

ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY COUNCIL OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, IN COUNCIL,  
ASSEMBLED YOUR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE to Whom  
was Referred a POLICY/WORKSHOP SESSION Regarding  
ADMINISTRATION GOALS and OBJECTIVES, REVIEW of the  
PRELIMINARY DRAFT of the CITY of PEORIA STRATEGIC  
PLAN 2003-2008, ADOPTED IN PRINCIPAL By RESOLUTION  
NO. 03-042, and SETTING FUTURE PRIORITIES for POLICY/  
WORKSHOP SESSIONS.**

A Policy/Workshop Session was held on Tuesday, June 8, 2004, in the Council Chambers, Room 400, City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois at 6:16 P.M., with Mayor David Ransburg presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call showed the following Council Members Present: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Turner, Mayor Ransburg - 10; Absent: Thetford - 1.

Others present: City Manager Randy Oliver, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray, Finance Director/ Comptroller Jim Scroggins, Assistant City Manager Alan Pennington, Police Lieutenant Phil Benne, Assistant Fire Chief Kent Tomblin, City Clerk Mary Haynes, Joan Schaumburg from the City Clerk's office, interested citizens and members of the media.

**REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF CITY OF PEORIA STRATEGIC PLAN 2003-2008  
ADOPTED IN PRINCIPAL BY RESOLUTION N. 03-042 ON JANUARY 21, 2003**

City Manager Randy Oliver distributed a handout regarding The City of Peoria Strategic Plan to all members of the City Council to coincide with the Vision 2020 adopted in principal by Resolution No. 03-042 on January 21, 2003.

Mayor Ransburg opened the Policy Session regarding Administration Goals and Objectives and Setting Future Priorities for Policy/Workshop Sessions, and hearing no objections, he then gave the floor to City Manager Randy Oliver.

City Manager Oliver highlighted some of the areas listed in the slide presentation regarding City of Peoria Strategic Plan adopted January 21, 2003. He said the purpose of this review was to determine whether the specific measurable tasks the City had developed would compare with the City's previous strategic plan. He inquired what areas of the plan the Council would like to discuss in more detail at this time. Several Council Members indicated they would prefer to address the specifics and eliminate reviewing the entire plan.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

City Manager Oliver said the information contained in the City of Peoria Goals and Objective had been previously discussed at the Council Retreat held on April 3, 2004. He said he would like to review some of the various updated City departmental goals.

City Manager Oliver referred to the project goals listed for Information Systems and said some of these projects existed in the 2004 budget and some would be requested to be included in the 2005 budget. He added the City's software vendor had made some recommendations for training regarding hardware and software upgrades that would require funds to be considered in the 2005 budget process.

Council Member Nichting said he felt it was important for each department to outline their goals and what was budgeted for 2004 and 2005 regarding these goals. He further requested an outline regarding the cost of the eleven goals Information Systems had listed to be provided to the Council within the next few weeks. City Manager Oliver said he felt goals and objectives needed to be part of the budgetary process for 2005, and he would work with staff to bring that information to Council.

Mayor Ransburg said he felt if there were any proposals in the objectives that would require a budget change, they needed to be highlighted; City Manager Oliver responded there was nothing contained in these goals that would require a deviation from the currently approved budget plan.

Council Member Nichting inquired why the discussion also involved 2004 objectives, and Mayor Ransburg said it was necessary to finalize objectives for 2004 to aid in the evaluation of the City Manager and the Staff at the end of the year.

In discussion regarding two of Economic Development's list of project goals for 2004, Council Member Spears inquired if there was any update on #4 - establishing a business development program to create 200 new jobs within the City, and #7 -the return of five surplus City properties to private ownership during 2004, City Manager Oliver said the City was currently working on #4, but had not been able to proceed with #7 due to staff limitations. Mr. Oliver said the City had progressed favorably with the business retention visits and would be asking for Council participation in attending these visits to demonstrate the City's interest in the industries and businesses in the community.

Council Member Spears suggested requesting businesses to provide high school students with summer employment which would enable them to understand the importance of education required in meeting the demands in the working world. In response, City Manager Oliver said this plan would provide the City with a good data base relating to the needs of the businesses, and who their contact people were.

City Manager Oliver explained one of the goals of the Planning Department was to begin implementation of strategy for the Heart of Peoria Plan. He said the Heart of Peoria Commission had requested to meet with the Council on August 10, 2004, at a workshop session for the purpose of obtaining feedback from the Council regarding their priority issues, and also allow them the opportunity to discuss the Plan's committee structures and activities.

In reviewing the goals of Community Development, City Manager Oliver said he had request HRC to devise a timeline schedule regarding social service grants and present that information to the Council. Mr. Oliver said he felt there had been a marked improvement relating to the reduction of litter due to the utilization of community service people with the help of the court system, and he commended IDOT for their commitment in keeping I-74 litter free.

In response to Council Member Grayeb's inquiry regarding how the information regarding the HRC's timeline schedule would be presented to the Council, City Manager Oliver said he would be placing the item on the Agenda for Council approval.

Several Council Members expressed concern regarding businesses making an initiative to remind citizens utilizing their establishments to keep the surrounding neighborhoods free of litter. In response, City Manager Oliver said if he was provided with the names of the businesses, he would contact the establishments regarding this matter. Some Council Members said many businesses policed their areas and they felt others should be encouraged to do the same.

City Manager Oliver made some observations regarding Police Department goals and one of these was changing the protocol relating to the noise ordinance within the police department. He stated if two unrelated parties sign a complaint, then a ticket could be issued. He added the purpose was to eliminate a difference of opinions among neighbors. He said he felt the Police needed to be more diligent in issuing fewer warnings, and writing more tickets if the violation warranted such action, and he said he wanted to obtain consistency within the Police Department regarding this issue.

Further discussion was held regarding the Police protocol relating to the enforcement of the noise ordinance. It was noted that some citizens did not receive support from their neighbors, and some were fearful of retaliation, and the Council felt the City needed to develop a plan to enforce these quality of life ordinances and help these citizens. There was further discussion if complaints should be signed by two parties instead of one, and Corporation Counsel Ray said he felt the best solution was to have the complaint signed by two people when possible, and encourage the Police Department to issue fewer warnings and write more tickets after 10:00 P.M.

City Manager Oliver said with the Council's approval, he would contact the Police Chief for input regarding the police not issuing warnings after 10:00 P.M., unless there was an unusual circumstance, and write more tickets to citizens who were in violation of the ordinance.

Council Member Gulley suggested the City review its plan regarding the process citizens should follow when notifying the Police Department with information regarding ordinance violations and to make this information available to the public. City Manager Oliver said he would contact the Police Department so the matter could be taken care of.

In discussion with City Manager Oliver regarding the Tri-County Study and Senator Shadid's \$300,000 Study on the downtown transportation corridor, Council Member Sandberg determined Senator Shadid's Study only included Washington, Adams and Jefferson Streets, which was known as the Southern Gateway, and the Tri-County Study's purpose was to expand and amplify the work that was done in Senator Shadid's Study to include all of the downtown streets. He further determined both studies would be done by the same consultant firm. City Manager Oliver stated he would provide a scope of services to be performed by the study in the Council Issues Update packet, if that was the Council's wish.

Council Member Gulley said he felt Martin Luther King Drive was a vital corridor linking the airport to the downtown area and he said he felt King Drive should be included as part of the Southern Gateway Study. In response, City Manager Oliver said the City would make the request to IDOT.

Council Member Spears expressed concern regarding what method was used by the City to determine the percentages illustrating which projects were completed and those not completed. He said he felt this information was necessary to determine the City's Manager's evaluation.

Council Member Grayeb expressed concern regarding the resurfacing of various streets throughout the City and he requested an updated list from the Public Works Department regarding what streets were scheduled to be resurfaced and when. City Manager Oliver said he would provide the information next week.

Council Member Gulley said he felt the completion of the Southern Gateway Corridor should be a priority of the Council because of the amount of money the City had invested, the positive impact regarding the airport providing a vital linkage to the downtown area, and citizens satisfaction for the completed project.

City Manager Oliver said since there was insufficient funding currently available for the project, he felt this would be a goal and objective for 2005.

In response to Council Member Spears' inquiry regarding problems with the emergency software dispatching system, Assistant Fire Chief Tomblin said the system had a difficult time recognizing whether a response came from a truck or an engine when they were dispatched to an emergency fire call, and background information along with recommendations were being compiled and would be presented to the Council.

In reference to the Cable Franchise Renewal Process, Council Member Spears said before the City began negotiations with the Cable Company, he felt there should be a number of public hearings regarding cable operations and what the citizens expectations and demands would be from cable operators. He said he felt citizens needed to have better input regarding the cable operations.

City Manager Oliver said the FCC had given the City certain responsibilities, but the local government had no authority to regulate the cable rate. Mr. Oliver concurred the public should be allowed to voice their concerns at public meetings.

Council Member Morris said he felt the Council needed to review the increase in fees and fines regarding various licenses. He said he felt this issue should be a policy priority, and the Council should consider reducing some of these fees.

Council Member Sandberg said in reviewing the issue of decreasing fees, the City's goal should be to establish a system which assists firefighters in preventing life and property loss, and their own personal injuries, and make sure the private and public hydrants are in working condition.

City Manager Oliver said the Fire Department was reviewing their process for evaluating fire hydrants and inspection reports, and he said within the next month they would bring forward any changes they deemed necessary.

Several Council Members concurred the City needed to implement a serious consequence for violators of working private hydrants who were not assuming responsibility and the Fire Department needed to issue tickets when appropriate.

City Manager Oliver suggested the Council e-mail their concerns and comments and he would incorporate those ideas into a document and present it to the Council within three weeks for approval.

Mayor Ransburg stated the Council also needed a set of objectives for evaluating the City Manager's performance for the year; in response, the City Manger Oliver said he would comprise a list for distribution to the Council.

#### **DISCUSSION REGARDING SETTING FUTURE POLICY/WORKSHOP SESSIONS**

City Manager Oliver distributed a list of policy session priorities and he requested the Council review the list, determine the issue of importance to them, and return the list to him. He said he would then tabulate the sessions based on the Council's selections.

Council Member Gulley inquired if Workforce Development could help establish a summer youth program that would provide unfunded positions for high school students and create an opportunity for the students to get work experience.

Council Member Spears suggested the Council receive the goals and objectives in advance of the Council Meeting so the documents could be reviewed before discussion on the floor. City Manager Oliver concurred.

Regarding the list of City of Peoria Goals and Objectives, Council Member Gulley inquired if the wording in number five, "More People Living in Peoria" could be changed; City Manager Oliver said this could be reviewed, if it was the wish of the Council.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Morris moved to adjourn the policy/workshop regarding administration goals and objectives and setting future priorities for policy/workshop sessions; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Policy Session adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

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Mary L. Haynes, MMC  
City Clerk, Peoria, Illinois

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