



City of Mount Rainier
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CITY MANAGER REPORT
OCTOBER 2, 2012

Grants Management

The management team has successfully submitted reimbursement requests for the Buchanan Street Project and the Civic Center Project. The topographical survey was just recently completed and submitted to the contractors. A timeframe for completion is expected within the next week.

The Civic Center Project construction drawings are on target for completion in January 2013. The management team is expected to submit grant applications requesting funding for the full \$5 million needed to complete this project from a variety of sources including the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Obtaining quotes for the installation of the bike share stations is still presenting a problem for management due to the limited funding available. The city manager did consult with a company [Sandvault} located in British Columbia that may be able to assist with getting this project off the ground. The problems continue to be the cost of the actual bicycles, and installing and maintaining enough docking stations for the number of bicycles at a minimum of two stations. Sandvault thinks they may be able to get bicycles made at a cost of \$450 per cycle which is significantly lower than the usual \$1-3,500 cost per cycle. The good news is that Sandvault installed the very first bike share stations in North America in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Most of the manufacturers are located in Canada as well. The contact person is preparing a cost estimate which the city should receive this week.

The city is also preparing a grant application with the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the council is expected to adopt a resolution tonight in support of this project.

Rhode Island Avenue Development

The city council is still waiting for the County to provide information pertaining to its support of this development and how they can assist with making this a reality. The city treasurer was asked to contact Thomas Himler of the County Executive's Office pertaining to the city bond payments and overall debt relating to the purchase of the properties in the 3200 block of Rhode

Island Avenue. Mr. Manjani left three messages for Mr. Himler and after no return calls, sent an email to him this morning. Following receipt of the email, Mr. Himler returned a call to Mr. Manjani explaining that the county was still working on numbers and its response to the city. In the interim, the responders and moving forward on the project remain on hold. A copy of the email to Mr. Himler is attached (council only).

The city manager and assistant city manager did attend a reception sponsored by Neighborhood Development Corporation (NDC) the entity that is in partnership with Streetsense to building a mixed use facility with a retail component on the street level. This was an opportunity for both managers to see first-hand the work of NDC on an older building restored approximately three years ago and a new condominium that is under construction at the intersection of 7th and Lamont Streets in Washington DC. The work was very impressive, especially the 5th floor lofts and the outdoor living spaces on the green roofs. It was specifically asked whether this was the type of work that was being planned for the building in Mount Rainier. A copy of the roof top seating areas is attached.

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement continues to pursue adjudication for code abatement issues among other assignments. The vacant houses on Eastern Avenue and the vacant lot behind them are waiting for court dates.

Public Works

There is currently a position available within the department of Public Works. This is a laborer/driver position which is advertised on the city's website www.mountrianiermd.org. We have received numerous applications in a matter of days. The closing date for receipt of applications is October 9, 2012.

Finance Department

The finance department is diligently working with the auditors on the financial statements and fiscal audit for the period ending June 30, 2012. The lclity should receive its major property tax revenue within the next few days.