

Governing Body Minutes – May 12, 2020

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, May 12, 2020. The Governing Body members of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Hiller, Emerson, Dobler, and Duncan - 4; and the following Councilmembers participated remotely: Valdivia-Alcala, Ortiz, Padilla, Naeger, and Lesser - 5. Mayor De La Isla presided -1.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Rabbi Debbie Stiel, Temple Beth Sholom, provided the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present in the chamber.

THE CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the special meeting of May 1, 2020, and regular meeting of May 5, 2020, was presented.

APPROVAL of the following Open After Midnight licenses was presented:

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Abraham SN	1107 SW 6 th Ave
Bwell Market	600 SE Quincy St
Casey's #2261	600 SE Rice Rd
Casey's #2312	4441 SE California Ave
Casey's #3580	6741 SW 21 st St
CVS Pharmacy #8605	2835 SW Wanamaker Rd
CVS Pharmacy #10244	3901 SW 21 st St
Murphy Express #8599	1531 SW Wanamaker Rd
Tiltans Oakland Market	1905 NE Seward Ave
Walgreens #03069	1001 SW Topeka Blvd
Walgreens #03772	2901 SE California Ave
Walgreens #04557	2121 SW Fairlawn Rd
Walgreens #04782	3696 SW Topeka Blvd
Walgreens #04981	3630 SW Wanamaker Rd
Walgreens #07778	1001 SW Gage Blvd
Walgreens #15601	2101 NW Topeka Blvd
Walgreens #16314	3900 SW 29 th St

Councilmember Emerson moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried unanimously on roll call vote. (10-0-0)

DISCUSSION of the proposed 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Plan and 2021-2023 Capital Improvement Budget, was presented.

Brent Trout, City Manager, stated the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) have been discussed several times and staff welcomes amendments at this time with intent to adopt on May 19, 2020.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala mentioned the NW Tyler Street project and that it has been included in the plan for several years and encouraged Governing Body members to move forward with the project as scheduled. She stated the street may be reduced from three to two lanes for the purpose of realizing savings; however, this area of the city needs the street improvements due to localized flooding and the need for curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

Councilmember Dobler referenced the Shunga Creek flood mitigation project scheduled in 2023. He stated there was extensive flooding that occurred in 2008, inundating properties from Wanamaker Road to I-70. He reported the overall benefit-cost ratio to determine federal funding benefits are tied to strict regulations and homeowners and businesses were told the cost-benefit analysis results would prevent them from receiving federal funding to help solve the problem. He noted staff has indicated the City would review the studies conducted and work on program fixes for areas impacted the most by localized flooding. He thanked Braxton Copley, Utilities Division Director, for providing solutions to consider and he requests the issues be addressed in the 2022 budget.

Councilmember Duncan expressed concern with the Topeka Performing Arts Center (TPAC) building improvement projects in the amount of \$300,000 being delayed. He requested

staff pick one or two high priority projects to provide the TPAC Board of Directors the ability to understand what improvements will be financial covered by the City. He referenced the possibility of leasing certain City vehicles and asked staff to consider transitioning into the leasing of certain vehicles as an option and noted there would be long-term savings even with required upfront dollars. He inquired on the desire of the Governing Body in regards to exceeding the \$9 million cap policy threshold in years four and five of the capital budget.

Brent Trout stated it would be difficult to consider the leasing of vehicles in 2020 and 2021 due to anticipated cash shortages in the operating budget. He stated the City will not be purchasing or leasing vehicles in the coming future due to budget constraints; however, the financial climate of the City may be different in 2022. He referenced exceeding the cap threshold (\$12 million in years four and five) and noted it was based on the decision of the previous Governing Body.

Councilmember Hiller distributed a handout listing proposed amendments to the proposed CIP and CIB (*Attachment A*). She stated proposed amendments were based on discussions by the Governing Body and stays within the policy cap as well as reserves \$9 million in bonding authority for Polk-Quincy Viaduct Project or other potential major projects. She expressed the importance of reviewing the budget in detail, from the top down in search of efficiencies. She provided an overview of proposed amendments to Facility, Public Safety and Street projects as well as Neighborhoods programs.

Councilmember Duncan suggested having another traffic assessment conducted when the hotel was complete at Wheatfield Village near SW 29th Street and Fairlawn Road.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala requested the NW Tyler Street from Lyman to Beverly project be removed from the proposed amendments by Councilmember Hiller and noted the

project has been scheduled for several years. She expressed concern with needing additional time to review the amendments.

Mayor De La Isla noted the amendments are extensive in nature and the Governing Body needs additional time to absorb the information.

Councilmember Ortiz concurred and stated she will need time to review the proposed amendments. She spoke in support of additional traffic improvements to the Wheatfield Village area as well as projects that would mitigate flooding along the Shunga Creek from SW Wannamaker Road to I-70. She spoke in opposition of removing the HazMat Fire Vehicle from the plan slated in 2024 and highlighted the need for this type of vehicle in the regional area.

Councilmember Hiller thanked the Governing Body for allowing her the opportunity to provide an overview of her amendments. She requested the City Manager provide a list of combined line items for the first year at a minimum in all grouped items, and five years for Fire Department and Fleet projects to help the Governing Body make strategic decisions. She suggested a 10% reduction on all Utility costs based on choice and materials. She noted there have been comments from the public that the budget should not be approved at the same time the plan was approved.

Councilmember Emerson thanked Councilmember Hiller for her work on drafting the proposed amendments. He spoke in support of the majority of changes being proposed to neighborhood programs. He questioned the need for the HazMat vehicle and suggested the City share the cost with the County and State. He stated he agrees with the removal of the Topeka Police Department Firearm Range Baffle and noted he may have suggestions for additional changes to Utility projects.

Brent Trout stated Topeka Police Chief Bill Cochran supports the removal of the Firearm Range Baffle from the CIP.

Councilmember Duncan requested clarification on the funding needs for the SW Gage Boulevard project from SW 37th to 45th Streets scheduled to be completed in 2020. He questioned if the HazMat vehicle was considered a regional vehicle and if so, he concurs with Councilmember Emerson, the City should ask for collective funding assistance. He spoke in support of needed changes to neighborhood programs.

Jason Peek, Public Works Director, (participated remotely) reported the funds would be bonded at the completion of SW Gage Project; therefore, the funding needs to remain in the capital budget.

Brent Trout stated the City receives a portion of funding for the reimbursement of HazMat vehicle materials used by other governmental entities.

Craig Duke, Topeka Fire Chief, confirmed the vehicle was considered a regional asset. He noted the closest regions equipped with a HazMat vehicle included Manhattan or Kansas City, Kansas. He spoke in support of keeping the purchase of a new HazMat vehicle in the capital budget providing a much needed upgraded vehicle apparatus.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala spoke in support of purchasing a new HazMat vehicle and expressed the importance of providing sufficient HazMat response to the community.

Councilmember Dobler referenced the fleet replacement program. He questioned if there was certain equipment that could be rented instead of purchased if it was only utilized a couple times a year.

Councilmember Hiller expressed concern with low mileage vehicles being exchanged for new vehicles prematurely.

Brent Trout thanked the Governing Body for their input and noted there has been a lot of information presented for staff to consider and evaluate. He commented on the following:

- In reference to the street projects identified, staff will work on possibilities and impacts.
- The elimination of the neighborhood SORT program would be a major change and staff would have to evaluate the proposal closely as well as the Governing Body must understand projects would be scattered throughout the city as opposed to a concentrated area. He noted if this was the model desired by the Governing Body he wants to make sure it would be the best use of dollars. He questioned how staff would manage six grant programs as opposed to one.
- The facilities fund in the amount of \$1.65 million will be reviewed relative to the impact it will have on Zoo facilities to better understand what projects could be delayed. He noted the fund was reduced from \$2.65 million to \$1.65 million and will be used for deferred maintenance on all City buildings, including Fire Stations. He stated he must understand what can be accomplished if the Facility Fund was reduced to \$900,000.
- Staff will provide more information on the HazMat vehicle and noted funding authorization will not be required in 2020.
- Staff will gather more information to distribute to the Governing Body regarding the type of vehicles and usage for fleet replacement.
- Staff will review and consider how the reduction in funds would affect the NW Tyler Street Project from Beverly to Paramore as well as the Fairlawn Project from SW 23rd to SW 28th Streets.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala stated she continues to communicate with City staff member David Bevins in regards to the true cost savings associated with the NW Tyler Street Project from Lyman to Beverly. She stated she opposes reducing the number of lanes at this time.

Councilmember Hiller stated the idea behind shifting Neighborhood program duties was to reduce services required by Neighborhood staff. She stated the intent of the proposal was to have Public Works staff manage neighborhood improvement program projects and the Neighborhood staff would manage duties specific to neighborhoods such as plans and applications.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Due to the public safety mandates surrounding the COVID-19

pandemic there will be no in-person public comment; however, written public comment may be submitted by email or in writing to the City Clerk for attachment to the minutes. -- Email: cclerk@topeka.org -- Address: 215 SE 7th Street, Room 166, Topeka, Kansas, 66603.

The following individuals submitted public comments via electronic mail: Clark W. Trammell, Karl Fundenberger, Kaitlin Alegria, Matt Benaka, Megan Martin, Angela Shelton, Joseph Ledbetter and Samuel Feather. (*Attachment B*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

Brent Trout, City Manager, announced City buildings including Municipal Court will be open to the public on May 18, 2020. He stated operations will primarily be remote; however, the general public can meet with staff if needed.

Mayor De La Isla reminded the general public to wear a mask for personal safety and as a sign of respect for all citizens. She noted the COVID-19 cases continue to increase.

Councilmember Naeger announced all people have a role to play in the COVID-19 recovery efforts and resources are available if needed.

Councilmember Dobler thanked Councilmember Hiller for her work on the CIP and proposed amendments. He announced on May 14, 2020, the State of Kansas Department of Transportation two-year highway plan would be released.

Councilmember Duncan congratulated 2020 graduates and recognized their great accomplishments in spite of social distancing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilmember Hiller announced May 17, 2020, would be the 66th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education Topeka landmark Supreme Court case. She requested the

Governing Body receive a full briefing on the City Hall improvement project. She also requested line item budget sheets specifically related to operational changes for 2021.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala reminded the general public to take care of each other and wear masks. She announced a Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO) Board Meeting would be held on May 13, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers and discussions would include the SOTO Ridership Program.

Councilmember Padilla stated he echoes Councilmember Duncan's comments and was impressed with 2020 graduates in regards to their creativity and acceptance of the current COVID-19 situation.

Councilmember Emerson moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 15 minutes to discuss upcoming employer-employee negotiations, as justified by KSA 75-4319(b)(3). In order to aid the discussion, the following individuals were present: Members of the Governing Body; City Manager, Brent Trout; Administrative & Financial Services Director, Jessica Lamendola (participated remotely); Human Resources Director, Jacque Russell; Senior Assistant City Attorney, Catherine Walter; and City Attorney, Lisa Robertson. No action was anticipated to be taken when the open meeting resumed in the Governing Body Chambers. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried on roll call vote. Councilmember Ortiz voted "no." (9-1-0)

Following a 15-minute time period, the regular meeting reconvened into open session and Mayor De La Isla announced no action was taken.

Councilmember Emerson moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 10 minutes to continue discussion on upcoming employer-employee negotiations, as justified by KSA 75-4319(b)(3). In order to aid the discussion, the following individuals were

present: Members of the Governing Body; City Manager, Brent Trout; Administrative & Financial Services Director, Jessica Lamendola (participated remotely); Human Resources Director, Jacque Russell; Senior Assistant City Attorney, Catherine Walter; and City Attorney, Lisa Robertson. No action was anticipated to be taken when the open meeting resumed in the Governing Body Chambers. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried on roll call vote. Councilmember Ortiz voted “no.” (10-0-0)

Following a 10-minute time period, the regular meeting reconvened into open session and Mayor De La Isla announced no action was taken.

Councilmember Emerson moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 15 minutes to discuss confidential employment matters pertaining to nonelected personnel, as justified by KSA 75-4319(b)(1), in order to protect the privacy of those discussed. To aid in the discussion, the following individuals were present: Members of the Governing Body; City Manager, Brent Trout; Human Resources Director, Jacque Russell; and City Attorney, Lisa Robertson. No action was anticipated to be taken when the open meeting resumed in the Governing Body Chambers. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried unanimously. (10-0-0)

Following a 15-minute time period, the regular meeting reconvened into open session and Mayor De La Isla announced no action was taken.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

(SEAL)

Brenda Younger
City Clerk

Attachment A

Proposed Changes to 2021-2030 CIP 5-12-20

All changes below were made by project, rather than just for financial reasons. That said, the changes bring the proposed CIP in to the Council direction to stay within the policy cap and also reserve \$9 million in bonding authority for Polk Quincy or other potential major projects (such as local roadwork related to Polk Quincy, moving the LEC or Riverfront developments). The big changes are an expectation that the Zoo transition will have occurred (City keeping the debt, but not assuming new projects) and a mainstreaming of what has been called Neighborhood Improvement in recent years. All projects remain, though some that have had features added are rolled back. City would not lose anything, and we would be in good position for possible developments during the next three years.

Facilities –

Level Facilities starting total to \$1,650,000 for all 5 years.

Subtract \$630,000/yr (av.) for Zoo all 5 years. Assume Zoo has separated; City pays off old debt, Zoo pays forward

Reduce by additional \$120,000 to accommodate removing Parking (\$500,000) and Utilities (\$200,000) from this calculation, as they are not in General Fund. Also anticipates Holiday and LEC lights being replaced immediately and various economies.

Facil	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000
Total	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$900,000

Neighborhoods

Sidewalks – Same \$\$\$. As per plan, \$100,000 is reserved for neighborhoods and others to propose as special projects

Neighborhood Infrastructure Program - Migrates into mainstream CIP – See Sidewalks, Streets, Infrastructure and Complete Streets (full discussion at end of document)

Sidewalks	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000
NIP	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000

Public Safety

TPD Firearm Range Baffle – Same \$\$...though have been advised the baffle is not needed.

Fire Fleet – Push forward 1 year. Remove \$850,725 for HazMat vehicle in 2024. Adjust cost of TPD Firearm Range out of Fire Fleet in 2024

Fleet Replacement – Left at \$1,000,000 per year. Possibly reconsider due to analysis of Fleet Replacement Schedule

TPD Baffle				\$980,000	
Fire Fleet	0	\$1,640,000	\$850,000	\$685,000	\$2,662,500
Fleet Repl	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$1,000,000	\$2,640,000	\$1,850,000	\$2,665,000	\$3,662,500

Karen Hiller Handout - Item 3A.

Street

New First Line – Neighborhood Streets – Add \$500,000/year for Neighborhood submission commitments – Can be match money for grants or direct, preferably only 1-3 projects per year.

Citywide Infrastructure – Same \$\$ – Neighborhoods and citizens citywide would be welcome to submit suggestions

Complete Streets – Same \$\$ – Neighborhoods and citizens citywide would be welcome to submit suggestions

NW Tyler, Lyman to Beverly – Roll back \$703,181, perhaps more, from 2022. Project description says go to 3 lanes with turn lanes at Lyman. Leave at 2 lanes, to be redone via Fix Our Streets. Add storm sewer and curb and gutter as needed, add sidewalks, add turn lanes only if traffic volumes indicate need.

Huntoon, Executive to Urish – Reconsider extent of improvements proposed, even if grants are available

Urish, 21st to 29th – Probably too late to renegotiate this one. The \$6,950,025 for building this does not appear in the 6-10 year plan in either GO or Countywide Sales Tax and the numbers on the spreadsheet and the project page don't match. Which is correct? What year is the \$7M needed?

NW Tyler, Beverly to Paramore – Reduce by \$500,000 from 2025, perhaps more. Stay with 2 lanes through Fix Our Streets, add curb and gutter and storm sewers where needed, sidewalks, and turn lanes only if traffic volumes indicate need. Sidewalks need to go all the way to Laurent if funds are available.

Fairlawn, 23rd to 28th – Left in...but.... Confusion between the texts on the project pages and the spreadsheets. Now that 28th-29th has been completed, is there still a feeling that a turn lane and stoplight are needed?

Gage, 37th-45th – Deleted. This project is being done in 2020.

Neighborhood Streets	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Medians	\$80,000		\$300,000	\$300,000	
Infrastructure	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Complete Streets	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
SW 10 th /Fairlawn	\$1,557,000				
SW Wanamaker	\$500,000	\$500,000			
NW Tyler/Lyman	\$165,600	\$1,128,332			
SW 10 th /Wanamaker				\$155,250	\$50,000
Downtown			\$50,000	\$50,000	
Huntoon/Executive				\$350,000	\$258,750
Urish			\$50,000	\$450,000	\$350,000
NW Tyler/Paramore				\$103,500	\$492,901
So. Topeka					\$51,750
SW Fairlawn			\$103,500	\$103,500	\$672,750
SW Gage					
Total	\$3,102,600	\$2,428,332	\$1,303,500	\$2,362,250	\$2,726,151

Traffic

No change – Appreciate 2021 Cash for Traffic Signals. Still would prefer to move all to cash...in time.

Total	\$302,800	\$1,187,800	\$1,105,000	\$1,105,000	\$1,105,000
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TOTAL	\$5,905,400	\$7,756,132	\$5,712,567	\$7,632,250	\$8,993,651
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TOTAL Borrowing limit is \$45,000 for 5 years. Total above is \$36,000,000. SO.... \$9,000,000 is available for Polk Quincy Viaduct (of \$20,000,000 needed), moving the LEC, River-related or other projects that may develop. There is confidence we should be able to raise more than half of what we need for Polk Quincy through grants. This will allow us to guarantee full funding...have it budgeted...and be prepared for growth as well.

Neighborhood Improvement Project – becomes **Neighborhood Improvement Opportunities Program**
Transition of Infrastructure projects to mainstream CIP. Infrastructure submissions would be considered far enough in advance that projects are already selected, can be identified in the CIP and can be managed in concert with other projects. Managed in partnership by Neighborhood Relations and Public Works. Neighborhoods and individuals would be able to compete/submit for:

\$500,000 in Streets (Streets, Alleys, Curb/Gutter) – CIP annual

\$100,000 in Sidewalks – CIP annual

\$200,000 in Infrastructure – CIP annual

\$100,000 in Complete Streets – CIP annual

\$130,000 in Enhancement or its successor (NIA's only) –CDBG annual – Neighborhood Relations
Parks and Rec – to Shawnee County

\$300,000+ Housing – CDBG, HOME, Tax Credits, other \$\$ and Partners - Neighborhood Relations
Grants

Volunteers

Prior to Passing:

From combined line items.... Council needs to see an itemized first year minimum (prefer 3 years) in all grouped items, 5 years for Fire Fleet. If staff is not certain 1 year in advance of major projects, the project budget should be pushed to the next year.

Suggest 10% reduction on all Utilities, based on choice and sizing of materials or other potential savings.

Other adjustments may be recommended by others.

There is growing sentiment that Council NOT approve pre-approve projects at this time.

Attachment B

Brenda Younger

From: cwiliet@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:22 AM
To: Brenda Younger; City Clerk
Subject: Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Re: May 12th City Council Meeting

Please include this in the record/minutes of the upcoming May 12th City Council Meeting, thank you.

Clark W. Trammell

-----Original Message-----

To: council@topeka.org <council@topeka.org>; mdelaisla@topeka.org <mdelaisla@topeka.org>; cclerk@topeka.org <cclerk@topeka.org>; byounger@topeka.org <byounger@topeka.org>
Cc: joe@josephledbetter.com <joe@josephledbetter.com>; troberts1970@cox.net <troberts1970@cox.net>; betty@networksplus.net <betty@networksplus.net>; theanticj@yahoo.com <theanticj@yahoo.com>; rmontgomery7@cox.net <rmontgomery7@cox.net>; hedgetree@yahoo.com <hedgetree@yahoo.com>; lazoneg@ibsa-inc.org <lazoneg@ibsa-inc.org>
Sent: Wed, May 6, 2020 12:10 pm
Subject: CIP Input

From last evenings City Council meeting the City Manager laid out the time-line for CIP input, discussion and approval of same. In preparation of May 12th City Council meeting and setting the agenda discussion the City Manager asked the Council for input this week on any CIP project, providing your thoughts/suggestions to amend, change or delete any approved/listed project.

I am asking that someone on this Council or all of you address the issues with the narrowing of 12th St. and ask the City Manager to amend the current plan to narrow; or change the project to only approve the upgrades and not to narrow down from the current 2 lanes; or delete this project from the CIP plan for reconsideration. In short, please give input/direction to the City Manager so this CIP project is on the radar for discussion, review and change at the May 12th Council meeting. The vast majority of the public has made it clear they DO NOT WANT 12th St. narrowed down for very clear, credible and obvious reasons. Thank you...

Respectfully submitted,

Clark W. Trammell

Brenda Younger

From: Karl Fundenberger <karl.fundenberger@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:12 PM
To: City Manager; cityclerk; Brenda Younger
Subject: In support of the 12th Street Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

City Manager Trout, City Clerk Younger,

I have sent a form of this letter to each of the Council members, and I wanted to make sure that you have it, too.

I am writing today to express my support for the City of Topeka's work on the 12th Street Project.

Please continue the plan to renovate 12th Street and add critical accommodations for pedestrians, families, and people riding bikes. I live in College Hill, and I spend a lot of time in Elmhurst, Collins Park, and Tennessee Town areas, and this project is a great move to make this road work for our neighborhoods for the next 50 years.

Not only will this improve quality of life for Topekans, it will likely improve property values along 12th Street, too. That could mean more property tax income in the future!

Thank you,
Karl Fundenberger
1264 SW Jewell
Topeka KS

Brenda Younger

From: Kaitlin Alegria <kalegria963@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:33 PM
To: City Council; cityclerk; Michelle De La Isla; Brenda Younger
Subject: Support of 12th street project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, City Council Members and City Staff,

As a life-long Topekan, mother and someone who moved to Central Topeka, adjacent to the 12th street corridor for it's safe walking and biking environment, I support the proposed 12th Street rebuild. I also know how time sensitive projects like this are to positively impacting kids like my Marcus, who will be into Middle School before this project is complete. But I still see the benefit for the safety and quality of life for current and future generations of Topekans. Please maintain the current Capital Improvement Projects of the 12th Street Project!

Thank you,

Kaitlin Alegria
785-224-4400

Sent from my iPhone

Brenda Younger

From: Matt Benaka <mrbenaka216@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Brenda Younger; cityclerk; City Council; Michelle De La Isla
Subject: 12th St Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening Mayor De La Isla and Council,
Without a street from 6th Street all the way to 21st street that has sidewalks on both sides through Central Topeka, I find it important as someone who regularly walks my dog, to eat or shares a walk with my family to be very important. 12th Street serves to create an equitable transportation corridor for Central Topeka that's vital since the loss of the Huntoon and Lane Dillons for access to food. Providing safe access to continuous sidewalks, regular bus stops and bikes a safe efficient passage across Central Topeka is very important to me as a long time resident. I ask you tonight to maintain support for the 12th Street Project in our 2020 CIP budget.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Regards,
Matt Benaka

Brenda Younger

From: Megan Rogers <meganjames25@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:47 PM
To: City Council; cityclerk; Michelle De La Isla; Brenda Younger
Subject: 12th Street Project

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Dear Mayor and City Councilor's,

My kids, their friends and our neighbors have a community that spans multiple blocks in Central Topeka. We walk, ride bicycles and regularly venture out to the store, restaurants, downtown or to the library on foot. In addition, I know many of my neighbors who I'm less familiar with do the same, whether by preference or otherwise. It is vital as Topeka continues to develop it's core that this includes road right of ways for all (walking, cars, buses etc.) 12th Street is a step in that direction and I encourage your continued support of such projects in your Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2020!

Thank you,

Megan Martin

Megan Martin Photographie
www.meganmartinphotographie.com

Brenda Younger

From: Angie <angieshelton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 5:25 PM
To: City Council; cityclerk; Michelle De La Isla; Brenda Younger
Subject: 12th Street Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members:

I am Angela Shelton, and I live just three houses from 12th Street at 1211 SW Mulvane. I am requesting that you keep the 12th Street Project on the 2020 Capital Improvement Plan Budget. This road is riddled with potholes and is way overdue for improvements. I drive 12th daily, and often ride my bike in the area as well. I have been looking forward to slower traffic, and smooth roads in my neighborhood for a long time now. This project just can not wait. It is already a 3+ year project. If it is put off much longer, I fear that it will become dangerous to ride on a bike, and could even cause damage to my car if the condition is allowed to worsen. Please keep the 12th Street Project in the 2020 Capital Improvement Plan Budget.

Thanks for your consideration of this matter.

Angela Shelton

Brenda Younger

From: Joseph Ledbetter <joe@josephledbetter.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:03 PM
To: City Council; Michelle De La Isla; Brenda Younger; City Clerk
Subject: Ref CIP Budget For the Record. My words alone. Inbox x Joseph Ledbetter <joe@josephledbetter.com> 6:33 PM (26 minutes ago) to City, Michelle, Brenda I feel like we are rushing this discussion on CIP. The public has had very limited comment. Why not vot...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ref CIP Budget For the Record. My words alone.

Inbox



Joseph Ledbetter <joe@josephledbetter.com>

to City, Michelle, Brenda



I feel like we are rushing this discussion on CIP. The public has had very limited comment.

Why not vote on the CIP Budgets in June? Let the citizens testify.

I am completely against taking on ANY new debt of ANY revenue bonds since we are a Shrinking city in population for the past 7 years. It is not wise to be borrowing any more revenue bonds for some time to come. I am also opposed to narrowing 12 th Street to a one lane horse and buggy model.

The Board of Topeka Metro has NOT been involved(I am on it), or allowed input on this main artery. I have been told emergency people/departments were not asked for their opinions-

Why am I not surprised? Very arrogant to not seek input from the many citizens who think this is a Foolish idea.

I also believe all stormwater projects should be reviewed with high scrutiny after the ridiculous \$1.3 million Gage Park Crater project done last year.-what a horrible waste of money. And not even connected to the parking lot!

Also, I have been meaning to ask, what does" we can do 5% with cash vs 10% with bonds" even mean?? I never get an adequate explanation. They did not discuss that 'formula' at KU's Master MPA program-top school in the country for training City managers when I was there.

In short: California Ave.widening/rebuild 37th to 45th is very important, as are highway projects in Topeka.

Also, I would not borrow any revenue bonds at this time because we have NOT controlled our excessive costs in Utilities. I have offered suggestions to cut costs, but none have been taken.

Thank you.



**Joseph
Ledbetter**

Brenda Younger

From: Samuel Feather <samuel@feather.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:25 PM
To: Michelle De La Isla; City Council; cityclerk; Brenda Younger
Subject: 12th Street Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you Mayor De La Isla and City Council Members for the opportunity to share my brief thoughts on the Capital Improvement Project Budget. As a property owner along 12th Street I have with great interest watched the development of this project.

As a Topeka transplant via Washburn Law School, the environment near our home was a key part in choosing where to live in Topeka. I recognize 12th Street is an important pathway for not only my family but the community to not only travel to shop but also to explore this great city. We look forward to the continued development of this project over the next few years and hope you will maintain 12th Street in Topeka's Capital Improvement Project List. Thank you for your time and service!

Samuel Feather

Sent from my iPhone