

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS . 11465 WEST CIVIC CENTER DRIVE . AVONDALE, AZ 85323

WORK SESSION
August 4, 2008
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR ROGERS

1 ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2 UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF COUNCIL GOALS

Staff will provide an update on the progress that has been made toward achieving the goals for Fiscal Year 2008-09, which were developed by the City Council during their budget planning retreat held on December 1, 2007. The council will discuss and provide direction to staff.

3 WESTERN AVENUE CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the completion of preliminary inspections on Western Avenue, potential violations and next steps. For information and discussion only.

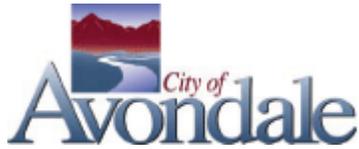
4 ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carmen Martinez".

Carmen Martinez
City Clerk

Any individual with a qualified disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 at least 48 hours prior to the council meeting.



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT:

Update on Progress Toward Achievement of Council Goals

MEETING DATE:

August 4, 2008

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Charlie McClendon, City Manager (623)333-1015

THROUGH: Charlie McClendon, City Manager

PURPOSE:

Staff will provide an update on the progress that has been made toward achieving the goals for Fiscal Year 2008-09, which were developed by the City Council during their budget planning retreat held on December 1, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

The Council met in a budget planning retreat on December 1, 2007 and developed goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2008-09. The goals were subsequently adopted by resolution on March 3, 2008.

DISCUSSION:

The goals and objectives developed and adopted by the City Council each year serve as the primary source of guidance for development of the City's annual budget. Additionally, the goals and objectives provide the basis for the City Manager's work plan as well as work plans for individual City departments.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for discussion and direction.

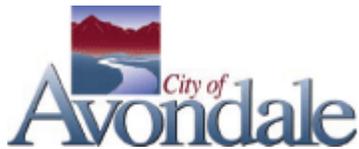
ATTACHMENTS:

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[Work Plan for 08-09](#)

Financial Stability

Goal Statement:	Ensure the long term financial stability of the City. Maintain the fund balance, contingency reserves, and service levels to ensure efficient operations.	Status/Results
Objective 1:	Foster entrepreneurial spirit in departments	
Tasks	Include in departmental work plans	Work plans being developed by departments, due by July 1
	Develop fee schedule that will make recreation programs self-funded.	Complete. All recreation programs have a fee structure that will recover direct costs.
	Continue to promote the recycling program into new markets to increase revenue to the Sanitation fund.	Staff continues to seek new contracts. Recycling revenue for FY07-08 exceeded \$100,000 for the first time.
	Evaluate existing services to determine if private sector contracts might be a more cost effective means of providing the service.	Increased the use of landscape contractors in parks maintenance as part of the FY08-09 budget balancing. Currently studying other options for operating services more efficiently.
Objective 2:	Provide staff training on being the eyes and ears of the City.	
Tasks	Discuss with staff at various meetings and functions.	Discussed at quarterly meetings and in employee newsletter. Added to new employee training.
	Provide forms for staff to record observations needing attention.	Complete. Forms were distributed to all employees and are being used.
Objective 3:	Conclude the discussion on revenue issues.	
Tasks	Prepare council agenda items allowing a decision to be made on the two tiered tax structure, bar & restaurant tax and contracting tax.	Complete. Council voted to add a ballot question regarding the two-tiered structure and the transit language amendment. Council did not vote to refer any other tax items at this time.
Objective 4:	Structure a program to maintain planned General Fund balance at no less than \$25 million.	
Tasks	Prepare the FY 08-09 budget keeping the final planned fund balance at or above the target amount.	Complete. The adopted FY08-09 budget indicated a planned year end balance in the General Fund on \$27 million.
Special Objective	Continuous monitoring of the budget and revenues and develop plans for revision as necessary in response to changing economy.	Finance and budget staff identified the need for budget reductions in FY 07-08 and in preparation for the FY 08-09 budget. Departments identified on-going budget reductions of \$1.7 million (\$1.4 million in the general fund) and one-time reductions of \$1.5 million (\$1.0 million GF). Cuts made since January produced additional on-going savings of over \$700,000. Additional cuts of \$1 million allowed for the addition of 11 Police and Court positions in FY 08-09. In all 29.5 positions were eliminated.



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT:
Western Avenue Code Enforcement Update

MEETING DATE:
August 4, 2008

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Gina Montes, Neighborhood and Family Services Director (623)333-2727
THROUGH: Charlie McClendon, City Manager

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the completion of preliminary inspections on Western Avenue, potential violations and next steps in the process.

BACKGROUND:

At the request of City Council, the Neighborhood and Family Services Department, Code Enforcement Division took the lead in a proactive enforcement effort on Western Avenue that includes other City Departments and City Codes. The Code Enforcement Division has authority to enforce the International Property Maintenance Code and also enforces the Zoning Ordinance on behalf of the Development Services Department. Other departments participating in the effort include Fire, Development Services (Building Division and Planning Division) and Finance. The purpose of the effort is to address property maintenance issues and also health and safety issues.

DISCUSSION:

Preliminary inspections have been completed on Western Avenue which have resulted in numerous property maintenance and other violations. Code enforcement officers inspected for a posted business license and to assure that basic health and safety requirements were met. This included inspections to assure that fire exits were adequate and fire extinguishers were in good repair among other items. Preliminary inspections have resulted in the need for more detailed inspections of building code violations including electrical issues and illegal additions. Depending on the results of these further inspections some businesses may be required to make costly repairs to make the property safe for operation and the public. Code Enforcement Division and other departments will work closely with business owners to determine reasonable corrections and timeframes for compliance.

The Neighborhood and Family Services Department will also make Community Development Block Grant funds available to merchants in need of assistance for renovations. These funds were set aside for storefront renovations. CDBG regulations allow the use of funds for correction of code violations, and the department will expand the program to encompass the needs of merchants.

During the course of the inspections, some merchants have requested that certain landscaping and maintenance issues be addressed by the City. The Code Enforcement Division has followed up with the appropriate departments which are in the process of addressing the issues.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no budgetary impact. Community Development Block Grant funds were included in the current budget for the Western Avenue Business Renovation Grants.

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is for information and discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

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No Attachments Available