
City of Salem Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee Minutes

DATE: December 3, 2021

CHAIRPERSON: Chuck Bennett

PLACE: ZOOM

STAFF LIAISONS:

Courtney Knox Busch

cbusch@cityofsalem.net

Josh Eggleston

jeggleston@cityofsalem.net

Members Present:

Mayor Bennett

Councilor Jose Gonzalez

Councilor Chris Hoy

Councilor Jim Lewis

Councilor Virginia Stapleton

Guests Present:

Clark Worth, Barney and Worth

Staff Present:

Steve Powers, City Manager

Dan Atchison, City Attorney

Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer

Peter Fernandez, Public Works Director

Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives
Manager

Krishna Namburi, Employee Enterprise &
Technology Director

Mike Niblock, Fire Chief

Kristin Retherford, Urban Development Director

Kelli Blechschmidt, Management Analyst I

1. CALL TO ORDER: 1:00 PM / Quorum
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Written Comment from:
 - a. Roz Shirack regarding infrastructure projects
 - b. Lois Stark on behalf of the Library Advisory Board regarding public library facilities
 - c. Jim Schepcke regarding public library facilities
3. KEY MILESTONES, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT
 - a. Courtney Knox Busch guided the Committee through the general context of the Bond project including a key milestone schedule for outreach opportunities, recommendation to City Council and eventual ballot title creation. Presentation on historical success gauges for ballot measures and City engagement currently underway.

Questions or Comments by: Clark Worth of Barney & Worth, Councilor Hoy, Mayor Bennett, Councilor Lewis

Answers or Comments by: Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer, Courtney Knox-Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Peter Fernandez, Public Works Director
4. SETTING THE CONTEXT
 - a. Recent Bond Experience
 - i. Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer reviewed the historic debt levy for the City of Salem over the last decade along with a future projected debt levy.

Questions or Comments by: Mayor Bennett, Councilor Hoy

Answers or Comments by: Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer,
Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager

- b. Finance Committee Recommendation for Engagement
 - i. Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer reviewed the Finance Committee recommendation that Council approved.

Questions or Comments by: Councilor Lewis

Answers or Comments by: Josh Eggleston, AIC Chief Financial Officer,
Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager

5. DISCUSSION: IDEAS FOR CONSIDERING PROJECTS IN BOND PROPOSAL

- a. Staff walked through proposed projects and project types for the Committee to discuss and consider.

Questions or Comments by: Councilor Stapleton, Councilor Lewis, Mayor Bennett

Answers or Comments by: Mike Niblock, Fire Chief, Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Peter Fernandez, Public Works Director, City Manager Powers

- b. Courtney Knox Busch walked through the proposed criteria lens for project suggestions. These include but are not limited to bond eligibility, time feasibility, geographic, operation costs and equity lenses to consider.

Questions or Comments by: Councilor Stapleton, Councilor Gonzalez, Councilor Hoy, Mayor Bennett, Councilor Lewis

Answers or Comments by: Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager

Councilor Lewis left at 2:26 PM

6. NEXT STEPS

- a. Courtney Knox Busch walked through next steps including further conversation of criteria, messaging, and the next meeting date.

Questions or Comments by: Mayor Bennett

Answers or Comments by: Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Steve Powers, City Manager

7. ADJOURNMENT: 2:30 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 14, 2022 at 1:00 PM.