

Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, at 6:39 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

Community Development

1. TA09-018, an Ordinance to Amend Article 22, Appeals and Article 28, Rezoning and Other Amendment Procedures, of the Sandy Springs Zoning Ordinance.

Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning Patrice Ruffin stated this ordinance will address the expiration of rezoning and use permit petitions in article 28 and update article 22, which deals with appeals and variances. Mark-ups were provided to Council for both ordinances.

There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item.

Public Works

1. Approval of a Contract with Control Specialists for the FY10 Intersection Improvement Program.

Traffic Services Manager Chris Waters asked the Mayor and Council to award the contract to Control Specialists Company and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract. Control Specialists came in at the low bid. Under the current bid, we are asking that the contract be signed for \$450,000 and this would be for work to be done at all or part of five locations.

Councilmember Ashley Jenkins questioned what was put aside in the budget for this.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated the budget is \$500,000, but the mast arms for the project at Pitts and Ison Road have already been purchased and \$20,000 has been spent on fiber splicing.

Councilmember Rusty Paul asked which intersections are being approved.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated the intersections will be Dunwoody Place at Roberts Drive, Mount Vernon Highway from Boylston Drive to the Library, Roswell Road at Dalrymple Road, Roswell Road at Ison Road and Pitts, and Northridge Road at Roberts Drive.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked if the intersection improvements include anything other than the traffic signals.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated that improvements included some pedestrian upgrades and some sidewalk work to tie to some existing locations as well.

Councilmember Jenkins asked if the ADA Ramps over by the towers were included.

Traffic Services Manager Waters confirmed the ADA Ramps were included.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny asked what some of the next highest ranking intersections are, since none of these are south of I-285.

Traffic Services Manager Waters offered to send the information he has to Mayor and Council. He stated what he has is not in numerical order, but in order by intersection T numbers. One intersection that would be in the next group is Mount Vernon Highway from Glenridge to Barfield.

Mayor Galambos wanted to remind everyone that there has never been a decision made about the sequence of any improvements by districts, but by the worthiness of particular improvements, regardless of where they are located.

There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item.

2. Roswell Road ATMS (T-0013) Project Traffic Message Sign Options Presentation.

Traffic Services Manager Chris Waters stated this item is to ask for guidance on the ATMS project. There are two basic types of signs: the overhead which hangs out over the roadway; and the pedestal mount or ground mount. He asked for guidance from Council on which type of sign to use.

Councilmember Ashley Jenkins asked if the signs would be on Roswell Road.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated all the signs would be on Roswell Road.

Councilmember Jenkins stated she did not want to see the signs at all.

Mayor Eva Galambos stated that if the signs were on the ground, they could be mistaken for commercial or advertisements. If the signs are in the air, it would distinguish them as being transportation.

Councilmember Doug MacGinnitie questioned the utility of the signs and what value the City would get out of them, other than spending federal money on it.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated the main objective of the ATMS Project is to provide driver feedback. Typically they are video cameras, CCTV cameras, which we already have on Roswell Road, and traffic adaptive software. The message boards would be able to provide messages about different accidents in the area.

Councilmember Dianne Fries said that three of them are really close together from the river, Northridge and City Hall.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated that there could be up to four and there could be one in each direction.

City Manager John McDonough questioned whether or not there was enough support by Council to even move forward with this portion of the ATMS. He asked for feedback from Council.

Councilmember Fries asked if we need to consider that Alpharetta and Roswell are doing it and we need to tie in with them; or if the City will get its hands slapped if we do not join in.

Traffic Services Manager Waters stated that the whole project is on State Route 9 and each jurisdiction is doing some different things. The only tying in that needs to be done is with the communications for our traffic signals. We all run the same traffic signal software, so that's definitely one thing we want to make sure we are all tied in with.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that you can still tie into the traffic patterns with Roswell and Alpharetta without running the ugly signs in our City.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny stated that Mayor and Council have remarked and debated on whether or not to have advertising in our bus stops and if we are going to relocate the wooden utility

poles in our City to make Roswell Road a more attractive place. This particular signage does not add to the cleanest or lack of clutter look we are trying to get on our roads. She personally does not support adding any of these signs to State Route 9.

Mayor Galambos stated she was delighted to see that no one wants to put the signs in the City and she also questioned how much local money is going into the project.

City Manager John McDonough stated that he thinks 20% of the funds were local money with most of the effort on the synchronization.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio stated that the efforts should be focused on the synchronization and to keep the informational signs on the major roads, not the surface streets.

There was a consensus of Council not to move forward with this item.

3. Acceptance of Driveway and Temporary Construction Easement Rights for the Windsor Parkway (Roswell to High Point) Sidewalk Project (T-0020).

Transportation Planning Manger Garrin Coleman stated the Easement Rights for the Windsor Parkway (Roswell to High Point) Sidewalk Project (T-0020) has a total value \$6400.

Mayor Eva Galambos questioned if this still includes the temporary easement payment to the Gallery 63.

Transportation Planning Manger Coleman stated that he does not believe it includes Gallery 63. He also stated that they will be bringing the condemnation of a temporary construction easement at the next meeting, because the resident still cannot be reached after several months.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio questioned in what way attempts have been made to reach the resident and asked if they have tried through the civic association.

Transportation Planning Manger Coleman stated that they have gone through the legal research, certified mail, phone calls, and gone by the home.

Councilmember DeJulio asked that the parcel name and registered owner be sent to him and he would then send it to the civic association so an eblast could be sent and maybe the person could be found to save the City the cost of condemnation.

There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item.

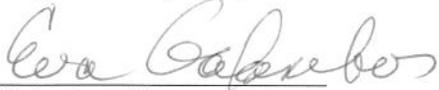
4. Quarterly Updates on the Capital Improvement Program and other Major Public Works Programs.

City Manager John McDonough asked if there were any additional questions concerning the quarterly Capital Improvement Program presentation.

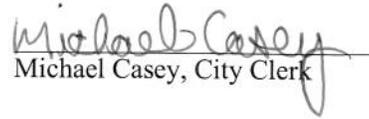
Councilmember Doug MacGinnitie, City Manager McDonough and Councilmember DeJulio had a brief discussion on the City's investments in Georgia Fund 1.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Date Approved: April 20, 2010



Eva Galambos, Mayor



Michael Casey, City Clerk