JOINT ELECTED OFFICIALS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY





Work Session: Joint Meeting with Eugene Water & Electric Board

Meeting Date: July 23, 2014

Department: City Manager's Office

Staff Contact: Lisa Gardner

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ISSUE STATEMENT

This is a joint meeting of the local elected officials of the City of Eugene and the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) to discuss inter-jurisdictional issues. The focus of this work session is to provide status reports and updates on some key projects of mutual interest.

Agenda topics include:

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions (10 minutes)

2. Wastewater Facility Energy Reduction Video (5 minutes)

The Eugene-Springfield Water Pollution Control Facility in Eugene, Oregon, collects wastewater from local homes, businesses and industries 24/7, 365 days a year. Through advanced technology and processes, the facility treats up to 38 million gallons of wastewater every day -- enough to fill 106 Olympic-sized swimming pools -- before returning cleaned water, known as effluent, to the Willamette River.

As part of a recent demand response pilot project with the Eugene Water & Electric Board, Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission and Bonneville Power Administration, the plant was put through a series of tests to find out if it could quickly reduce its energy consumption during periods of high demand and limited flexibility on the Northwest electric power system. The project was sponsored by BPA's Technology Innovation Office.

3. Vulnerability Assessment Key Findings and Emergency Planning Partnerships (20 minutes)

Presentation (Jill Hoyenga)

The cities of Eugene and Springfield have conducted a community-wide climate and hazards vulnerability assessment. The assessment was conducted in partnership with EWEB and dozens of local businesses, non-profits, and agencies, and identifies both strengths and potential weaknesses within 12 community systems. Attachment A provides a summary of the assessment.

Multiple agencies are involved in the Emergency Planning Partnerships in an effort to create a culture of emergency preparedness within Eugene/Springfield. The partnerships support improved personal, business, and agency preparedness and enhanced interagency collaboration.

4. Downtown Fiber Pilot Partnership (15 minutes)

Presentation (Denny Braud and Dean Ahlsten)

The City of Eugene is engaged in an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) to deploy additional fiber optics into two downtown buildings: the Broadway Commerce Center and the Woolworth Building. LCOG oversees the contractual arrangement with EWEB for the design, procurement and installation of "last mile" fiber optic cable infrastructure. Installation is projected to be complete by September, and leases of fiber offered by EWEB in October. Additional information regarding the pilot project is included in Attachment B.

5. Riverfront Redevelopment Update (30 minutes)

Presentation (Jeanine Parisi and Denny Braud)

For more than a decade, EWEB, the City of Eugene, and the community have envisioned creating a vibrant, mixed-use "people place" on the utility's downtown riverfront property. This vision fulfills a long-standing goal of connecting the city's downtown core with the Willamette River. The Riverfront Master Plan has been adopted and progress is being made towards this shared community goal. EWEB recently issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking interest from development teams with the requisite experience and financial capacity to convert the property into a vibrant, economically viable, well designed, urban mixed-use neighborhood. Responses to the RFQ are currently undergoing a comprehensive review process. EWEB and City of Eugene staff will be providing an update on the riverfront redevelopment project.

6. Follow-up Questions and Closing (10 minutes)

This is an opportunity for board members and councilors to ask questions of staff or raise issues for follow up, as time allows.

BACKGROUND

The Eugene City Council schedules occasional joint meetings with the EWEB Board to discuss issues and projects involving both bodies and to share information on items of mutual interest. The City Council and EWEB Board last met on June 28, 2010.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

There are no specific City policies to be considered by the City Council at this meeting; it is a status update on several topics.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

No formal action is requested at this meeting. This meeting is for discussion purposes only.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Not applicable.

SUGGESTED MOTION

No motion is required.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vulnerability Assessment Summary
- B. Broadband Initiative Pilot Partnership Summary

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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