

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: August 2, 2007

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:05 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Dane Mahern, Chairman
Rozelle Boyd
Ron Gibson
Scott Keller
Angela Mansfield
Jackie Nytes
Marilyn Pfisterer

Absent Members

Lance Langsford
Mike Speedy

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 305, 2007 - appropriates \$610,000 in the 2007 Budget of the Department of Metropolitan Development (Redevelopment General Fund) to grant funds for use by Clarian Health within the Biocrossroads Certified Technology Park, for the construction of a pedestrian bridge between two of its facilities, for sidewalk improvements and streetscape design, upgrading sewer and water services and for project management of these improvements

“Do Pass”

Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 306, 2007 - appropriates \$53,761 in the 2007 Budget of the Department of Metropolitan Development (Consolidated County Fund) to fund salaries and benefits for two Legal Case Specialists to work with the abandoned vehicle and weed programs as well as with ordinance violations, financed by Permit revenues accounted for in the Consolidated County Fund

“Do Pass”

Vote: 7-0

Presentation on Community Economic Development Accomplishments – Margaret Banning, Administrator

Presentation on Neighborhood Services Accomplishments – Kevin Sifferlen, Administrator

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, August 2, 2007. Chair Dane Mahern called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. with the following members present: Rozelle Boyd, Ron Gibson, Scott Keller, Angela Mansfield, Jackie Nytes, and Marilyn Pfisterer. Absent were Lance Langsford and Mike Speedy.

PROPOSAL NO. 305, 2007 - appropriates \$610,000 in the 2007 Budget of the Department of Metropolitan Development (Redevelopment General Fund) to grant funds for use by Clarian Health within the Biocrossroads Certified Technology Park, for the construction of a pedestrian bridge between two of its facilities, for sidewalk improvements and streetscape design, upgrading sewer and water services and for project management of these improvements

Margaret L. Banning, Administrator of Economic Development, said Certified Technology Park (CTP) funding is a state designated area of which Indianapolis has two. The one discussed in this proposal is around the canal and over to the Indiana Avenue area. She said this is the Life Science CTP, where they encourage and recruit businesses related to life science to the area. Ms. Banning said CTP is designated to allow increased sales and income taxes collected within the area to go towards a specific fund up to five million dollars. That money is made available to the city to reinvest back into the area. She said the money is usually used for infrastructure and to recruit businesses. Ms. Banning said they are requesting \$610,000 out of the dedicated fund to assist in the new Clarian development along the north-end of the canal. The development is called the Fairbanks Hall, which will house a world-class training facility for medical professionals. She said 400 employees will be housed on the canal site with room to grow. She said Clarian is in need of the city's assistance, due to some additional costs and the lost of some anticipated tenants.

Councillor Mansfield clarified that the revenues discussed are those that the city would normally not have and are able to use for these purposes. She said these are not local funds being used and the funds use are for public purposes not private. Ms. Banning said these are state income taxes that the city normally would not receive if not for CTP, and the funds can only be used in CTP areas.

Councillor Pfisterer clarified that property tax does not fund these revenues. She asked what the balance is in the CTP designated fund. Ms. Banning said the remaining balance in this specific CTP fund will be \$3.7 million.

Councillor Keller asked what will be located in the development buildings. Ms. Banning said for this project the building will hold a training facility, where medical professionals can practice on human-like objects. She said they are expecting professionals from all over to take advantage of the facility.

Councillor Nytes asked if CTP collects income taxes from everyone regardless if they live in Marion County. Ms. Banning replied in the affirmative and said this is only done

in CTP areas. Councillor Nytes said it is nice to know that more of the money is going to stay with the city to help pay for our infrastructure. She went on to commend Clarian in keeping their headquarters here in the city.

Councillor Gibson said this CTP fund assists in economic development and strengthens and adds value to the life science initiative. Councillor Gibson asked for more information on Clarian's Health Projects. Scott Rigney, Director of Corporate Real Estate, described the makeup of the building and the project. He said on the first floor of the building there will be classrooms, a retail shop, a coffee shop, and a fitness center for the employees. Mr. Rigney said this is an opportunity to bring in clients and recruits from all over the country to work at Clarian. Melina Kennedy, attorney, said Clarian has been a great partner in collaborating with other entities on the canal.

Councillor Boyd asked what vacant areas are in the building. Mr. Rigney said anytime a building is built they will leave some vacancy to have room to grow.

Councillor Gibson moved, seconded by Councillor Pfisterer, to send Proposal No. 305, 2007 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 306, 2007 - appropriates \$53,761 in the 2007 Budget of the Department of Metropolitan Development (Consolidated County Fund) to fund salaries and benefits for two Legal Case Specialists to work with the abandoned vehicle and weed programs as well as with ordinance violations, financed by Permit revenues accounted for in the Consolidated County Fund

Rick Powers, Administrator of Division of Compliance, said there are some requested revisions to the code to streamline enforcement in various ordinances; specifically, to weeds and inoperable vehicles. He said these requested positions will facilitate in moving the streamlining measures together and moving forward with other cases.

Councillor Mansfield asked if there is a certain number of vehicles that can be on a property. Mr. Powers replied in the negative and said there is no ordinance that prohibits parking on grass on property. Councillor Mansfield asked if Health and Hospital has an ordinance against numerous vehicles. Mr. Powers said only if there is some environmental concern.

Councillor Boyd asked if these positions are exempt from the hiring freeze. Mr. Powers said they are appropriating the funds in anticipation that the positions will be exempted soon. Mr. Powers said their funding is not dependent on the tax rolls. They are fee supported 100%. Mr. Powers clarified that they are not requesting to hire, but only to appropriate the funds.

Councillor Nytes asked what time frame the requested \$53,761 represents. Mr. Powers said the remainder of the year. Councillor Nytes asked if the budget proposal that the Division of Compliance will submit, reflects these positions. Mr. Powers replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Keller said he is in favor of the proposal because weeds and inoperable vehicles are both big problems in District 16, and this will assist in speeding up the process of dealing with these problems.

Councillor Pfisterer asked if this proposal will assist in moving the cases through the system quickly and not actually handle the enforcement side. Mr. Powers replied in the affirmative and said this is the adjudication of these cases at a lower level.

Councillor Gibson said these are essential services that are not relying on property taxes and, therefore, he supports this proposal.

Councillor Gibson moved, seconded by Councillor Keller, to send Proposal No. 306, 2007 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Presentation on Community Economic Development Accomplishments – Margaret Banning, Administrator

Ms. Banning gave an update on the division's accomplishments. Some highlights are as follows:

- One of the major accomplishments was reorganizing the staff to dedicate human resources around some of the Mayor's major initiatives (Abandoned Buildings and Great Indy Neighbor initiatives).
- Upgraded four vacant positions to three higher positions, while saving money in Character 01.
- City now can certify properties as vacant and abandoned and acquire properties quickly for redevelopment.
- Increase fines levy on property owners who violate the unsafe building codes.
- Ban property owners who have violations against them from participating in future tax sales.

- Created a new redevelopment and housing tax increment finance HOTIF area on the east side of the city. Increment capture on the allocation has allowed the city to issue five million dollars in bonds to do infrastructure improvements on the east side. Also Department of Public Works (DPW) is doing five million dollars worth of drainage projects within the same area through sewer fees.
- Took possession of the Mozell Sanders Apartment complex and relocated the remaining 77 tenants to suitable housing. Currently demolishing the remaining 19 buildings.
- Final units of Village of Mill Crossing (former Parkwood Apartments) will be completed this year.
- Working with development partners around the city the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) funded 185 affordable rental units. Down payment assistance was made available to 97% of homebuyers, and \$3.3 million was invested to repair 273 units.
- DMD contract sponsors' funds went to 23% of Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and four percent went to Women Business Enterprises (WBEs). The receptive goals are 15% for MBEs and eight percent for WBEs. They will continue to work with project sponsors to boost participation of WBEs.
- Current and anticipated sources for the Housing Trust Fund will generate \$1.6 million annually.
- Hosted the second annual Homeless Connect event at the convention center this past February.
- City received \$4.2 million in continued care funds from the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD), which includes two new projects that will provide 30 units of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals.
- DMD secured 26 economic development projects totaling \$232 million in private capital investment, which created 866 new jobs, retained over 5,000 jobs, and will bring nine million dollars in additional tax revenue to the county.
- Three new businesses are in the Keystone Enterprise Park, bringing 267 jobs to the park and the Martindale neighborhood.

- Former Herron Art School was sold to a real estate service to be renovated for single family housing, condominiums and the Herron High School. Classes will begin August 27, 2007.
- Herron Foundry was sold to the Herron North Foundation, who is rehabilitating the property for retail.

Councillor Boyd asked if the old Herron Art School is going to be a mixed use facility. Ms. Banning said the old museum property will be the high school, the main building will be held for expansion space for the school, and the other building will be renovated to seven loft condominiums. She said the additional land around the school will hold seven townhomes and three single family houses.

Chair Mahern asked about the law changes in regards to abandoned homes. Ms. Banning said the only properties the city can acquire is those abandoned homes that are tax delinquent, and the new legislation has provided the city the ability to speed up the process. Ms. Banning clarified that the city cannot take ownership of homes that are current on their taxes and mortgage. She said homes that are in violation can still be reported to the Mayor's Action Center (MAC).

Presentation on Neighborhood Services Accomplishments – Kevin Sifferlen,
Administrator

Mr. Sifferlen gave an update on Neighborhood Services' accomplishments (Exhibit A, attached). Some highlights are as follows:

- Calls pertaining to animals continue to be the top calls at the MAC.
- The MAC has experienced more calls, voicemail, and emails to resolve problems around the city.
- Management positions were eliminated to put another customer service representative in the field, add a senior supervisor and two shift supervisor positions for a savings of \$10,000.
- Continuing clean-up blitzes in neighborhoods.
- Weed calls are decreasing due to the amount of work going into resolving the problem.

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Councillors Pfisterer, Keller, and Mansfield commended the staff for a job well done and expressed their appreciation for the neighborhood liaisons and their assistance in addressing constituent concerns.

Councillor Boyd asked who has responsibility over an easement. Mr. Sifferlen said the property owner is responsible for their easement, and some easements are state or city owned.

Dave Billbrow, citizen, said he is pleased to see action being made in regard to energy depletion issues with the Green Print, and would like to see more initiative in encouraging bicycling around the city. Chair Mahern said he will schedule a presentation on environmental issues and green programs for the committee after the budget process.

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dane Mahern, Chair
Metropolitan Development Committee

DM/as



Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

*...building a world-class city,
neighborhood by neighborhood.*



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

- **Mayor's Action Center**
- **Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons**



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center

The Mayor's Action Center (MAC) provides the citizens of Indianapolis and Marion County with one central agency to contact for:

- **Service Requests**
- **Recording a comment or complaint**
- **General City/County Government Information**



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center

Indianapolis Star reporter Matthew Tully, writes,

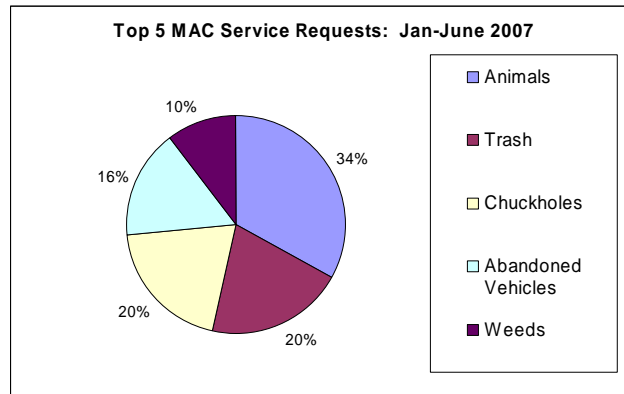
“The MAC resolved eight of my 10 complaints. That’s good service.”

Tully, Mathew. “Does Mayor’s Acton Center take action? I found out.” *Indianapolis Star*, May 4, 2007.



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center

	2006	2007*
Total Calls	300,134	155,454
Total Emails Received	14,236	12,275
Total Voicemails	7,219	5,628


*January – June 2007



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center

From this time last year:



1,359 more calls
32% more voicemails
54% more emails



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Action Center

MAC Restructure:

- Eliminated Management Positions
- Created Senior Supervisor and two Shift Supervisor Positions
- Added additional CSR
- Cost Savings



City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons

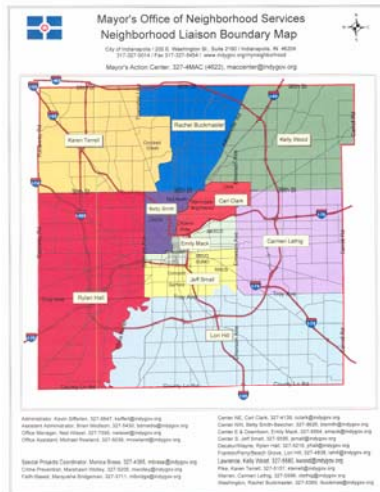


www.indygov.org/myneighborhood



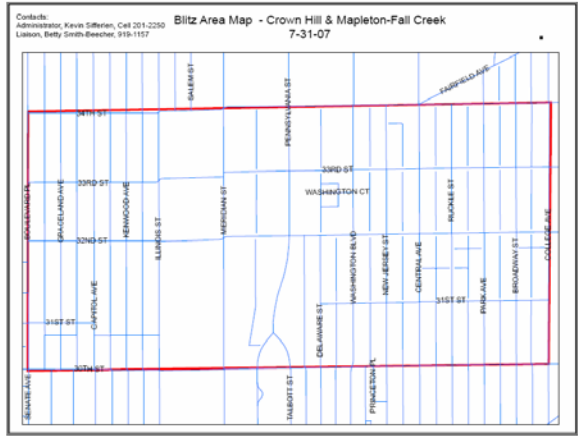
City of Indianapolis--Department of Metropolitan Development

Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons



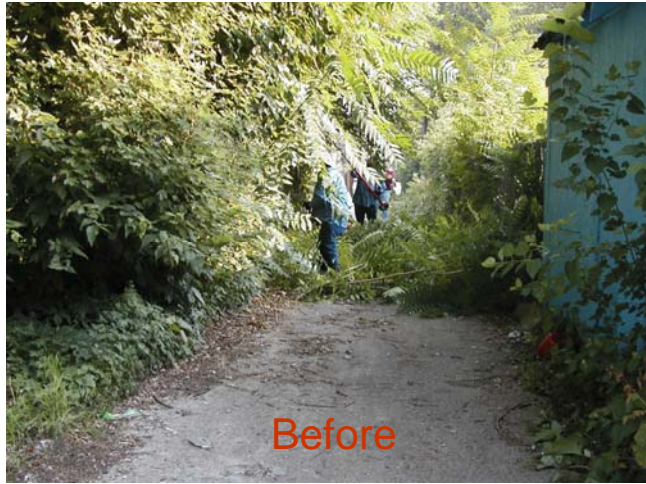
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Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons



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Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons



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Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons



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