation and so I will make sure that information is available to all of you uh that is my presentation this

13:49

evening thank you thank you and of course sorry to hear about that

13:54

loss our next time item of business's appearances this is an opportunity for anyone to speak to the city council on

APPEARANCES

14:01

any item except on any item except items requiring a public hearing any quasa judicial matters or campaign related

14:08

matters uh city clerk is there anyone signed up for a public comment tonight yes Mr Mayor three people sign up to

14:15

speak very good tonight's agenda will include in-person public appearances and remote public appearances via Zoom

14:20

individuals wishing to address the council may do so in person or by Zoom or telephone provided they register with the city clerk by 4 p.m. today when it's

14:27

your turn to speak you'll have you'll be called by name remarks must be addressed to the council as a whole and not to individual counsel or staff members any

14:34

person making personal or impertinent or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous threatening or personally

14:40

abusive while addressing the city council may be requested to leave the meeting please speak audibly and state

14:45

your name and city of residence for the record there'll be a timer on the screen and screen and you'll have three minutes to speak when your time is ended I'll

14:52

thank you for your comments and move to the next speaker or item of business city clerk please call the

14:58

first speaker our first Speaker tonight is Addie

15:18

Smith second call for Addie Smith Mr Mayor I don't see Addie Smith

15:24

in the um audience I will move to the next speaker very well our next speaker tonight is Ken

15:38

Bradley welcome hello I'm ready to get started um yeah hello Council um my name

15:45

is Kean Bradley I live here on merer island in the Town Center I wanted to address the housing element discussion

15:51

we're having today so as I understand the council needs to make a decision regarding where to zone for denser housing in order to accommodate some

15:57

lower income residents in the future and I wanted to advocate for two of the three I guess four options that

16:05

we're looking at right now um we should increase the zoning density in the Town Center by adding a story to some of the

16:11

zones and we should also move forward with allowing housing in the planned business Zone on the south end of the

16:17

island the reason these two areas in particular make the most sense is their proximity to commercial activity and

16:23

public transit since we're specifically trying to address people at a lower wage and they're less likely to own car quite

16:29

feasible to live at the North and the South End without a car given access to the transit and the grocery stores and on on that topic I'd also

16:37

like to bring up um as part of this effort I think we should move to reduce

16:42

the minimum parking requirements for these zones last year's parking study indicated we have a plenty of garage

16:47

capacity in the town center and if you've spoken with developers you'll be aware that each new level of underground

16:52

parking can add hundreds of thousands of dollars to a project that can end up costing something like \$50,000 or or

16:58

more just per parking spot and then huge cost like this mean that developers can't get funding for the bank from the

17:05

bank for what they want to do just doesn't pencil out anymore I think we're already seeing this um in the town

17:10

center with the Shing haa parcel um which didn't get started before interest rates Rose recently and now it seems to

17:18

be in some kind of purgatory it'll be an empty lot for a few more years um so in

17:23

conclusion please consider upzoning both the town center and the South business Zone and please consider reducing

17:30

parking requirements so it's actually feasible for developers to build housing there thank you thank

17:37

you our next speaker is Trevor

17:57

Reed can you hear me okay sure can all right thank you hi hi Council my name is

18:03

Trevor Reid and I'm a resident of the south end of Mercer Island and I similarly would like to be speaking

18:08

tonight on uh the proposed uh density increases to accommodate more affordable

18:14

housing options on the island I agree with the prior commenter that we should increase zoning density in the town

18:20

center and on the south end of the island due to their proximity to amenities and public transportation

18:26

access furthermore compared to other locations analyzed um they are also the most

18:32

viable for redevelopment um these Lo these locations currently have low intensity

18:38

usage exemplified by excess surface parking and old decrepit SED level buildings meaning like they are most

18:45

likely to be redeveloped and deliver the units we need to meet our growth needs critically by excuse me the council must

18:52

reone to provide cap capacity and ensure that the capacity increases occur in places that are Market viable for new

18:58

housing this is why I believe option C is not sufficient it is highly unlikely existing Revenue generating units would

19:05

be torn down to provide a moderate increase in density increasing capacity in an our area with high level of

19:10

development is a Dodge of our duties since would not increase the capacity of Market viable development option b

19:16

furthermore is sufficient is insufficient because residents would not have easy access to either transit or

19:23

amentities to achieve these housing production goals the most efficiently with a impact I would also advocate for

19:31

the reduction of parking minimums at these locations as council is aware from the Tully site Redevelopment and

19:36

commuter parking proposal underground parking is currently runs near to \$100,000 per space in these types of

19:44

development which is unfortunately much better than sound transits quarter of a million per space but these owner costs

19:52

are passed through to renters and contradict the goal of creating more affordable housing it be Bears emphasis

19:57

the city found excess garage capacity at Study last year and many of these units will be located next to light rail

20:03

providing connections region wide without a detrimental impact on traffic

20:08

congestion finally our city faces projected budget shortfalls a town center Pock marked with empty parking

20:14

lots and low value buildings while no h housing options furthermore while no

20:19

housing options exist for many of my peers who are now starting families or options for our parents to downsize we

20:25

need housing to restore our community's vitality in conclusion please upzone the core and the south end and make sure

20:31

that it is viable development and not just increase in density and not viability thank you
thank

20:39

you there are no further speakers tonight Mr Mayor very well we now move to our next item
of business approval of

CONSENT AGENDA

20:46

the consent agenda consent agenda contains AB 6392 December 29 2023

20:52

payroll certification certification of claims for December 29 2023 and January 5 2024 and
certification of electronic

20:59

funds transfers for no November and December 2023 city council meeting

21:04

minutes of January 2 2024 regular hybrid meeting AB 6394 West Mercer way roadside

21:11

shoulders phase 4 bid award AB 6396 amendment of deputed sound emergency

21:17

radio network operator interlocal cooperation agreement AB 6398 Island

21:22

Crestway North infield appropriation request Council may have a motion to approve the
consent agenda is presented

21:29

so moved okay moved by Deputy Mayor rosenbom seconded by council member Jacobson
city clerk please call the

21:37

RO thank you Mr mayor council member Weinberg I council member Jacobson I council

21:45

member Reynolds hi council member wer hi Deputy Mayor rosenbom hi council member

21:52

andraw I and mayor hi thank you Mr Mayor very good motion passes uh our first

AB 6393: 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, Housing Element – Housing Capacity Direction

21:59

item of regular business is AB 6393 2024 comprehensive plan periodic update housing element housing capacity

22:06

Direction and we welcome CPD director Jeff Thomas thank you mayor good evening

22:12

Council uh joining me for this item will be senior planner Adam Zach who's firing

22:17

up a very short slide deck uh that we'll run through with you here um you'll

22:23

recall that we um had a a pretty significant uh present ation there on

22:29

January 2nd uh presenting the results of both the L Capacity Analysis and the um the

22:37

RDI evaluation uh Council had four requests by by our note taking uh at least that

22:45

we needed to follow up with you on so what we'd like to do here uh just in the first couple minutes of this item this

22:51

evening is to um update you on those uh four requests they were all uh pretty

22:57

thoroughly documented mended in the agenda bill that you've had a chance to to read so we'll run through those quick

23:03

and then we're going to turn it over to the council to um start your discussion on uh providing some direction to staff

23:11

uh based on the three options that were included

23:17

um the report um the the land capacity uh uh supplement and then uh we'll go

23:25

from there so Adam next slide please the first of the four items um these are

23:32

actually in no particular order just the the way we note took them and put them in the agenda bill but the first

23:38

item uh was a request regarding um Ami and government transfer

23:44

payments and um the the question was what's what's included and what isn't

23:50

and uh government uh transfer payments um the uh third bullet there on the

23:56

screen the Ami includes most government transfer payments but does not include in kind payments such as food stamps or

24:02

housing vouchers so uh that was the punchline to that

24:08

request the next request um that we've got here is accessory dwelling unit data

24:14

um so we went back and we provided a table in the agenda bill for you to take a look at um in total between 2006 and

24:22

2022 there were 104 adus permitted uh roughly around 9% of all dwelling units

24:28

added to the housing stock during that time the third item was in regards to

24:35

the planned business Zone and the request from Council was for staff to go back and uh examine the planned business

24:42

Zone to see uh how many um what Parcels if any and then how many potential units

24:50

uh would be uh potentially added from uh to this capacity problem that we're um

24:56

dealing with here with the the uh the land Capacity Analysis so we went back and did that and um the same assumptions

25:03

were used uh as we used for the option for the commercial office Zone that was

25:09

presented on January 2nd what we found was one parcel I believe it was the gas station parcel in the PBZ uh

25:16

area uh would be eligible um and that

25:22

equated to 74 dwelling units so there's a potential capacity of 7 four dwelling

25:28

units from the PBZ Zone to uh contribute if uh Council wish to look at that

25:36

further and finally the um the the fourth and final request here

25:43

was um a request from Council for the counts from Source data for the RDI evaluation it was exhibit 22 in that

25:51

document and um so we've went in the agenda Bill and we've um

25:58

showed that uh by count uh rather than percentage so that was uh for your

26:03

review in the agenda Bill okay so where we ended up at the

26:09

end of the presentation on January 2nd was uh three options from the land

26:15

Capacity Analysis um to address this deficit of 143 units to show that we've

26:20

uh got the demonstrated paper capacity to be able to meet our affordable housing Target that we've been assigned

26:27

through Bill 1220 um those three options are here on the screen again in no particular order

26:34

they were um increase the height by one story in the Town Center Zone um a multif family in the

26:41

commercial office Zone and uh the last one was increased density in the multif

26:47

family 3 zone so uh those options are discussed uh beginning on page 23 of the

26:54

lane Capacity Analysis supplement uh that was presented to you on January 2nd

27:00

and at this point mayor we're going to turn it back over to you and um close the PowerPoint and um allow Council to

27:07

get on with your discussion on this subject excellent thank you all right

27:13

Council any questions or if there are no questions any motions council member Reynolds just a quick question which I I

27:20

think I understand now on unlike two weeks ago um I believe I learned from the mayor and from subsequent

27:25

conversations with uh with that the Adu developments we can't count on those for

27:31

planning purposes but once we do realize them they count towards achievement of plans is that first off can you just

27:38

confirm that for the studio audience okay secondly is it a correct statement then that if we've gotten 104

27:44

units over the last 16 17 years and we're shooting for 143 over our Horizon

27:53

which I believe is about 20 years uh there's kind of not if we build

27:58

at the same rate on the adus we have at least a decent chance of kind of closing that Gap by creating the housing that

28:06

way we just can't plan on it we just know that in the back of our pocket will'll make it up that way is that a fair

28:12

statement it'll be unit production but um it's not necessarily going to qualify

28:19

uh under the the targets for affordable housing and you and I had the chance to discuss that a little bit between the

28:25

two meetings here January 2nd tonight so yeah there'd be certain Hoops they'd have to jump through and to be

28:31

designated as such but it is at least possible okay but either way we still have to plan for it elsewhere because we

28:37

may not get the other one so okay thank you thank you Cil mem

28:44

and all thanks I had a question from a a constituent that I thought I knew the answer to but I'm advised that um she

28:52

has received different responses from different council members so I thought we'd just air that out and see what's

28:58

going on um this question is whether the city has factored in the housing units

29:04

that will be built um on the southwest side of 76th and 27th I think that's the

29:09

old oakal Lot location um also housing units that are potentially available in

29:15

the tabat square and the voy building and also weather housing units that could potentially be built in the T area

29:22

um are are factored into our count already and it was my belief that we had because we were just adding capacity on

29:30

a zoning basis not on an already built basis but if you could straighten that out once and for all I'd be very

29:36

grateful yeah I'm gonna ask Adam to pop on screen here uh council member I believe the question is

29:42

grounded in the urban growth capacity report that the county

29:48

prepared um so Adam were you able to hear the question and uh yeah do you

29:54

have any any response for for the council sure so um on those sites in

30:00

town center that might be redevelop where there's some development capacity um like the toi site um we did factor

30:08

that in um if it came out as being redevelop um by by the methodology and

30:16

then in terms of um like the replacement so in those places where there's maybe a

30:21

redevelop parcel that has a couple of dwelling units on it we factored in

30:27

those existing dwelling units and then in terms of like future potential um if

30:33

something if there was um what we called like a pipeline unit so something that a

30:39

permit had been applied for and there were unit dwelling units um within that

30:44

permit we counted those as part of our um existing capacity um so those were

30:50

all we're all factored into um the Capacity Analysis okay if I might have a

30:57

follow-up question because I I guess I'm more confused than ever so specifically with regard to um let's say the boid

31:05

building if that were to be redeveloped have does our count of existing units

31:11

include the maximum units that could be developed on that

31:16

property if it were I I don't know off the top of my head whether that specific building was developable um but if it

31:25

were developable we would yes count that um and the the existing units on there

31:31

would be essentially subtracted out of our total capacity um okay well there's

31:37

no residential there right now so um correct all I'm I'm I have to say I'm

31:43

still a little fuzzy on what was counted and what wasn't so I I I feel less confident

31:50

about what path forward I would want to do right now um I I guess maybe it

31:56

should have asked to site by site or maybe there is in the old packet a site

32:01

by site is this redevelop or not a map I don't know yeah so again I I believe

32:10

your your question about specific properties is going back to the ugc report uh that was produced by the

32:17

county what was it now 2021 I believe the better part of three years ago Adam

32:23

is it possible that we can go back um that's not going to happen right now while we're in session but is are we

32:29

able to go back to that ugc report from 2021 from the county and attempt to

32:34

extract to try and see if these three specific Parcels that council member andrel has referenced

32:42

um how they is it possible to see it how they were included in the analysis um it might be it depends so

32:50

the the data in that report is provided on a per Zone basis but I'd have to like

32:56

dig through to see if the older um if that kind of parcel by parcel is

33:03

available so will council member andrel we're happy to we're happy to follow up and do that again that's not something

33:09

possible to do here this evening but um I wasn't aware that this question had been asked of council members so we're

33:17

happy to do that and follow up with Council via email on the heels yeah thanks came in yeah it just came in this

33:23

afternoon and I mean I would i' would be very upset if we made resoning decisions with undercounted

33:30

already existing capacity okay well we'll see what we can find and we'll follow up with the

33:37

council thank you thank you council member Jacobson um I would

33:45

uh council member andel's questions uh uh were ones that I had and uh after

33:53

looking at the landscape as I understand which look may not be completely

34:00

accurate I I am I question very seriously whether utilizing any of the

34:05

South and public business Zone makes any sense whatsoever from a variety of perspectives and toward that end I would

34:12

move that we remove the PBC from capacity

34:19

consideration okay is there a second I'll second okay seconded by

34:26

Council Reynolds any discussion I can speak to it if you

34:34

wish yep feel free well the that area is of course

34:42

white distant from transit and I think it's been pointed out that that absent of a huge lift from Metro for intra

34:52

Island Transportation uh that that people would be uh left to their own devices more or

34:59

less on the south end since that intra Island transportation is limited now and

35:04

to hear Metro talk about it be limited in the future um the

35:12

uh other items that occur to me is things like the the H chocolate property

35:19

uh boid building and uh the uh Tabit

35:24

Square the last two of which have been Pur just to my understanding by a developer uh are quite likely to be uh

35:32

devoted to multifamily housing and if they were we would be roaring past at

35:38

least in terms of capacity basis uh from our 143 unit deficit and uh so it seems

35:47

to me that uh we ought to look at that I in addition those uh properties uh and

35:55

others in the Town Center were the height limit to be raised uh would we

36:00

would be well beyond what capacity things we needed to meet uh and it

36:06

certainly from a standpoint of proximity to uh uh Transportation off the island

36:13

whether it's by Sound Transit or Metro or people's own vehicles um and the uh

36:21

Services we have in the city uh uh specifically markets and kinds of

36:27

businesses which probably at this stage are not likely to be uh relocated or

36:32

redeveloped at least in the short term seems to me to be uh we ought to be uh

36:38

looking at the at the lwh hanging fruit here I would also say that the ideas of

36:43

of trying to redevelop Shorewood uh

36:48

are have the suffer from the difficulties of uh displacement because

36:54

right now there are as I understand and 776 units in that that that accommodate

37:01

uh if not low the lowest Ami fairly low Ami Ami um uh availability for for

37:11

residents uh and from what I understand that's some of the lowest of the big

37:17

multifamily uh residence uh availability housing on Mercer Island

37:22

that in fact can say that so that it seems to me that we should be concentrating on the one thing and and

37:28

start eliminating things that don't make a lot of sense or that uh wouldn't

37:35

uh uh raise traffic and infrastructure and transportation

37:41

problems perfect thank you excuse me Mr mayor council member Jacobson can you please repeat your

37:47

motion yes I move that we remove the

37:53

PBC area located uh on the South uh end of Mercer Island uh south of Southeast

38:00

76 Street from further consideration in our Capacity

38:07

Analysis okay and was the second council member Reynolds it was thank

38:15

you okay council member

38:20

andell thanks yeah I I just wanted to kind of I guess I don't know if it's a point of order or what but the um the

38:26

the agenda Bill does not include the PBZ as an option so I don't know if it needs

38:31

to be removed but um at this point given the um outpouring of opposition from

38:39

residents uh and and the very practical concerns with Transit and access um I if

38:46

we need to move to remove it I am willing to uh be on board with that but I'm I'm not sure that it's necessary but

38:52

I I will say the only two comments I have heard in favor of that were the live comments tonight I have probably

38:58

over a 100 emails as as do all of the rest of you in V opposition to uh

39:03

including the PBZ so that's all I wanted to say appreciate that city clerk the

39:09

the motion did you capture something about 76 Street in the motion I was going to ask for further clarification

39:16

on that I just captured the PBZ Zone located on the south end of the Island from further consideration in the

39:21

Capacity Analysis okay is is that motion acceptable to you Council m

39:27

son because the street reference would have to be corrected if we're going to include

39:32

it yes that is acceptable to me and and my reason for making the motion was that

39:38

negative direction to the CPD would at least uh narrow their uh their things

39:46

they have to work on and for that reason that's why I proposed it very good thank

39:51

you council member Reynolds I hesitated a bit before deciding to second this but primarily my

39:58

hesitation was due to uh timing for lack of a better word it felt a little premature to introduce

40:04

the motion to we talk through the issues a little bit more but I since it was on the table I thought it'd be worth

40:09

discussing at this point I as I've ranked my own mental list of the four options on the table I don't

40:15

particularly like any of them uh but this one is the least attractive for some of the reasons already been laid

40:21

out access to Transit being the key one in my mind there is bus service to the to that area but it is extremely limited

40:29

and I believe all of it yeah I think it's true all of it requires a transfer to the train or or another bus when

40:35

getting to Town Center not very convenient options the the one idea that one person floating around to me that

40:42

might be worth consideration of a later date is there there may be some value

40:47

in uh at some point considering senior housing in that area uh you know places

40:54

like uh aljoia or similar places that house people that largely don't drive and might be largely staying in where

41:01

they are and and where the amenities in the South and shopping center might be enough to largely satisfy those people

41:07

uh but that that's a topic to explore another day and at this point the the easy decision seems to me to to be to

41:13

leave this out especially given you know the outpouring of opposition we received today very well council we uh I just want

41:21

to thank staff for pulling the PBZ together at council's request and you did it quickly you did it effectively

41:27

and I think the resounding feedback we've gotten uh also reinforces the notion of the original policy we had

41:33

which was to keep density at the north end so I'm in support of this motion and I think documenting it would be

41:38

important so thank Jake for that okay Council Reynolds the old hand new

41:44

hand old hand okay not seeing any more discussion city clerk please call the

41:51

rooll thank you Mr Mayor Deputy Mayor rosenbom hi counc council member

41:57

wer council members please make sure your microphones are on so folks on Zoom can hear council member Jacobson I

42:05

council member andrw hi mayor nie hi council member Reynolds I and council

42:12

member Weinberg hi thank you Mr Mayor okay motion passes still haven't done our job

42:18

so if anybody has a a motion that gets us in the direction we're going I'm happy to hear

42:25

it

42:31

maybe somebody like to council member Jacobson now I have a question

42:38

and that is that if we were to identify the option of uh increasing the maximum

42:46

height to prent One initial residential story in town center

42:51

um that would that in any way affect uh our

42:58

ability provided that what Adam finds is favorable to count uh the uh void

43:09

building uh chicks uh Tabit or Tabit square and the uh um H chocolate

43:16

property uh in our Capacity Analysis at a later date uh should uh should Mr

43:23

Zach's findings be positive and that's probably not a very easy

43:28

question to answer the way it was ordered but I can try again if somebody would like

43:34

it I think if I if I understood your question correctly the answer would be

43:39

yes we would be able to uh further adjust between now and the

43:47

final adoption of the comprehensive Plan update later this year is that help is

43:53

that a helpful answer to you council member Jacobson yes it is

43:58

okay very good Council wer unless Craig has a

44:04

question your hand is still up I had a motion oh I was gonna make a motion you

44:09

first all right counc Reynolds yes um I'm composing on the Fly which is a

44:15

little bit dangerous but uh I mve to direct the housing work group to develop a recommended plan for

44:23

adding the existing capacity in the town center but not limited to the add one

44:31

floor option with due consideration of the impact on island

44:40

businesses and a goal of reducing set

44:45

impact council member Reynolds can you repeat from but not limited to adding

44:50

one floor option and that's the part I hadn't written down yet so I can say it again the same way way uh uh not limited

44:58

to the add one floor option with due consideration of the impact on island

45:08

businesses and a charge to look for options that minimize the impact of this

45:14

change on island businesses

45:20

second okay moved and seconded uh do you want to speak to the motion council marnold

45:26

sure um as I mentioned earlier I'm not very keen on any of these options but uh

45:32

it it's very clear to me that in in in the new world and world of climate change and

45:37

sustainability getting housing built near Town Center is the logical thing to

45:43

do get people where the transit is creating housing in an area that will bring increased customers to Island

45:49

businesses my big remaining concern with the Town Center option is and and also getting housing where we already have

45:56

multifamily housing and we don't have any deleterious effect on residential neighborhoods my big concern with

46:03

this option is that even though we've wisely amended the residential code to

46:09

to require ground floor retail if somebody tears down a strip mall to build a three or four story mixed use

46:16

building that is ground floor retail businesses that were there will be at least temporarily replaced and

46:23

will probably once the building is returned to to service uh be faced with dramatic rent increases

46:29

so I think we've got to be creative about thinking about where exactly we put this housing capacity perhaps

46:35

putting more than one floor in some areas perhaps exploring other options I want to really give the the uh the the

46:42

work group some opportunities to to explore options that might

46:47

minimize the impact on businesses now I was trying to make our charge broad enough that we would give that group flexibility to do

46:54

that okay I'd also like to make clear that I'm not necessarily saying we shouldn't also consider adding some

47:00

capacity to the commercial office Zone the motion was not intended to exclude that but rather that we should at least

47:05

include this on the table okay very good um council member

47:10

wer so Craig I'm just I'm too confused about what you're directing staff to do it

47:16

sounds like go do some analysis but don't hurt anybody so I I think it's a little too complicated so I just I can't

47:23

support it and I think the commercial Z office Zone adding multif family there

47:28

is a place where we have some capacity this is reaching the Ami that we need to get to and it it gives us a lot of

47:34

flexibility to meet our needs in that location rather than muck around with all the Town Center work that we've

47:40

already done for years and that we're still going to have to deal with given what's coming from Olympia so I

47:45

appreciate what you're trying to do but it it sounds complicated even to me and I would hate to try to even unravel that

47:51

or explain it and give direction to staff given everything else and given trying to explain it to to our community

47:56

alone so I appreciate where you're trying to go but it just it seems too confusing so I just can't support that

48:03

okay so so that people have a choice though why don't you float your your uh

48:08

motion if this one is dispensed with so people know what they might be choosing from so should this one pass or not pass

48:15

I'm going to recommend that we allow multif family residential use in the commercial office Zone period and then

48:22

see where we go okay I going to go now to council M

48:29

anderol yeah thank you I was kind of sharing in some of Wendy's confusion a little bit about what the language that

48:37

council member Reynolds proposed I I thought it it had Merit and then I got um I missed a left turn somewhere and

48:43

didn't follow it all the way to the end um if it's been recorded is it possible

48:48

that that motion can be put up on the screen so that we can see exactly what it is and and because I process things a

48:54

little bit better if I have them in writing in front of me certainly see clerk is that

49:02

possible yes I will send Ally the motion yeah either if we can either

49:09

share it on the screen or just send an email to all of us so we can look at it either way I care I can drop it in a

49:14

Word document and share it on the

49:22

screen where is my share screen oh okay

49:36

thanks did word come up for you council members I see

49:51

it may I uh offer a friendly amendment to my own motion to clarify some of the

49:56

wording please um uh second line where it says

50:02

the word existing change that to say required

50:11

additional um and then uh on the third line where at the end it starts with one

50:16

floor option put that one floor option in quotes or as a hyphenated something

50:21

to make clear that's the current option is to add one floor everywhere in a peanut butter methodology and I'm saying

50:28

let's consider other options besides just that option

50:37

um and I think the rest is suitable and the uh the second consents

50:43

to the friendly Amendment okay so that is the

50:52

motion agree thank you very much that's super helpful

50:58

okay so should this uh I'll call the vote in a mo moment here but should this

51:03

uh fail we will certainly move towards additional motions I'm going to make a motion to just add a floor in town

51:10

center and then look for amendments to the co zone so uh Council M Jacobson you

51:15

have your hand up yes I I seconded the motion I'm in

51:22

favor of it because I I am very sensitive to what uh my colleague

51:27

council member Reynolds has about what we do to businesses I'm not really sure that from our place and at our distance

51:35

there's much we can we can do about economic factors uh and uh but I think

51:42

it's worth a try and and so that's among the reasons i i u i seconded the motion

51:49

and I will vote in favor of it okay very well council member Weinberg I I think of of the three

51:56

options that we have available this is the one that's also most likely to be compatible with anticipated future State

52:02

legislation specifically around Tod uh and I think the charge to look for

52:08

options that mitigate uh impacts to businesses gives the housing work group flexibility uh to uh apply their own

52:16

creativity to find a better solution very well I'm in favor of this

52:22

okay not seeing any other discussion city clerk please call the roll thank you Mr mayor council member Weinberg I

52:29

Deputy Mayor rosenbom nope council member Reynolds I

52:36

council member Jacobson I council member wer mayor nce nck and council member

52:47

[Music] andrw put me in the hot seat

52:53

I motion passes 4 to3 very well okay Council uh not seeing any

53:00

other discussion on that are we Cil U director Thomas do we have anything else

53:05

on that is that all the direction you need tonight um if that is the the option as

53:12

described by council member Reynolds in his motion that the majority Council would like staff to start working on and

53:19

work with the housing work group at on that is our that is our Direction then okay Council Reynolds is that a do you

53:26

want to add something there I I was just going to indicate that if one of the things we talked about at the last

53:32

meeting was the idea that it might be wise to overshoot the goal of 143 additional units of capacity and I still

53:38

believe there's some Merit in there so while I have some weariness of uh doing

53:43

this in the commercial office Zone I would be very receptive if somebody wanted to make a motion to also explore

53:49

that option okay Captain M wer I was just going to ask what happens if this motion doesn't actually result in the

53:56

housing units that we need so director Thomas do we need to do another motion or let you do your work for 6 months and

54:02

come back and say we couldn't hit the target because we're going to displace half our businesses with up zoning

54:08

eventually anyway like what happens if you can't reach the capacity with that motion yeah well let me let me start

54:15

answering that question by just uh saying that it's going to be more like two weeks instead of six months but um

54:22

because we're we're going to be convening the housing work group here shortly but to answer to answer the the

54:28

bulk uh the main part of your question um uh if the staff and the housing work

54:36

group are not able to come up with 143 unit capacity in uh the Town Center as a

54:41

result of the motion that's passed here then we're going to have to look elsewhere for the rest of it that is

54:47

okay let let me make a motion that will make our lives easier once Sheen wad

54:52

develops I moved to add multif family residential is an allowable use to the co Zone Parcels not directly abing

54:59

single family zones okay move moved in second C clar to I'm going to read that

55:06

slower move to add multifam residential as an allowable use not directly AB

55:13

budding single family zones to co Zone Parcels not directly abiding single family zones you got it I just had to

55:21

type okay Council any questions

55:27

discussion Deputy Mayor rosom yeah I think this is this is a sort of can hear

55:34

in justff voice what he thinks the outcome of the motion we just passed will be um and I think that this one

55:40

does does make a lot of sense you know part of my concern about not so much the the process but sort of the handout

55:45

we've been dealt is that we've been given different requirements every year from the state legislature and I think

55:51

there's there's another one at least one you know pending right now uh um that the housing work group can go do their

55:57

work and come back to us and by then we might have an entire new entirely new set of requirements to consider as part

56:03

of our our comprehensive plan uh for a a city like ours it is very difficult to

56:10

have this sort of it feels a bit like Shoots and Ladders um I think we all share the goal of wanting to have

56:15

housing available at all income levels for different people uh you know to live

56:21

on Mercer Island and it's very hard when when the when the goal post keep moving and then how we can do that where we can

56:26

do that where we must do that versus what makes the most sense for the city um so I will I will support this motion

56:33

um but I do want to take a minute to get on my soap box here to say that I'm frustrated with some of the the process

56:39

that we're seeing and and how we are are sort of forced to do this uh in a really peac approach as opposed to a a more

56:46

thoughtful um you know approach that's already laid out in various uh planning

56:52

Cycles well said I share that frustration council Reynolds yeah a quick

56:58

question for you Mr Mayor and then maybe a comment depending on your answer was your intent to just is the motion just

57:06

to change the zone or is the motion to send this to the housing work group to to evaluate and make a recommendation

57:13

considering that option it's adding a use to the zone that the work's going to

57:18

go through the housing work group we've decided that as a council in terms of our comprehensive planning process so I

57:24

don't think that's necessary component of the motion okay so it's is it necessarily

57:30

tying the hands of the work group the way you you froze there I you want to start over the regulation that they'll

57:35

have to approve sorry so I I worry that the way you've worded the Motion makes it sound

57:41

like the housing work group has to approve this and they don't have any option other than than to do it is if

57:46

the housing work group could they look at this and say no we don't want to do quite what he said do we have the flexibility to do

57:53

that well I'm not a lawyer we can ask the City

58:03

attorney well you don't have to approve anything that uh hasn't already been

58:09

approved I think the motion here um if they can be compatible is look at this

58:17

option and the the intent of the two motions if you want to consolidate them

58:22

together is look at the the you look at the two options and um use the the

58:29

second option as a backup um in case you are unable to meet the goals solely

58:36

using the the first option proved or preferred if the motion were clarified

58:43

to make clear that that was the intent I'd be supportive if the motion as written is intended to be a binding no

58:49

we are doing this I'll be voting it in opposition and right now it seems like a binding we are are doing this motion

58:56

yeah no I think your perception is correct it's adding a use to a CO zone for any parcel not a building or

59:02

residential Zone and the reason that we need to do that is that the available capacity in town center even once you

59:08

add a floor does not make up for the deficit that shenoa is going to cause as soon as it's developed and so what the

59:15

public needs to understand is that the affordable housing Target that we've been assigned by the state is almost

59:21

100% of the available uh housing capacity in Mercer Island so if every

59:28

unit was developed as an affordable housing unit we would just sneak by with

59:34

the capacity that we're adding by adding a floor in town center since shinoa is not permitted it's still being counted

59:40

in the available capacity but it's going to mostly generate market rate housing 90% of the units will be market rate

59:47

housing so 90% of 232 is the capacity deficit that you get

59:53

as soon as that per perit is issued and so by adding a use to the co Zone we're preventing staff from playing a game of

1:00:00

whack-a-mole where they're continuing to come back to the council every time there's market rate development that

1:00:05

chips into this additional capacity that we're trying to to create tonight and doing it to you know 59 units whatever

1:00:15

the the minimum is is not going to cut it as soon as we have our first market rate development so I'm trying to do uh

1:00:22

what we need to do as a as a legislative body to create a Runway that gets us at

1:00:28

least five years uh to the midpoint when maybe the state will have some some

1:00:33

available funds to subsidize this unit creation which we all know is not going to happen without a

1:00:40

subsidy okay any other Council Weinberg yeah so I I'm in support of this motion

1:00:46

I do want to point out to everyone that this approach as well as the other two options to that matter is likely going

1:00:51

to require significant concurrent infrastructure mark modernization uh the the intersection at uh 36 the E Mercer

1:00:59

way in particular is already already has significant uh traffic pressure at certain times of the day and the bus

1:01:05

stops at the East mway interchange were taken away years ago uh so Transit uh we

1:01:11

could be brought back to this uh commercial office Zone but that would take some negotiation with uh with Metro

1:01:17

to do that um that's not to say this is the only of the three options that has infrastructure issues in fact they all

1:01:23

would uh but I think we should keep in mind that uh that there will be costs

1:01:28

associated with this and so far I haven't heard the state coming to us with a bag of money saying they're going to pay for it but yeah no we haven't

1:01:35

seen that at all okay any other discussion not seeing any other hands city clerk please call the rooll Mr

1:01:42

Mayor can you remind me who the second was it was Council mayor wer thank you

1:01:48

council member Jacobson hi mayor nce hi council member Reynolds

1:01:56

I was that I council member Reynolds I council member

1:02:03

andr w hi council member Weinberg hi Deputy Mayor rosenbom hi and council

1:02:09

member we thank you Mr Mayor very good motion passes all right I think we're

AB 6391: 2023-2024 Capital Project Update – Revised 1/11/24

1:02:15

done with that one so our next item of regular business is AB 6391 the 2023 2024 Capital project update for which we

1:02:22

welcome chief of operations Jason Ker good evening Council Jason Kitner chief

1:02:27

of operations with me this evening is Ela Sran our Deputy Public Works director Patrick Yasha our city engineer

1:02:35

Deputy Public Work Director and Clint Morris our Capital division manager Ela's gonna go ahead and run the

1:02:40

PowerPoint behind the scenes let's get just one

1:02:48

minute and Jason just before you get started I assume that you're good taking questions along the way uh since these

1:02:54

are capital projects probably be easiest so Council if you just raise your hand or grab my attention along the way if

1:02:59

you have questions let me know absolutely okay so we are here to talk

1:03:05

about the 2023 and 2024 capital projects next slide

1:03:11

please as you uh are likely know our Capital Improvement program Capital

1:03:17

Improvement program uh consists of multiple Visions so this presentation will outline those those different

1:03:23

projects within those divisions uh talk briefly talk about the city hall closure impacts as it do does have an impact on

1:03:29

the workload uh focus on a few of the 2023 and 2024 highlights uh talk about

1:03:37

our planning project updates and then talk about our next steps as we are quickly entering the next budget

1:03:44

cycle so as I just mentioned all of our capital projects fall within uh four programmatic areas including parks

1:03:51

recreation and open space our streets and PBS for pedestrian B bicycle facilities program the utilities which

1:03:58

include water sewer and storm storm water and then General government which includes equipment our public building

1:04:04

facilities and Technology uh as you know we have several plans that guide uh the

1:04:09

development of Rec capital projects and program in each bam including the water system plan the general sewer plan uh

1:04:16

the storm water management P manual as well as the pros plan and other Master plans in in parks and recreation in 2024

1:04:23

uh the city is managing 70 plus capital projects a very very aggressive program right

1:04:30

now uh as Council calls and fully aware in 2023 in April of 2023 we had the

1:04:36

unexpected closure of City Hall after the discovery of Asbestos tile uh the permanent closure was was occurred in

1:04:44

October of 2023 and uh while the city hall is closed there's been a significant amount of work items that have been added to

1:04:51

the public works team as well as the the entire City's team a work plate right now to um pivot from the city hall

1:04:58

closure and find temporary spaces and and ultimately a long-term a long-term uh home as well uh so the redirecting of

1:05:05

Staff resources uh has required a significant amount of of adjustment to the work plan uh we'll we'll get into

1:05:12

that a bit further and a deeper dive at the Council planning session uh next in the next month or so um but definitely

1:05:19

has had an impact on on the work plans two dates

1:05:25

but let's get into the 2023 and 2024 highlights this is the fun stuff it's been a very busy year and it's going to

1:05:31

be a very busy year looking forward so with that we will start with our utilities on the water program uh in the

1:05:38

2023 and 2024 bayum we have 15 water system Improvement projects over \$25

1:05:44

million in funding for the water utility in 2023 I think the highlight of the uh

1:05:51

Capital program has been the successful implementation and construction of the booster chlorination station the picture

1:05:58

on the upper right shows shows that station um in place at the reservo facility I've been told it is uh in

1:06:06

place it is operational we're doing some minor tweaking things like that but it is fully operational at this point in

1:06:12

time uh and has been a long time coming as Council may recall this project came

1:06:18

out of the 2014 water advisory uh this is probably the last major project uh

1:06:24

operational change coming from that action plan in 2014 uh and so it's a a

1:06:29

huge success that this is in place and operation now as the city manager referenced earlier uh we have ongoing

1:06:36

capital projects water projects in um that are call the water system improvements this is uh basically an

1:06:43

annual program where we're placing underage um under under siiz or um

1:06:50

outdated uh water system improvements including water mains uh water meters

1:06:57

prvs um different different infrastructure associated with the water distribution system uh these these

1:07:03

projects are identified in the water system plan um it could be a combination of um old pipe uh history of main brakes

1:07:11

water quality issues um it could be a a combination of different characteristics

1:07:16

that prioritize uh these water system improvements but it's an on annual ongoing program and we have another one

1:07:23

scheduled for 2024 uh a big project on the horizon

1:07:30

that's been talked about for many years on the Water System side is the replacement of our water meters as the council knows we have over 7,000 water

1:07:36

meters within our distribution system uh more than 60% of them are 15 years or

1:07:42

older uh as water meters age the water the effect the effectiveness of reading

1:07:47

water meters accurately diminishes uh so our unaccountable water loss numbers go

1:07:54

up each and every year uh this has been years in the making that our water meter replacement project is scheduled it's

1:08:01

actually underway now um but the bulk of the construction is really going to take place in the spring of this year um a

1:08:08

piece to that is our uh automat aut automated meter infrastructure the Ami system Ami component of it which allows

1:08:16

us uh the data transfer between the meters uh and the city and actually the meters and the customers um as as the

1:08:24

community may be aware we had proposed seven antennas to be installed on poles around the island we received some

1:08:32

pretty significant public feedback on those seven antennas and so we've actually pulled that back um and we uh

1:08:38

pulled back pulled back the antennas to two existing antennas uh and the five

1:08:44

that uh were currently U projected we're having our consultant reevaluate um

1:08:50

those locations and the connectivity between the meters and and our Cal Hub to make sure that we have the

1:08:56

connectivity and and provide some different options for the council to explore we'll be back in front of the Council on March 5th as a study session

1:09:02

with with further information regarding this specific project um but nevertheless the meters will be replaced

1:09:09

um this spring which is which is great um the Ami piece can can lag behind it if needed but the important piece is

1:09:16

those 7,000 meters will start being replaced this spring additionally the reservoir Improvement projects we have two 4

1:09:22

million gallon Reservoir tanks um near Ry Park they are being reigned one tank is actually being reigned now

1:09:30

the second tank will be is scheduled for construction next year we purposely offset that and Stage that construction

1:09:37

so that one tank is always operational we and we time it uh during our low Peak

1:09:42

Seasons if at all possible um to help with that construction cycle uh that project's underway we'll be completed at

1:09:47

the end of next year a new project a new project program

1:09:53

identifi ifed in this year's Capital plan is the AC or asbest cement water

1:09:59

main replacement program um over the course of the next six years six to eight years we have uh the last

1:10:06

remaining AC pipe scheduled to be replaced within our water distribution system we actually uh given given the

1:10:13

frequency in which these pipes break because of the age and and degradation with the with the pipe uh we've actually

1:10:19

moved up the first construction cycle of this AC pipe uh to happen next year so

1:10:25

that project is finishing up design and we'll go out for advertising for construction uh very shortly and

1:10:31

anticipate construction beginning later this spring through the summer for the AC pipe replacement the council will see

1:10:37

the rest of those projects as part of the next upcoming uh budget by Anum process um but again we're scheduled to

1:10:43

replace all those AC pipes in the next six to eight years uh other water projects include

1:10:50

our system water system improvements that's the annual program of us just referencing as well as uh finishing up

1:10:56

our design work on the first the first batch of our pressure reducing valve stations we have 83 prvs or pressure

1:11:03

reducing valve stations around the island uh that are nearing their end of useful expected useful life and so we

1:11:09

are currently in designed to replace the first batch of those prvs again the construction will be phased as part of

1:11:15

the next six-year um Capital Improvement program moving to the Sewer side uh we

1:11:23

have 10 sewer capital projects on deck for this panium just under \$8 million in

1:11:28

sewer allocation um city manager referenced the sewer lining project in Basin 40

1:11:35

we're we're relining the sewer pipes to address our inflow and infiltration issues within the sewer system and then

1:11:43

I'll like to the two pictures on the left are actually the uh current sewer

1:11:48

pipe alignment in mercell park and in front of mercadel Park that purple purple line represents where the current

1:11:55

alignment of the pipe is so the lower left you can actually see that sewer pipe runs right through the heart of the

1:12:02

beautiful grass area in mercell park and then it actually uh fronts the plaza

1:12:07

area in front of Mell Park as well this is a project that was identified in the general sewer plan actually two general

1:12:14

sewer plans ago uh it's being upsized to meet capacity and demand issues um

1:12:20

unfortunately it does run right through the the center of merel Park um this project was we we were looking at a a

1:12:27

technology to basically um pipe burst it but given the current condition and

1:12:32

current uh material type of the pipe uh it's not recommended to utilize that technology so uh this project through

1:12:40

the design process had to change slightly um it's delayed the process on the construction uh of the project but

1:12:47

um it will require an open trench open ditch through the through the middle of the park and in front of the plaza so uh

1:12:53

we're finishing up the design with that project now and anticipate that we will go into construction um near the end of

1:12:59

summer and into early fall before the weather turns but after the summer events uh hopefully held at at summer

1:13:05

events held in mercel park and hopefully before the weather uh gets to fallik

1:13:11

because that grass area could be problematic for heavy equipment so we'll talk about more more about this project

1:13:18

slightly a little bit later when we get to the mercille park planning process but on the Utility side for the

1:13:24

sewer system um another project we've talked about for many years is the scada or supervisory control and data

1:13:30

acquisition project uh Council may recall we actually have a skater project on the water side the water side of the

1:13:37

house is complete the sewer side has lagged behind because of um Co equipment

1:13:43

delays in terms of acquiring necessary equipment for um the electrical equipment for the sewer system sewer

1:13:49

pump stations uh this project is is is now under construction and anticipate

1:13:55

being completed later this year next slide on the storm water side we have 15

1:14:02

storm water projects uh less just under three million in uh storm water

1:14:08

allocation so a smaller amount most of these projects are related to drainage

1:14:13

Improvement projects um or stabilization projects within our water courses as you can see in the pictures on the right uh

1:14:19

a lot of the work on the stor water side we tie uh in and with our street

1:14:25

projects because there's a obviously a Nexus there to replace and upgrade and

1:14:30

improve our storm water along those Street edges or within the streets uh and then we're obviously

1:14:35

focusing on our drainage improvements and capacity improvements within the rest of the the Strow Mor system uh

1:14:40

smaller smaller allocation smaller smaller body of work uh but just as important and it's often tied to a

1:14:47

larger body of work with our our street and PBF projects next slide speaking of our

1:14:54

street and PBF projects PBF stands for pedestrian and bicycle facilities uh we have 18 Transportation projects and just

1:15:02

uh just over 9 million in funding allocation for this bium the 2023 and

1:15:07

2024 highlights include the Sunset Highway and 77 77th AV improvements

1:15:12

which is the picture in the upper right that included um obviously The Pedestrian or The Refuge islands in the

1:15:18

middle the the improved crosswalk which includes the the raised pavement marking

1:15:23

um and improve safety at this intersection this project was completed last year um additionally we have uh our

1:15:33

annual ongoing residential street overlay proog program uh Council just

1:15:38

approved the West Merc way roadside improvements um that's our mercial way project where we've been working for

1:15:44

many many years uh to to add those uh shoulder improvements around the Mercer

1:15:49

ways we are down to after the construction of this one facility we will have one project left that'll be

1:15:55

upcoming in the future tip and CIP uh and then a couple of U major projects on

1:16:01

the street and pedestrian facilities on the near Horizon which includes the 80th Avenue pedestrian improvements and the

1:16:07

Allen Crestway Corridor improvements uh both of which will uh have public engagement and uh will be pretty

1:16:13

impactful projects in around those those corridors next

1:16:19

slide moving to parks recreation and open space we have 23 Capital Park projects just under 8 million in funding

1:16:27

allocation uh obviously the Highlight for 2023 has been the addition of the bike skills area to the dean Children's

1:16:33

Park uh which is obviously a picture in the upper lefthand corner but as we look ahead to 2024 and 2025 really uh the

1:16:42

Waterfront Improvement projects at Luther Burbank Park so this will be a phase construction approach phase one

1:16:49

will happen this year which will include work in the boiler building phase two will include uh the plaza and the

1:16:55

overwater structures that will that will likely begin construction uh later this year in 20124 and carry into

1:17:03

2025 uh as as you know uh work around the shoreline and above the shoreline

1:17:08

often requires many many permits and we have to work within the approved fish windows for that work so depending on

1:17:13

timing of permits and and getting construction lined up we anticipate that part of that phase two construction will

1:17:19

happen later this year but the bulk of the overwater work uh will will be will actually take place in

1:17:26

2025 um as you can see on the lower leftand corner there we that's the South

1:17:31

Shoreline project where we had significant volunteers participate and helping replant that's I would consider

1:17:37

that part of the first first introduction to the Waterfront improvements as it as it ties um some

1:17:43

great spaces in Lu the Brank Park together next

1:17:49

line although uh we've had a ton of brick and mortar projects for 20 23 and 2024 we've also had some significant

1:17:56

planning projects uh on our workload work plan as well including the facil facility condition assessment uh we have

1:18:03

the Clark and grovin Beach uh joint Master planning process and then the mercell park master plan process on this

1:18:09

in this banum the facility condition assessment is broken into two phases the first

1:18:14

phase uh includes obviously more City Hall the Public Works building uh the

1:18:19

Comm uh and Event Center Annex Building which is the the building behind the community center uh the Luther Brank

1:18:26

admin building the thrift shop and the former toes building phase two on the next slide

1:18:32

includes uh the fire stations as well as the BR and Community Event Center um the

1:18:39

the first batch of work is actually be the Public Works building assessment and uh the city hall replacement strategy

1:18:45

obviously City Hall was proposed in October of 2023 uh so the Public Works building

1:18:51

assessment and obviously the the replacement strategy will be our Focus for 2024 um and we are actually scheduled to

1:18:57

come back to the council uh at the February 6 council meeting to start talking about the Public Works uh

1:19:03

building assessment moving into the Clark and

1:19:08

Groveland Beach Master plans um again both these facilities have aged infrastructure overw waterer structures

1:19:15

uh that are at or near the end of their useful life um we have begun the planning process to include the

1:19:21

replacement of anes these overwater structures but also uh the long-term needs for both

1:19:27

parks uh in 2023 uh We've hired a consultant the burger the burger group

1:19:32

to come in and actually help do the site survey and site evaluation to sort of create that Baseline for these planning

1:19:37

processes but the bulk of the public engagement is really scheduled for the summer of 2024 when these parks are at

1:19:43

their Peak use and we can solist the best and and most input from the community is they're heavily used during

1:19:49

the summer months then finally the mercal park master plan so this was originally

1:19:55

scheduled to coincide with that sewer main project that I spoke about earlier however due to the do the do the do to

1:20:03

the delay excuse me uh in that project and other competing needs this project has been delayed um we're going to talk

1:20:10

about the playground processes in the next agenda item but that's definitely a contributing factor but um City's man

1:20:16

city manager recommendation is actually to postpone the mercal park master plan process at this time uh we'll talk about

1:20:23

this further with the council as part of the work plan discussion at the upcoming uh planning session in the meantime the

1:20:29

sewer the sewer project is anticipated to go into construction later this year

1:20:34

uh and includes replacing upsizing that undersized main that runs right through the middle of the park we are looking at

1:20:39

relocating that that pipe um to the perimeter of the park um oftentimes these sewer pipes need to be accessed

1:20:46

and maintain with big heavy equipment and CCTV equipment uh which can be pretty damaging to the park so we're

1:20:51

trying to trying to realign the pipe so that it can um actually have some vehicular access uh for our utility

1:20:58

Crews uh without damaging the the park as its it's restored post construction

1:21:03

um that said we anticipate that the localized work in the park will include

1:21:09

uh the asphalt Trail as well as some other improvements such as drainage irrigation and other Landscaping

1:21:15

improvements in the construction area um as you saw in the previous picture that pipe runs in front of the plaza out near

1:21:21

the street um that that pavement been sign significantly um uplifted by tree

1:21:28

tree damage and so uh part of that work will also include uh redoing that Plaza

1:21:33

looking at some suspended pavement and other other improvements to the plaza area to um redefine it and re re

1:21:42

um reestablish that that Plaza area in front of the park see council member Jacobson has a

1:21:50

question yes my question is um is part of the mercerdale uh uh sewer upgrade

1:21:59

and uh related work is the Electrical uh capability of the plaza

1:22:05

going to be upgraded because as I understand it it's uh not able to or

1:22:11

it's it's under capacity and it limits a number of the ways that we can use that Plaza for the benefit of the uh the

1:22:19

citizens and events that are held there that's a great question that is something that we are looking at um if

1:22:27

nothing else absolutely getting the conduit infrastructure in place to to do whatever future electrical needs are in

1:22:33

the plaza um so we will put in the infrastructure necessary whether or not we actually do the electrical work as part of this work I think that's a TBD

1:22:40

and a conversation we can have but we are certainly looking at getting the infrastructure you know the condo in

1:22:45

place um to bring that that additional wiring in that you're talking about to the flaz at a future date if and when

1:22:52

when we want to do that but it's something we were looking at I'd appreciate that chance to talk to you

1:22:57

about that um pretty high priority for operations to uh get more power into

1:23:04

that Park I did want to mention Council we've been working with uh VFW for quite

1:23:09

a while uh it is planned through this project to relocate the flag pole that's currently at Bicentennial Park and it's

1:23:17

uh it's it's been there for quite some time and it's obstructed by trees and we think the better location is in the

1:23:23

plaza we will have to bring in lighting and electrical to put in that new flag pole so that will also be part of the

1:23:30

project I would I would also tell you that there is uh money off the balance sheet to pay for that all you have to do

1:23:37

is ask thank

1:23:44

you so our next steps we have our March 1st City Council planning session and

1:23:49

then obviously we are we are quickly moving into to the development of our 2025 2026 Capital Improvement program as

1:23:56

part of the budget process um so it's been a very very busy and active year we have a a very busy year in front of us

1:24:02

and I've got I've got the A Team here with Public Works behind me uh or with

1:24:08

me so if there are additional questions on these projects or other projects that were identified in the agenda Bill uh

1:24:13

please let us know we're happy to answer your questions looks like we have one from council member

1:24:20

andal thanks um yeah congrat ulations on all this work and and progress that you made it's
it's exemplary really and

1:24:28

really the core um functions of the city so congratulations to you and your team

1:24:33

I really appreciate it um I have the question that I have is remind me again

1:24:39

of how many meters are going to be replaced is it in the 7800 area I'm gonna ask Elaine to
step

1:24:47

on it's it's you're close 76 elae probably has the number right off the

1:24:53

go ahead good evening Council Elaine summeren Deputy Public Works director um it's it's
actually a little bit of a

1:25:00

moving Target council member andrel it's uh it's about 7 between 7,800 and 7900

1:25:07

meters but just so you know any meters that are coming up for replacement over

1:25:12

the last few months have just been automatically switched over to the new meters which is
why that's a little bit

1:25:18

of a moving Target for us and I'll I'll also into that too so any of the

1:25:23

water system Improvement projects that we have done I referenced earlier if there's meter
Replacements as part of those projects we've been replacing with

1:25:29

the new meters as well okay thanks hey well so the follow-up question that I have is um I

1:25:36

always took the 7,800 number which is what I remembered as a proxy for the number of households within the city um

1:25:43

but yet in the prior presentation on the housing element component we see that there's um over 10,000 close to 10,200

1:25:51

households in the Island um I don't know if all of that can be reconciled by the fact that not all apartments are

1:25:58

individually metered um who would be the best person to help me Stitch those two numbers together and figure out uh how

1:26:04

to how to have them both live in my head at the same time so we can we we we can we can work with our accommodation our

1:26:11

CP team um that team that presented earlier as well as our G team to to sort

1:26:16

of cross reference the numbers and we can we can work with you offline and get you a better number and how the were

1:26:22

created but we'll work with our team internally and get back to you on that thank you so much I I don't want to you

1:26:28

know I don't want to make work but it is a a factor of interest to me so I appreciate

1:26:35

that great Council any other Council M wer uh I'm not sure if this question is

1:26:40

for Elaine or Jason but I'm just curious how many of our Parks have Master plans or are they just like project plans like

1:26:47

I'm I know the Aubrey Davis master plan I think there's a Luther Burbank master plan Mercer Dale it's this project in

1:26:53

public engagement can you remind me kind of what our where our plans and which

1:26:58

ones are kind of project oriented so you have the you have the overall U parks and open space plan the pros plan uh you

1:27:05

have and then you reference the the three other Master plans that we have which is Luther Aubrey Davis and then

1:27:12

the merille park master plan that was created in the late 90s early 2000s so the the Clark and gr of the master plan

1:27:18

will be your next iteration of that thank you okay Council not seeing anything

1:27:25

else I appreciate the update nice work on the capital projects the whole Capital team our next uh our last item of

AB 6395: Parks Levy Annual Progress Report

1:27:33

regular business is AB 6395 Parks Levy annual progress report and we welcome

1:27:38

back who hasn't strayed very far CP y h Jason kitner good evening I'm

1:27:45

gonna actually uh invite Robbie Kenning Adams who's actually in person this tonight to to kick take off this

1:27:52

presentation but with us this evening is uh Lizzy Stone as well as Elaine and

1:27:59

um I believe believe Sam anyways Elaine and uh Lizzy Stone

1:28:06

are both here and then um well we have a three-part presentation and then we will

1:28:12

answer any questions that you may have with that Robbie oh good evening Council um I believe Lane will be sharing a

1:28:18

presentation here on the screen there we go excellent go ahead next slide

1:28:24

Elaine um so in this presentation we'll be you know reviewing kind of a year in review

1:28:31

of the of the parks Levy that was uh passed at the end of 2022 so last year was the first full year of funding for

1:28:36

the new Levy uh so I'm going to give a little bit of a review and background of what was in the levy what was passed um

1:28:42

and then we split the kind of report into three sections you know one on the base part of the levy and then uh we'll

1:28:49

have Jason we'll kind of go into the playground replacement section and Lizzy Stone will be discussing Force

1:28:54

management and then we'll kind of conclude with some next steps things look forward to in uh in this year next

1:28:59

slide please so again as a reminder Council the parks Levy was a 16-year renewal that was placed on the ballot in

1:29:06

November of 2022 which thanks to the voters Mar island has passed with a majority of

1:29:11

64% uh this renewed Levy continues existing previous funding for Parks operations and maintenance in addition

1:29:18

to adding funding for playground Replacements and Pioneer Park Forest management next slide please um so you'll see in

1:29:24

the table there uh from that's showing a comparison of the previous Levy in 2012

1:29:30

to the funding levels we received in 2023 uh so we increased funding from

1:29:35

980,000 to 1.6 million in 2023 and so when we talk about the base

1:29:41

Levy we're talking about those first five categories you see in the table so that was the existing kind of funding

1:29:47

buckets of the old Levy Luther Burbank Park you know Parks maintenance small capital projects Open Space Management

1:29:53

Pioneer Park management uh and then the additional kind of buckets of funding we

1:29:58

added in the new Levy funding 100% of playground Replacements in that time period and the the forest management

1:30:06

plans uh of the project there uh see and one thing we did commit

1:30:12

to with the levies is they come back to you every year annually to um report on the progress of the levy and what's been

1:30:18

going on so we'll go next slide please so I'll be talking about the Bas Levy uh so this includes you know continues the

1:30:25

funding priorities of the previous Levy including covering the full cost of operations and maintenance of Luther Burbank Park additionally we use some of

1:30:32

this money to support operations and capital projects and other develop parks open spaces and athletic fields and in

1:30:38

2023 this portion of Levy was \$989,000 next slide so in Luther Burbank

1:30:45

Park um you know this is this Levy funds everything about this uh about uh

1:30:51

operating in this park so it's staff daily especially in the spring and summer peak season you know everything

1:30:57

of daily tasks emptying waste receptacles cleaning the bathroom for moving litter throughout the park we do

1:31:02

regular Landscape Maintenance you know mowing Leaf blowing line trimming uh and brushing Trail edges and maintain

1:31:09

maining Trails next slide please a couple specific highlights from last year you know there's two high use

1:31:15

playgrounds in the park and these are inspected regularly by staff and this last year uh we installed new engineered

1:31:21

wood fiber ships around the playground structures and a slide was replaced uh in this last summer we put

1:31:27

some extra work into maintaining the swim Beach area including we installed new swim lines and we uh servicing the

1:31:33

seasonal restroom there uh I certainly remember this but uh there was quite a number of wasp uh activity throughout

1:31:40

the whole state and here on the island and so that was uh required a bit of Staff intervention and then you may

1:31:45

remember the rainstorm in late November that we use Levy funding to uh NE for

1:31:50

the ne necessary addition additional maintenance of the storm water system the park and the repair of several Trails next slide

1:31:57

please um Additionally the base Levy funds open space vegetation management

1:32:03

uh to differentiate you know this part of the levy focuses on the open space areas outside of Pioneer Park and

1:32:08

angstrom open space uh so these funds in combination of capital funding elsewhere in the city budget are used to continue

1:32:15

Force management across the city's 21 public open space properties this includes Ivy removal from trees across 5

1:32:22

Acres almost 25 200 trees and shrubs were planted and the maintenance of 1100 previously installed native plants uh

1:32:29

this year we had expansion of the city's volunteer program which held 61 events across 13 of the city's Open Spaces next

1:32:37

slide please um believe this Fields maintenance and operation so you know as

1:32:42

a part of this Levy we maintain more than 200 Acres of Parklands including upkeep of sports courts landscaping and

1:32:49

Lawns you restrooms trails and playrooms on them These funds in conjunction with user fees also support the maintenance

1:32:55

of several athletic fields including iron Crest Park and Homestead field next slide and I'll turn over the Jason

1:33:03

kitner thanks Robie so uh another key component of this Lev is obviously the playground replacement so um meron has

1:33:11

18 playground structures uh 15 of these structures require the replacement through the life of the parks Levy

1:33:18

Council may recall that the average lifespan of a playground structure is anywhere from 15 to 20 years um and so

1:33:24

the parks ly funds um will includes the replacement of the playground structures in need of replacement during the life

1:33:30

of this Levy just over 400,000 was budgeted for the portion of the parks Levy in 2023 for playground specifically

1:33:38

next slide so the 2023 2028 Capital Improvement plan identified uh five

1:33:45

structures for the replacement over the course of the first six years including AUB Davis Dean Children's Park First

1:33:52

Hill Ron Oak and secret Park as you can see this table here outlines the design

1:33:57

and public engagement component of it as well as the construction um originally proposed for

1:34:02

these playgrounds however with the addition of the bike skills area at Dean Children's

1:34:09

Park uh it's it's caused the staff to take a more comprehensive and holistic

1:34:15

approach to looking at that that Park uh and the playground redesign um so with

1:34:21

with that were actually proposed and implemented a revised timeline to allow for additional public engagement or

1:34:26

larger public engagement process at Dean children Park to include um different

1:34:31

elements of that Park Beyond just the playground itself uh including um improving Ada and inclusivity at the at

1:34:38

the park uh as well as improved restroom facilities replacing restroom facilities

1:34:44

and uh taking a a closer look at the covered picnic shelter at Deans with the

1:34:50

acceleration of Deans or the not the acceleration the deceleration of Deans slowing slowing that that playground

1:34:57

replacement down and and adding further public engagement we have accelerated the replacement for um the first Hill

1:35:04

playground as you can see here so the revised uh first five playground Replacements within the six years is is

1:35:11

what you see from left to right so uh we're proposing to um construct the rote

1:35:17

playground in 2024 uh complete the public engagement design and construction for the first Hill

1:35:23

playground structure as well as begin the the public engagement design process

1:35:29

for Deans in 2024 next slide so r Oak uh this is the

1:35:36

this is the playground slated for replacement first and foremost um Burger the burger partnership has already begun

1:35:42

developing the concept which has been um posted and the survey is actually run on on let's talk the survey just closed uh

1:35:50

we received over 100 58 responses on the proposed concept um and those survey

1:35:55

results are um they they will inform the public meeting which is scheduled for January 30th uh on Zoom so anybody who

1:36:03

wants to participate in the public engagement process for the rot par playground uh please register on let's

1:36:08

talk for that Zoom public engagement meeting on January 30th and again those Concepts and uh qu the survey questions

1:36:14

are posted on West talk as well moving back to Deans uh again a

1:36:20

portion of the playground was scheduled for uh 2023 originally and that's the castle structure you see there on the

1:36:25

right uh you may recall that Deans Deans has Deans is a little bit fragment in terms of the playground structures there

1:36:31

there's sort of a piece here and a piece there there's a digger tool in one section you've got the castle and then

1:36:37

there's another play a larger play element um they're they're separated um they have walking trails and paths in

1:36:44

between them but the actual structures themselves are are separated the castle is actually scheduled for replacement in

1:36:50

2023 however as I mentioned earlier the addition of the bike skills area um and

1:36:55

then just the the current condition of um some of the park monties in and around that area just we as we were

1:37:02

looking at the the park itself and starting to talk about the playground like look we we got to we got to address the the restroom that's right here uh

1:37:10

and and the picnic shelter as well as part of this design um and it really

1:37:16

Dean Park really creates a a great opportunity to improve Ada uh and inclusive

1:37:22

access and improvements at this this facility and so we want to slow down this process at Deans uh do additional

1:37:28

public engagement and move into constru do design this year and Construction in 2025 um again that that public

1:37:34

engagement will really kick off this year and that will really feed into the design the comprehensive and holistic

1:37:40

approach for Dean's Children's Park as we mentioned earlier though with

1:37:47

with sort of the slowing of Deans uh there's an opportunity to accelerate the first till playground um this was

1:37:53

originally planned for construction design and construction in 2025 and 2026 um however we're we're moving this

1:38:01

up um Burger has begun the site evaluation and surveying work for this park um and we expect that this first

1:38:08

still will lag a couple months behind um the Rono park playground time

1:38:14

frame so um both projects are underway and we look to get both of them constructed this year probably within a

1:38:20

couple months of each other um the big issue for us right now is the lead times on the equipment on the manufacturing

1:38:26

equipment so burger and team are working on uh trying to expedite that as much as possible uh once we finalize the

1:38:32

designs for these areas but we're really really looking to get these playgrounds open um so they can be used this year if

1:38:38

all possible Jason looks like you have a question from council member

1:38:44

Reynolds I can certainly wait till the end if uh if it's more convenient no go ahead go ahead I'm just curious about

1:38:50

the the the dean's playground you uh you outlined a couple of things that were not really in the category of playground

1:38:56

Replacements the uh the the picnic shelter and the restrooms do you anticipate being able to cover that cost

1:39:03

out of the the allocated playground funds as well or do we need separate budget Authority for that somehow great

1:39:09

question I anticipate we'll need separate budget Authority uh we are working with the city manager as well as

1:39:14

the finance office to identify what those funds are um but definitely will require additional appropriation outside

1:39:20

of the playground funding for those if I can just add I know

1:39:26

additional appropriation request has everyone's uh attention at this point I

1:39:31

think it's really important that we go through the exercise of of relaying out

1:39:37

that playground area uh such that even if we don't have the money right now for the new restroom building we at least

1:39:43

know where it's going uh so that we can put it in in in phases and not have to

1:39:48

continue moving around equipment um ideally we'd love to come up with money to to do a new restroom a new picnic

1:39:55

shelter and the playground that may not be possible but at least we'll get the site plan ironed out uh for future

1:40:02

future planning and future funding decisions I commend the staff for

1:40:07

thinking ahead and considering everything that's it's fully appropriate I'll also add that we're we're as I said

1:40:13

we we're moving into the budget cycle and so this will be as we go through the design and engagement process this is the perfect opportunity to work into our

1:40:19

budget cycle as well so we'll we'll have those costs

1:40:25

identified very good guys Deputy Mayor rosenon Jason you

1:40:33

kind of mentioned this or hinted at before but if I remember correctly there was a pretty big backup with the playground equipment has that recovered

1:40:39

at all I think there was like a fire at uh one of The Producers is that correct

1:40:44

is that yeah you are you are recalling correctly so when we were constructing the merchel park playground there was a

1:40:50

equipment fire at the manufacturing uh facility that delayed playground equipment there there has

1:40:57

been a there has been a lag in the manufacturing of playground equipment um

1:41:03

like all things Co things are slowly starting to get better um but do we have

1:41:08

I don't I couldn't tell you exactly you know how quickly or how far behind they are at this point in time where the the

1:41:14

r note pieces um will give us a will shut a good light on terms of what that

1:41:19

delay possibly is and so we'll we'll keep you posted great

1:41:28

thanks very good you want to carry on Jason sure I actually believe I'm gonna ask

1:41:34

Lizzy Stone to step in perfect timing good evening Council um my name

1:41:40

is Lizzy Stone I am the natural resources project manager with the city of Mercer Island can you'all hear me

1:41:46

okay we can great okay so I'm here to talk um about our progress this year

1:41:52

with the forest Restoration in Pioneer Park and ingstrom open space since the passing of the parks Levy in

1:42:00

2022 as a bit of context and reminders um Pioneer Park and Ingstrom open space

1:42:05

are two remarkable parks on the island that make up a block of 122 Acres of

1:42:12

forest these are second growth forests that contain huge Majestic trees and

1:42:17

provide habitat for countless Birds and mammals insects fungi um a variety of

1:42:24

other Critters and these parks are also interlaced with up close to seven miles

1:42:30

of trails to provide access for hikers and bikers and equestrian users on the

1:42:35

island if you have spent time in these Parks then you have likely noticed that

1:42:40

um much of the forest is blanketed in our non-native English ivy as well as

1:42:45

non-native blackberry and some weedy tree species such as Holly and Cherry Laurel

1:42:51

um the parks Levy supports our efforts to manage these weedy tree species to

1:42:57

remove Ivy from the base of our existing trees which we refer to as Ivy Rings or survival Rings a lot of the times which

1:43:03

helps preserve the canopy that we already have there in the park it'll also help support us in removing Ivy

1:43:10

from and all the other non-native plants from the forest floor and understory as

1:43:15

well as completing our first phase of tree planting and maintenance throughout the park slide

1:43:22

please in 2023 on these properties we conducted first comprehensive weed

1:43:28

removal on 10 and a half acres of Pioneer Park and Ingstrom we conducted 9.2 Acres of

1:43:37

second-year comprehensive weed removal as well as planting 617 native trees and

1:43:44

shrubs and all of that work was done with the help of contractors natural resources staff including our season

1:43:51

crew um Washington Conservation Corps Crews and many many volunteers and I want to highlight that

1:43:57

this work far exceeds the six and a half acres that we had predicted that we would get to um for first year

1:44:04

comprehensive weed removal in our fir in our annual planning for the parks Levy next slide

1:44:11

please when I say comprehensive weed removal I want to Define that um that I'm referring to all of it um the

1:44:18

removal of ivy from the base of our existing trees the removal and treatment of our weedi trees like that Holly and

1:44:25

Cherry Laurel as well as removal of all of the ivy blackberry and other

1:44:31

herbaceous weeds found on the forest floor this um work is done in addition

1:44:36

to our regular maintenance of the trail system in the Parks um which includes Brushing in the growing season blowing

1:44:43

leaves off of the trails in the fall and maintaining coverts and redirecting water where possible and re grabbling in

1:44:50

the muddy sections of Trail in the rainy season as necessary next slide

1:44:56

please so we really ramped up our volunteer program this year in Pioneer Park with the help of our volunteer

1:45:03

coordinator and some fabulous Forest stewards we hosted a total of 22

1:45:09

volunteer events in Pioneer Park that were attended by 343 volunteers that put

1:45:15

717 hours of work into the park this is double the number of events that we had

1:45:20

in Pioneer Park in 2022 and very close to double the number of volunteers and hours as well so all of those Helping

1:45:29

Hands were able to remove lvy from 84 trees as well as well over 15,000 square

1:45:35

feet of the forest floor they also planted 242 trees and shrubs in the

1:45:41

Parks and repaired sections of the trail as

1:45:47

well uh this Levy funding um leads to a significant increase in the amount of

1:45:52

work that we want to accomplish each year in these parks and a large amount of that work is done by contractors it

1:45:59

we know from the past that it can be challenging to get enough quality bidders when we go to contract out this work so

1:46:06

in response to the levy passing we have been exploring different some new approaches for Contracting out this

1:46:12

restoration work in Pioneer and Ingstrom we've had conversations with our contractors that were successful in

1:46:20

completing some of our projects in the past and we got their input on how well our Contracting process is working for

1:46:26

them and what are the barriers for bidding on restoration projects what are the challenges they encounter when

1:46:32

working with the city's natural resources program and then as a result of those conversations we are piloting a new

1:46:38

hourly rate approach to Contracting out this work um this is in addition to our

1:46:44

previous approach to contract out the work as a lumpsum bid next

1:46:51

spot all right so additionally we applied for and were awarded a contract

1:46:56

with the Washington conservation core which is an americore program that focuses on restoration work throughout

1:47:03

the state we were awarded 50 crew days on the island in the 2023 24 term and

1:47:11

these americore Crews have been working in Pioneer Park a lot in November and December they did repairs on Trails they

1:47:18

worked on Ivy Rings they planted trees they also performed comprehensive weed

1:47:24

removal first year comprehensive removal on almost two acres in Pioneer Park Southeast um 1.9 Acres I think was our

1:47:32

total amount there um which was pretty impressive in a short amount of time so

1:47:38

yeah that sums up my updates on Forest management with Levy funds and I'll pass it back to Robbie to close out just a

1:47:45

quick question for you can you clarify winning contract for 50 days what does

1:47:53

that mean sure um so that means that they basically put out a request

1:47:58

for or proposals of from many different entities throughout the state I we

1:48:05

submitted an application try trying to justify why we deserve to be able to get these americore Crews to be able to work

1:48:11

with us there's a pretty high demand for this these Crews so I needed to be able to explain why these projects are

1:48:18

worthwhile and important and the diversity of work that we would be able to show and how it would be an

1:48:23

worthwhile experience for these americore crew members so they

1:48:29

um g g awarded gave us the um the contract to be able to have the cruise

1:48:34

out for 50 days um which was is the first time that we've worked directly with the Washington Conservation Corps

1:48:39

to be able to have these Crews on the island so feels like a success so that's a no cost I'm guessing no there is a

1:48:46

cost Associated as much greatly subsidized because this is americore program um it's much cheaper than hiring

1:48:54

on professional contractors in a normal all right nice work on that over to you Robbie I'm closing out

1:49:03

the last slide here Peak ahead of 2024 earlier Jason engagement design of Road Oak Park

1:49:11

first s Park and Dean children parks playgrounds I know Lizzy's got a lot of additional volunteer events for Open

1:49:17

Space Management folks listening want to sign up uh and then also we certainly will be additional project development

1:49:24

Design Elements as part of the upcoming Capital Improvement plan process with that uh we're happy to take any

1:49:29

questions and comments yeah looks like Council Reynolds has his hand

1:49:35

up did we lose you Council Ral sorry I'm here my question was for for losing my

1:49:42

I'm slow getting my hand up I apologize but uh can can you just clarify the difference between uh Contracting the

1:49:49

workout and uh and sending the or hiring contractors and sending out the word work for bid I think you used two

1:49:55

different terminologies or for hourly work versus sending out to bid perhaps that was the terminology and does that

1:50:01

have any effect on whether the workers are union workers or not and whether we're paying prevailing wage or

1:50:06

not great questions um yes so I referred to our

1:50:12

hourly rate approach versus our lump sum bid approach so the way that we have previously always um contracted out

1:50:18

restoration work is as a lump sum so each project within a park um we describe the square footage

1:50:25

and what we want done there and then contractors go through and look at the project and pro send in their bid on how

1:50:32

much they think it's going to cost them and then we choose the lowest bid on it's a bit more complicated than that

1:50:38

but that's the gist of it so we are now trying out an approach where

1:50:45

we um propose a project and contractors are able to to bill us hourly based on

1:50:50

the amount of time it actually takes them to do the work as opposed to needing to predict that ahead of time so

1:50:55

so it's this it's basically the same potential vendors of the service they're just paying time and expense versus

1:51:01

fixed fees is that essentially it okay and and to the extent that they're hourly do we have City staff in

1:51:10

their supervising to make sure they're not leaning on their shovels yes this is the first time we've

1:51:17

done this approach and um we I will see how much um different what the different

1:51:23

type of management will look like but it will likely involve a lot more checking in to ensure that things are the work is

1:51:29

being done efficiently okay thank you I want to very specifically address one of

1:51:34

the questions you raised there council member Reynolds which is about prevailing wage prevailing wage is paid

1:51:40

by the city regardless of the type of bidding that we're doing or how a contract is awarded so if if we award a

1:51:47

contract to another company where they're paying the work workers they still have to pay prevailing wage is that correct everyone has to work

1:51:53

prevailing everyone has to pay prevailing wage who works for the city for a public works contract yes okay

1:51:59

thank you Council mayor Jacobson with respect to the uh hourly rate Contracting that

1:52:07

you're doing uh is any of that uh does any of that also have a not to exceed

1:52:13

maximum and if not why not it does we oops um it does we have

1:52:21

um do not exceed within each of the small projects and then the full contract has a a total

1:52:28

amount that we are not going to be a that we Cann cannot exceed um within

1:52:33

each individual contractor's contract I'm sorry I don't understand

1:52:40

your answer uh let me let me try to ask a better question that that question is

1:52:46

uh if you have gone out and solicited a bid for an an hourly rate for landscaping

1:52:52

services and you've entered into a contract with XYZ company to provide

1:52:57

those at X dollar per hour um what is

1:53:02

part of that contract is there a not to exceed hour number on it yes within the contract we have

1:53:11

several different projects in each project we will come up with the number of hours that we expect it to be we're

1:53:17

going to buffer it a small amount to allow for any unknowns that come up and that will be the do not exceed amount

1:53:23

for that project yes we do a not to exceed number of hours for each project

1:53:29

yes thank you okay Council M Wier so I I have a

1:53:35

quick question about those cement bunkers in Luther Burbank so this is a heads up I've talked to somebody over

1:53:41

the years about this project and I don't know why they're there and I don't know why we've not like turned that into

1:53:46

natural space so Jason this is a heads up to that I'm going to bring it up at the council Retreat on March 1st for how

1:53:53

to get that on the list and what it might include or why not so heads up I don't know why those bunkers are there I

1:53:59

don't know if you want to talk about it now or talk about it later but this might be the year that I don't back down and keep it on the list somehow

1:54:06

somewhere to get to at some point we happy to talk about it that's a good good good conversation for later we can

1:54:12

we can certainly talk about it okay council member Jacobson old

1:54:18

hand yep okay not seeing anything else I

1:54:24

appreciate everybody for the hard work great update nice work can I can I sneak in one last one I

1:54:31

apologize you can sorry about that um this may be a question for Matt or Robbie or someone I'm not sure but I'm

1:54:38

assuming since we did not uh do the dean Children's Park in 2023 that we have

1:54:44

some unused funds this year will that automatically be carried forward for 2024 or do we need to have a budget

1:54:50

amending resolution or something later this year to to make that

1:54:55

happen council member rold that's a great question and uh we will carry those funds forward so that that will be

1:55:02

coming to probably Quarter Two of this year so so the council will vote to do that and hope hopefully it's a fairly

1:55:09

routine thing but yeah okay that's correct and and just so everyone understands the money that was set aside

1:55:16

for the playgrounds remains reserved for playgrounds just moves forward to this

1:55:21

calendar year thank you okay last

1:55:28

call very well uh we now move to other business and planning schedule and we

OTHER BUSINESS | Planning Schedule | EXECUTIVE SESSION | ADJOURNMENT

1:55:33

welcome city manager Jesse B uh actually pretty nothing for me

1:55:39

tonight I'll just remind you uh February 6 is our next city council meeting uh

1:55:45

council members of the audience we're continuing to adjust to our new space here in the Slater room at the community

1:55:51

center so if any of you have feedback or uh changes adjustments you need to make

1:55:57

uh please reach out to uh city clerk Andrea Larson all right uh Council any

1:56:03

upcoming council member absences to report nope not seeing any uh excuse me

1:56:11

mayor uh I may or may not be absent from the February 6th uh meeting depending on

1:56:17

internet connections gotcha if I was in Hawaii I'd be absent too I'm definitely not

1:56:25

here you're definitely not here for February 6 yeah February 6 I won't be here okay got that all right council

1:56:33

member reports uh council member and all any uh items to report uh nothing to report all right

1:56:40

Council mayor Jacobson uh I have nothing to report I missed a uh the utility board meeting

1:56:46

that happened earlier this week and I'll find out what happened to report next time or send you guys an email I

1:56:53

appreciate that I have nothing to report Council Reynolds stay healthy everybody it's pretty loud to you feeling like I

1:56:58

do yeah here's to that Deputy Mayor Rosemont feel better Craig um I from the

1:57:04

PTA council meeting from last week two thank yous uh for the staff that I wanted to pass along one was uh for the

1:57:10

the lights in town center um decorations people really appreciate those the second was uh some new uh schoolone

1:57:17

flashing lights um at the Northwood area um parents were appreciative of that so

1:57:23

I just want to pass on to the staff that thank you very good Council wer uh I

1:57:29

just want to thank Jason's team for all the presentations tonight and the parks Levy is one of my favorite things we've ever done but most importantly this bad

1:57:36

weather that we've been having and the team being ready for whatever weather might have come including snow which I

1:57:41

now consider a four-letter word my business so I really want to thank your team for standing by and being ready as

1:57:47

always to work with our partners to address whatever emergency we have perfect Council May Weber yep

1:57:53

nothing to the report okay the next hybrid meeting of the city council is scheduled for Tuesday February 6 at 2023

1:57:59

at 5:00 pm the time is now 6:58 p.m. the city council will go into executive

1:58:04

session for approximately 90 minutes to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to rcw49

1:58:12

one0 pren one close pren pren little Li close pren and to cons consider the

1:58:17

selection of a site or acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such

1:58:22

consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price pursuant to RCW 4230

1:58:28

one10 pren one close pren pren little B close pren no action will be taken

1:58:33

following the executive session as a reminder of the city council please stay seated until the broadcast is terminated

1:58:39

good evening thank you for joining us tonight Mr Mayor you you got through that so quickly uh council members staff

1:58:45

and Consultants uh we're just a little ahead of schedule tonight so we'll take a 15minute dinner break and we will see

1:58:51

everyone in executive session at 7:15

English (auto-generated)