



# **City of Grand Island**

**Tuesday, June 03, 2008**

**Study Session**

## **Item -3**

**Discussion of 2008-2009 City Council Goals**

**Staff Contact: Jeff Pederson**

# **Council Agenda Memo**

**From:** Jeff Pederson, City Administrator

**Meeting:** June 3, 2008

**Subject:** 2008-2009 City Council Goals

**Item #'s:** 3

**Presenter(s):** Jeff Pederson, City Administrator  
David Springer, Finance Director

## **Background**

Each year it has been customary for the Mayor and City Council to discuss the goals for the upcoming year. Attached are the City Council goals that were set on January 20, 2007 for the fiscal year 2007-2008. Included in this list are actions that have taken place since January 2007.

## **Discussion**

This is an opportunity for the Mayor and City Council to review, prioritize, and set the goals for 2008-2009 that reflect the Mayor and City Council's plans for Grand Island's future. Many of the current incomplete goals were directly associated with the lack of budgeted appropriations. Finance Director David Springer and City Administrator Jeff Pederson will be present to answer questions as they relate to budget appropriations.

## **Conclusion**

This item is presented to the City Council in a Study Session to allow for any questions to be answered and to create a greater understanding of the issue at hand, including budget constraints on goal setting and project development.

### Public Safety

Seek and secure funding for the development of the Fire Training Facility	No funding was budgeted in the 2007-08 fiscal year for the construction of the facility or the development of a business plan. The business plan is needed to determine the feasibility and scope of the project in order to identify potential participants and funding sources.
Complete construction on Fire Station #1	Fire station one is complete and brought into service October.
Complete construction of Police/Sheriff Law Enforcement Center	Substantial completion on the facility in January 2008. Operations were transferred to the new center on January 21, 2008. Punch list items still need to be corrected and outside work to be completed before final completion of the project.
Secure funding and begin upgrade of Emergency Communication Center	Preliminary schedule for Communications Center renovation has been set for Feb-Apr. Radio equipment has been ordered and console workstations are in the RFP process. All radio and workstation expenses are funded by a grant and managed and funded through Hall County.

### Economic Development

Assist in creating and retaining quality jobs through LB 840 program	Administration and various departments continue to meet with EDC and potential companies as requested.
Assist CRA in identifying and creating new business redevelopment projects	CRA area 6 and 7 were approved by council. TIF projects can be considered in both of these areas.

### Infrastructure

Support infrastructure for sustained housing/commercial development	<b>Utl</b> - Completed 5-yr major overhaul of PGS, expanded 115/13.8 Substations E and F, 3-yr term contract for coal transport from Wyo. Coal fields to PGS, natural gas supply contract for CTs, Water Main Dist 455 (Park-view Subdivision), design and award WMD 453T (helicopter base at the airport), Water infrastructure for new Subdivisions – La Rue, Meadowlark 4 <sup>th</sup> , Westwood Park 10 <sup>th</sup> , Westwood Park 10 <sup>th</sup> , Woodland Park 6 <sup>th</sup> , CNH fire line. Line construction – completed relocation of circuits for the Capital Ave. widening project, rebuilt 3-phase line along BNRR, east of Gunbarrel Rd., and on S. Locust from Fonner to Phoenix. Underground service installed at new Subdivisions – Copper Creek Estates, Pleasant View, Sun Valley, Summerfield Estates 7 <sup>th</sup> , Air Guard Helicopter base. <b>PW</b> – Sanitary sewer project numbers were assigned in January through March 2008. One (1) sanitary sewer project was completed. Concrete paving project numbers were assigned in January through March 2008. Two (2) paving projects were completed.
Begin incremental implementation of the Railroad Corridor Study	CRA funding for the project is secured. The City can begin the proposal process and get horns and other improvements installed in the UPRR corridor from Broadwell Avenue through Oak Street. <b>PW</b> - An inter-local agreement with the CRA was approved at the March 11, 2008 council meeting. An RFP was issued for consulting engineering services and 3 proposals were received. An agreement for professional services will be brought to council for approval in May.
Prepare a master plan for infrastructure development south of Grand Island	<b>Utl</b> - Completed area transmission/substation study. <b>CRA</b> - Area 7 includes the new industrial park property. TIF from development in this area could be used for infrastructure extensions. <b>PW</b> – The project to complete the concrete paving of the additional 2 lanes on Locust Street is in the 1 & 6 year Street Improvement Program for calendar year 2009. The sanitary sewer comprehensive plan update is currently being updated.

### Government Efficiency

Seek inter local partnerships that eliminates duplication and promotes efficiency	The Hall County Highway Department will be using the city's snow pile site as a storage site for asphalt millings from their 2008 asphalt resurfacing program. The city and county will be entering into an agreement for the asphalt resurfacing project on Shady Bend Road from Bismark to US Highway 30. Bldg- Grand Island, Hastings, and Kearney are proposing to establish a tri-city plumbing test and establish times and test sites within the three jurisdictions.
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Complete a comprehensive City Code review and update	This will be an ongoing process for some time. The chapter by chapter review slowed down due to several factors this year. <b>PW-</b> The Solid Waste Superintendent is reviewing the city code on backyard composting and roll off containers that are placed in the streets. <b>Bldg-</b> Revision of the city sign code to provide up to date regulations and address restrictions requested for limited billboards on Locust street & address new technology. Grand Island, Hastings & Kearney have adopted consistent plumbing codes. Complete review and adoption of the 2006 Uniform Mechanical Code, adoption of the 2006 international Building and Residential code.
Develop a budget with no increase in the property tax levy	Council approved the budget August 28 with no increase in the tax levy.
Develop criteria for outside agency funding	A financial and service questionnaire report is in the hands of the Finance Department. Some categorization of agencies has been determined in consultation with Karen Rathke from United Way. Those materials will be distributed to Council members in the near future.

## Quality of Life

Complete construction of the Library expansion project	The design/build project for expansion/renovation of the Edith Abbott Memorial Library is complete. After six months of the first fiscal year in the “new” facility, total checkouts are up 12%, checkouts at Edith Abbott Memorial are up 16%, reserves placed by patrons are up 54%, meeting room usage up 2260%, patrons visiting the library up 20%, reference questions answered up 22%, library programs up 19%, and reference/lab PC users up 16%.
Construct a children’s play area at Island Oasis	The design plan of the children’s play area is complete. Approved funding through the budget process will be necessary to complete this goal.
Continue to support development of the Heartland Public Shooting Park	The development of all rifle and pistol ranges continue, all ranges are operational. The camp ground design is complete and construction of the first phase has begun.
Update Parks and Recreation master plan	An updated master plan is contingent upon approved funding through the budget process.
Start construction of Aerated Static Pile facility	The project to build an Aerated Static Pile composting system at the WWTP was placed on-hold at the August 14 <sup>th</sup> city council meeting.
Implement the Community Appearance Plan	The PRT has demolished/resolved 9 problem properties. Only 1 property was resolved using municipal funds. The legal department and CSO’s have met quarterly to foster a greater understanding of polices and procedures. The CAP web page construction will begin shortly and citizen request software is under review.

## Public Health

Secure funding and begin construction of the Household Hazardous Waste facility	Notification was given by the Environmental Trust that funding for the facility was denied in 2007 for lack of interlocals and collaboration with Keep Nebraska Beautiful state master plan. A 2nd construction grant request will be submitted with suggested changes from the ET in Sept. 2008 and a 5 yr operating grant will be made to the DEQ in Feb 09. Currently in process of obtaining interlocals, working with KNB, and in constant communication with ET and DEQ for a successful second grant request.
Continue to aggressively address environmental issues and advocate for citizens	<b>PW-</b> Regular communications are occurring with JBS Swift officials to ensure that the Swift plant does not overload the city’s WWTP. Swift is building a additional 25 million gallon anaerobic pre-treatment lagoon adjacent to the existing 9 million lagoon. Fall back plans are being implemented to ensure the WWTP can adjust to any swings in Swift’s loadings till the new lagoon is operational in July or August 2008. The Utilities and Public Works Departments continue to assist and cooperate with the consultant working with the UPRR on a contamination plume along Seedling Mile near US Hwy 30 and on to the east. <b>Bldg-</b> Continue to monitor the progress of the State of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality on revisions to On-Site Waste Water Systems.
Develop language for smoking restrictions to be considered to be placed on the ballot	Language was submitted to administration which mirrored the language that the State was considering in 2007. It was put on hold pending to watch what the State would do. Legislation will be introduced during the 2008 legislature with more favorable language.