



Office of the City Manager

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Patrick Urich, City Manager *P.U.*

DATE: May 12, 2012

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.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS STATUS REPORT. The following information is a status report regarding Information Systems.

Server Virtualization Implementation: PC Specialist Project Leader Cory O'Brien and Network Specialist Jon Lick will be attending a class on server virtualization the week of May 21, 2012. Pearl, our vendor for the virtualization hardware and software project, will have a kickoff meeting on May 28, 2012 and work is scheduled to start June 4, 2012.

Both the ONESolution and Qyestys upgrades are dependent on the server virtualization to be in place before the upgraded software can be installed.

ONESolution: They have scheduled the Community Development portion first. Community Development business analysis was completed April 24, 2012 – April 27, 2012. It is estimated it will take from 6 – 9 months to have the Community Development portion up and running. The software must be installed, configured, old data converted, and users trained. Getting the financial side upgrade this year could be problematic due to lack of staff and that the end of year is typically a very busy time for Finance.

Questys: We have requested that they developed a timeline for the upgrade. In the mean time, they have been given access to the existing Questys server so they can test their conversion software. In addition, they are developing templates for the Clerk's agendas and minutes. The Clerk's staff will need to be trained and the existing data converted.

iPads: Key members of the IS staff have begun testing I-Pads. On May 2012, an instructor from ICC Professional Development Institute, Shannon Mollenhauer, put on an I-Pad class for IS staff. Mr. Mollenhauer has also worked with Councilperson Akeson on I-Pads.

In addition, we met with Councilman Spain on May 7, 2012, to get a better understanding of how he currently uses his iPad and how he would like to utilize it as a City tool. He showed us the difficulties he encounters while accessing the council agenda. Armed with that knowledge, we have been talking with Questys on how the Questys upgrade will make the agenda iPad friendly.

The City of Peoria will be selecting an Information Systems Director as well.

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. With the retirement of Public Works Director, David Barber at the end of May, Jeffrey Smith, City Engineer will be appointed Interim Director of Public Works until the selection of the Public Works Director is finalized.

REPORT BACK REGARDING AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR BUSINESS. The City Council discussed at its March 27, 2012 meeting, an automotive repair business that has been illegally operating on the 100 block of East Arcadia (Item 12-132). In response, the Office of the Corporation Counsel has filed a complaint in state court against the person conducting the automotive repair business and against the owner of that property. The complaint seeks monetary fines for each day the business has operated at that property. The complaint also seeks an injunction that would prevent the owner of the property and the operator of the business from conducting an automotive repair business at any location within the City of Peoria unless that business is properly licensed and complies with all zoning laws. Violation of such an injunction could result in fines or a jail sentence.

COMMUNITY HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (CHDO) FUNDING FOR 2012. The City, through its Department of Planning and Growth Management, has released the Certification Form and 2012 Funding Request for CHDO funds. A CHDO is a private, nonprofit, community-based service organization that has paid staff and the capacity to develop affordable housing for the Peoria community. A CHDO must meet certain requirements pertaining to its 1) legal status, 2) organizational structure and 3) capacity and experience.

The City must use 15 percent of its total HOME Investment Partnership Grant allocation for CHDO activities. Based on the City's HUD 2012 budget (approved by Council on March 27, 2012), \$230,000 will be set aside for CHDO activities in 2012. However, funding availability is dependent upon the City's receipt of its HUD allocation.

The City has released the Certification Forms for those interested in becoming a CHDO. Further, Recertification Forms are available for existing CHDOs who would like to recertify its organization. Finally, the 2012 Funding Requests are available for those organizations that complete the certification process and would like to request funding for 2012.

Forms and Funding Requests are available until Monday, May 21, 2012. Copies can be obtained from the Department of Planning and Growth Management (PGM) or by contacting Nicole Frederick, Grants Coordinator at 494-8606 or nfrederick@ci.peoria.il.us.

DOWN PAYMENT (DPA) ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CLOSED. On Friday, May 25, 2011, City staff will close the Down Payment Assistance Program for new applicants. The City is near the completion of the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) grant. The City was awarded \$249,000 in IHDA down payment assistance funds in 2009. The IHDA grant, in combination with the City's HUD funds, increased the amount of grants available for individuals.

The number of applications received thus far for 2012 will use the remaining IHDA and City HUD funds. It is anticipated that once the City receives the 2012 HUD allocation, the Program will reopen for new applications in late 2012 or early 2013.

As of April 2012, the City has provided \$127,200 of grant funds to 13 property purchases this year, which represent a total of approximately \$995,400 in housing sales.

The chart below totals the properties per Council District that have been assisted with the Program as of April 2012:

Council District Five (5)	Council District Two (2)	Council District Three (3)	Council District Four (4)	Council District Five (5)	TOTAL
1 loan	2 loans	3 loans	5 loans	2 loans	13 loans

Staff attributes the success of the program to its increased marketing, partnership with local lenders and realtors and the increasing need for down payment from individuals as lending regulations have become more stringent.

Any individual interested in applying or would like additional information should contact Nicole Frederick, Grants Coordinator at 494-8606 or nfrederick@ci.peoria.il.us.

APRIL 2012 CRIME STATISTICS SHORT REPORT. This is the Crime Report for April 2012. It is the 7-page "short" report with UCR Crime data only. **(Electronic Copy Only)**