



Office of the City Manager

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

DATE: March 23, 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.

David Barber Retirement

Director of Public Works David Barber has announced his intention to retire effective May 31, 2012. David joined the City in September of 2007 and has been a tremendous asset to both the citizens and the City's management team. The City will be posting the vacancy soon and will seek to fill the position before David's departure in order to have a seamless transition.

TIGER 2012 Grant Submitted

On Monday, March 19th, the City submitted its application to the US Department of Transportation for a TIGER 2012 grant. The request seeks \$19,760,000 in federal funds (to be matched with \$4,940,000 in local funds) to extend Pioneer Parkway from Allen to Radnor and from Wood Sage to Orange Prairie. The City expects to hear results in late May or early June.

Food Truck Ordinance

The City of Peoria has been approached by an entrepreneur who is looking to operate a "food truck." In reviewing the City's current ordinance governing sidewalk vendors and peddlers, staff found that neither addressed the particulars of a mobile food vehicle such as this. In order to create an environment in which such a business could operate, staff in the Legal Department, Public Works Department, Planning and Growth Management Department and City Manager's Office created the attached (electronic version) draft ordinances. One ordinance creates a permit for a "mobile food vehicle" and outlines rules for operating on public property or within the right-of-way. The other is an amendment to the zoning code and governs operation from private property.

Food trucks have seen a recent resurgence of popularity and many communities have looked to adopt policies regulating their operation. The City Manager intern reviewed ordinances and policies from cities across Illinois and the nation to determine best practices. City staff also worked with the inquiring individual to better understand his business model and operating plans. However, the ordinances need to be drafted broad enough to cover both this first operation and future operations. The proposed ordinance is modeled closely on a similar ordinance in Evanston, Illinois.

In preparing these regulations, staff has endeavored to balance the needs of the vendor to have flexibility and certainty and the concerns of surrounding property owners, businesses and residents. Food trucks will be allowed to operate from legal parking spaces on the City right-of-way and public parking lots with prior approval from Public Works. Initially, these businesses are being prohibited from

operating in the four block area where the City's sidewalk food vendors have traditionally operated. Furthermore, food trucks will not be allowed to operate within 100 feet of an established restaurant. The zoning code will allow operation from private property that is zoned institutionally (N-1) or industrially (I-1, I-2, I-3). The ordinances also create application and review mechanisms, limit operating hours, require that the operator have a valid license from the Health Department, and establish policies regarding litter and noise.

Staff is sharing these draft versions of the ordinances in order to solicit feedback from the City Council and the community in advance of Council action. Staff intends to bring the amendment to the Municipal Code to the City Council at its April 10, 2012. The change to the zoning code will be brought to the Zoning Commission at its April 5, 2012 meeting and then to Council on April 24, 2012. Questions, concerns or suggestions can be directed to Chris Setti in the City Manager's Office (csetti@ci.peoria.il.us, 494-8618) or Randy Ray in the Legal Department (rray@ci.peoria.il.us, 494-8592). The deadline for any changes is Friday, March 30, 2012.