

Mary F Redden

From: Mary F Redden
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2009 3:55 PM
To: John M Lamerato; Brian P Murphy; Mark F Miller; Lori G Bluhm; 000schilling@ameritech.net; cristinabroomfield@yahoo.com; 'David Eisenbacher'; Louise Schilling; 'Mary Kerwin'; mfhowryl@umich.edu; rbeltram@wideopenwest.com; wade.fleming@proforma.com
Subject: Staff Responses to Council Member Agenda Questions

Good afternoon.

Attached are staff's answers to agenda questions posed by Council Member Eisenbacher:

Item E-4 MML Green Cities Challenge: Who is planned to be appointed as the green coordinator? What is the scope of projects that Troy is thinking about? (LED streetlights? Encouraging work at home? Reduced vehicle use by the city and residents?) What is the plan for the position after the grant money has been exhausted?

Planning Director Mark Miller is managing the Rapid Energy Assessment Process (REAP) and he is the most likely candidate to be assigned the Green Coordinator duties. Mr. Miller reports that it is a little too early to say what the exact scope of the projects for the EECBG dollars will be. As part of the REAP the City will develop an Energy Conservation Strategy by investigating renewable energy, policy, building conservation and transportation. These four assessment areas will be reviewed for feasibility and data needs, funding availability, required personnel and potential benefit. Thus the REAP process includes the following elements; on-site analysis of municipal operations and facilities, staff meetings as needed during the analysis, collection and analysis of data (examples include energy bills, fuel expenditures, etc.), creation of REAP matrix boards for public display in City Hall and a REAP assessment measure score sheets for the implementation of recommendations. After the REAP is complete a final report will be created to identify highest priority projects, present an implementation plan and proposed draft project timelines. After the REAP is complete an Energy Conservation Strategy (ECS) will be prepared. The REAP is about 80% complete and the ECS process is about to begin. According to the EECBG rules we have over 120 days to complete the ECS. The ECS will meet the requirements of the EECBG to officially declare how the EECBG dollars will be expended. There is no desire to create an actual job position, but to assign the duties of Green Coordinator to existing staff.

Item F-14 Traffic Signal Agreements for Rochester: I have a few general questions about the project: Will low energy usage streetlights be used as part of the project? Will red sidewalks be installed at Rochester and Wattles as part of the construction?

Deputy City Engineer Bill Huotari responds that low energy usage streetlights are not proposed as part of the project and have not been used in the city yet. DPW has reviewed the savings associated with LED street lighting and the payback period exceeds the replacement time, currently. DPW continues to monitor the potential cost savings associated with LED lights.

Assuming that Councilman Eisenbacher is referring to the colored concrete currently being constructed at Big Beaver and Rochester; the Rochester, Torpey to Barclay project will not have colored concrete. Standard colored concrete with detectable warnings at ramps. The project at Big Beaver and Rochester is within the DDA and is consistent with the Big Beaver corridor study. There are no plans to carry this design to other areas outside of the DDA. The other intersections along Big Beaver, within the DDA are proposed to have similar intersection treatments in the future.

Item F-16 Park Project agreement with McCulloch drain: General question not directly related to the agenda item: Why is it taking so long to remove and replace the sidewalk concrete?

Bill Huotari said the work at Big Beaver and Rochester involves significant handwork to properly remove and place the new colored concrete. The project is an enhancement/beautification project so it is more detail orientated rather than just a standard remove and replace project. The contractor has been making good progress, but there are times when work appears to have slowed while they are waiting for the concrete to cure before moving on to the next stage of the work. The switch to Stage II of the work should be happening within the next two weeks, weather permitting.

Council Member Kerwin pointed out a few grammatical errors in agenda cover memos. Since the errors did not obscure the content or intention of the memos, Mr. Szerlag has indicated that he will not ask staff to change the memos but will remind them to do a better job avoiding these errors in the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call. Have a good meeting.

Mary Redden

City of Troy
City Manager's Office
(248)524-3329