

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012 – 9:00 A.M.
701 WHALEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS
OLYMPIA ROOM – 701 WHALEY STREET**



The Columbia City Council conducted an Environment and Infrastructure Committee Meeting on Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 701 Whaley Center for Contemporary Arts, 701 Whaley Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan was present. The Honorable Leona K. Plough was absent. The Honorable Moe Baddourah (Non-Committee Member) was present.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. VC Summer Nuclear Plant Update

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P. E., Assistant City Manager gave an update regarding the VC Summer Nuclear Plant Discharge Permit that was issued from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). At the time of inception, multiple permits were issued from DHEC, FERC, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, South Carolina Emergency Management Division, Corp of Engineers and the Public Services Commission. A draft permit has been revised, reissued and the public comment portion expired on September 17th. To-date, an outstanding Surface Water Withdrawal Permit has not been submitted and upon completion of the application, an evaluation will be submitted and public comment will be permitted. The City will request at least one public session to be held in the Columbia area.

The protection of the water system is managed by the City and is performed on a daily basis. Currently, the City is on a yearly Radiochemical and Tridol monitoring from DHEC. The PH Test is being assessed on a monthly basis from South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G). The City believes that the test needs to be performed regularly and SCE&G has agreed to report any spikes on a daily basis. The average time to get the discharge water into the Nuclear Plant is six (6) days including high flow conditions of three (3) days. An emergency contact list has been provided to SCE&G. A request has been made to ask the South Carolina Emergency Management Division and SCE&G to include the City on all notifications, training and table top exercises that are being conducted concerning emergency responses. Internal training is being incorporated to respond to any crises that may arise at the nuclear plant.

Councilor Devine asked that staff and group supporters continue to share useful information about the nuclear plant and to bring a report back to the committee.

2. 701 Center for Contemporary Arts Phase II Project Expansion

Mr. Richard Burts, Co-Owner of the 701 Whaley Center presented the phase II proposal for the expansion of the 701 Center for Contemporary Arts. The Pacific Park Plan includes: a water feature for children, a community pavilion, historical markers and a walking path for the Whaley Street Community.

Councilor Devine asked about the contamination in the neighborhood.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, Assistant City Manager said currently reports are being reviewed. The soil/surface is not contaminated and there will be some digging restrictions. There is nothing that will prevent the project plans from moving forward.

Councilor Devine asked that staff review the current master plan for Olympia, the proposal for Phase II and bring a report back to the committee.

3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Update

Ms. Natalie Cappuccio Britt, Executive Director of Palmetto Conservation Foundation reported that the committee met nine (9) months ago and focused on bicycle parking. Bicycle parking will provide safer parking for bicycle crowds by eliminating particular vehicle parking spaces and installing bicycle parking spaces throughout all the Hospitality Districts. The first installation of parking spaces is in Five Points and Main Street. In addition, the committee concentrated on developing a master plan for bicycle/pedestrian, which allows the Federal Government and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide funding sources through the Map21 Transportation Bill.

Mr. John Fellows, Planning and Development Services said the bicycle/pedestrian master plan will be based on land location throughout the city. The plan will help with connectivity, provide safety in the community and help with planning the capital budget.

Ms. Natalie Britt said the plan will take about a year to be developed. It is a road map and timeline to determine when future projects will be funded to include taking the City from bronze to a silver level.

Councilor Devine asked for an update on the bike share project.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, Assistant City Manager said the City and the University of South Carolina (USC) drafted Request for Proposals (RFP). We will jointly select a vendor to install the same system throughout the City.

4. [Smarter Columbia: Creating Opportunities through Leadership and Innovation](#)

Mr. Eric Stotts, IBM Public Sector Client Manager and Mr. Greg Earp, Smarter Cities Sales Leader presented creative ways to develop opportunities through leadership/innovation for a Smarter Columbia through the use of technology.

Councilor Devine asked that this matter be scheduled for a City Council Meeting.

5. Shandon Neighborhood Drainage Plan – Mr. Gene Dinkins, Sr., P.L.S., P.E. / Cox and Dinkins, Inc. – *This item was deferred.*

Councilor Baddourah asked that this matter be discussed by full Council at a Work Session Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Submitted by:

Niki Daniels, City Clerk's Assistant
Office of the City Clerk