

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
DESTIN CITY COUNCIL
MAY 15, 2023
CITY HALL ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00 PM**

The Council of the City of Destin met in regular session with the following members and staff present:

Destin City Council

Mayor Bobby Wagner
Councilmember Torey Geile
Councilmember Terésa Hebert
Councilmember Kevin Schmidt

Councilmember Jim Bagby
Councilmember Dewey Destin
Councilmember Johnny King
Councilmember Matthew Sweetser

Destin City Staff

City Manager Lance Johnson
City Clerk Rey Bailey
Finance Director Krystal Strickland
Public Works Deputy Director J.T. Hart
Community Development Director Louis Zunguze
Code Compliance Director Troy Williams
Land Use Attorney Kimberly Kopp

Public Works Director Michael Burgess
City Engineer Ryan Scott
Public Information Manager Tamara Young
Principal Planner Steve O'Connor
IT Specialist James Lauria
Grants/Project Manager Jeffrey Cozadd
City Attorney Kyle Bauman

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bobby Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The mayor called for a moment of silence, which was then followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Councilmember Hebert, seconded by Councilmember King, to approve the agenda passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

1. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS / SPECIAL / PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. National Public Works Week - May 21-27, 2023

The mayor read the proclamation designating May 21-27, 2023, as National Public Works Week for the City of Destin, and then presented the proclamation to Public Works Director Michael Burgess.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Capt. Gary Jarvis, a Destin resident, stated that an event center will act as a driver for the Town Center CRA which has been languishing unproductively since its conception. They need a new community center to replace the one they have which is almost 4 decades old. He stated that the city is about to appoint a group that will provide a 3-dimensional idea of what could take place possibly in the area owned by Publix Shopping Center, which already have a general idea on what the city intends to build in that space. He continued that the city center idea has been a high priority item for nearly 6 years now. He urged the council to get started, get the conceptual plan for the city center completed, and get the community's input on what they want the city center to look like and move forward.

Mr. Shane Moody, President and CEO of the Destin Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Chamber has been on board with the idea of creating an event center for many years. The last thing they need in Destin is 350 more apartment units. They are not doing their service industry people any good as they are so expensive.

Mr. Michael Leach, a Destin resident, stated that putting in a thru street on Pine Street is a big mistake. It has been a cul-de-sac since 1993. There are 15 children that live in the area. There have been cars that speed through that area thinking they could get through Pine Street and then turn around real fast when they reach the cul-de-sac hitting the fire hydrant twice already. He urged the council to allow the cul-de-sac to remain a cul-de-sac and for it to remain an open area where children can play safely. He stated that the speed limit on Pine Street for 100 feet before it turns into a cul-de-sac is 25 mph. The speed limit throughout Stahlman Avenue is 20 mph. He asked that the speed limit on Pine Street be reduced. He further stated that they have sent a letter to the City Manager and mayor requesting the street be renamed Blue Marlin Court making it as one with the cul-de-sac.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of Board & Committees
- B. Capital Project Status
- C. Operations Financial Report
- D. Code Compliance Director's Update

Motion by Councilmember Hebert, seconded by Councilmember King, to approve Consent Agenda items 3A thru 3D, as printed above, passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

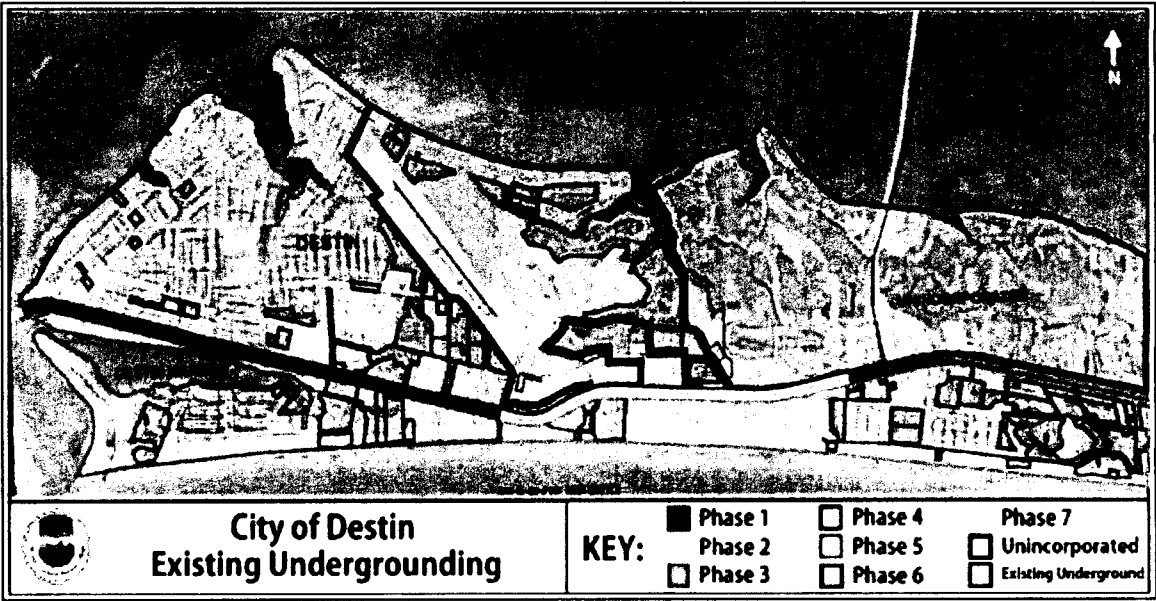
4. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Quarterly Investment Report

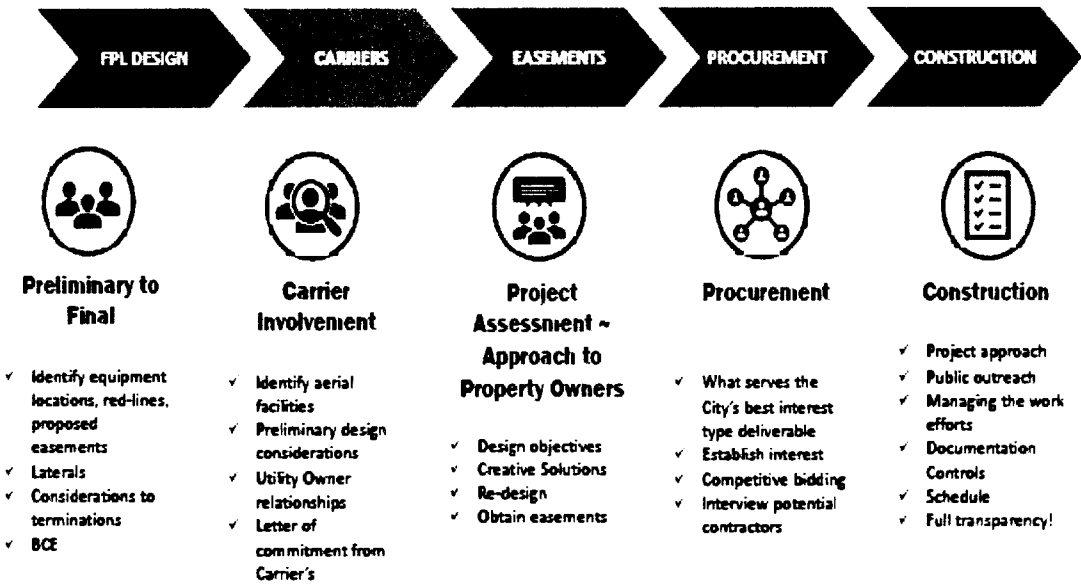
Finance Director Krystal Strickland provided a brief synopsis of the quarterly investment report that was provided to the council.

- B. Utility Undergrounding - Utility Consultants of Florida - Task Order 3

Representatives from Utility Consultants of Florida provided a brief update on utility undergrounding for the City of Destin.



APPROACH TO PROJECT ADVANCEMENT



APPROACH TO PROJECT ADVANCEMENT

FPL DESIGN



Equipment

- ✓ Identify equipment locations



Red-Lines

- ✓ Design adjustments



Laterals

- ✓ Included in current design



Terminations/end points

- ✓ Cost Efficiencies



Binding Cost Estimate "BCE"

- ✓ Mid-June

APPROACH TO PROJECT ADVANCEMENT

CARRIERS



Carriers

- ✓ AT&T
- ✓ Century Link
- ✓ Cox Communication
- ✓ Media-Com
- ✓ Unit Fiber



Coordination

- ✓ What aerial facilities are impacted



Relationships

- ✓ Current status



Cost Estimates

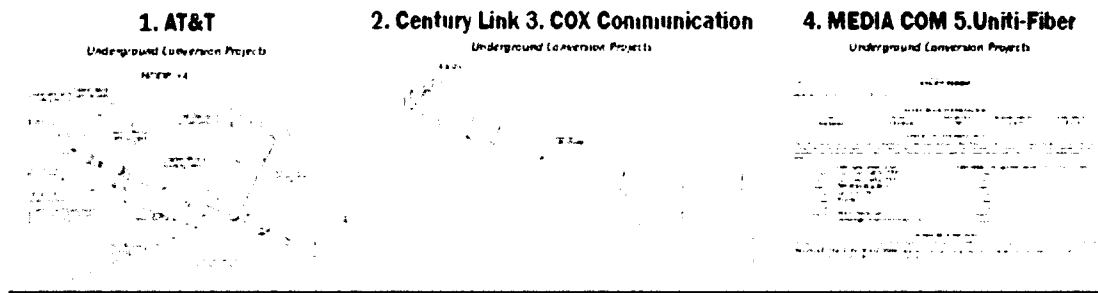
- ✓ Finding terminations that align with FPL but also cost efficiencies



Letter of Commitment

- ✓ Work with Schef Wright

CARRIERS



Assessment of existing infrastructure (why is this critical?)

Engineering Deposits

FPL Design

Betterment & Negotiations

Constructability & Sequencing of the Work

End user/field connections

RELATIONSHIPS!!!

APPROACH TO PROJECT ADVANCEMENT



FPL's Preliminary Design

- ✓ Plan Review & verifications



Coordination

- ✓ Determine approach



Design Adjustments

- ✓ Coordinating with FPL's designers to accommodate field changes



Easement Documentation

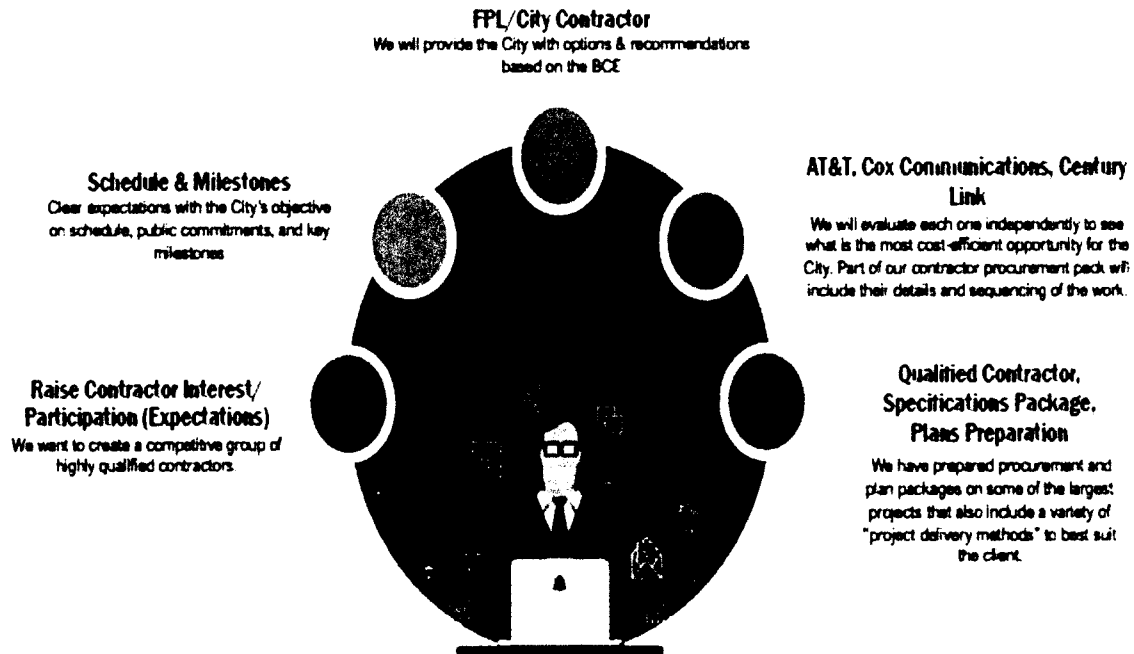
- ✓ Survey/Property Description



Consents

- ✓ Work with Owner's to obtain consents
- ✓ Secure easements that can be performed early

PROCUREMENT



I

DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Schmidt asked how they handle property owners who are not willing to provide easement.

Consultant stated that for those who refuse to provide easement, they find an alternative location for the equipment and approach that property owner to obtain their consent. If consent is not given, then they go back to FPL to ask for their proposal on what can be done with the equipment.

Councilmember Destin noted that a lot of those easements are quite critical and they should make sure all easement agreements are recorded and the status of easement acquisitions be provided to the council on a month basis.

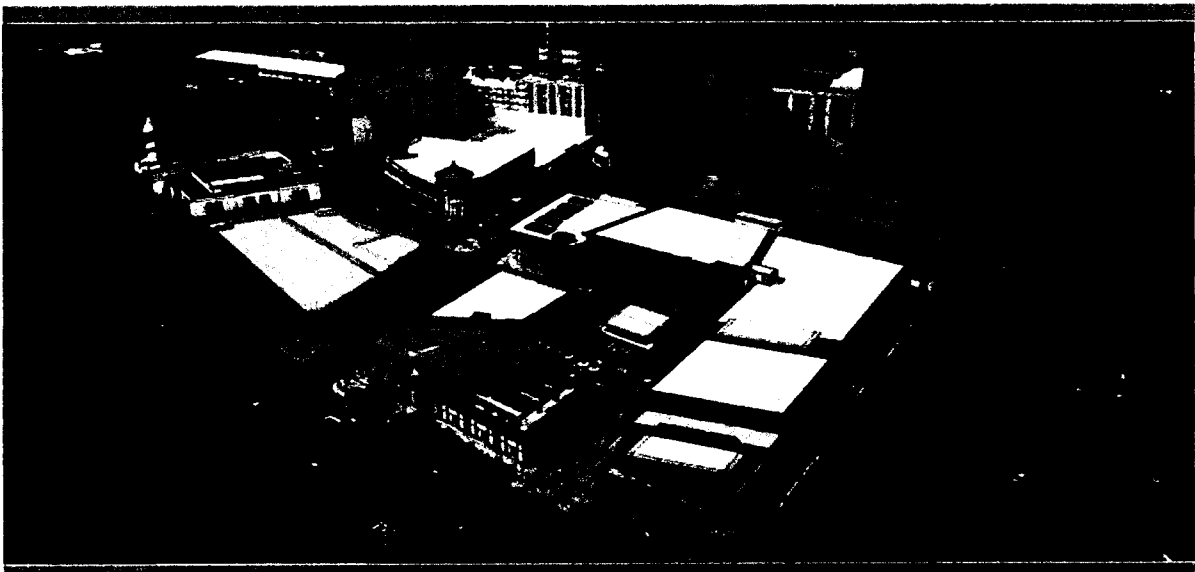
Motion by Councilmember Hebert, seconded by Councilmember King, to direct the City Manager to execute Task Order 3 of the Destin Utility Undergrounding Project Management Agreement with Utility Consultants of Florida passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

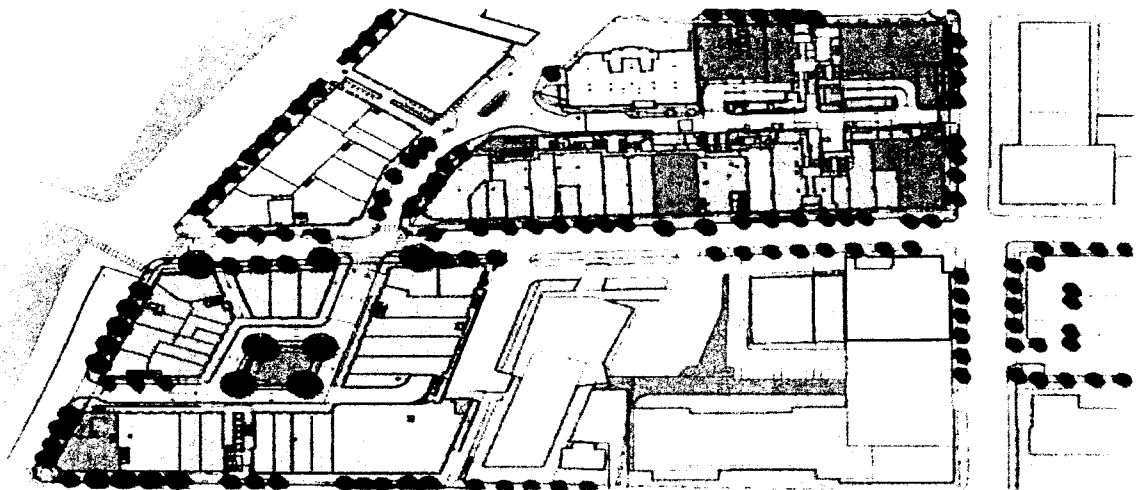
C. Town Center RFQ 23-01-CD firm presentations

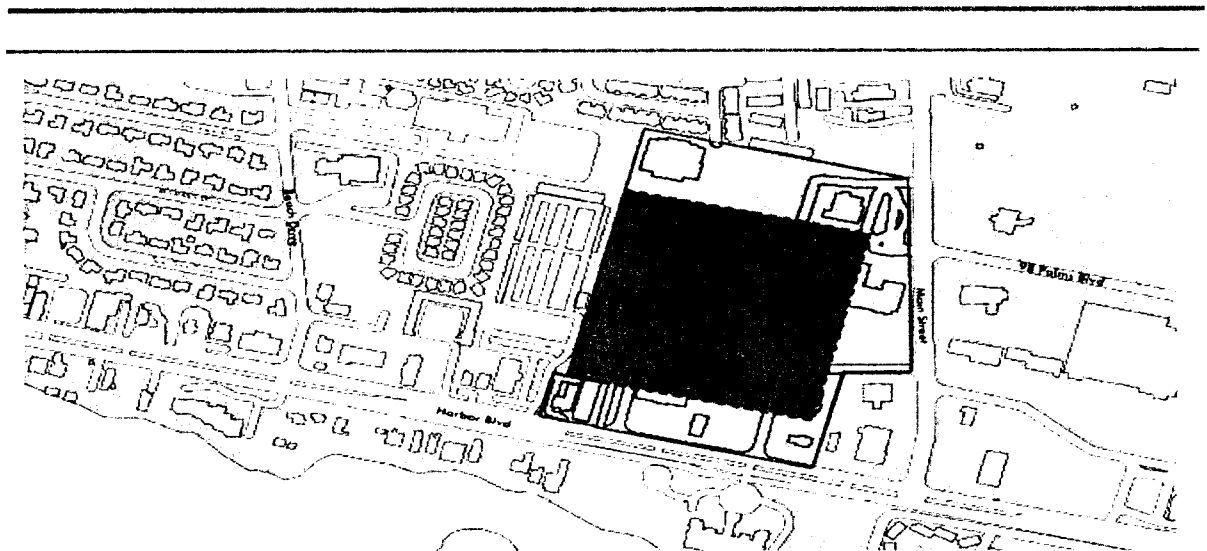
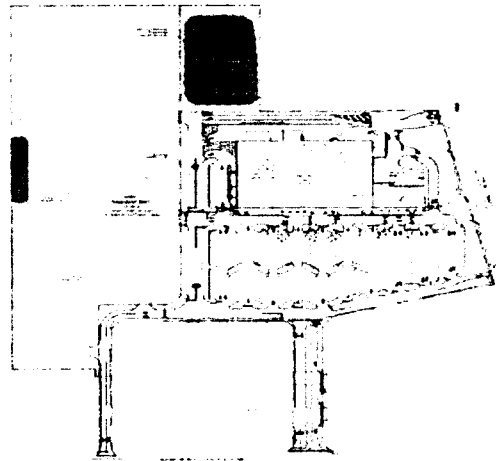
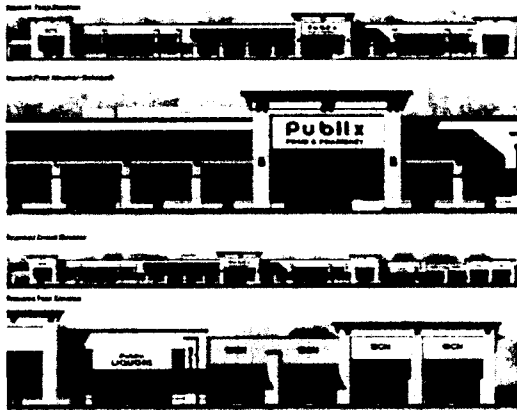
The firms of Smallwood, Hitchcock Design Group, and Synalovski Romanik Saye presented their proposals to the council.

Smallwood

- Firm is committed to collaborating with the City of Destin to develop a master plan that enhances the commercial and civic core to create a vibrant Live-Work-Play vision for the Destin Town Center.
- Firm has completed over 88 million square feet of project in Florida and worked with both the public and private sectors in various markets, including design of public buildings and parks, office space, event and cultural art centers, hotels, and retail and entertainment centers.
- Smallwood was the lead consultant for the development of the Alpharetta City Center.
 - Team successfully developed a master plan which has transformed downtown Alpharetta.
 - Firm was involved from the initial concepts through to partnering with private developers to build out the various elements of the initial plan.
- The following are multiple examples of relevant project that demonstrate the firms unique understanding of the quality of building type and “sense of place” they could create for the City of Destin.
- Smallwood offers 44 years of experience in master planning and landscape consulting design.

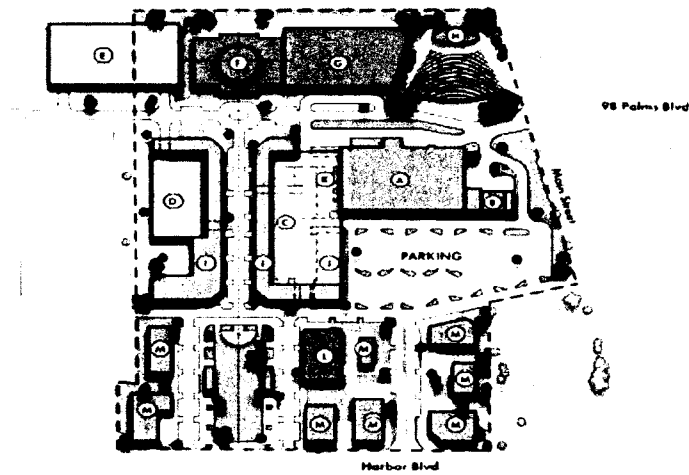






LEGEND

- A Public
- B Retail
- C East Parking Deck
- D West Parking Deck
- E North Parking Deck
(Shared Parking with Destin UMC)
- F City Hall
- G Community Center
- H Amphitheater
- I Residential Over Ground Level Retail
- J Ground Level Retail
- K Public Pharmacy Drive-thru Ground Level
- L Office Building
- M Restaurants



Hitchcock Design Group

Year-Round City of Destin Residents

BENEFITS

**Uniquely
Authentically**

UNIQUELY AUTHENTICALLY : City of Destin Businesses





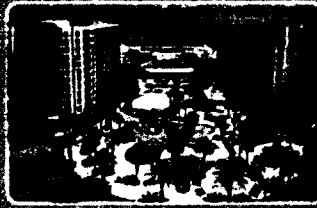




BENEFITS

• Supporting local businesses
 • Supporting local jobs
 • Supporting local economy
 • Supporting local community
 • Supporting local environment
 • Supporting local culture
 • Supporting local heritage
 • Supporting local history
 • Supporting local identity
 • Supporting local pride
 • Supporting local spirit
 • Supporting local soul
 • Supporting local heart
 • Supporting local mind
 • Supporting local body
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UNIQUELY AUTHENTICALLY : City of Destin Visitors



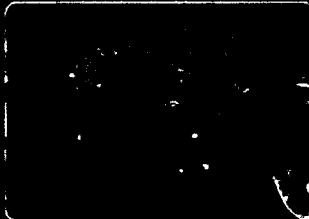






BENEFITS

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Design Criteria and Redevelopment Goals for the Project

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN CRITERIA



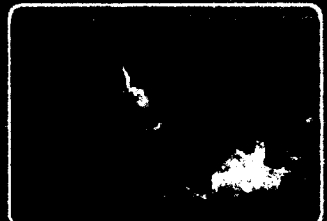
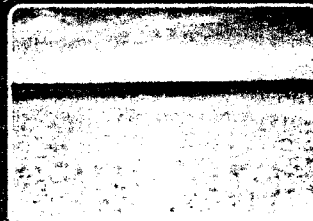
REDEVELOPMENT GOALS



Uniquely
Authentically

Creating an AUTHENTIC story

DESTIN TOWN CENTER IS...



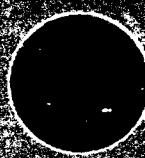
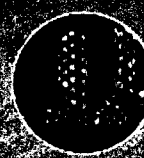
WITH GREAT ELEMENTS LIKE...



Uniquely
Authentically

What makes it special... at East Village (Austin, Texas)



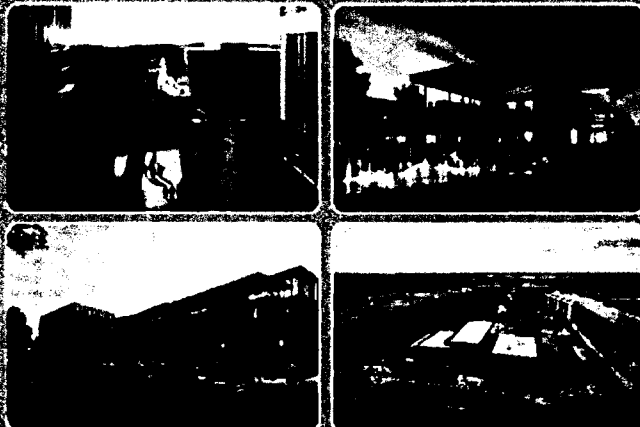








What makes it special....

- Branding
- Materials
- Appropriateness of program and use
- Accessibility / Usability
- The public spaces
- Form and function
- Variety of recreational opportunities
- Multi-generational
- Dynamic Activation
- 18-hour activation
- Iconic Architecture

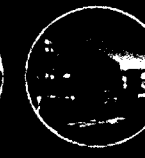
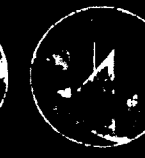



**Uniquely Austin
Authentically Destin.**

What makes it special... at The Domain (Austin, Texas)







What makes it special....



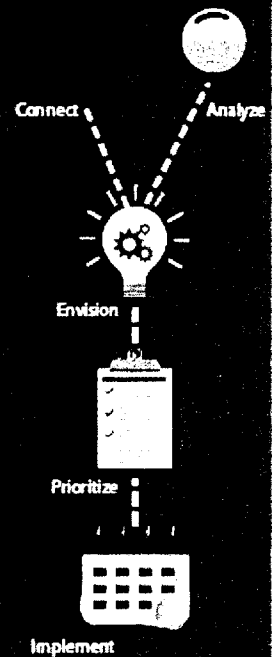

**Uniquely
Authentically**

Building the buzz at Destin Town Center

STEPS TO SUCCESS

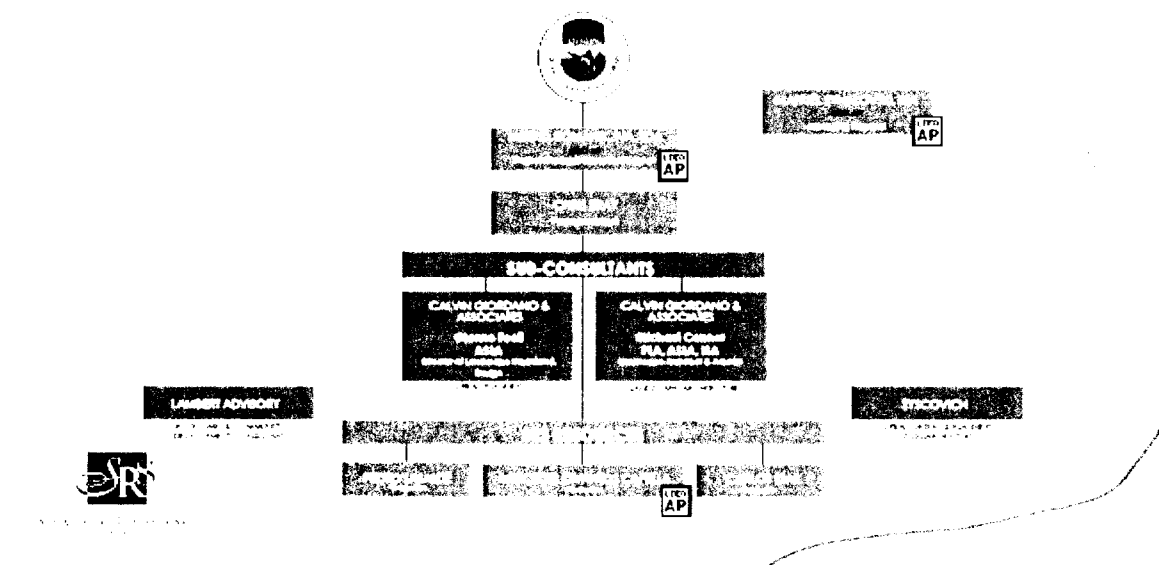


www.the nation.net



Synalovski Romanik Saye

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



MUNICIPAL EXPERIENCE – 359 PROJECTS

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- HOLLYWOOD FL
- 56th Avenue Fire Facility Master Plan
- 56th Avenue Fire Training Facilities
- 56th Avenue Fire Fleet Maintenance Facility
- 56th Avenue Training Tower
- Continuing Services for Architecture Design

- Hollywood
- Hollywood
- David Park Tennis Center Re-Roof and Interior Improvements

- KRY WEST
- Continuing Professional Services - Architecture

- LAKELAND RANCHES - INTER-DISTRICT AUTHORITY, FL
- Continuing Professional Services - Architecture

- LAUDERDALE BY THE SEA, FL

- LAUDERHILL, FL
- Renaissance/Windermere Guesthouse
- Windermere Color Facelift and Payable Improvements

- Continuing Contract for Professional Services
- Prototype Bus Shelter Design
- Fire Station #57 Roof Survey and Re-Roof Scope Questions
- Police Headquarters Re-Roof Scope Questions
- Lauderdale Public Works Schematic Design
- Fire Station #32 Needs Assessment



- Lauderdale-By-the-Sea Police Station
- Lauderdale DRC Architectural Plan Review
- James Bradley Park Amphitheater Wall
- Fire Station 27 Remodel
- Fire Station 30 Design - Criteria Professional
- Fire Station 83C
- Lauderdale Police Station
- Lauderdale Police Station
- Lauderdale Golf Maintenance Facility
- Lauderdale 6-12 Finishes
- Sports Park Finishes
- West Flanders Park Finishes
- Lauderdale Commercial Palette
- Lauderdale Police Station
- Lauderdale Fleet Maintenance Facility Renovation

LIGHTHOUSE POINT, FL

- Police Station Renovation and Expansion
- Fire Station Renovation & Improvements
- Lauderdale Police Station
- Fire Station 827 Assessment
- Lighthouse Public Library Disaster Recognition
- Fire EOC Design Criteria
- Lauderdale Police Station
- Public Works Building Design Criteria

MARGATE, FL

- Fire Station No. 3

MARCO SAND, FL

- Multi-Departmental Building EOC

MIAMI BEACH, FL

DESTIN TOWN CENTER VISION

- MARKET ORIENTATION
- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- FACILITY DEMAND/DEMAND ANALYSIS
- ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING/COMMUNITY HOUSING
- DIVERSITY
- DIVERSIFICATION
- CULTURAL AMENITY
- ECONOMIC VIABILITY
- TRANSPORTATION
- DATA/ILLUSTRATION
- REVITALIZATION
- GRADE AND PRESENT
- FUTURE VISION
- IMAGE DESIGN
- COLLECTIVELY DIFFERENTIABLE
- DESIGN WITH AN ATTENTIVE ATTITUDE
- AESTHETIC PLACE



SYNALOVSKI ROMANIK SAYE



Following the presentations, each council member was provided a score sheet and was asked to rank the firms #1 (first choice), #2 (second choice), or #3 (third choice). Scores will be totaled and the firm with the lowest point total (best overall average score) will be identified as the choice of council.

At this time, the mayor called for a brief recess to give staff time to tally the score.

Grants/Project Manager Jeff Cozadd announced the following voting scores with the lowest score being the winner:

- Hitchcock – 19 points
- Smallwood – 14 points
- Synalovski Romanik Saye (SRS) – 9 points

Councilmember Schmidt moved to rank Synalovski Romanik Saye (SRS) as first in the selection process, Smallwood as second, and Hitchcock Design Group as third, and direct the City Manager to negotiate a contract to bring back to the council for consideration; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

Councilmember Destin moved to direct staff to have another conversation with the property owner of the future site for the Publix Shopping Center to obtain a better answer of their intention with regards to that parcel and for Councilmember Schmidt to act as the legislative sponsor and be involved in that process; seconded by Councilmember Bagby. Motion passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

Councilmember Bagby recommends sharing the SRS presentation with the property owner that might incentivize them to know the City of Destin is serious about being a partner in the development of that parcel.

D. DAG Architects Group - Service Agreement - Linear Park Design

The City Manager stated that the Design and Permitting Services for the Linear Park and 98 Palms were received, and that DAG Architect Group was the only respondent. The proposal was recommended to the council. He was directed by the council to have DAG Architects pursue the first part of the design for the Linear Park and not go forward with any road design as it pertains to this issue. The cost of the design will be \$730,000. Half of the funding is being provided by the State of Florida and the other half provided by the Town Center CRA. The adopted budget is short \$190,000. Council may choose to negotiate the scope of work down to lower the projected cost to fit available funds or they may choose to appropriate from the Town Center CRA fund balance or the General Fund balance to cover the unanticipated additional cost.

Councilmember Destin noted that the concept design is all they probably need at this time, but the grant seems to require the project to be permit ready. He recommends going ahead and applying for an extension with FDOT to see if there is any chance to modify what the grant would allow.

Mr. Patrick Hodges, Landscape Architect from DAG Architect Group, stated that the project has great potential. However, there is still a lot of questions surrounding this project. There are easements that need to be secured. They do not yet have any survey data and so they could only do a concept plan until that is completed. They do not have wetland delineation. And there have not been much communication with the Parks and Recreation Department about their role in possibly assuming management of the park if that is the decision of the council. If they could get the extension, they could take this project to conceptual design or to a schematic level. It would give them the opportunity to do the planning and work with the citizens, council, and staff to develop the ideas further and give them some time to let the survey work and have more information available. Once they know more about the Linear Park elements and what the actual built environment is going to include, then they could perhaps revisit the fee proposal and possibly give a better fee in terms of reduced cost to the city.

Councilmember Schmidt asked whether the city owns all the properties they need for the Linear Park.

According to the City Engineer, the city does not own all the properties, but they have all but 3 residential easements they need to build the park.

Councilmember Schmidt pointed out they are possibly going into a contract to design something which they do not quite have everything they need to be able to build it.

Councilmember Bagby stated that someone from staff needs to be the project manager and own this project as they cannot afford to lose this grant; adding it is an ideal responsibility for a Deputy City Manager if they had one. He also added that the City Manager has the overall responsibility, but he cannot be the project manager for every project of the city. He asked

whether any member of staff has discussed the Linear Park concept with State Representative Maney and if they have in writing that he understands an extension will be required.

Mr. Cozadd stated that he had sent emails to Representative Maney's office alerting them to the fact the city will be requesting an extension when it becomes appropriate. He continued that once the city engages the DAG Architectural Group, such things as completing the survey and scheduling the public meetings will be under their scope of responsibility.

The City Manager noted that since they do not have a Deputy City Manager at this time, he had assigned Mr. Jeff Cozadd the role of project manager for this project.

Councilmember Destin moved to direct the City Manager to appropriate the additional funding needed from the Town Center CRA fund balance and execute the Service Agreement with DAG Architectural Group for the design of the Linear Park; seconded by Councilmember Hebert.

Councilmember Sweetser asked to be appointed as the legislative sponsor for this project.

Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

Motion by Councilmember Bagby, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to appoint Councilmember Sweetser as the legislative sponsor for the Linear Park project passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

E. Resolution 23-07, Adopting a policy for annexation of unincorporated property into the City of Destin pursuant to Chapter 171, Florida Statutes

Community Development Director Louis Zunguze stated that the City of Destin does not have a formal procedure or process for the annexation of properties into the city's jurisdiction. In the past, properties have been annexed into the city through a petition presented to the city council. The city council directed the City Manager to prepare a proposed annexation policy for council's review and adoption.

Mr. Zunguze briefly explained the proposed formal annexation policy as outlined in the agenda report:

Objectives of the City Annexation Policy:

- Ensure clear and discernible boundaries.
- Enhances the city's economic and tax base.
 - ❖ The City is currently impacted by the commercial development north of Emerald Coast Parkway from Triumph Drive to the Walton County Line and yet these developments are not within the City. Due to the geographical nature of Destin being a peninsula, the users of these commercial establishments impact the City roads and infrastructure, and traffic overall, as users must utilize either Commons Drive or Emerald Coast Parkway (Highway 98 roadways), both of which are predominantly

within City Limits. However, the City does not benefit from the significant economic, prosperity, and tax base that these properties offer.

➤ **Mitigate impacts on city's infrastructure.**

- ❖ Most of the area south of Indian Bayou Subdivision and north of Emerald Coast Parkway, contribute to a significant stormwater concern that is outlined in the City's Stormwater Master Plan Update - noted in the Plan, as the Indian Bayou Study Area. Furthermore, the stormwater impacts from unincorporated properties are not limited to the area south of Indian Bayou Subdivision. Many of the unincorporated residential and commercial properties west of Danny Wuerffel Way (Highway 293) also impact the City's stormwater infrastructure. These stormwater impacts range from minimal to critical and the City does not recoup any costs associated with the impacts. Annexation of the enclaves, commercial areas and residential areas would allow the City to work with the businesses and residents to find the best solutions to mitigate the stormwater challenges.

Types of Annexations:

➤ **City Initiated**

- ❖ **Elimination of Enclaves:** Enclaves are properties surrounded by the City limits and yet are not part of the City. The annexation of enclaves presents the City with the opportunity to provide continuity in its boundaries and services. Currently, the City has several "enclaves" mostly concentrated along Commons Drive and a few along Airport Rd to Commons Dr. Annexation of Enclaves is also Desirable Priority 1.7 for Council in FY 2022.
- ❖ Consistent with the State Legislature, the City recognizes that enclaves can create significant problems in planning, growth management, and service delivery, and therefore declares that it is the policy of the City (and of the State) to eliminate enclaves.
- ❖ In order to expedite the annexation of enclaves of 110 acres or less into the City, based upon existing or proposed service provision arrangements, the City may:
 - Annex an enclave by interlocal agreement with the county having jurisdiction of the enclave; or
 - Annex an enclave with fewer than 25 registered voters by municipal ordinance when the annexation is approved in a referendum by at least 60 percent of the registered voters who reside in the enclave. However, this option is not available for undeveloped or unimproved real property.

➤ **Property Owner Initiated**

❖ **The Following Are The Procedures For Property Owner Initiated Annexations:**

- Pre-application Meeting with Community Development Staff
- Application
- City Review Process
- Local Planning Agency (LPA) Review
- Legal Requirements for Ordinance, Notice; and City Council Action
- Review by City Council

Process and Procedures for Annexations:

- **City Review (Staff)**
- **Local Planning Agency (LPA)**
- **Legal Requirements (State and Local Ordinance & Notice Requirements)**
- **City Council**

Councilmember Hebert moved to approve Resolution 23-07 — Annexation Policy; seconded by Councilmember Geile. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

Councilmember Schmidt moved to direct staff to bring back information regarding the phases involved as well as a cost benefit analysis they need to look at to provide the council with the ad valorem income versus the maintenance cost, and other information, by July 2023; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

F. Proposed Destin Mobility Plan

Mr. Zunguze explained that the proposed Destin Mobility Plan was prepared for Council’s review following the Council’s directive for the city administration to prepare a Mobility Plan to replace the city’s Multi-Modal Transportation District (MMTD). The purpose of the Mobility Plan is to establish long-term needs for the transportation network to facilitate the safe and effective movement of people to and around the City of Destin. The Mobility Plan under preparation consists of more than 50 transportation improvement projects. These projects will either provide a new transportation facility or improve the performance of an existing facility. New facilities are intended to close gaps in the transportation network. Each project will receive a prioritization score that will determine the City of Destin’s highest transportation priorities. Each year the City Council will be able to utilize the Mobility Plan to designate funds from the Mobility Fee.

Mr. Allan Steinbeck of 3TP Ventures provided a brief update on the proposed Destin Mobility Plan:

Mobility Plan Project Status:

- **Completed**
 - ❖ **Update and publish a draft project list**
 - ❖ **Map recommended projects**
 - ❖ **Draft plan document**

- Final Steps
 - ❖ Vet, refine, and prioritize projects
 - ❖ Complete cost estimating for plan projects
 - ❖ Complete mobility fee calculations
- Seeking Council Priorities
 - ❖ Review projects and identify:
 - Seven highest priority projects
 - Seven second highest priority projects
 - ❖ Will yield high, medium, and low
 - ❖ Will combine council priorities with policy priority benefit scores for a total score
 - ❖ Priorities will be used to phase projects in the mobility fee study

Councilmember Bagby moved to direct staff to conduct a public workshop inviting everyone in the City of Destin to attend and review the proposal; and for staff to collect their comments and send those comments and plans to the Public Works/Safety Committee for their recommendations; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

G. Budget Amendment Process

The City Manager stated that his understanding of the council’s direction was to bring back the normal budget amendment process regarding the hiring of the Deputy City Manager. The council was to change the budget allocation for the position of Deputy City Manager. Council was to direct staff to bring back a budget amendment for their consideration in the form of a resolution to include any specified changes to be made. This could also be in the form of a budget transfer, decreasing salary and benefits, or increasing professional fees.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to direct the City Manager to bring back a budget amendment to defund the Deputy City Manager position; seconded by Councilmember Hebert.

Councilmember Bagby noted that the city has had a Deputy City Manager at least predating his first arrival on the council around 2006. Although, they may not all live in the city year-round, but the city provides infrastructure for 100,000 people. The City Manager cannot always be present to oversee the function of the organization, and so the Deputy City Manager takes on that responsibility in the absence of the City Manager. In addition, the Deputy City Manager is best suited to be the project manager for a lot of the city projects, such as the Linear Park project they discussed earlier in the meeting. The city has over 120 employees and a \$72 million budget. The City Manager needs a chief of staff, an assistant city manager, or a deputy city manager, whichever title they want to assign to that position, to help manage the organization, especially in the absence of the City Manager.

Councilmember Bagby also noted that when they do a budget amendment, it is usually to fund a specific item. They take money from one account and transfer it to another account.

Councilmember King stated that he cannot support the motion on the floor. He has had a long conversation with the City Manager recently and multiple conversations with him throughout

the year about his job and the job performed by the previous Deputy City Manager. Based on those conversations, he just cannot imagine how a City Manager can handle all the priorities and objectives they are trying to attain without an Assistant or Deputy City Manager.

Councilmember Schmidt pointed out that the city has hired consultants and outside agencies to assist staff over the years. Furthermore, the City Manager has appointed the Grants/Project Manager as the project manager for the Linear Park project because it is part of his duties; and so, they have other members of staff who can perform other key functions other than the Deputy City Manager.

Councilmember Destin stated that the job description which has been published for the Deputy City Manager was very similar to the City Manager's job description and read as if they are hiring a second City Manager. He stated that they do not need two City Managers. It needs to be clear that the organization has only one leader which is the City Manager.

Councilmember Geile would like to see the exact motion or direction given by the council on every item on the agenda to make sure they are not being altered and are being fulfilled exactly as they were given. He would also like to see the criterion used by previous council in developing the Deputy City Manager position to determine if it is still applicable in their current situation.

Councilmember Hebert noted that the City of Destin is different from other cities as they do not have their own fire department, police force, and water and sewer department. She stated that she would support an Assistant to the City Manager but not a Deputy City Manager position; adding they have fully qualified directors that can be tasked to perform various key functions under the full control of the City Manager.

Councilmember Bagby offered a substitute motion to direct the City Manager to reword the job description of the current Deputy City Manager to make it an Assistant to the City Manager removing the Deputy City Manager position and replacing it with an Assistant to the City Manager position; seconded by Councilmember King. Motion failed 3-4 (Council members King, Bagby, and Sweetser voted "yes"; Council members Schmidt, Hebert, Destin, and Geile voted "no").

The mayor called for a vote on the original motion direct the City Manager to bring back a budget amendment to defund the Deputy City Manager position. Motion passed 5-2 (Council members Schmidt, Hebert, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes"; Council members King and Bagby voted "no").

H. Resolution 23-09 – Captain Royal Melvin Heritage Park Operating Policies.

The City Manager noted that at their previous meeting, the city council directed that the following policies be implemented at Captain Royal Melvin Heritage Park:

- Restrooms hours (6 AM – 12 AM), adjusted in the winter months.
- Alcohol will be allowed in the park. The park is in the Festive Market Place.
- The Harbor Boardwalk is dog friendly. The park is the gateway to the boardwalk, and so dogs will be allowed.

- Designate the park as a Water Taxi Stop.

The City Manager added that the proposed resolution to implement the above policies are before the council for approval. He also noted that the council's other direction to carve out the park alcohol prohibition from this park, similar to other parks with the carve-out will be implemented by ordinance, which will be advertised and presented to the council at the next council meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Hebert, seconded by Councilmember Geile, to adopt Resolution 23-09 passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes")

- I. Harbor Carrying Capacity Study- Harbor Capacity Steering Committee Final Recommendations and Prioritized List

It was the consensus of the council to defer to the items listed under each individual council member's name in Section 6 of the agenda dealing with this particular subject.

J. Announcements

1. Staff have received all the signage required for the paid parking program and plan to have them installed by the end of the week.
2. The 2023 hurricane season begins June 1st. The new hurricane guides are available at all city facilities.
3. Ribbon cutting for the Destin Library's new coffee bar will be on Friday, May 19th at 4:00 PM.
4. Blood drive was held Sunday, May 14th, in partnership with the Kolton Ward Family for his foundation.
5. The customized utility box wraps for Kolton at the intersection of Main and Kelly goes up. There are 3 or 4 other wraps around town.
6. American Legion Post 296 is hosting a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Destin Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29th, at 11:00 AM
7. Mr. Andy Peters has accepted the city's offer as an IT Director and his council confirmation is scheduled for June 5th.
8. The city has closed on the second to the last property for the crosstown connector today. Ms. Marsha Hayes was able to meet with the last property owner today and visit the property.
9. Code Compliance Director Troy Williams provided a brief update on the Code Compliance Department activities.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, LAND USE ATTORNEY AND CITY ATTORNEY

A. Councilmember Sweetser

Motion by Councilmember Sweetser, seconded by Councilmember King, to appoint Joshua Brister to the Board of Adjustment passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

B. Councilmember Geile

1. Emergency Dredge Request for Harbor Channel

Councilmember Geile determined there is a need for some dredging on the harbor in front of the Point Mezzanine parcel. The bigger boats are not able to go back into the harbor without performing various maneuvers in those areas which is potentially a threat to public safety.

Councilmember Geile moved to direct staff to determine if there are any existing permits for harbor maintenance; if not, to authorize staff to start the application process for state and federal permitting so they can start potential dredge; contact the property owners’ representative to determine if they can partner with what they are doing to save costs; and bring information back to the council at a future council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Destin. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

C. Councilmember Destin

Councilmember Destin requested the following information:

- Grant document for the crosstown connector.
- Any documents involving plans for the Stahlman intersection, including plans provided by Volkert to the city.
- Bring back recommendations from the Public Works/Safety Committee on whether placement of speed humps or 4-way stop signs would be more feasible at the intersection of Spring and Kelly Streets.

D. Councilmember Bagby

1. Deputy City Manager Position

Councilmember to direct the City Manager to bring back a job description, to include a salary range, for an Assistant City Manager position, seconded by Councilmember King. Motion passed 6-1 (Council members Schmidt, King, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”; Councilmember Hebert voted “no”).

2. NWFSC Resolution of Support

3. Extend the Harbor Capacity Steering Committee Indefinitely

Councilmember Bagby moved to extend the Harbor Capacity Study Steering Committee indefinitely; seconded by Councilmember Destin. Motion passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

4. Extend the Livery Vessel Moratorium

Councilmember Bagby moved to extend the Livery Vessel Moratorium for 8 years; seconded by Councilmember King.

Councilmember Schmidt offered a substitute motion to amend the Livery Vessel Moratorium to 5 years; seconded by Councilmember Hebert.

Councilmember Bagby expressed concern that 5 years is not enough to complete the CAP 107 Study; adding that if they complete the study in less than 8 years, they can always lift the moratorium. Otherwise, if it takes more than 5 years, they will be back here again for the moratorium extension.

Councilmember Schmidt stated that 5 years should be enough to get the federal government involved and complete the study; if not, it should not be a problem extending the moratorium once again.

The mayor called for a motion on the substitute motion, which passes 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

5. Direct Staff to get with the ACOE to start the CAP 107 Study

Councilmember Bagby moved to direct staff to contact the Army Corps of Engineers to start the CAP 107 Study immediately; seconded by Councilmember Destin. Motion passed 6-1 (Council members King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”; Councilmember Schmidt voted “no”).

E. Councilmember Hebert

1. Countywide Livery Vessel Moratorium

Councilmember Hebert announced that she has discussed this issue with Commissioner Ponder and requested the county’s support for county-wide livery vessel moratorium. Commissioner Ponder will bring forth the city’s recommendations before the BOCC at their meeting next week.

2. TDC Funding for Livery Vessel Safety Video

Councilmember Hebert moved to request TDC funding for the livery vessel safety video; seconded by Councilmember King. Motion passed 7-0 (Council member Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”)

Councilmember Destin agreed to attend the TDC meeting in lieu of Councilmember Hebert who will be out of town on Tuesday, May 23rd to present the city’s request before the TDC.

F. Councilmember King

G. Councilmember Schmidt

Councilmember Schmidt asked if there were other information under agenda item 4I – *Harbor Carrying Capacity Study- Harbor Capacity Steering Committee Final Recommendations and Prioritized List*, which they skipped.

Principal Planner Steve O'Connor noted that at the previous Harbor Capacity Study Steering Committee meeting, there was a new motion passed to recommend to the city council to establish a new city position for a Harbor Master to help with compliance and enforcement of city regulations as well as county and state water regulations to the maximum extent possible, and for staff to work with the committee and the Harbor and Waterways Board to develop the roles and responsibilities of a Harbor Master.

The mayor stated that they may need to decide what they want the harbor to become before they create the Harbor Master position; adding that he has intended to discuss the scope of work for harbor designation with Mr. Alex Fogg, the Okaloosa County Coastal Resource Manager.

According to Councilmember Destin, the city has had a Harbor Master position for quite a long time. They may just need to find the old Harbor Master job description, create funding and re-designate some of the duties for the position.

Councilmember Bagby stated that if the duties of a Harbor Master involve law enforcement, it is already being performed by the Sheriff's marine unit; adding that the city does not have enforcement authority on the harbor. By state statute, there is a formal description of a harbor master; one of which is that they need to have a port to have a Harbor Master, which the city does not have. He added that they need to study the job description to make sure they identify all the responsibilities of a Harbor Master and then designate the source of funding if they decide to create this position.

Councilmember Schmidt noted there are about a dozen recommendations from the Harbor Capacity Study Steering Committee under agenda item 4I, although they have taken actions on some of them already.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve all the recommendations from the Harbor Capacity Study Steering Committee to the extent it is not in conflict with the other motions already adopted by the council; seconded by Councilmember Hebert.

Councilmember Bagby noted that during the presentation given by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), they discussed taking care of things that can be done immediately and reviewing the other things that it would take some time to complete. He continued that the council has very divergent opinions on some of the items. He recommends bringing the other recommendations that have not been acted upon by this council at the next council meeting.

Councilmember Schmidt withdrew his motion on the floor.

H. Mayor Wagner

I. Land Use Attorney

1. 1 Harbor Blvd. Update

According to the Land Use Attorney, they received a second appraisal on the property and that pursuant to council's directive at the previous meeting, she will work with the City Manager and Finance Director to put together an offer based on their view of the appraisals and submit it to the property owner and bring something back to the council depending upon their response.

J. City Attorney

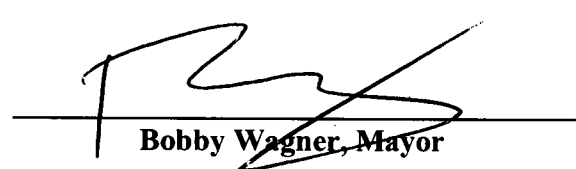
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 PM.

ATTEST:


Rey Bailey, City Clerk


Bobby Wagner, Mayor