URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMITTEE SUMMARY

OCTOBER 21, 2008

CM Gorton chaired the meeting, calling it to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. **Mobile Home Park Quality of Life**

   CM James stated this is the relocation assistance issue and not the report out of the Mobile Home Park Quality of Life.

   Keith Horn, Dept of Law, stated he made the changes discussed at the last meeting. He stated after talking to the Division of Budgeting and Division of Accounting he added a sentence in Section 5-107 stating it would be an open fund. It means the money in the fund would not have to be re appropriated at the end of the year.

   Dr. Stevens stated he is uncomfortable with the recommendations to separate one particular program out.

   Mr. Horn stated once an appropriation is made it will remain in the fund for this purpose unless Council comes back to amend it. He also stated if they reach the $200K Council has the ability to re appropriate any amount over that to other programs or services. He stated this do not tie them down to make the $50K appropriation annually.

   Dr. Stevens stated this should not be any different than other appropriation made during budget preparation and approval.

   CM James asked if the group that worked on this felt was important to do this kind of appropriation for this fund.

   Mr. Horn stated yes. He stated it is useless to create a program then not make sure there are funds in it for the operation of the program.

   CM James asked if there is a way to put a time of evaluation on this.

   Mr. Horn stated they can build that into the ordinance, however; at any moment Council can examine this ordinance and amend it or do away with it.

   CM Gorton asked what is the difference in Section 5-107 if they changed the wording from "and is regularly funded" to state "and it needs to be regularly funded" and take out "it is recommended that LFUCG appropriate at least $50K annually to the program".

Mr. Horn stated as a practical matter there is no legal difference. He stated the reason it was built in was because of the seriousness of needing the funding.

CM Gorton asked if there is any other ordinance where Council recommends a funding level other than the Economic Contingency Fund.

Mr. Horn stated he is not aware of any.

CM Blues asked about changing Section 5-107 to state "...remains viable, any funds appropriated to the program".

Mr. Horn stated there is no reason why it could not read that way.

A motion by CM Blues to amend the wording to read "In order to insure that the Relocation Assistance Program for Tenants remains viable, any funds appropriated to the program shall remain available to the program in subsequent fiscal years", seconded by Dr. Stevens, passed with one nay.

CM James stated there has to be some sort of benchmark because this is a new program. She stated it is important to have the dollar amount listed.

CM Beard stated we have to put number in to show Council's intention.

CM McChord asked if the Division of Planning could give quarterly reports to the Planning Committee if there are any movements regarding trailer parks.

Mr. Horn stated this applies to more than the mobile home parks.

CM James stated as long as the urban service boundary as it is the need to develop within the urban service area will be there. She stated it is a promise these funds will be needed.

CM Stinnett stated this ordinance is being proactive. He asked if they have had the need for $50K a year.

Ms. Talbert stated yes.

CM Stinnett stated he is not comfortable with the money rolling over to the next fiscal year if it is not used.

CM Beard asked if we have other funds that overflow each year and the money gets carried forward.

Mr. Horn stated there are dedicated funds and the grant program funds flow over into the following year.

CM Gorton passed the chair to CM Blues.

CM Gorton asked in the general fund if any funds rollover other than the Economic Contingency funds.

Mr. Horn stated he is not aware of any.

CM Gorton asked if all the funds where things are rolled over except capital are special enterprise funds.

Mr. Horn stated that is his understanding.

CM Gorton stated this should go through the budget process like every other general fund request.

Mr. Horn stated this ordinance is not written to apply to condemnations.

CM Blues returned the chair to CM Gorton.

Vice Mayor Gray asked if the work group recommended the $50K.

Mr. Horn stated yes.

Vice Mayor Gray asked if it would be appropriate to recommend $50K for the first year.

CM James asked if the ordinance can state "be funded for $50K for the initial year".

Dr. Stevens stated if they approve the ordinance they can make a recommendation to Council for a budget amendment.

CM Crosbie stated this could have been requested through the budget process.

A motion by Dr. Stevens that the Planning Committee recommend to the full Council the adoption of this ordinance as amended, seconded by CM James, passed without dissent.

A motion by Dr. Stevens that the Planning Committee recommend to the full Council appropriate funding starting at $50,000 for the remaining fiscal year be appropriated funds permitting for this program, seconded by CM James, passed without dissent.

2. **Newtown Pike Status**

Paul Schoninger read the updates on the Newtown Pike project.

CM Blues stated he toured the temporary housing and everyone is very pleased with it. He stated he sat in on several meetings on Bridge over Town Branch. He stated the Community Land Trust meeting schedule for October 22nd has been rescheduled.

Vice Mayor Gray asked for a presentation confirming what has been heard today.

CM Gorton suggested having a council workshop regarding this issue. She stated she will work with the Council Administrator to get this set up.

3. Liberty Road Status

Written report only

4. Loudon Ave. Road Status

Written report only

5. Management Audit (Implementation Status & "Factual Errors" Exercise)

Dr. Stevens gave an overview of this issue and asked for the letters identifying factual errors to be addressed.

CM Crosbie asked if the directors where informed this would be discussed today.

Joe Kelly stated they asked the commissioners to be available to respond to any questions. He stated the commissioners were briefed by the directors.

Paul Schoninger went through the letters identifying factual errors in the management audit. Commissioners answered questions from Council Members regarding the letters of factual errors.

CM Crosbie stated they need to take these factual errors into consideration when recommendations come forward.

CM James stated she wants to make sure that the administration is still marking the management audit recommendations in the work session packets.

CM Beard asked if these errors have been presented to Management Partners.

Mr. Kelly stated the Risk Management and Fire errors were shared with Management Partners.

Vice Mayor Gray stated maybe they could do a working group with the administration to examine some of the recommendations and come back to the committee.

CM Crosbie asked for directors be involved as well.

CM Stinnett asked how many factual errors does the administration plan on implementing.

Mr. Kelly stated if it is in fact a factual error and has a material affect on the recommendation then they will take that into consideration and make the appropriate adjustment.

CM Gorton asked for a link between those with perceived errors and what is being done with them in the action column.

A motion by CM Crosbie to create a small working group made up of 3 people to go through the error part and link it with the action part/progress and what is being done with each of those, seconded by CM Stinnett, passed.

CM Crosbie, CM Beard, and Vice Mayor Gray will be part of the working group.

CM Gorton stated if at all possible they can report back to the committee in November.

6. Items In Committee

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.