



STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman Wimmer and Commission Members
FROM: Eric Howes, Community Services Director
MEETING DATE: April 15, 2020
SUBJECT: Performing Arts Center Discussion

RECOMMENDED ACTION

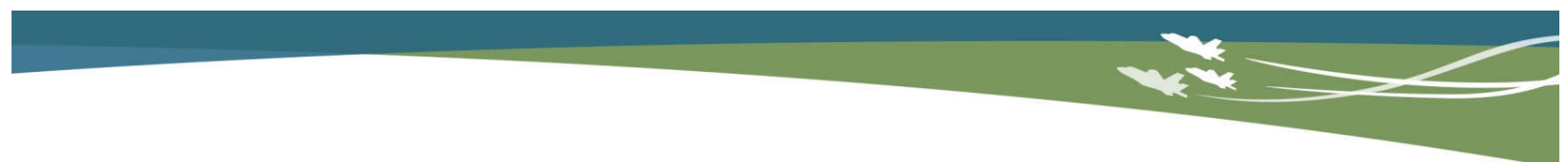
It is the recommendation of staff that the commission reject the proposal to forward this recommendation to the City Council.

DESCRIPTION / BACKGROUND

During the Commission meeting held on February 19, 2020, Commissioner Baker requested that the commission discuss the development of a performing arts center. His request included a request that the commission make a recommendation to the city council that they consider the development of a performing arts center to be located on the proposed Mabey Place development.

As staff has researched this issue and the proposed Mabey Place development, the following facts were determined:

- For the past decade, the goal of the city based on the VISION 2020 strategic plan has been to develop a “front porch oriented arts program.” The proposed facility would exceed that scope and mission.
- Clearfield City does not own the property. The proposed developer intends to purchase the property, not the city. The cost of acquiring the property, either from the current owner or the developer, would only serve to make the costs associated with the construction of such a facility even more challenging.
- The cost to develop the proposed facility would be approximately \$10 million dollars.
- The City does not have the ability or the willingness to bond for that amount of money with other large bond payments for the Aquatic & Fitness Center still on line until 2028. The city has also committed to bonds for the development of Clearfield Station, debt for the energy performance contract of 2016, and the purchase of the Clearfield Trailer Park.

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- In addition to the costs of construction, the costs associated with the operation of the facility, including adding full time and part time staff, materials and supplies, and utilities, etc. would make the effective operation of the facility extremely difficult to add to the current city budget.
 - Politically, there are other projects that would take priority over this proposed project for the available funding and bonding capacity.

For the reasons indicated, forwarding a recommendation to the city council that they are certain to reject seems counterproductive and unnecessary.

CORRESPONDING POLICY PRIORITY (IES)

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

The commission could choose to forward this recommendation to the City Council.

SCHEDULE / TIME CONSTRAINTS

N/A

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

N/A