

**Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at 6:54 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.**

**Councilmembers present:** Councilman John Paulson, Councilman Ken Dishman, Councilman Graham McDonald, Councilman Gabriel Sterling, Councilman Tibby DeJulio, and Councilman Andy Bauman.

**STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Public Works**

1. Hear an Update on the City Sign Maintenance Contract

**Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman** presented a PowerPoint on the status of the annual City Sign Maintenance Contract. The bid proposals were reviewed and the most qualified vendor was Optech. Staff recommended awarding the contract to Optech.

**Councilman John Paulson** asked Director of Public Works Coleman if he is comfortable with the cost difference between Optech's proposal and Blount's proposal.

Director of Public Works Coleman responded yes. The budget for FY14 was \$310,000 with a current budget of \$350,000 in anticipation of potential cost inflation. The cost came in under that amount.

**Councilman Graham McDonald** asked what does sign maintenance entail.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated the process includes the cleaning of signs, replacing signs, and testing retro reflectivity. Two people provide that service to fix the signs by replacing them and completing work orders as well as putting up road barricades for emergency response.

**Councilman Andy Bauman** asked if their services would be used during winter storms.

Director of Public Works Coleman responded yes. All of the City contractors have a separate contract for emergency services.

There was a consensus of Council to move this item forward to the next Regular City Council meeting.

**CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Discussion on Proposed MARTA Rail Extension

**Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman** stated this item is based on the presentation that MARTA gave at the previous City Council meeting. Staff initially prepared a draft resolution for consideration in December 2013. Included in the agenda package this evening is the original resolution and letter that were previously drafted. Transportation Planner Kristen Westcott has been the staff liaison with MARTA for the different studies.

**Councilman John Paulson** stated she has been at all the MARTA meetings. He supports the rail line extending on the west side of GA400 versus the east side. He created a map which was displayed for the public demonstrating the impact of the rail line on the east side versus the west side. He referenced the blue line which is GA400, and the yellow areas which are homes or condos that are immediately adjacent to GA400. The green areas indicate schools. Woodlands School is located on the east side of GA400 and on the west side is North Springs High School. Residences continue up the east side of GA400 and once

you reach Spalding Drive, there are nearly no residences on the west side of GA400. This is another reason why the neighbors are concerned with the east side versus the west side. Dunwoody Springs Elementary School is next to GA400. On the west side of GA400 north of Spalding Drive there are no condos or residences immediately adjacent to GA400 until near the river, as opposed to the east side. He would like to continue the discussion and put a resolution in place that states Council supports the rail line extension on the west side of GA400 until the rail line reaches the river. The resolution will also include Council supporting a rail station somewhere near Northridge Road. There is a piece of property in an area north of Northridge Road and west of GA400 that is ideal for a MARTA station. The resolution discusses the rail station on the west side of GA400, but does not refer to the rail line up the west side of GA400 north of Spalding. He asked for that detail to be added to the resolution.

**Councilman Gabriel Sterling** stated further north there are no homes or condos along GA400. There are the Circa 400 apartments in the right-of-way, but he is not sure how wide the property line is to GA400. He asked if the long term plans are for the collector distributor lanes to terminate directly at Spalding Drive or if they go further north.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated they terminate right at Spalding.

Councilman Sterling asked if there are any plans to go beyond that.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated there are, but GDOT is looking at a potential expansion of the median.

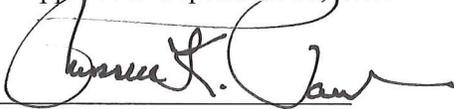
Councilman Sterling asked how that will work, since there is no green space in that area.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated he was referring to further north in Forsyth County.

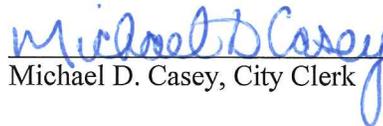
There was a consensus of Council to move this item forward to the next Regular City Council meeting.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Date Approved: September 16, 2014



Russell K. Paul, Mayor



Michael D. Casey, City Clerk