

From: Kim Roney <mskimroney@gmail.com>
Sent: 3/12/2019 7:36:49 AM
To: Sheneika Smith, Keith Young, Brian Haynes
Cc:
Subject: Notes on Council Agenda for 3/12/2019

Councilmembers Smith, Young, and Haynes,

First, congratulations on your recent retreat and hiring of a new City Attorney. In meditation this morning, I sent out blessings for each of you, our Mayor, and the rest of Council as ya'll make important decisions today. Be bold and don't forget that we need ya'll to explain some of these decisions publicly in order to better help and support. For example, there has been no public declaration on what you're looking for in an attorney, which would've helped greatly.

For tonight's agenda, some thoughts:

II. CONSENT AGENDA:

C. This is the perfect time to revisit why a written consent policy is not yet in place. I know we are going to hear that we're waiting for a new police chief. It's been a year.
- In general, I'm thankful to see a lot of infrastructure funding in the consent agenda!

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

B. This item has been to MMTC 3 times, but never at a time when staff and both applicants were available, so the MMTC did not make a decision on it. From my perspective, the church has benefited from the lack of activity on the site, but should be able to find a way to access their hall after the vet's office goes in. Specifically, they should be able to service the propane tank from the back lot. The actual right of way is just a couple feet wide, while the drive way the church currently uses to access their fellowship hall is mostly on a developable lot.

* Personal note: I'm really glad we're going to have a vet's office in walking distance, and it is a refreshing addition to the mix of businesses on the corridor.

C. I'm thankful for those who have said that we need a study on the impact of hotels. The narrative about close proximity to Mission is interesting but has its flaws. I've spoken with several neighbors near the corridor who worry about gentrifying sprawl of Downtown. I would not be surprised if they come bearing gifts and community agreements, and if wages and a major investment in affordable housing trust fund are in that mix, I would not be surprised to see it pass.

D. These kinds of redevelopment and reuse of land are a great time to ask: ***what kind of permissions and incentive are needed to get the AMI from 80 to 60?*** The Land-Use Incentive Grants (LUIG) aren't getting used to the fullest of their ability, and we have very capable staff continuing to work on connecting those dots. However, we need ya'll to put the pressure on and ask the developers publicly.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Regarding the Board of Education: I have spoken with parents, students, former teachers with up to 30 years experience in Asheville, current teachers, and more, but I haven't found a single person who feels good about what's going on with the school board. We didn't get to our situation over night, there are so many layers to it, and it's not going to be fixed easily or quickly. I wish you good luck in this appointment, but I'm also open to having a personal conversation on why so many people are asking for elected school board.

Peace and Health,
Kim

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