



Lacey City Council Approved Worksession Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Council Present

Mayor Andy Ryder

Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller

Councilmember Michael Steadman

Councilmember Carolyn Cox

Councilmember Robin Vazquez

Councilmember Nicolas Dunning

Council Excused

Councilmember Lenny Greenstein

Staff Present

Rick Walk, City Manager

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director

Scott Egger, Public Works Director

Dave Schneider, City Attorney

Troy Woo, Finance Director

Brandy Legomina, Deputy City Clerk

3. Land Acknowledgment

Mayor Ryder presented the abbreviated Land Acknowledgment.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Councilmember Cox moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Vazquez seconded. The motion carried.

5. Public Comment

Verbal Public Comment

No one signed up to speak at the meeting.

One (1) person registered to speak remotely.

Jeff Prevost, Thurston County Pickleball Club, commented on the need for professional repair or resurfacing for the tennis courts.

Written Public Comment

Fifty-seven (57) written public comments were received.

6. Agenda Items

A. Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup Recommendation

Rick Walk, City Manager

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director

Troy Woo, Finance Director

Walk presented the current funding structure for the Parks, Culture, and Recreation (PCR) program, which includes PCR, the Regional Athletic Complex, and Community Buildings. An overview on reserves for maintenance and operations (M&O) for current infrastructures was provided.

Burbidge provided history on community engagement efforts since 2021. Through the community engagement review process, priorities for aquatic and indoor facilities, trails and preservation of outdoor spaces, outdoor facilities, and sports fields were identified. The priorities identified led Council to create the Parks Improvement Funding Workgroup (PIFW), which was tasked with recommending funding opportunities for PCR priorities.

Upon completion, the PIFW's recommendation was to create a Metropolitan Park District (MPD) and supplement funding with continued support of PCR and maintenance, consider benefits and limitations of debt issuance, allocate 40% of funds generated to M&O and 60% for new capital projects, allow ample time for community education, review existing parks reserves, and continue to seek other revenues.

A detailed project overview on potential Parks Capital Improvement Programs (PCIP) for new capital projects were discussed. These potential projects included:

- Meridian Neighborhood Park - pickleball courts, skate features, and/or pump track
- Spray Park #1 - Young Child & Family Center
- Pool and Indoor Playground (potential partnership)
- Greg Cuoio Park Phase 1B

- Meridian Neighborhood Park Sports Field Development
- Virgil S. Clarkson Senior Center

A detailed project overview on potential Parks Capital Improvement Programs (PCIP) for replacement / M&O projects were discussed. These potential projects included:

- Huntamer Park Playground Replacement
- Homann Park Picnic Area Renovation
- Wonderwood Park Trails Resurfacing
- RAC Infield Turf Replacements (Fields 1 & 2)
- RAC Baseball Complex Playground Replacement

Burbidge presented information on the MPD purpose being for the management, control, improvement, maintenance and acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards and recreation facilities. The Property tax is authorized by RCW 35.61.210 and would have a maximum value levy rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000. The governance of the MPD could be simplified with a city boundary, would be passed by a simple majority vote, and could be used for both capital and M&O. The MPD is further up the list of junior taxing districts (pro-rationing) and would have no sunset. Discussion ensued.

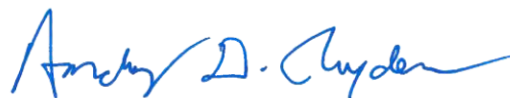
Woo presented a 10-year projection on the impacts of the MPD levy, 1% revenue limit, new construction impacts, and levy rates. Discussion ensued.

Walk provided considerations regarding election preparation, community engagement, and possible election dates. Discussion ensued.

7. Adjourn

Mayor Ryder adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

MAYOR:



Andy Ryder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

APPROVED: February 4, 2025