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JOINT MDC PROPERTY AND PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
3pm
City Hall, City Council Conference Room

Attendees: Ashley Squyres, Steve Vlassek, Dan Basalone, Stephan Hunt, Brian Parker, David Pedersen, Rick Ritter, Tammy de Weerd, Cameron Arial, Richard Everett, Caleb Hood, Nathan Mueller

1. Valley Regional Transit – Fixed Line Transit Discussion

Stephen Hunt presented the fixed route transit expansion concept. The concept:

- Prioritize the next \$200k-400k investment in Meridian towards ValleyConnect 2.0
- Goal is to make connections within Meridian as well as to regional destinations.
- Provide service between major employment and residential centers through downtown Meridian.
- The goal is to provide service every 30-minutes between 6-9am and 3-6pm from Ten Mile to the Village. It would allow for further connections to Nampa and Boise.
- Would likely need two additional buses along with bus stop infrastructure.
- There is a discussion about natural gas buses, which are currently used vs electric buses. Initial investment in electric is higher (\$800k vs \$450k) but due to limited fueling stations in the valley, and the availability of other federal funds for electric buses, this may be the best route forward.
- The goal is to present to the Meridian City Council in April/May 2019 and see if there is interest in moving forward with this project.

2. VRT Harvest Transit Update

- David Pedersen presented the latest numbers for the program.
- January 2019: 893 rides vs 589 rides at the same time last year.
- The two new vans will be ready by mid-March.

3. Discussion About Alternative Parking Compliance

- Mayor de Weerd stated that with other potential larger projects looming, it may be time to revisit the fee in-lieu of option as parking will quickly become the tipping point.

- Ashley reviewed a little bit of the history with the fee in-lieu of program and the recent discussions with community development.
- Cameron shared his conversation with the Sandpoint Community Development Director in Sandpoint who has recently received attention because of the decision not to have parking requirements in downtown. Stated that transit was an imperative part of this success.
- Caleb discussed that modifications to city code may be required depending on how the committee would like to move forward.

Executive Session per Idaho State Code 74-206: The Committee may go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206 with the specific applicable code subsection cited as part of the motion to go into executive session.