

NOTES

Mayor Swisstack's Transition Team

Infrastructure Team Meeting

Monday, March 31, 2008

4:00 p.m. - RRRCC Conference Room

Lawrence Rael opened the meeting by having the team members introduce themselves. Four of the eight team members were present. Eleven residents attended.

Debbi Moore explained the difference between Community Meetings and Transition Team Meetings.

Lawrence Rael stated that he had met with Mayor Swisstack to discuss the purpose of the Transition Team: roads & transportation; development process; capital improvement program; water issues; air quality; economic development as it relates infrastructure. The team can work city directors as necessary.

The following areas were identified by the public in attendance as working well for the city:

- Pat D'Arco Highway
- parks and trail system
- library
- pools

Pat D'Arco related his conversation with Mayor Swisstack and these items being of particular concern:

- no money for roads; \$21M needed to widen Pat D'Arco Highway from Southern Blvd. to Northern Blvd.; \$16M needed for Paseo del Volcan
- no help fiscally from local legislators {except Rep. Swisstack}
- Unit 17
- Southern Blvd at Quail Ranch
- North West Loop might need to be a toll road
- possible bypass through Santa An Pueblo
- SAD7 handled poorly
- the city officials now aren't asking for enough from developers like he did when he was Mayor

The following areas were identified as needing improvement:

- funding and lack of federal funding to match
- developer contributions - improve process
- review process is cumbersome

- communication between city hall and residents
- water rights/acquisition; renewable water resource is needed
- water rates don't match actual cost of water
- lack of revenue sharing with other communities
- electricity needs can't meet demand; getting energy to outlying areas is expensive; renewable energy sources are needed to power outlying areas

The following comments are from the public in attending the meeting:

- population exceeding resources available
- environmental impact studies process excludes residents
- older neighborhoods are in disrepair; no money to fix aging infrastructure
- city council doesn't listen to residents
- funds to subsidize Star Center come from which part of the budget and what isn't being done because those funds are being use elsewhere?

Lawrence Rael identified the following as challenges facing this team:

- strong sense of community with infrastructure and how it's paid for; use available money to leverage with other funds to help cover costs; capital program needed
- water resource management; water rights purchase; water system needs proper planning; developers can bring own water rights; incentives for new developments – zero growth not possible
- roadways; only two ways out of Rio Rancho; long discussions for another way to I-25 are imperative; lack of federal funding

Other items discussed by team members:

- how to fund growth
- traffic problems in ABQ affect Rio Rancho
- educate resident to shop in Rio Rancho so money stays here for our use
- 85% of budget for cities in New Mexico comes from GRT
- 2020 plan needs to be reviewed and updated

Judi Walker will schedule a meeting with Jim Payne and members of the Infrastructure Team wishing to attend. City's perspective on roads, water management, growth and funding will be discussed.

For the next meeting:

- team members are to list their priorities for Rio Rancho; costs for these priorities will be discussed at the next meeting

- Judi will obtain copies of the Capital Improvement Plan for team members' review before next meeting {these will either be mailed or emailed if possible}

Meeting Schedule

PLEASE NOTE REVISIONS

Wednesday, April 9 @ 4:00-5:30pm, Rio Rancho City Hall

Monday, April 14th @ 4:00-5:30pm, Rio Rancho City Hall

Monday, April 21st @ 4:00-5:30pm, Rio Rancho City Hall