



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT TASK FORCE
4:00pm, Thursday, October 24, 2024
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

Present: David McNair (facilitator), Susan Smith, Joe Ready, Linda Tucker, Maryanne Chalmers, Bev Miller (via Zoom), Paige Grimball, Bill Skeen (via Zoom), Hugh Swingle, Patsy Hindman, Rod Turnage, Ben Marks

Absent: Sara Vega, Alex Stone

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, PR Officer Yudchenko

Task Force members provided feedback to Mr. McNair on the draft of the deliverable being prepared for City Council. After a lengthy discussion, an Executive Summary highlighting the goals, priorities, and recommendations (or similar descriptors) of each section of the plan will be compiled, followed by tabs ahead of each section where lengthier descriptions and background information will be housed.

Mr. Richard Avent of VC3, the City's IT provider, listened to the requests of the Task Force about how they wish for the document to appear on the City's website. Mr. Avant and his team will use the prepared Executive Summary to create a "shadow" website only accessible to staff and Task Force members so they can provide feedback on its layout and ease of use. Ms. Tucker will share the link to Amsterdam's plan as a potential model.

Discussion about community accessibility and feedback on the plan ensued. Task Force members agreed the public needs to see the work that has been created as a result of the Community Enrichment survey and listening sessions. They agreed some feedback would be helpful, but there needs to be a cut off to that at some point. Administrator Fragoso suggested inviting feedback from those who originally participated in the survey and listening sessions and then pushing it out to the rest of the community.

Mr. McNair suggested that some members of the Task Force return to City Council on an annual basis to track the status of their recommendations. Where possible, the plan will indicate what committee, board, or commission will address specific recommendations.

Task Force members shared reactions and comments about the presentation of the Seasonal Parking/Traffic (Seasonal Balance) section of the plan. Ms. Chalmers expressed concern about the wording around maximizing parking along Palm Boulevard. Mr. McNair said he will look at modifying the language and tonality of that section. Mr. Turnage said the recommendations are meant to encourage City Council to look at better ways to manage the flow of traffic, not

necessarily solve the traffic-related problems. Mr. Marks further clarified they would like the City to bring in a consultant to direct the City in more effective traffic flow measures.

Administrator Fragoso suggested, “Rather than going through this exercise of confirming parking spaces from another community, I would just refer to the same local comprehensive beach management plan that talks about how does IOP currently, exceeds the public access, the minimum requirements, and we can confidently say that we provide more than eight times as much as we would need to qualify for full and complete access. To me, that is a more impactful statement than to talk about other local communities, and we can confidently say that for us.”

She added, “In order to comply with State law, the free parking has to be on public rights of way. Front Beach is City-owned, so that would not qualify. The other thing that I don’t know if we have talked about, if it is paid parking on Palm Boulevard, everybody has to pay to park there, whether you are a resident or not. Having a decal would not give residents free parking in an area, in a State-owned public right of way that is pay.”

Due to the volume of priorities and recommendations in the draft document, Mr. Meeks suggested each section of the plan includes Calls to Action. He proposed prioritizing the priorities for a more successful implementation.

Mr. McNair asked the Seasonal Balance group to work on rewording their section based on the discussion, adding that the other groups can begin doing the same if they feel that is necessary. He reminded Task Force members that City staff still needs to review the document and provide feedback on the status or feasibility of their recommendations prior to publication.

Staff will finalize the calendar for the remainder of the year and circulate dates for three additional Task Force meetings between now and the end of the year. Not all meetings may be necessary.

The meeting ended at 5:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk