



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

City Council Work Session

September 12, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Supple called the work session to order at 5:45 p.m. in the Bartholomew Room.

Council Members Present: Mary Supple, Mayor; Sean Hayford O'leary; Ben Whalen; and Sharon Christensen

Council Members Absent: Simon Trautmann

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Chris Swanson, Management Analyst; Scott Kulzer, Administrative Analyst; Matt Hardegger, Transportation Engineer; Brittany Bartlett, Equity Coordinator; Joe Powers, City Engineer; Chris Link, Public Works Deputy Director; Kristin Asher, Public Works Director; Jay Henthorne, Police Chief; Kate Aitchison

ITEM #1	DISCUSS PROGRESS MADE BY PUBLIC WORKS IN UPDATING RICHFIELD'S ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY AND DISCUSS NEXT STEPS.
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Transportation Engineer Hardegger gave the presentation covering the ADA transition plan overview, city self-evaluation, methodology, scoring criteria, pedestrian curb ramp prioritization scores, and sidewalk prioritization scores.

Mayor Supple asked a question on behalf of Council Member Trautmann who was absent. She asked about the southeast quadrant of the city having a lot of need for sidewalk improvements. City Engineer Powers stated it was mostly due to the age of the infrastructure.

Council Member Whalen spoke about the challenges of plowing the Southeastern corner of the city and asked if there was a way for it to improve. Deputy Director Link spoke about the challenges of plowing that area of the city.

Mayor Supple asked if the I-494 project would improve some of the challenge areas on the map. Transportation Engineer Hardegger stated there would be some improvements at the intersections of the project.

Council Member Hayford O'leary spoke about the difficulties with sidewalk snow clearing.

Transportation Engineer Hardegger continued the presentation covering traffic signal prioritization scores and replacements costs.

Council Member Whalen and staff spoke about the timeline and pace of replacing traffic signals. Council Members and staff also spoke about prioritizing projects and taking continuity into account.

Council Member Hayford Oleary spoke about budget concerns and allocating funds for these projects in the next year. Deputy Director Link spoke about franchise fees and how they would fund ADA improvements.

ITEM #2	STAFF WILL REVIEW THE SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES OF THE SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING PILOT PROGRAM AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM.
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Deputy Director Link gave the presentation covering the pilot program overview, public outreach, snow emergency occurrences, use of parking areas, and recommendations from public works.

Mayor Supple and Council Member Hayford Oleary stated they were concerned about discontinuing parking areas and spoke about difficulties with residents finding parking options during snow emergencies.

Police Chief Henthorne spoke about the difficulties with ticketing and towing and discussed the process.

Council Member Hayford Oleary suggested one-side parking in certain areas of the city such as 64th. City Manager Rodriguez stated that if the city were to expand and add more pilot projects, the city would need to have deterrents in place so residents park off the street.

There was a discussion about towing and ticket fees. Police Chief Henthorne stated the ticket fee was \$40 and has not been raised for a long time. Council supported raising the fee to act as a deterrent for parking on the streets during a snow emergency.

Deputy Director Link summarized the discussion. Council Member Hayford Oleary stated it would be helpful to give residents enough notice of changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Supple adjourned the work session at 6:48 pm.

Date Approved: September 26, 2023



Dustin Leslie
City Clerk



Mary B. Supple
Mayor



Katie Rodriguez
City Manager