A regular meeting of the Downtown Advisory Commission was held on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at Venue Chisca, 1009 SW Washington St., with Chairman Mark Misselhorn presiding and with proper notice having been given.

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call confirmed the following Commissioners

Present (7): Mark Misselhorn, Alma Brown, Becky Frye, Jon Neidy, Ray Lees, Paige Dodson, Jon Jenkins,

Absent (1): Vincent Boyle

City Liaison: Leslie McKnight, PhD

Presenters: Ashley Schreck, Light It Up Murray Baker Bridge Project, Scott Reeise, Public Works Director,

Katie Kim, The Kim Group

Others Present: City staff and about 20 other people attended the meeting.

Chairman Misselhorn thanked Michelle Spurgeon, owner of Venue Chisca for hosting the Commission meeting. He thanked those in attendance and encouraged everyone to continue attending DAC Meetings.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Frye motioned for approval of the minutes of the regular Downtown Advisory Commission (DAC) meeting held on October 11, 2018; seconded by Commissioner Lees. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Misselhorn introduced the presenters of the various downtown projects.

**Light It Up Murray Baker Bridge Project-Presented by Ashley Schreck**

Ashley Schreck is the director of marketing at EPIC. She started the presentation with a brief overview of how the Light It Up Murray Baker Bridge Project started. A group called the 1,000 Pounds Project held a public pitch to restore the lights on Peoria’s Murray Baker Bridge. The project is called “Light It Up!” The bridge was originally outfitted with lights for aesthetic purposes on the 4th of July in 1991. Eventually, the lights started burning out. Now the bridge is totally dark. The goal is to install computerized, full spectrum, LED lights on the bridge; a big upgrade from the 1991 version. Currently, the group is raising funds throughout the region to replace the lights. They are relying on private and public donations. To maintain the lights, she said they hope to get dollars from stakeholders who may want the lights to change color for their own cause or event. In addition, she said they are setting up a beautification fund, where any group in town could apply for grants to go toward beautification projects like this one. Schreck said upgrading the bridge lights would improve quality of life for the City of Peoria. The Murray Baker Bridge will be closed in April 2020 and the group wants to have the lights installed during construction. A public meeting will be held once a design is approved within the next couple of months. The group is looking at other cities for light designs, price points, and fundraising monetary system.
One Way to Two Way Street Conversion—Scott Reeise, Public Works Director

Scott Reeise discussed the one way to two way traffic conversion plans and activities for Adams and Jefferson St. The conversion includes signal upgrades, striping and bump outs. The City has applied for 1.8 million dollar grant in safety funds. The most expensive costs in two way conversions are the signals, entrances, and road surfaces. The City Council adopted a complete street plan that sets the designs and guidelines for street conversions. The benefits of two way streets downtown include fuel efficiencies, helps revitalize downtown, natural traffic calming, and easy for pedestrians to come. Adams and Jefferson streets are set for two way conversion in 2021. Walnut, between Adams and Washington conversion would have many benefits but need funds in order to do it.

The Block and Venue Chisca Presentation—Presented by Katie Kim

Katie Kim gave a brief overview of the block. The complete development will entail five (5) commercial buildings: Building 1 (1014 SW Adams) 3 story building with 28,800 SF; Building 2 (Alley Building) - 1 story building with 3,300 SF; Building 3 (Dome Building) - 1 story dome building with 9,600 SF and 750 SF on a mezzanine level; Building 4 (Loading Dock Building) - 1 story building with 5,900 SF; Building 5 (Maple/Washington Building) - 2 story building with 28,500 SF; Cantina Area; and Parking Lot. The overall development includes office, retail and entertainment space. Casey Baldovin is the contractor for the redevelopment. Venue Chisca will have multiple ballrooms and meeting space. The venue will hold over a 1,000 people and can have multiple events at one time. Currently there are parking spaces at the site and surrounding area.

NEW BUSINESS & PUBLIC COMMENT
Chairman Misselhorn invited the public to tour Venue Chisca after the meeting. He also informed the DAC and public that the next DAC scheduled for January 10, 2019 will be a strategic planning session to set priority goals for the DAC in 2019.

ADJOURNMENT
Chairman Neidy made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Chairman Brown. The Downtown Advisory Commission Meeting adjourned at approximately at 5:30 p.m. after the motion was approved unanimously.

Leslie L. McKnight, PhD
Leslie L. McKnight, PhD, City of Peoria
City Manager’s Office