

**MINUTES OF LAYTON CITY
COUNCIL WORK MEETING**

MAY 18, 2023; 5:35 P.M.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

PRESENT:

MAYOR PRO TEM ZACH BLOXHAM, CLINT MORRIS, TYSON ROBERTS, BETTINA SMITH EDMONDSON, AND DAVE THOMAS

PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY:

MAYOR JOY PETRO

STAFF PRESENT:

ALEX JENSEN, GARY CRANE, CHAD WILKINSON, STEPHEN JACKSON, DAVID PRICE, MICHELLE HOWARD, JOELLEN GRANDY, LAYNE JENKINS, KEVIN WARD, DOUG BITTON, ED FRAZIER, AND KIM READ

The meeting was held in the Council Conference Room of the Layton City Center.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloxham opened the meeting. He announced Mayor Petro would be participating electronically.

AGENDA:

COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

Councilmember Smith Edmondson reported she had drafted a letter of recommendation for Ross Worthington to serve on the Division of Wildlife Resources Regional Advisory Council (RAC), Northern Region. She mentioned she had spoken to him earlier that day and he expressed his gratitude for the City's support. She indicated the letter would be forwarded to him once all members of the Council had signed it.

PRESENTATION – 2200 WEST PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS STUDY

Stephen Jackson, City Engineer, announced Adam Birdsall and Michael Baker, representatives from Parametrix, a consulting firm which specialized in rail crossings, was in attendance for the purpose of sharing a presentation regarding the railroad crossing at 2200 West, south of Antelope Drive.

He shared a brief history associated with this railroad crossing which resulted in the feasibility study and alternative analysis.

Adam Birdsall and Michael Baker, Parametrix, introduced themselves to the Council and shared a brief presentation specific to the feasibility study and alternative analysis. He identified the location of the crossing, 2200 West connecting Antelope Drive to Gordon and briefly reviewed specifics associated with the crossing. He identified existing site safety concerns at the crossing and pointing out specific challenges:

- Large skew (longer distance to cross tracks)
- Sight distance at stop bars
- Disconnected sidewalk for pedestrians
- Traffic disruption/delay
- Impact on emergency services and response times

Michael Baker, explained the methodology overview which included the following: data collection consisting of video footage of activity at the crossing including specific dates and activities. He pointed out dangerous crossing behaviors by the public and warning device malfunctions were noted during the

time period data collection took place in the fall of 2022. He reviewed the feasibility study findings and spoke to the daily traffic totals by different modes of transportation. He also shared some illustrations and identified some of the observed dangerous crossing behaviors. Data was also provided which identified the daily freight train and FrontRunner traffic as well as the average crossing activation time per day and which concluded although freight trains experienced low frequency, it resulted in long durations of closure. FrontRunner statistics were the complete opposite; high frequency with low duration of closure.

Mr. Baker explained analysis for impacts on emergency services at the crossing had also been completed and stated the conclusion of that portion of the study reflected delays which correlated to the impacts for response time due to the use of alternate routes.

He announced the feasibility study findings concluded there was a safety concern for the public at this crossing, particularly due to the high volume of pedestrians and cyclists (especially school-aged children) and number of bad behaviors observed in just one week's worth of videos. Parametrix recommended moving forward with an alternatives analysis to determine what type of crossing improvement be recommended at this location.

Mr. Birdsall shared the alternatives analysis findings for this location:

- Restricted at-grade pedestrian crossing
- Pedestrian overpass
- Full grade separated crossing
- Closing the crossing altogether

He mentioned the diagnostic review meeting which took place in March 2022 had ruled out both the at-grade and closing the crossing. He addressed the pedestrian overpass and identified what that would require. He also reviewed the full grade separated crossing and those required specifics. He reviewed how the pedestrian overcrossing construction would be completed and its resemblance. He also identified challenges associated with the proposed overhead pedestrian crossing. He announced the estimated cost for the proposed pedestrian bridge was approximately \$6 million.

He also reviewed specifics with the grade separated crossing and what would be required for the construction pointing out identified challenges with the existing subdivision accesses near the railroad. He announced the estimated cost for this crossing was approximately \$34 million, excluding property acquisition costs. He declared Parametrix recommended proceeding with the pedestrian overpass alternative and identified the specifics which contributed to that conclusion.

He reviewed the next steps for the Council to consider and mentioned UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation) had committed funding assistance for the project. The Council discussed specifics of the presentation, the proposal, other options, and who would benefit from the improvement project. Mr. Jackson shared the perspective of the railroad, and informed the Council it had no interest of contributing funding toward the project. He also identified the other parties which should be partners and identified funding options for the crossing. The discussion continued how the railroad crossing safety project could be completed in relation to the Destination Homes development and its impact to the existing subdivisions on both sides of 2200 West.

Mayor Petro requested clarification whether a request for federal grant funding for this project wouldn't negatively impact federal grant funding for future projects within the City and Mr. Jackson responded each project requesting grant funding would be based on its respective merits. Alex Jensen, City Manager, pointed out the projects needs were safety based as opposed to convenience. Mr. Birdsall emphasized the railroad was always supportive of increasing safety at its crossings, as long as it didn't encroach on its right-of-way.

A discussion took place comparing the benefits of a complete at grade crossing and the proposed pedestrian crossing at this location specific to vehicular traffic, railroad traffic, and emergency vehicle response. Mr. Birdsall continued to point out the challenges associated with the configuration of an at-

grade crossing at this location.

Mr. Birdsall and Mr. Baker left the meeting.

UPDATE – FIREWORKS RESTRICTIONS

Kevin Ward, Fire Chief, announced the City was required to submit its fireworks restrictions to Davis County by May 26, 2023, and announced his recommendation to continue with the same restrictions as last year and reviewed those with the Council. He referenced the map and identified the different prohibited fireworks for the designated areas pointing out all types of fireworks were prohibited east of Highway 89. He mentioned although the City experienced an abundance of moisture this past year it would contribute to an increase in fuels; which resulted in the need for the same restrictions. He expressed his opinion the City could experience a busy fire season.

Fire Marshal Doug Bitton illustrated how the restriction area map can be accessed by a QR code or the City's website. He mentioned Andy Adams and Sandridge Parks had been designated as alternate locations for the discharge of fireworks for those residents living in the restricted areas. He clarified no additional discharge dates had been added. He also demonstrated how the interactive map could be used.

Chief Ward reviewed the enforcement plan for illegal discharge of fireworks and believed residents were compliant to the regulations because it had been in place for a long period of time. Mr. Bitton added there was also cooperation from firework vendors and a discussion followed.

Chief Ward left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION – LAYTON COMMUNITIES THAT CARE

Councilmember Smith Edmondson reminded the Council of previous discussions specific to CTC (Communities that Care) and stated the City needed to commit to Davis Behavioral Health (DBH) whether it was willing to meet its funding request of \$.30 per resident. She indicated DBH wouldn't be advertising to fill the CTC Coordinator vacancy until it was aware of Layton City's commitment. She identified the other board members and expressed her opinion the CTC Program was beneficial and continued to justify the funding for the position. She requested a verbal commitment at this time for the FY 2024-2025 and reviewed those programs which could be provided by the additional funding.

A discussion followed regarding the benefits of the program and the funding request. Mayor Pro Tem Bloxham suggested designating a specific dollar amount as opposed to the per capita contribution. He also expressed his opinion this particular social program should be funded by Davis School District as opposed to the City. Councilmember Morris suggested appropriating CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding for this purpose would be a better funding option as opposed to Layton City taxpayers and also expressed agreement with Mayor Pro Tem Bloxham's comments. Councilmember Thomas appreciated the benefits the CTC Program provided to the youth within the community. Councilmember Smith Edmondson identified those who served on the Board from the respective communities. She clarified the CTC program did benefit Layton City residents and youth and South Weber was included because its students fed Northridge High School. She further clarified how the funding would be used by Davis Behavioral Health.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloxham pointed out the flat rate could be discussed during next year's budget discussion and the Council expressed agreement.

RECREATION, ARTS, MUSEUM, AND PARKS (RAMP) COMMISSION RECOMMENDED FUNDING

Councilmember Morris introduced Cameron Cross, RAMP Commission Chair, to the Council, and announced he was prepared to present the Commission's recommendations for the RAMP grant funding.

Mr. Cross expressed appreciation for the support the Commission received from the Parks and Recreation Staff and the Council. He indicated the Commission followed the identified bylaws in reviewing grant submissions and making recommendations.

He asked if there were any questions regarding the Commission's recommendations and there were none. Mr. Jensen mentioned the recommendations had been included in the proposed budget. David Price, Parks and Recreation Director, clarified no changes had been made to the recommended projects since they had been included in the budget. He also announced Michelle Howard, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, had accepted an offer from Roy City and would no longer be employed with Layton City.

Mayor Pro Tem Bloxham expressed appreciation to Mr. Cross for his volunteerism for the City.

Mr. Cross left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

POOL CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT REPORT FOLLOW-UP

Mr. Price announced Staff's recommendation to close the small pool due to the safety hazards and the costs associated with fixing those issues. He identified those users for that facility and informed the Council, due to the decision to close the pool, these user groups would experience a reduction for the amount of pool time at the wave pool. The recommendation would be to allow for a small period of time, approximately two weeks, to make other arrangements prior to closing the pool. The Council expressed agreement with Staff's recommendation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST TRAINING

This agenda item was not addressed during the meeting.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING

This agenda item was not addressed during the meeting.

OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETING ACT TRAINING

This agenda item was not addressed during the meeting. Gary Crane, City Attorney, suggested the Council participate in training provided online through the State Auditor's portal and requested the Council complete the training and print the completion certificate.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No Mayor's report was shared.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Kimberly S Read, City Recorder