



MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WEST JORDAN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Wednesday, July 17, 2024 – 6:00 pm
Approved July 31, 2024
8000 S Redwood Road, 3rd Floor
West Jordan, UT 84088

1. CALL TO ORDER

COUNCIL: Chair Zach Jacob, Vice Chair Chad Lamb, Bob Bedore, Pamela Bloom, Kelvin Green, Kent Shelton, Kayleen Whitelock

STAFF: Council Office Director Alan Anderson, Mayor Dirk Burton, City Attorney Josh Chandler, Public Works Director Brian Clegg, Utilities Manager Greg Davenport, Economic Development Director David Dobbins, Public Services Director Cory Fralick, Policy Analyst & Public Liaison Warren Hallmark, Community Development Director Scott Langford, Fire Chief Derek Maxfield, Assistant City Attorney Duncan Murray, Council Office Clerk Cindy Quick,

Chair Jacob called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and noted that Council Member Bloom would join shortly.

2. DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. Presentation of Citywide Survey Results – 2024

Kyrene Gibb with Y2 Analytics presented results of the 2024 citywide survey. She said the overall quality of life statistics were consistent with 2023 results with a 76 out of 100 overall quality of life rating, and 41% of respondents indicating they believed the City was heading in the right direction. Ms. Gibb noted the next most common response was that residents did not know or were unsure. She reported a good response representation across the City. Respondents indicated they liked the City's location in Salt Lake Valley, the sense of community, and felt the City was well maintained overall. Ms. Gibb said most concerns expressed by respondents hinged around growing pains.

The Council discussed results concerning Code Enforcement with Ms. Gibb. Council Member Shelton suggested digging into specific resident issues with Code Enforcement through future survey questions. Council Member Green wondered if respondents were upset with Code Enforcement because it was too strict or too loose.

Council Member Bloom arrived at 6:20 pm.

Council Member Green questioned why satisfaction with trails was so low in 2024 survey responses. Ms. Gibb noted that the trail response was the only statistically significant decrease from the 2023 survey, and there was not a clear indicator as to the reason from open-ended responses. Council Member Green expressed the opinion that the Council was wasting money if survey results were not used and considered in decision making. He suggested the Council try to do something about the responses that indicated residents did not feel a sense of community. Council Member Whitelock felt the Council made decisions

based on survey results in 2023 and believed that could do more over time as more data was collected.

Council Member Whitelock requested that 'direct mailer' be added to the question regarding communication channel preferences in the next survey. Council Member Whitelock wondered if the satisfaction level for communication with the City had gone down compared to 2023 because of residents having to deal with a computer rather than a person when calling the City offices.

The Council discussed the 2024 survey responses, and the intention to use the data collected in the budget process. Council Member Whitelock would like the Council to have an opportunity to review questions and provide feedback before the next annual survey is distributed. The Council thanked Ms. Gibb for the presentation.

b. 2024 Transportation Master Plan Update

Public Works Director Brian Clegg introduced Jeremy Searle, Transportation and Planning Manager with Wall Consultant Group (WCG), who presented a 2024 Transportation Master Plan Update, and answered questions from the Council. Mr. Searle showed the regional Travel Demand Model provided by Wasatch Front Regional Council, and spoke of planning for new growth. He felt the biggest transportation challenge in West Jordan was east/west travel and discussed options as well as planned road projects with the Council. Mr. Searle listed benefits of roundabouts versus traffic-signal intersections.

Chair Jacob mentioned that resident concerns had been expressed about plans for intersections on the west end of 9000 South. Staff said the project was currently at the environmental study phase. Chair Jacob expressed a desire to explore alternatives for the design of the 9000 South/Duck Creek and 9000 South/New Bingham intersections. Council Member Green agreed. Mr. Searle noted that options considered were included in the Feasibility Study available for review. He commented that some intersection options were more expensive than others. Council Member Whitelock expressed concern about the cost of the planned projects.

Mr. Clegg expressed a desire to bring the Transportation Master Plan Update back for Council approval as soon as possible. Council Member Green mentioned the river bridge crossing at 7800 South, and he wanted to make sure the planned project provided an improvement as a gateway to the City. He asked if Council expectations (aesthetics, walkability) for some projects could be mentioned in the update. Mayor Burton agreed with comments to improve the aesthetics as well as the traffic in the gateway area. Council Member Whitelock believed that while traffic engineers understood how to manage traffic, the Council was looking at the project from a community perspective. She requested a variety of options for the project to allow the Council to consider more than just traffic efficiency.

c. Discussion regarding the Active Transportation Master Plan as related to Arterials and Collectors

Council Member Whitelock said the federal government considered bicycles to be vehicles. She questioned whether the streets were the safest place for bicycles, mentioning that

Amsterdam had made a conscious decision to welcome cyclists on streets, and asked what the Council wanted long-term for West Jordan. Council Member Bloom commented that Burbank, California was transitioning sidewalks to a mixture of bikes and pedestrians, which she felt created a friendly and safer environment. The Council and staff discussed bike lane options, and the need to consider snow removal.

Chair Jacob believed there were several types of cyclists, and asked if they were all lumped into the same category. Council Member Shelton commented that ebikes made cycling more accessible to a greater part of the community and would like to build better infrastructure for bicycles by increasing width of sidewalks on main arterials, with the thought that more bicycles would translate to fewer vehicles on the road. Mayor Burton noted that plans for 9000 South included bike lanes. Council Member Whitelock clarified that bike lanes would be improved along arterial roads in conjunction with needed road projects.

Council Member Green spoke of the cost involved with such improvements on east arterials in the City. He referred to bike lanes included in the planned 1300 West project, and asked if the Council Members were proposing to drop the bike lanes from the project and increase sidewalk width. Council Members Bloom and Whitelock confirmed they were proposing increased sidewalk width over bike lanes. Public Works Director Clegg noted the necessity of purchasing more right of way. Council Member Shelton emphasized the need to consider snow removal as part of the discussion. Council Member Green noted that residents would have an increased amount of sidewalk to plow if sidewalks were widened.

Council Member Bloom reiterated that she wanted to include the suggested ideas with new construction to determine if widening sidewalks along certain arterials for cyclists was feasible. She believed road congestion was increasing and wanted an additional way to commute. Council Member Green expressed concern with land acquisition cost, and wanted to make sure the cost was not transferred to taxpayers. Senior Traffic Engineer Nestor Gallo answered questions about UDOT cross section requirements, and pointed out that sidewalks were designed for pedestrians and individuals with disabilities. Mr. Gallo listed many factors that needed to be considered. He spoke of funding available to the City for active transportation and trail studies.

Mr. Gallo spoke of differing active transportation maps between area entities, and reported that he invited representatives of UDOT, Wasatch Front Regional Council, and Salt Lake County to meet at City Hall to discuss the maps and start creating loops and connectivity. Council Member Bloom suggested including cyclists in the community in those conversations.

Council Member Green expressed the opinion that providing trail connections between some neighborhoods should be a higher priority than striping bike lanes on some streets, and asked staff to look at priorities on the Active Transportation Master Plan to see if there were some smaller projects that could be completed. He suggested the Parks Master Plan and the Active Transportation Master Plan should be synced.

The Council discussed active transportation goals. Council Member Bedore commented that West Jordan was not the same type of community as Amsterdam, Burbank, and other cities mentioned earlier. Mr. Gallo pointed out that eminent domain could not be used for trails like it could for roads.

Council Member Shelton expressed a desire to create safer crosswalks and school crossings helping pedestrians feel safer. Council Member Green expressed agreement, and spoke of including mid-block crosswalks and other traffic calming measures in City design standards. Mr. Gallo reported measures taken to improve safety at school crosswalks, and said safety was his biggest concern. Chair Jacob thanked the Council and staff for the discussion.

d. Discussion concerning Senior Housing overlay zoning and other overlay zoning amendment procedures

Responding to a question from Council Member Whitelock, Community Development Director Scott Langford confirmed that if an overlay were removed from a property, the property would be left with the underlying zone. Chair Jacob believed an application for a rezone with an overlay was two different applications – the Council needed to determine if they were comfortable with both the new underlying zone and the overlay. Council Member Green suggested the Council should not consider applications for a rezone with an overlay.

Council Member Bloom believed the proposed amendment was what the Council was looking for. Council Member Whitelock agreed as long as an application could not include both an underlying zone change and an overlay. Council Members Green and Bloom expressed agreement. A majority of the Council indicated that staff could bring the amendment back for action including the change discussed.

e. Discussion of policy related to West Jordan City Code Title 14 Subdivision Regulations and Title 15 Permit Processing regarding changes to the Subdivision Development Review Process to comply with House Bill 476

Senior Planner Tayler Jensen presented proposed Code amendments to comply with HB 476. The City may not require subdivision improvement plans to be submitted at both Preliminary and Final Subdivision; initial reviews must be completed within 15 business days; Final Subdivision review must be completed within 20 business days; the City may not require more than four total review cycles for a subdivision. Council Member Whitelock suggested the language should include a reference to the State Code.

Staff answered questions from the Council. Council Office Director Alan Anderson said the next step was for the proposed amendments to be reviewed by the Planning Commission.

f. Discussion regarding August meeting schedule

Council Office Director Alan Anderson outlined the August meeting schedule, with August 13th scheduled as the Truth in Taxation meeting, and August 14th scheduled as a regular City Council meeting. He asked if the Council wanted to continue with separate days or hold a City Council meeting after the Truth in Taxation meeting on August 13th. He pointed out that the August 14th agenda currently included approval of the final budget.

Council Member Whitelock preferred the meetings to be held on separate days, allowing time for the Council to consider public comments. Council Member Lamb said the Council had been looking at the budget for months and did not believe they would change their minds in 24 hours. Council Member Shelton agreed with Council Member Whitelock.

Mr. Anderson said the ChamberWest Gala was scheduled to take place in West Jordan on August 28th at 5:30 pm, a regularly scheduled Council meeting evening. He asked if the Council wanted to change the Council meeting to August 27th or cancel the meeting.

The Council discussed options, and a majority indicated approval for canceling the August 14th meeting, and moving the August 28th meeting to August 27th, with final budget approval on the agenda. Mr. Anderson said cancellation notices would be posted for the August 14th and 28th meetings, and August 27th would be posted as a special meeting.

Chair Jacob briefly reported speaking with Administrative Services Director Danyce Steck regarding issuing bonds for parks, and noted that the City wanted to work on obtaining a new rating due to implementation of better finance procedures and policies. It was his understanding that one of the bonding agencies utilized the ESG score, reflecting the City's commitment to environmental sustainability. Chair Jacob mentioned having an idea related and would email more details to the Council.

3. ADJOURN

Chair Jacob adjourned the meeting at 9:09 pm.

I certify that the foregoing minutes represent an accurate summary of what occurred at the meeting held on July 17, 2024. This document constitutes the official minutes for the West Jordan Committee of the Whole meeting.

Cindy M. Quick, MMC
Council Office Clerk

Approved this 31st day of July 2024