

MURRAY CITY-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL MINUTES

The Murray City School Coordinating Council met virtually on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Murray City Council

Kat Martinez – Coordinating Council Chair
Dale Cox
Rosalba Dominguez - Excused
Diane Turner - Excused
Brett Hales

School Board

Jaren Cooper – President - Excused
Belinda Johnson
Glo Merrill - Absent
Elizabeth Payne
Kami Anderson

Others Present:

Mayor Camp	Richard Reese
Melinda Greenwood	Superintendent Jennifer Covington
Doug Hill	
Chief Burnett	
Jennifer Heaps	
Jennifer Kennedy	

Welcome – Approval of Minutes

Ms. Martinez welcomed all at 5:00 p.m. and asked for approval of the minutes from January 13, 2021. Ms. Covington moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Cox seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Business Items:

Economic Development Report – Community and Economic Development Director, Ms. Greenwood shared a PowerPoint to report large projects underway, and to review other more recent developments. She provided renderings, conceptual drawings, and discussed details about the following:

- The Vine – A mixed-use development on 184 East Vine Street.
- Security National – Class A office space, the second of five buildings at 433 West Ascension Way.
- UEA (Utah Education Association) - New building/Office space at 887 East Pontiac Drive.
- Youthlinc – Adult education, and after school programs for students at 346 East 4500 South.
- Dutch Bros Coffee – Drive through coffee shop at 5546 South 900 East.
- Other projects and developments:
 - 48th and State Street – Concepts and plans for development coming soon for the public.
 - Townplace Suites - 5300 South State Street. Now open.
 - Abbington Assisted Living - 133 East 5460 South. Nearly complete.
 - Murray Square – Building permit issued. (The old K-mart site has been cleared.)

Mr. Reese shared thoughts about Security National constructing the second of five office buildings; he wondered how remote working had affected the potential need for new office space. Ms. Greenwood confirmed tenants are already programmed for the second building, so there was no concern about leasing that office space. Regarding the larger community of additional buildings, she agreed that since the pandemic there is a notion that office space is no longer in demand; but clarified this is not the case. She explained office space is still needed but not in the same way; most businesses now offer a rotating hybrid approach, which requires the same amount of floor space. For example, scheduling in-office

workdays A and B to successfully integrate employees back into physical business cultures; socially spacing employees more than ever before; and rearranging technical needs and providing HVAC systems much differently.

Ms. Johnson led a discussion about the number of high-density apartment complexes, and dense housing projects coming into the Parkside area. She received comments from heavily impacted residents who feel developments are one after another; and due to turnover rates that occur at apartment complexes, great impact is felt in the culture of the school. She understood affordable housing was necessary, but impact was not only hard on community schools, but roads and other services too. She felt this type of growth in this quadrant of the City was more prevalent; so, she encouraged concerned constituents to contact City Council Members, City planning staff, and zoning departments to discourage more development of mixed-use projects in this area of the City. Ms. Greenwood confirmed citizens are not completely wrong in that observation; dense housing projects are most visible along major arterial roads, collector streets, and transit corridors. She affirmed staff made conscious decisions about where to locate density according to the General Plan; and agreed certain areas would see impact related to school attendance. She said it was access to commuter rail that drives the multi-use housing development concept. Ms. Johnson said in a logical fashion that made sense; however, she observed Murray families attending Parkside would see two or three apartment projects planned in their area, while residents on the west side of the City are getting \$800,000 Ivory home neighborhoods. She said perception is reality, which was a hard thing to understand because although all Murray schools are accepting of all students, multi-use housing creates a transient school, which brings many difficulties. Her hope was to make everyone aware of the issue.

Ms. Covington asked for details about The Vine housing project, on Vine Street. Ms. Greenwood said units would sell at market rates, and are primarily studio one-bedroom units, with a few two and three-bedroom options.

Ms. Anderson inquired about the Bullion Street housing project. Ms. Greenwood said the developer recently submitted a new application; the original plan for approximately 92 units was withdrawn. He now hopes to see the property rezoned for 20 single family lots and 55 townhomes, for a total of 75 residential units. Public notice will be given, prior to the planning commission meeting on May 6, 2021, where consideration would be given.

Police Report - Chief Burnett said according to school resource officers, that while vaping and minor challenges still exist, overall, the school year had been relatively quiet; he had no new major issues to report. Police officers have missed providing the DARE program for high school students; the hope is to resume next year. With warmer temperatures, a few more students are seen walking to and from schools, throughout parks, and in busy areas away from schools. Currently, an audit is underway to reevaluate where crossing guard assistance is needed most, through the end of the school year. He assured if only one or two students need help crossing a dangerous busy road – a crossing guard will be provided. He said areas close to schools that did not need crossing guards in the past, are now being considered. They are open to hearing suggestions from parents and students who might have additional insight for needed placement.

Ms. Anderson appreciated crossing guards at Riverview Jr. High School on 700 West that had been very diligent; she asked if they would continue. Chief Burnett confirmed crossing guards at both Hillcrest and Riverview would be maintained.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Camp discussed updated COVID-19 regulations and guidelines, as the City would be handling the matter differently than the school district. Due to HB (House-Bill) 294, and legal counsel

advice, the City would extend the face mask order until three thresholds are met, which are: the 14-day case rate must be below 191 per 100,000 people; the current ICU use must be less than 15%, and the current prime first dose allocation of the vaccine must reach 1.63 million. He provided a slide presentation related to extending the Emergency Executive Order to review the temporary facemask policy, and new signage. (Attachment #1)

School District Report – Superintendent Covington spoke about the following:

- MHS (Murray High School) Class of 2021 Graduation – May 28, 2021: A graduation ceremony will be held this year at 10:30 a.m. on the football field, according to Salt Lake County Health Department guidelines. Capacity will be limited to 50%, and each student will be allowed four tickets. There will be a set-time limit for speakers to address the audience to shorten the length of the program. Prerecorded speeches and musical numbers will be shown virtually on the MHS YouTube channel at 8:00 a.m.
- Next School Year: The school district and school board will discuss preliminary ideas regarding what the school year will look like. The intent is to return to a pre-pandemic schedule; normal as possible.
- Development and Growth: With regard to concerns about overcrowding in schools, Ms. Covington clarified there is capacity in most schools. This year there was a reduction of 400 students from last years' gross enrollment, which was partially due to the pandemic but also because of alternative choices for education. She said the biggest challenge is in the area of the potential Bullion housing development because Viewmont Elementary is at capacity. Therefore, the board could consider moving students about, to attend other schools. There is capacity at Riverview Junior High, and MHS; but McMillian Elementary is at capacity. Students dwelling at the new Murray Square development will attend Parkside Elementary, where there is capacity, and busing would be necessary.
- All Murray schools navigated the governors COVID-19 Executive Order well throughout the year; face masks will be required until June 15. She was proud that all Murray schools stayed open, five days a week all year long; and flexibility was offered for concerned families.

Ms. Martinez asked if there was a need to construct an additional elementary school. Ms. Covington said there was plenty of room at Liberty, Grant, and Longview elementary schools; and school growth depends on where new population is centered. As a board they are willing to make adjustments to accommodate new students. Another way to adjust enrollment might be to limit the number of permits for out of district students that travel from outside of the City to attend popular Murray schools.

Other Items from School Board or City Council Members: There was a brief discussion about when and if the City Council would return to in-person meetings, with public attendance. The Council is still considering the matter, due to various issues and concerns. Mr. Hales noted everyone is anxious to get back to normal, and confirmed the Council continues to have those conversations about the matter.

Internal Business Items: Ms. Martinez announced the next meeting would be held October 13, 2021.

Adjournment: 5:58

Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator II