

WARD 7 - STRATEGIC FORUM PROGRESS

Snow Removal in Sherwood subdivision.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Snow removal is a top priority of the Public Works Department and our goal is to do our best to insure every street in the city is safe and passable for residents. The Department attempts to adjust which neighborhoods are cleared first for each event to insure that are not always last to be cleared. In addition more aggressive use of tracking technology allows the city to track for any areas or streets that may have been missed. Temporary Westside Salt Dome, Contractors assist; re-evaluate after each snow
Twenty-five mile per hour speed limit needs to be implemented on residential streets.		Iss/Pri	7	Taken under advisement
Bring economic development back to the core of the City – too focused on west. Focus on central part and east and north sections of Springfield.	Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	Renewed the Downtown TIF; seeking an additional TIF for the Peoria Road/Rt 66 area; and hired a Division Manager who will focus on developing the businesses in specifically the TIF area.
Westchester has flooding issues in addition to the downtown area.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Urban flooding is an issue facing communities across the country. More frequent and severe storms are taxing an inadequate storm water system. As the mayor and city council move forward with a Capital Improvement Plan the issue of urban flooding will likely be part of the proposal should funding become available.
The City needs to better utilize Neighborhood Associations to get the word out.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Created a City Neighborhood Associationi database. Communicating every Friday but occassionally throughout the week as important news develops.
I-55 Corridor. It is the cause of crime because traffic going up to Chicago. Local residents are not doing these crimes.	Police	Iss/Pri	7	Two Crime Analysts are in FY 17 budget and will analyze perpetrators origin.
City website needs improvements. Add a section about status updates of issues or more comprehensive construction	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	New website was created and mobile optimized. Working through the "Report a Problem" section to allow better updates on status of issues.
Improving the access of entry points into the city by making them more appealing - beautification	Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	In progress to coordinate PW personel and Springfield Green to develop strategic plan to address landscape urban design for corridors and other areas, i.e., replace Ash Trees

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<p>Chatham Road Improvements. Maintenance of that road and what is the plan moving forward? When is it going to be fixed? Communication about what is known and what's going to happen.</p>	<p>PW & Comm</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>The city has completed maintenance on portions of Chatham Road and has additional work planned for 2016 from Wabash north to Lincolnshire. A portion of Chatham Road that is in very poor condition is within the Leland Grove jurisdiction and they have been approached about participating in the City of Springfield program and paying their share but have expressed a lack of funds to do so.</p>
<p>Stop building on prime farm land. How can agriculture be integrated in the City landscape. Stop urban sprawl. We have buildings popping up everywhere.</p>	<p>Econ Dev</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Incentives will be used to target growth in the urban core. With the hiring of the Division Manager, she will be working to create incentives in the TIF areas.</p>
<p>Redundancy of buildings. City planning and coordinate what the needs are. Long range plans. Instead of building to build – base it on a need. Beautification is also needed.</p>	<p>Econ Dev</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Met with developers to determine city code issues. Working on an adaptive reuse ordinance to improve redevelopment of existing buildings. Also in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan for the City. The last one was done in the early 2000. This will cover the next 20 years and be unveiled by Spring of 2017.</p>
<p>Bike trails need to be connected to each other in some way. Bike trails need to be incorporated into parks as well. Bike trails is an attraction to businesses looking to locate to Springfield and to remember that.</p>	<p>PW</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>The Bike and Pedestrian Plan approved by the Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission provides such connectivity. It will unfortunately take time and funding to complete the entire network. The city has been installing bike paths as they make road improvements. It will likely take several years to complete the entire network. Stanford project will include bike trail portion that may connect Rochester to Chatham.</p>
<p>Watch the tax creep. Pay attention to that with existing businesses or attracting businesses.</p>		<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	
<p>Citizens need to benefit from the low coal prices, etc. with CWLP.</p>	<p>CWLP</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>The Rate Restructure was implemented to have a stable monthly cashflow for the utility. Coal contract was also negotiated.</p>
<p>What is the plan for businesses downtown. For example the pizza place taking a building and knocking it down for parking. Can we do something for preservation of the City?</p>	<p>Econ Dev</p>	<p>Iss/Pri</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Regarding the pizza place: had conversation with owner, and he would like to find a tenant for the building. The City also renewed the Downtown TIF. This provides the \$30 million dollars over the next 12 years for redevelopment of the area in addition to Historic Tax Credits.</p>

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More recycling options for hazardous waste	PW	Iss/Pri	7	The city has been offering an annual hazardous waste recycling drop off but such events were being impacted by costs and driven by state regulations. September 1 we increased the City's fee on the CWLP to assist with these resident services and events and enhanced the Waste Hauler ordinance.
Meetings like this – once a month meeting with alderman but not as formal. Maybe the alderman would have a guest speaker but a time to ask questions, get updates, etc. Like Coffee with a Cop.	Council	Iss/Pri	7	
Residency requirement. The City needs to move the requirement along.	Council	Iss/Pri	7	Residency ordinance passed in mid-2016. In addition to the 50% local labor ordinance on City contracts.
Better signage for all the sites – directional signs for attractions but keep them consistent so visitors know what they are looking for.	PW & SCVB	Iss/Pri	7	
Sidewalk accessibility for those with disabilities. Stanford/MacArthur up to South Grand need to be improved.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	As the city makes road improvements they address accessibility issue installing ADA compliant ramps. The MacArthur corridor is a state route with feasibility study currently underway to consider options for upgrading. Many of the accessibility issues should be addressed through future improvements on that corridor.
Flooding issues in south Outer Park and MacArthur	PW	Iss/Pri	7	The Public Works Department is monitoring flooding activity in that area. Urban flooding is an issue that must be addressed with improvements to our storm water management systems. Those improvements will be driven by the funding of our Capital Improvement Plan.
Areas where they took out stop lights, there is no enforcement of speed. Need to take a page from places like Jerome. People don't speed thru there because you know the speed. Springfield needs to do that more often.	Police	Iss/Pri	7	We will have PW coordinate with Police Department to monitor areas being tested via a speed monitor or police. Speed issues are currently complaint driven. Residents can contact the Springfield Police Department Traffic Division (Sgt Kean) with specific blocks/area for monitoring.
City needs to address out of town landlords because they have tenant issues and maintenance issues.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Working on revising city code to require landlord registration for chronic violators.

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Homeless population and bad properties need to be addressed.	CR	Iss/Pri	7	Had a meeting with homeless providers, but need to develop long term strategy. For housing, working on housing incentives to encourage residents to rehab deteriorating properties or build on vacant lots.
Less red tape – easier process for abandon properties.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Abandoned properties are often driven by the legal process that must follow state and federal law. The city has become much more aggressive in dealing with properties that have been left in long term disrepair through a stricter registration process and a more aggressive approach to demolition.
Difficult with the City’s reporting process. However the jurisdiction is causing a problem. Can we have one number to channel all calls to like a clearing house/one stop shop. Resident simply need to make a call and get their issues resolve with police. It shouldn’t matter if it is City, County, State, Jerome, etc.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Working to create better communication vehicles on the new website
Restrict large Billboards	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	There is a moratorium on billboards.
City needs a new Website that provides more and clearer information for residents and businesses.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Launched a new website.
Vacant lots are an issue because we can’t get them back on the tax rolls. The City needs to try and give incentives or roll out a plan to get them purchased.	Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	Developing a program for TIF areas. If successful may be used elsewhere. Partnering with Nehemiah on development project to demolish and build.
No email addresses of staff/departments on the website and that needs to change.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Added deparment emails to the website along with contact phone #s.
Alderman is able to get back in touch about the issue or concern but can they circle back/close the loop as a way to ensure the answers are met.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	

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Can the City implement a customer service standard like retailers do on a receipt? How did we do/survey customers after they dealt with an issue?	Comm/ Training	Iss/Pri	7	Hired a new trainer who is asked to develop Customer Service Training
County/city with design aspects – urban sprawl. If the government can't pay for it but can we create a committee with community experts? Something like a citizens advisory board. For example, a task force for the police academy/K-9 training grounds.		Iss/Pri	7	
Neighborhood schools – go back to that vs. busing.		Iss/Pri	7	Shared with District 186
Railroad improvements. Reusing the third street track for something like a bike trail. Think ahead vs. leaving it abandoned.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	It is the intention once the tracks re locate to 10 th Street that the Third Street corridor become a recreational bike & pedestrian trail. It is likely such a project is several years away as the track is currently used. Worked out a written agreement with IDOT outlining the progression of 3rd Street and 10th Street Corridor. The bike & pedestrian trail is also been suggested as part of the Comprehensive Plan
Be careful for city pensions – cautious of what we do so they are funded. There is a budget.		Iss/Pri	7	Held Pension Summit. In 2015, the Council sunsetted Early Retirement Incentive. Following up on Fire Pension Holiday Pay Calculation, which contradicts DOI recommendation. Will work on long term plan to address funds. Working on state legislation to allow greater flexibility with asset allocation.
Strengthen neighborhoods to reduce crime. Neighborhood Watch	CR	Iss/Pri	7	Neighborhoods interested in Neighborhood Watch can contact the Police Department directly to set that up.
NPOs in neighborhoods	Police	Iss/Pri	7	
Feedback from students say there is racial profiling happening.	Police	Iss/Pri	7	Participated in panel discussions with NAACP and other outreach efforts, i.e., Coffee with a Cop, and are now partnering with NOBLE to develop strategies to improve public relations and recruiting.
Kudos to Alderman in Ward 7 in responding to their issues. Mark Mahoney is also great in Public Works		Iss/Pri	7	

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City should provide more formal support to Neighborhood Associations	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	The City has created its own Neighborhood Association database in order to stay more connected by sharing not only City news but information about resources, trainings, etc.
Strengthening awareness when there are suspicious activities – call police. Don't feel you are bothering police.	Police	Iss/Pri	7	
Third Street Corridor – walkway/parkway center of downtown	PW & Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	Long Term Goal - part of rail consolidation. Also recommended as an idea for the 2037 Comprehensive Plan.
Movie theater downtown – to get people downtown	Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	Mid Term Goal - May be able to partner with Hoogland Center. Also recommended as an idea for the 2037 Comprehensive Plan.
Resident wants a choice in their waste removal company but likes the idea of unifying it on the CWLP bill. One payment each month.	PW	Iss/Pri	7	The city has discussed this option before when the waste and recycling fee was added to the utility bills. However, with more than one hauler and without set areas or zones it would be administratively difficult to accomplish. With the new Waste Hauling Ordinance that took affect Sept 1, violators will be added to the CWLP bill.
Blessed Sacrament is a great example of strong Church bringing the neighborhoods together. Neighborhood churches and schools need to model themselves after Blessed Sacrament to build stronger areas and assess the needs of each particular area.		Iss/Pri	7	
From MacArthur/South Grand to east side of town, there is not one grocery store in that area and those residents need access variety of food. It truly is a food desert.	Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	
How many of Neighborhood Associations are there? Identify where they are and where are the holes?	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Working on this. Completed Phase I of this project and this is Phase II. List is on City Website.
Charge more for certain vehicles on the road because bigger/heavier vehicles cause more damage.		Iss/Pri	7	

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The grocery store trips from fire department houses need to stop and order the food online because stores deliver now.	Fire	Iss/Pri	7	Checked into ordering and only one store would oblige. Fire Departments are required to go to closest store.
Frequently Asked Questions – try and be positive but our successes get lost because there are so many problems. Put the problems online so people know it is being resolved.	Comm	Iss/Pri	7	Working on this for the new Web site.
Attract more professional sports to town with tournaments or events like running or golf. Create a tax to help fund events to bring sporting to town.	SCVB & Econ Dev	Iss/Pri	7	Web.Com Tour came July 11 - 17 to Panther Creek. They are looking at securing additional sponsors to ensure a 2017 return.
Islands of weeds around Westchester and Sherwood subdivisions	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Weeds and growth are the responsibility of property owners. If on public right of way Public Works crews will maintain. If an area resident are concerned about they should contact the Public Works Department to address.
Bridge by the entrance of Sherwood Road needs to be addressed	PW	Iss/Pri	7	Have passed to engineering to review.
Hy-vee		Pos	7	
MacArthur Blvd TIF		Pos	7	
Rehabbing the MacArthur Park Apartments		Pos	7	
History of Abe Lincoln, Old State Capitol, Dana Thomas House, etc. – historic significance		Pos	7	
Public School System – size of the City we have diversity, working together, hardworking teachers		Pos	7	
Always something going on – car show; muni; ballet; Hoogland Center. Offering of arts to share.		Pos	7	
Fire Department		Pos	7	
Washington Park – bicycles; experience nature; Carillon; walking trails		Pos	7	

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Spirit of volunteerism and volunteer programs		Pos	7	
Ease of getting things done – size to get things done.		Pos	7	
Private education		Pos	7	
Ease of getting across town		Pos	7	
City government		Pos	7	
Medical Facility		Pos	7	
Strong neighborhoods		Pos	7	
Bike paths		Pos	7	
Neighborhood Associations		Pos	7	
Midwestern values		Pos	7	