

CITY OF TONKA BAY

ITEM NO. 4A

MINUTES TONKA BAY CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION September 24, 2013

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The worksession was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mayor De La Vega, Councilmembers Anderson, Ansari, Clapp and Grothe. Also present were City Administrator Kohlmann and City Attorney Penberthy.

3. **TRAIL DISCUSSION**

Alex Meyer, Three Rivers Park District discussed the process to determine a viable trail detour during the bridge construction project. He noted there were wetland issues taken into consideration which impacted the cost of the detour location.

De La Vega asked what the timeframe is from start to finish. It was noted the bids would be out in the spring of 2014 with construction beginning in the summer with completion the following spring. De La Vega was concerned about the timing of the project. He stated he was not comfortable with the temporary link on the west side behind the ball field. He believed the trail would have to be moved closer to the residences because of the existing topography. Meyer stated the area would be filled in and a culvert installed. De La Vega suggested getting users to the park and having them figure out how to get out of there. Councilmembers discussed the location of the trail marked in red on the map. De La Vega stated he did not want the trail in the park at all. He suggested it be linked to the existing trail already in the park. Meyer stated the original plan was to avoid the parking lot because of the traffic. Penberthy stated there could be liability issues.

Councilmembers discussed relocating the soccer net to accommodate any trail reconfiguration. Councilmembers discussed signage and locations.

De La Vega asked if the red existing trail will be closed off during construction. Meyer stated it would be closed. He discussed the flow of traffic on the trail during the construction period.

Councilmembers discussed the blue trail as noted on the map. Clapp asked if there would be vehicles on the trail. Meyer stated it would be for ambulance access and vehicles on an occasional basis. He stated it was the Council's decision how wide it would be. He stated it is currently planned to be eight feet wide. De La Vega asked how high and wide the tunnel will be under the bridge. Meyer discussed the size proposed.

Clapp asked if a Tonka Bay identification sign is proposed. Meyer stated it is not a part of the plan.

De La Vega stated any time the trail can be minimized in Manitou Park would be preferred.

Kohlmann asked what the timeline is for easement approval on the part of the City. Meyer stated it would be good to have everything in place by the end of this year.

Members of the audience discussed their concerns about the proximity to neighboring properties. They hoped the trail would not impact their properties in any way. They were also concerned about traffic safety in the area and were pleased with the proposed bridge.

Councilmembers continued discussion of access to the bridge and directional signage. Penberthy noted liability is lessened when there is no signage. He stated the Council should defer to the County for any signage needs the County would have.

Meyer stated another map will be completed showing changes as proposed this evening.

Clapp discussed his concerns about conflict of interest should his company bid on this project. Penberthy explained he would have to step down from any discussions regarding this project should they be awarded the bid.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. seconded the motion. Ayes 5. Motion carried.

Attest:

Clerk