TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
FROM: Patrick Urich, City Manager  
DATE: October 11, 2019  
SUBJECT: Issues Update

The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

**Peoria Police Department-5th Annual Trick or Treat with Peoria Police**

Announcing the 5th Annual Trick or Treat with Peoria Police!

**WHAT:** Trick or Treat with Peoria Police  
**WHEN:** Friday, October 25, 2019 from 5pm-7pm  
**WHERE:** Peoria Police Department, 600 SW Adams  
**WHO:** You! Free and open to the public 😊  
**WHY:** Because it’s almost HALLOWEEN!!!  
**WHAT ELSE:** Lots of candy, Touch-A-Truck, & a Petting Zoo too!

**Community Development—2020 HUD Consolidated Plan Outreach Results**

1. Executive Summary

Every five years, the City of Peoria is required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create a Consolidated Plan. In the plan, the City outlines how it will spend the roughly $2.5 million received annually from HUD as a formula grant. As a part of this effort, the City is required to conduct community outreach as a part of the prioritization process.

This year, City staff undertook a large citizen participation endeavor that included online and paper surveys about priorities for the HUD funding. The survey was sent to community partners, including local nonprofits, neighborhood groups, and the Chamber of Commerce, among others, for distribution to their networks. Staff also held three community meetings dedicated to the Consolidated Plan and HUD funding in conjunction with community partners and attended over 35 additional meeting or events to engage City of Peoria residents. Through this outreach, the City staff received 773 surveys.

In general, the feedback on program priorities aligned with much of the programming the City currently undertakes with the HUD funding. The top priority rated by respondents under housing needs was to help...
homeowners make repairs, which is the focus of the City’s single-family rehabilitation programs. The community also identified a strong need for economic development programs for job creation, which has been made a priority by City Council in recent years and incorporated into funding opportunities.

The survey also asked about the availability of safe, affordable housing and the prevalence of housing discrimination. Nearly 24% of respondents indicated they were not able to find safe, affordable housing, with the top reasons cited as high cost, unsafe/unsanitary conditions, and crime. Survey respondents also identified the South Side, East Bluff, and North Valley as the top three areas that should receive targeted HUD funding.

A detailed summary of the survey results follows. City staff will utilize these results and other stakeholder input to design projects that will be included in the 2020 Consolidated Plan. The plan will come before City Council for approval.

II. **Methodology**

The survey was distributed both in person and online to reach a variety of respondents. While the City wanted to engage residents in all Council Districts and neighborhoods, a special emphasis was placed in reaching the low-income residents whom this funding is intended to assist. Community partners such as PCCEO played a vital role in distributing and collecting surveys from one of the targeted areas. This survey is not scientific in nature.

The first section of the survey included questions on demographics. Next, there were three questions categorized into housing needs, community needs, and homeless needs. Under each question, citizens ranked a variety of options, as “low,” “moderate,” or “high” priorities. Survey respondents ranked each option based on their personal thoughts on the needs for the City of Peoria. A low designation corresponded to one point, a moderate designation to two points, and a high designation to three points. Using a weighted average method, the sum of all points was then calculated and divided by the total number of respondents, resulting in a score between one and three points. The higher the average score, the greater the need. For each of the three questions, respondents could provide a brief narrative or comment on other needs they thought should be considered under each category.

Additional yes or no questions and open-ended questions were included about the ability to find safe, affordable housing; the prevalence of housing discrimination; and if HUD funds should be targeted in specific areas. A final open-ended question soliciting any other comments was included to capture priorities not included elsewhere in the survey.

**Demographics**
Of the 773 survey respondents, 14.9% resided in the 61603 zip code, 12.2% in the 61604 zip code, 23.8% in the 61605 zip code, 19.5% in the 61614 zip code, and 11.8% in the 61615 zip code. The remaining 18% of the respondents were split primarily among 61525, 61602, and 61606 zip codes, with small percentages residing elsewhere in other zip codes. Since housing is a regional issue, respondents living outside of the City of Peoria were able to complete the survey.

When asked about income, 16% of the respondents answered that their household’s income was less than $15,000; with an additional 16.3% answering that their household’s income was between $15,000 - $30,000 while 14.9% earned between $30,000 - $45,000. Over 20% earned between $45,000 - $75,000, and 32.3% earned over $75,000.

The majority of survey takers cited their race as white (60.6%), while 32.5% responded that they were Black, with 4.6% responding that they were two or more races. A small group of survey takers responded that their race was Asian (0.9%), Black and white (8%), and Asian and white (0.4%).
III. Homeless Needs

For the homeless needs question, homeless prevention services ranked highest at 2.64 out of 3 points, followed by outreach/services to homeless persons (2.57) and rental assistance to previously homeless individuals (2.56). The other homeless needs were ranked at 2.47 or below. Narrative comments on homeless needs included housing for convicted felons, deconcentrating poverty, and rehabilitation of older homes as housing opportunities for homeless/low-income individuals.
IV. Housing Needs

For the housing needs question, assistance for homeowners to make housing repairs and energy efficiency improvements for extant housing ranked highest, with weighted averages of 2.52 out of 3 points for each. Housing for individuals with disabilities and family housing followed close behind, at weighted averages of 2.40 and 2.39 respectively. The other housing needs were ranked at 2.34 or below. Narrative comments on housing needs included rehabilitation of older neighborhoods/homes and neighborhood improvement opportunities, services to lower income individuals, and the need for landlords to make repairs to rental units.
V. Community Needs

For the community needs question, economic development/job creation rose to the top at a weighted average of 2.65 out of 3 points, followed by sidewalk construction/repairs at 2.42 and Code Enforcement at 2.38. The other community needs were ranked at 2.31 or below. Narrative comments on community needs included safer streets through street lights and sidewalk repairs, code enforcement, and community-based job training and financial literacy programs.

VI. Public Service Priorities

The survey also included a question asking respondents to rank the most important public service needs in Peoria, choosing ten needs out of a list of eighteen. Mental health services and crime...
Issues Update  
October 11, 2019

Awareness/prevention were selected by over two-thirds of survey takers, making them the highest priority areas as identified through the survey. Employment training, youth services, and health services rounded out the top five, with each receiving selection by over 50% of all survey takers.

VII. **Safe, Affordable Housing and Housing Discrimination**

After ranking and prioritizing needs, respondents could provide further information regarding their personal housing needs and housing discrimination. Fully 76% of the 663 survey takers who answered the question responded that they were able to find safe, decent, and affordable housing in the community, while 23.8% said they are not.

Out of those unable to find safe, decent, and affordable housing—as well as individuals who wanted to provide further commentary—nearly 23% cited high cost as a barrier, while over 11% cited unsafe/unsanitary conditions, and 13.9% cited crime.
When asked about housing discrimination in their community, or if they themselves had faced discrimination in their pursuit of finding housing, 12.4% of the 428 respondents cited racial discrimination, while an additional 5.6% cited segregation. 12.1% of respondents mentioned income discrimination, while 2.3% mentioned discrimination against individuals with criminal records.

**VIII. Targeted Use of Funds**

Citizens were then asked to describe areas of the city which they believe should be targeted for revitalization. Of the 450 respondents to this question, 60.7% wrote that funds should be targeted toward the Southside, with 27.8% writing the funds should be targeted toward the East Bluff and 6.2% pointing to the Near Northside.
IX. **Additional Feedback**
At the end of the survey, respondents were able to add general comments as well as ideas on community and neighborhood improvement. More than 330 individuals provided responses to the question, with a variety of answers. Just under 14% of respondents cited crime as an important factor, while another 10% of respondents cited Code Enforcement. Other higher-frequency responses included sidewalks (6.6%) and litter (6.0%).

X. **Conclusion**
This year, City staff expanded the community outreach for the HUD consolidated plan and received great feedback from the community. In general, many of the priorities identified by the community are programming that the City’s HUD programming provides or are provided by community partners.
The next steps for City staff is to create a five year plan that incorporates these priorities based on the funding available. City staff will consult with stakeholders and other funding providers to ensure the City funds are best utilized and not providing unnecessary duplication of services.

The final 2020 Consolidated Plan will come before City Council for approval once the US Congress has passed a full year 2020 budget.

**Community Development-Engagement Opportunities**

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**Engage with the City of Peoria**

See below for information on the different meetings and where & when to attend!

**About the Engagement Opportunities with Community Development**

**100 Blocks in 100 Days** - Code Enforcement is taking to the streets in a new way, with inspectors walking 100 blocks in 100 days, knocking on doors to introduce themselves and their work to the City. Residents can speak directly to their inspector and share suggestions, comments, and concerns.

*Questions? Contact Ashley Elias at aelias@peoriagov.org, or 309.444.8820.*

**Commission Meetings** - The City of Peoria has a variety of commissions providing Council with input. This month, the Planning and Zoning and Historic Preservation Commissions will be meeting.

*Questions? Contact Leah Allison at lallison@peoriagov.org, or 309.444.8667.*

**One Stop Shop** - Every Monday, Community Development and various local agencies, including the Health Dept., Fire Dept., and Public Works, hold One Stop Shop, where citizens can come to seek answers for all of their development-related questions.

*Questions? Contact Leah Allison at lallison@peoriagov.org, or 309.444.8667.*

**Trash Or Treat** - Trade in a bag of litter for candy! Join the Renaissance Park Community Association as they help clean up their neighborhood for trick-or-treaters.

*Questions? Contact Kaylee Drea at kdrea@peoriagov.org, or 309.444.8674.*

**City Hall-O-Ween** - Trick or treat at City Hall! Members of the public are invited to bring their children to City Hall to pick up sweet treats, learn about city government, and meet their public servants. A welcome map will be provided upon entrance to City Hall to guide trick-or-treaters and their families to participating offices in the building.

*Questions? Contact Kaylee Drea at kdrea@peoriagov.org, or 309.444.8674.*

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**Dates, Times, and Locations of Engagement Opportunities**

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Weds., 10/23/2019 - 8:30am
City Hall, Rm. 400 - 419 Fulton St, Fourth Flr. Rm. 400

**Trash or Treat**

Sat., 10/26/2019 - 8am to 12pm
622 W Main St

**CITY HALL-O-WEEN**

Thurs., 10/31/2019 - 3 to 5pm
City Hall - 419 Fulton St
Peoria Public Schools – Update from Superintendent Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat

Learning @ Home

[Link: https://www.peoriapublicschools.org/Domain/2738]

Peoria Public Schools, under the direction of Superintendent Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat is proud to offer expanded services beyond the classroom, for students and families to utilize at home, the library or anywhere an internet connection is available.

Waterford Early Learning- Reading, Math & Science

Students in grades K-2 may use this program at School and at Home!


Use your district email address to get started.

Website: office.com

MS Teams for Education

All Peoria Public School students have access to Microsoft Office 365 Tools. Microsoft Teams for Education connects teachers and students! To login, use your ID number@students.psd150.org and your regular password.

Type to Learn

All Peoria Public Schools' students, K-12, have access to Type to Learn, an online typing toolkit to assist students as they learn to type. The district is providing Type to Learn 4 (web) for all students to learn typing. This program can be run on district computers and from home computers. Typing is an important part of our digital society, plus many of our state tests are moving to online tests, which will require typing skills.

myON

Learners select books from the entire library, choose from a recommended list of titles curated just for them or read from book sets created by their teachers to support instructional goals. myON generates individualized, interest-based recommendations within all learners’ target Lexile® ranges to engage them with just-right texts. This program includes flexible reading scaffolds with audio narration to model fluency, highlighted text and embedded dictionaries, which allow learners to
develop academic-specific vocabulary in context. myON is an award-winning personalized literacy environment.

**World Book Online** A suite of databases that covers all learners and their 21st Century learning needs. World Book Online aids in classroom curriculum by providing nonfiction informational text, multimedia, primary sources, maps, and compare and contrast features.

For more information about these learning at home options, contact Lisa Kokos, online learning coordinator, at lisa.kokos@psd150.org or 672-6536 ext. 22121.

Serve passionately,

Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat, Superintendent

**Development Review Board Agenda**

Please see attached.
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD AGENDA

Plans Distributed: October 9, 2019
Comments Due: October 16, 2019

Building/Projects this Week

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<th>Address</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>19-190</td>
<td>7327 N GALENA RD 1410176020</td>
<td>SPECIAL USE</td>
<td>Rezoning/Special Use – Council District 3 – KW PZ 19-30</td>
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<td>19-188</td>
<td>4115 W PARTRIDGE WY 13-12-352-007</td>
<td>SPECIAL USE</td>
<td>Signs/Landscape — Taco Bell – Council District 4 – KS PZ 19-31</td>
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Building Permits Issued

- Commercial
  - New Commercial: 1
  - Commercial Alteration/Addition: 3
  - Commercial Demolition: -
  - Electrical: 4
  - HVAC: 1
  - Plumbing: 1

- Residential
  - New Single-Family Dwelling: -
  - Residential Alteration/Repairs/Additions: 3
  - New Garage: 1
  - Electrical: 8
  - HVAC: 4
  - Plumbing: -

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY

The following information was provided by the Community Development Department and the Peoria City/County Health Department. This section is not intended for your review; the intent is to provide additional information.

Community Development Department

Total Construction Value for 2019: $69,591,710.00

Certificates of Occupancy Issued

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<th>Address/Location</th>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Date Issued</th>
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<tr>
<td>Planning Inspector</td>
<td>Leah Allison</td>
<td>Kimberly Smith</td>
<td>Kerilyn Weick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>494-8667</td>
<td>494-8612</td>
<td>494-8606</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mallison@peoriagov.org">mallison@peoriagov.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ksmith@peoriagov.org">ksmith@peoriagov.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Inspector</td>
<td>Roberto Medina</td>
<td>Wesley Stickelmaier</td>
<td>Rich Storm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>494-8623</td>
<td>494-8608</td>
<td>494-8632</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rmedina@peoriagov.org">rmedina@peoriagov.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:wstickelmaier@peoriagov.org">wstickelmaier@peoriagov.org</a></td>
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### Community Development Department

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<th>Information Update</th>
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### Peoria City/County Health Department

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<th>Address/Location</th>
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