



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 02, 2004

Study Session

Item -2

Finalizing City Council 2004 Goals

Staff Contact: Gary Greer

Council Memo

From: Gary Greer, City Administrator
Meeting: February 21st, 2004
Subject: ½ Cent Sales Tax Proposal
Item #'s: 2
Presenter(s): City Administrator Gary D. Greer

Background

During the February 21st City Council Retreat there was great discussion about the future of Grand Island. As part of this discussion, the City Council began developing several goals for the next year. After developing preliminary goals the Council asked that the priorities that rose to the top be discussed in a Study Session. Therefore, the list established at the retreat will be presented at the Study Session for final review and prioritization.

Discussion

Following is the list that was established at the retreat for Council review:

Public Safety

- Develop a Fire Training Facility and work toward other projects that help establish Grand Island as a “Training City”
- Replace Fire Station # 1
- Work on legislation that would be beneficial to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Law Enforcement
- Continue to develop and implement Community Policing programs
- Develop programs to address problems with Domestic Violence/Abuse
- Develop programs aimed at addressing issues with illegal Drugs

Economic Development

- Assist the Economic Development Corporation in creating and retaining quality jobs
- Establish opportunities for Grand Island to become “Training Center” for various groups
- Work with downtown to develop programs, policies that help the Downtown

- Develop a plan to transition Grand Island to 50,000+ population before April 2010

Infrastructure

- Create better, more accessible entryways to the City of Grand Island
- Develop a traffic plan that enhances traffic flow throughout the City
- Work towards legislation to bring more funding for the upgrade of Grand Island's infrastructure
- Finalize the Comprehensive Plan and assure for the long term planning of the city
- Plan for the annexation and development of new subdivisions in an orderly way

Government Efficiency

- Enhance Communication to the public by reinventing GITV and the City webpage
- Cooperate with Hall County on a study to seek interlocal partnerships that eliminate duplication and promote efficiency
- Streamline City services in order to reduce costs
- Shift the tax burden from property tax
- Develop a Information Technology plan and implement a streamlined system

Quality of Life

- Expand the Library and its services
- Support ethnic diversity programs
- Develop a Greenspace policy
- Develop more recreational facilities in cooperation with community partners
- Develop a recreational vehicle park at the Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant
- Funding for the continuation of the Hike/Bike Trails
- Seek grant funds and implement programs to improve housing in Grand Island
- Conduct an Aquatics Study

Community

- Support programs geared for Youth Development

Public Health

- Explore the possibility of the development of a Regional Hazardous Waste Site in Grand Island
- Evaluate programs that enhance the quality of Housing in Grand Island
- Evaluate programs that minimize the usage of illegal Drugs
- Investigate the issue of banning smoking in public places

Recommendation

The City Council is asked to review the aforementioned goals and change/prioritize them to meet the needs of the Community. After the goals are reformulated they will be used to set the course of work for the Staff and City Council for the next year.