



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Mayor's Task Force on Infrastructure

Tuesday, July 26, 2016
7:00 PM

Regular

City Hall
Conference Room 1C
Columbia, MO

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Tracy Greever-Rice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Tad Johnsen, Columbia Utilities Director; Ryan Williams, Assistant Columbia Utilities Director; John Glascock, Deputy City Manager; David Sorrell, Assistant Director of Columbia Utilities; Pam Burris, Sr. Administrative Assistant

Present: 7 - Katrina Boles, Gregg Coffin, John Conway, Cody Darr, Tony Grove, Jen Hedrick and Tracy Greever-Rice

Absent: 2 - Kim Kraus and Bill Weitkemper

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The July 26, 2016 Agenda was approved with a motion by Ms. Katrina Boles and a second by Mr. John Conway. Motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The July 12, 2016 meeting minutes were approved with changes on a motion by Ms. Katrina Boles and a second by Ms. Jen Hedrick. Motion passed unanimously.

The July 19, 2016 meeting minutes were approved with changes on a motion by Mr. John Conway and a second by Mr. Gregg Coffin. Motion passed unanimously.

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes Draft 7-12-16](#)
[Meeting Minutes Draft 7-19-16](#)

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a) Discussion of Interim Report to Council timeline, content, and format -
Ms. Tracy Greever-Rice commented that she had a discussion with the Mayor a couple of weeks ago to extend the deadline for the task force. She stated they also talked about the fact there was an interim report written into the ordinance that established the task force. She noted that the task force should focus their report as to where we are and what the plan is for finishing out the task force work, including an outline of what we plan to include in the format and a description of the format of the report. Mr. Gregg Coffin agreed with that. Ms. Greever-Rice asked for advice on

the best way to pull the highlights together. It was noted that all presentations excluding electric are on the website. Electric is the last topic to be discussed. Ms. Greever-Rice asked if there was anything notable that happened in April. Ms. Jen Hedrick stated she feels the process has been very similar throughout. Mr. Coffin feels it is relevant to include outside people that spoke to the group as well as city staff. Ms. Hedrick stated that the task force may want to include that through the course of discussion and recommendations, along with recommendations to each individual infrastructure. She stated that the task force has been able to pull out and recognize more global recommendations that are general to infrastructure. She noted that the task force has also been provided with a large volume of previous reports that have been completed. Ms. Hedrick asked the group what the general feeling is on the timeline going forward. The group discussed the end of October.

b) Review Letter from Dave Sorrell Regarding “Integrated Management Plan” - Ms. Greever-Rice asked Mr. Sorrell how the IMP fits in with the task force. Mr. Conway asked about the status of the completion. Mr. Sorrell stated the contract was for 2 years but should be done in a year. Mr. Conway asked when the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) is completed does it have any merit that the task force should have any inner workings with the development of the IMP. Mr. Conway also asked for feedback or comment from the task force about what their involvement should be in the IMP if any at all. Mr. Darr said he didn't see any reason for the task force to be a part of it. He stated that Council will take the recommendations and incorporate them into their masterplan. Mr. Sorrell then explained that the community outreach workshop is in the planning stages. There will be nine other workshops. Mr. Sorrell stated that he would like to receive feedback from the public hearing. Mr. Sorrell noted that he will be meeting with a consultant to work out details on the workshops. Mr. Conway explained the difference between the IMP and the task force, noting that the IMP is data driven and analysis with greater depth. Mr. Sorrell said the IMP plans to address all the regulatory requirements, at the same time as meeting the community's highest priority. Mr. Sorrell noted how funds are raised and Council makes that decision. He continued, saying the plan looks out about 20 years, with updates in 5-10 years. Mr. Conway asked if it would make sense or would there be any desire to get permission to be involved in the IMP workshops. Mr. Sorrell stated all meetings are public. Mr. Conway then stated he would be interested in representing the task force at the workshops and receive notice of the dates, times, and locations of the workshops.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a) Review Materials Needed to Form Infrastructure Funding and Development Fees Recommendations - The task force discussed briefly and made a decision to invite Jim Windsor, Assistant Director of Utilities to finish the discussion.

b) Discuss Format and Schedule for Public Hearings - The group discussed public hearings and infrastructure finance. Mr. John Glascock reported a resolution to

move the final report to November, 2016. Mr. Cody Darr reported that he would like to question the necessity of the public review. He feels the task force was not intended to be a group to hold public hearings. It was noted that the meetings are open to the public. Ms. Greever-Rice said she was given two ways to do this, if the task force does that part of the exercise as opposed to the council, the community will have some sense of what they are getting when it comes to the final report. Mr. Coffin suggested posting a final draft, and that way the group isn't there to answer questions, just to listen to suggestions and concerns. Public meeting dates and times were discussed in detail. Mr. Coffin stated he sees the sewer and storm water having the largest interest level. It was also suggested that they do three meetings, one for sanitary and sewer and one for roads and then one for electric. Ms. Greever-Rice feels there will be more interest in the funding issues. Mr. Coffin then suggested doing a public hearing for sewer and storm water together and then a public hearing for roads and electric. Ms. Greever-Rice reported that another model she has seen is to have a meeting for the report and then essentially have the same meeting at another time. It was noted that the final report must be submitted by October 28, 2016 to Council. It was requested that staff go over the report, set up the font, proper format, etc. The assignments were set up as follows, Mr. Coffin and Ms. Boles will do storm water, Mr. John Conway will do electric, Mr. Bill Weitkemper and Mr. Tony Grove will do sewer, and Mr. Cody Darr and Ms. Jen Hedrick will do streets.

a) Discuss Staff Presentation on Downtown Area Electric Utility Issues - Ms.

Greever-Rice asked if there was any discussion on the presentation by Mr. Ryan Williams. Mr. Conway had a discussion on the Millcreek Substation and its relationship to the transmission line. Mr. John Conway suggested that EMF impact may be of concern to some residents. Mr. Conway provided the following information on EMF's.

EMF Electric and Magnetic Fields Associated with the Use of Electric Power, June, 2002 - Prepared by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and National Institutes of Health - Sponsored by the NIEHS/DOE EMF RAPID Program - The largest evaluation to date, led by two U.S. Government Institutions, this evaluation, known as Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination (EMF RAPID) Program, with the goal of providing scientific evidence to determine if exposure to power-frequency EMF involves potential human health risks. At the conclusion of the EMF RAPID Program, the overall scientific evidence for human health risk is weak, epidemiological studies did show a fairly consistent pattern for a small increased risk of leukemia in children and chronic lymphocytic leukemia in adults. Scientific studies consist of animal studies, laboratory studies of cells, clinical studies, computer simulations, and human studies; all providing valuable information.

The New England Journal of Medicine, July 3, 1997, Vol. 337, No. 1 - by

the Massachusetts Medical Society - Recent comprehensive studies of leukemia among U.S. children were associated with surrogate indicators of residential magnetic field exposure, such as the Wertheimer-Leeper power line classification scheme, also known as “wire coding”. Comprehensive case-control investigations found no significant increased risk of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) associated with residential magnetic field measurements or with residence in homes characterized by a high wire code category.

The New England Journal of Medicine, July 3, 1997, Vol. 337, No. 1 - by the Massachusetts Medical Society - Recent comprehensive studies of leukemia among U.S. children were associated with surrogate indicators of residential magnetic field exposure, such as the Wertheimer-Leeper power line classification scheme, also known as “wire coding”. Comprehensive case-control investigations found no significant increased risk of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) associated with residential magnetic field measurements or with residence in homes characterized by a high wire code category.

issue has been difficult to study. Four lab studies look at the effects of ELF magnetic fields on cancer in mice and rats exposed to magnetic fields. Three of the studies found no increase in the risk of any type of cancer and one study showed an increased risk of tumors and cancer that start in the C-cell of the thyroid in male rats at certain exposures. This risk was not seen in the female mice or rats. Other studies in mice and rats looked specifically for a link between leukemia and lymphoma but no link was found. Studies done in children looked at a possible link between ELF radiation from magnetic fields in the home and the results have been mixed. The adult studies found no link between ELF magnetic fields and cancer.

Adult Cancers Near High-voltage Overhead Power Lines, March, 2013 -A case control study investigated the risk of adult cancers in relation to distance and extremely low frequency (ELF) magnetic fields from high voltage overhead power lines concluded 7,823 leukemia, 6,781 brain/central nervous system cancers, 9,153 malignant melanoma, 29,202 female breast cancer cases, and 79,507 controls frequency-matched on year and region. The results had no clear patterns of excess risk. No meaningful excess risk was observed for the four cancers examined.

The New England Journal of Medicine - Power Lines, Cancer, and Fear, July, 1997 - Results of a major study showing the risk of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) does not increase with the increasing electromagnetic field levels in children’s homes. The study was large, 629 children with leukemia and 619 controls, it included measurements of

electromagnetic fields, both in the houses where the children had lived and, in 41% of cases, in the homes in which their mothers resided while pregnant, also found no relation between the risk of ALL.

Distance from Residence to Power Line and Risk of Childhood Leukemia: A Population-based Case-Control Study in Denmark, February, 2014 - Epidemiological studies have found an association between exposure to ELF magnetic fields and childhood leukemia. A 2005 British study showed an association between proximity of residence to high voltage power lines and the risk of childhood leukemia. The method included 1,698 cases and 3,396 controls, and used geographical information systems to determine the distance between residence at birth and the nearest 132-400 kV overhead power lines. The results showed no higher risk of leukemia for children living 0-99m than for children living 200-599 m from overhead power lines.

Magnetic Fields and Childhood Cancer: An Epidemiological Investigation of the Effects of High-Voltage Underground Cables, September, 2015 - Epidemiological evidence of increased risks for childhood leukemia from magnetic fields has been implicated as one source of field. Magnetic fields are not the only factor, underground cables (UGCs) produce magnetic fields but have no other discernible effects. The largest ever epidemiological study of high voltage UGCs calculates the distance of the mother's address at child's birth to the closest high voltage UGCs and the resulting magnetic fields. However, no indications or an association of risk with increasing magnetic field for leukemia and no convincing pattern of risks for any other cancer.

Voodoo Science: The Road from Foolishness to Fraud by Robert Park - By Robert L. Park; Chapter 7; Pg. 140-161; CURRENTS OF FEAR In Which Power Lines Are Suspected of Causing Cancer - May 1, 1999, results of a long awaited Canadian epidemiological study of childhood leukemia were released. The study covered five provinces of Canada, closely matching the National Cancer Institute (NCI) study in the United States. The Canadian study found no relationship between exposure to residential electromagnetic fields and leukemia in children.

Mr. Conway also indicated that it was his professional opinion that property values should not decline due to the placement of the 161 kw transmission line and the current real estate market conditions in Columbia. The existing wooden poles will be removed and existing electric lines buried underground. Other cables on the poles will be underground. The entire electric system will benefit the city. No appraisal information has been presented to show a decline in property values.

Mr. John Conway provided pictures of existing 161kV electric transmission lines from recent visits (Nashville (2), Orlando, Sarasota, Jacksonville) in Tennessee and Florida that follow similar routes as what is proposed in Columbia. Primarily residential/commercial routes. Additionally, he had an office visit at the Sarasota, Florida Power and Light office to speak with the Transmission Line Manager. Columbia is not doing anything with transmission line routing differently than what they are doing in Sarasota. He also provided the staff report that was used at the January 19, 2016 Council meeting for the second public hearing on the route selection for the Columbia Electric Transmission Line Project. This report reveals that there is no new compelling evidence to not select Option A for the routing. There has been concern voiced about Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs) near the schools but finds it to be ironic that the Columbia Public School (CPS) recently purchased a piece of property for the new elementary school in southeast Columbia that has an existing 161kV Transmission line passing adjacent to the school property similar to what is proposed for Option A. Mr. Conway stated he would like to make a recommendation that the Council move ahead with Option A, that impacts the downtown area. Mr. Coffin advised the scope of the task force is the downtown area, he felt there was a fine line. He stated that maybe the task force should have some sort of recommendation but not to politicize it. Mr. Conway advised he would draft an electrical recommendation for the next meeting on August 2, 2016.

VI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Ms. Greever-Rice stated that the final report will be submitted on October 28, 2016 with a public hearing to be held one night with time slots organized for each of the infrastructures. This will be held on October 18 or 19. Ms. Greever-Rice said she would like to give Ms. Kim Kraus and Mr. Bill Weitkemper a chance to weigh in. Ms. Hedrick asked if staff would be available for public comments. Mr. John Glasscock stated this could be done.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

August 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1A
August 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1C
August 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1C
August 24, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1C
August 30, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1C

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Members of the public may attend any open meeting. For requests for accommodations related to disability, please call 573-874-7214. In order to assist staff in making the appropriate arrangements for your accommodation, please make your request as far in advance of the posted meeting date as possible.

For the complete audio version, please go to the following website:

<http://sites.google.com/a/gocolumbiamo.com/mayor-s-task-force-on-infrastructure/>