

City Council Study Session Summary

**April 24, 2018
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
7:00 PM**

The City Council met in a study session at 7:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Meeting Room at the Louisville Public Library at 951 Spruce Street, Louisville, Colorado.

City Council Present: Mayor Bob Muckle
Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Lipton
Council member Chris Leh
Council member Jay Keany
Council member Susan Loo
Council member Dennis Maloney
Council member Ashley Stolzmann

Staff Present: Heather Balsler, City Manager
Megan Davis, Deputy City Manager
Joe Stevens, Director of Parks & Recreation
Ember Brignull, Manager of Open Space
Katie Beasley, Supervisor II for Recreation
Mandy Perera, Supervisor II for Recreation
Judy Searle, Executive Assistant to the City Manager

OSAB Present: Laura Scott-Denton
Peter Gowen
Mike Schantz
David Blankinship
Helen Moshak
Fiona Garvin

Members of the YAB

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Muckle

Annual Report – Youth Advisory Board

Members of the Youth Advisory Board (YAB) gave a presentation and individually spoke of their highlights and successes since November 2017, including food drives; pancakes and story with Santa; Tulip Twist dance; St. Patrick's Day dinner; promoting kindness

throughout the community via their “With Love” project; and learning about local government through interviewing members from other boards and commissions.

In their continued efforts, the YAB included plans and goals for the next two years which involves their “With Love” project; creating more awareness of the YAB; volunteering within the community; learning more about local government; being the voice for the youth to City Council; and interacting with a diverse group of youth in the community to assist in building leadership skills.

The YAB asked City Council and staff for advice on future projects they could promote or be involved in. Several ideas were given to include soliciting more males to be members on the board to better represent the youth population; for the YAB to assist with or create youth activities at the recreation center; YAB assistance in better communicating with the youths in our community regarding programs and jobs, via social media or other avenues; or encouraging the use of alternative transportation at the schools.

Discussion – Open Space Advisory Board Goals and Priorities

Laura Scott-Denton presented for the Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) with an overview of 2017 accomplishments and 2018 goals and priorities. Due to an increase of use of land in Louisville, the OSAB is reviewing areas of improvement to include improving and marking park trails; managing vegetation and wildlife; and restoration projects. There is a large demand for a dog and recreation master plan to work on holistic management of dog issues within the city. The health of the Open Space and Parks tax fund was also part of this presentation and whether the tax sunset could be discussed for elimination.

In regards to improvements to community trails, City Council addressed the needs for a working foundation (i.e. initial fees, additional staffing needs, long-term maintenance fees and time frames for improvements). City Council discussed the sales tax extension – some felt it was premature to begin exploring this and others wanted to start the conversation; some expressed concerns over eliminating the tax sunset while others felt it may be a good idea because the need to maintain trails and make resource improvements will go on indefinitely. Suggestions were made to survey citizens on this issue and allow the community to reassess the tax sunset for feasibility purposes once a working foundation of expenses is identified.

City Council would like to ascertain the necessities for a dog park, which includes identifying zoning laws, potential property locations, design/maintenance expenses, and possible staffing requirements. They discussed the possibility of a plan and generally felt the options for locations of dog parks were somewhat limited based on the specific property ownership, size, location, condition, etc... so staff may be able to assess options without a large-scale master plan.

A concern was expressed on the overpopulation of prairie dogs. Open Space ensured there are studies conducted on a regular basis and the population has actually declined.

Transportation Update – Deputy City Manager Megan Davis

Deputy City Manager Megan Davis provided a transportation infrastructure funding update reference Senate Bill (SB) 18-001. The bill passed the Senate with amendments, was introduced to the house on April 3rd, and has been assigned to the Transportation and Energy Committee. It is unclear at this time what the House will do with the bill, although they will likely amend it to include a local share and possibly more multimodal funding. The Senate may reject their amendments, which would require another conference committee. Both the Metro Mayors Caucus and US 36 Mayors and Commissioners Coalition (MCC) have conveyed a strong message to the state legislature that the issues in SB18-001 must be amended to provide local share. Time is running out for action as the legislature adjourns on May 9th.

Statewide transportation ballot measures are currently being discussed, with seven filed thus far. The Metro Mayors Caucus is working with the Denver Chamber to determine the ballot measure that will best satisfy the needs of local governments. At this time, .62% sales tax is currently the front-runner and signatures will have to be collected to place the measure on the ballot.

City staff have been meeting regularly with RTD and other partners to discuss various proposed service changes to RTD routes within Louisville. These changes include the 228 extension to Kestrel and the L Route changes/reroute through Louisville Colorado Tech Center (CTC). Maps reflecting these route changes were reviewed screen.

City Council asked questions about the likelihood of an agreement on funding at the legislature, and the voter appetite for transportation measures at the ballot given the other state needs in education, higher ed, PERA, etc...

City Manager's Report & Advanced Agenda

Members reviewed the advanced agenda. City Council has some questions about the Economic Development Program items on the agenda: When Coyote Run will be brought forward and for details about the budget agenda items.

City Manager Heather Balsler provided a city of Lafayette annexation update.

Question regarding appointment of an additional Deputy Municipal Judge. Support for having the Legal Committee discuss this in more detail and identify a second alternate Judge to bring forward for City Council consideration.

Identification of Future Agenda Items

Meeting Adjourned at 9:35 pm by Mayor Muckle

Submitted May 3, 2018, by Judy Searle