

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, January 8, 2014, for the purpose of discussing the Sustainable Community Action Plan.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:01 p.m. It was held in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager, David Moran, Assistant City Manager, and Terri Hruby, Assistant Director of Planning.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: John Lippert, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability; Molly Lester, Bill Orleans, Greenbelt residents; Jeannie Iacovazzi; and Kathleen Gallagher, News Review.

Ms. Hruby gave a Power Point presentation describing the Sustainable Communities program and the Action Plan that staff had submitted to the State. She indicated that the Sustainable Communities program was replacing the Community Legacy program. Ms. Hruby noted that the entire City, with the exception of Greenbelt Park, was proposed for the designation.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that this application would qualify the City for future State grant programs.

In response to a question from Mayor Jordan, Ms. Hruby stated the action plan was flexible and could be modified. Mayor Jordan discussed accountability and benchmarks over the five year life of the plan.

Councilmembers were impressed with the application document and commented positively on the thoroughness of the plan.

Ms. Davis commented that community gardens were not mentioned under farmers market (page 8). She suggested the addition of Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC) under community action plan (page 14).

Under Community Groups (page 17) Ms. Mach suggested referencing apartments under community groups and Mr. Putens suggested inclusion of the 4-Cities Coalition.

Mr. Herling suggested including electric vehicle charging stations under transportation (Page 20).

Mr. Jordan asked about workforce development programs. Ms. Mach suggested including a reference to the City's Living Wage policy.

There was discussion of the State sidewalk retrofit program. Staff agreed to look further into the program.

Items of Information

Mr. Putens asked if the City had received answers from the Green Ridge House work session. Mr. McLaughlin responded that he would follow up.

Ms. Davis asked about a follow-up work session on the Garden Club. Mr. McLaughlin responded this would be scheduled. She requested an explanation of the memo on assessed values by neighborhood at a future meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*David E. Moran
Assistant City Manager*