

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 17, 2009
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The Board convened in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Commissioners Mielke, Stuart, and Boldt, Chair, present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners conducted the Flag Salute.

BID AWARD 2526

Reconvened a public hearing for Bid Award 2526 – 50' Trailer Mounted Boom Lift. Mike Westerman, General Services, read a memo recommending award of Bid 2526, including Alternate 1, to the lowest responsive bidder.

Boldt noted that they have already purchased two lifts for the Fair.

Westerman said that is an articulating lift that stretches straight out and raises up and down and it has to be loaded onto a trailer to be hauled. He said this particular lift is already trailer mounted and can just be hooked onto a truck and towed anywhere. There's no additional cost to moving it. Also, because of the mobility factor it would be used at a lot more locations. He said the lift at the fairgrounds is really designed to accommodate the events out there and is more stationary.

Boldt said when they bought the scissor lift he had asked if it could be used at other places and was told yes.

Westerman said they have used the scissor lift at other locations, but there's a cost for transporting it.

Stuart stated that they have a functioning scissor lift that they purchased not long ago and he asked why they couldn't just use that one.

Mike Wright, General Services-Facilities Management, said they purchased two lifts at the time the Events Center was built—a 45-foot articulating lift and a 32-foot electric scissors lift. He said both are meant to be used on hard surfaces such as concrete/asphalt. Also, the footprint of the 45-foot articulating lift is very small so that it can be maneuvered in the event hall around booths. Wright stated that when they use the [articulating lift] it costs around \$200 to have a rental company move it to and from an area. He further explained. Wright said this particular trailer mount would replace an old scissors lift that they try to use where they can although it's difficult to keep it running and it requires use of a rental truck to haul it. This lift is a trailer mount with outriggers and made to take to park environments; it's self-leveling and allows for reaching over rooftops that don't have fall protection anchors, as well as pressure washing roofs, and

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working on gutter lines—things a scissor lift can't do. He added that the financing for the lift was through the ER&R for replacement of the antiquated scissors lift.

Boldt asked if they look at the used market for equipment such as this.

Wright said he talked to some rental companies and there's only a few of the trailer mounted lifts in the local market and they are continually rented out. He also asked about the life expectancy of this type of lift and in the rental environment it's about 10 years while for the county's use it would be 25+ years.

Mielke asked how often they use this type of lift.

Wright said Facilities rents these kinds of lifts about 8 weeks out of a year. However, if they had a versatile lift like this one, usage would likely double.

Mielke said that was his concern. If they were looking at spending \$48,000, how many times would they be able to rent something and always have something new at their disposal? He said if they don't have a continuous use for it, it was hard to justify the outlay.

Wright said based on current rental rates, it would be a 4-year payoff for the lift. That's based on the 8 weeks of rental, not the 16 or more weeks they could actually use it. After 4 years, they would have another 20+ years of usage.

Stuart stated that they were in difficult financial times and the bar was high as far as what they are buying and why. He said safety is a top priority and if this type of lift is needed, he was in favor of using it. However, they could rent the lift for 16 weeks a year for over 2 years and not have purchased one. He said to him this was an investment that could be pushed back in order to save jobs and he wouldn't be supporting it.

Mark McCauley, Director, General Services, reiterated that after 4 years of usage they would have covered the cost of the purchase by the savings of not having to rent the machine.

Stuart said they could lose an employee this year because of this kind of purchase and to him it wasn't worth it.

McCauley pointed out that the money for the purchase was in the Equipment Services Budget and is replacement money that was captured through the ER&R program.

Mielke said he was concerned with the times and agreed with Commissioner Stuart that they are looking at holding onto the employees they have. He thought perhaps they could rent for another year or two until the budget turns around and then address it again at that time.

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Boldt said it was agreed that they would continue to rent.

There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to reject Bid 2526 for the 50' Trailer Mounted Boom Lift, including Alternate 1. Commissioners *Boldt*, *Stuart*, and *Mielke* voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker #1

Maureen Jondahl, Executive Board Member, Fairgrounds Community Neighborhood Association, commented on consent agenda item #12 regarding the approval to establish Greater Clark Parks District Project WO 400615 – Fairgrounds Community Park. She said the Fairgrounds Community Neighborhood Association Executive Board wanted to thank *Pete Capell*, Director of Public Works, and *Jerry Barnett*, Parks Department, as well as other Parks Department staff members, for participating in a cooperative effort to more effectively utilize the resources for the Fairgrounds Community Park. *Jondahl* said based on discussions at the FCNA meeting of February 12, they were pleased that it was agreed to reduce the size of the parking lot thereby reducing the environmental impact of the surrounding area. Also, they appreciate that staff agreed to remove the skate spot at this time. FCNA members were also pleased that *Mr. Capell* and the Parks Department committed to developing walking trails throughout the entire parcel and have pledged to work with the FCNA in developing alternative uses for the remaining western parcels. She said some ideas that needed to be further explored include an off-leash dog park, sports fields, community gardens, informative interpretive centers, and expanded bird watching areas.

Boldt asked if they were opposed to the park because they want more to be added.

Jondahl said at this point in time staff has made the changes they really wanted. She said they do want the entire 88 acres to be developed with the walking trails, sports fields, and bird watching areas, etc., but understand that they are going ahead with developing 33 acres and are in favor of that.

Speaker #2

Edward Barnes, 4009 NE 50th Avenue, presented a resolution for the Board's consideration pertaining to the spending of Federal economic renewal grants. *Mr. Barnes* read a portion – "...we the undersigned work to maximize the creation of American jobs and restoring economic growth and opportunity by spending economic recovery plan funds on products and services that both create jobs and help keep Americans employed." He asked the Board to adopt the resolution.

Boldt said he would like to add a paragraph about buying in Clark County.

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Barnes also requested that the Board provide a full report on their recent trip to Washington D.C. (Legislative Conference), as well as again look at the apprenticeship program.

Speaker #3

Bridget Schwarz, 2110 NW 179th Street, Ridgefield, invited the Board to attend the 34th Annual Conference on Neighborhood Affairs. Schwarz said she was a volunteer member of the Board of Directors and every May they put together a conference on neighborhood concerns. She said this year it was going to be held in Spokane, starting on May 21. She highlighted some of the programs on the agenda.

Stuart asked Ms. Schwarz to email information to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Boldt said there was a question on item 6 (Intergovernmental Contract with the Regional Transportation Council that provides \$15,000 from Clark County for a portion of the local match required for the \$400,000 grant received from the Federal Surface Transportation Program to perform a Household Travel Behavior Study).

Pete Capell, Director, Department of Public Works, explained that there was \$400,000 in Federal STP funds available for the project. He said it requires a 13½ percent local match, which totals \$62,000 and is being shared at \$15,000 each by Clark County, the City of Vancouver, Washington State Department of Transportation, and C-Tran; and \$1,500 each from the cities of Battle Ground, Camas, and Washougal to be able to fund the local share of that survey work.

Boldt asked if the \$62,000 was part of the \$400,000 or in addition.

Capell said it was in addition.

Boldt said they talked a lot at RTC about being at the table to get the survey that would help Clark County. He asked Capell if he was confident about that.

Capell said yes and they would work closely with RTC to make sure the information that is gathered benefits the region, as well as Clark County and the other individual jurisdictions that are participating.

Boldt wanted to know if the private sector was at all involved. He said sometimes their attorneys ask about the number of trips being charged, but a lot of times it comes from the study.

Capell said a lot of it was from the survey where they are just getting information from citizens at large.

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Mielke pointed out that they recently paid their dues to RTC and he wondered if that money was dedicated or if it could be used for part of the study.

Capell said the actual dues were covering operating costs. He said these types of grants weren't unusual and, in fact, he would have another upcoming request in the amount of \$10,000 for another project. He said they budget for it because it does benefit the county and it has costs over and above what it charged in the dues for their annual operating costs.

Mielke said he could see the benefit, but they get concerned when they continue to do study after study and it's hard to face the public and say that they're still studying. He said the general public is paying for it, but he thought only a few would benefit.

Dean Lookingbill, Executive Director, Regional Transportation Council, said this is a study they like to do every 10 years and it's been 15 years since this type of household activity study has been done. What it does is give a good, up-to-date profile of how people travel, such as the number of trips they make, where they go, and how they link those trips together. He said they also felt it was timely because the development patterns in Clark County have changed a lot in the last 10 years so cities like Battle Ground, Ridgefield, Camas, and Washougal have become more commercial centers in and of themselves. Lookingbill said they do the studies in addition to the regular program activities of RTC, which is why they look to member jurisdictions to raise the local match versus paying for it out of their dues.

Mielke referenced consent item 1 (Biannual Code Amendments) and thanked staff for their time in answering all of his questions.

Boldt asked for clarification on consent item 10 (Residential Lease Agreement for park property at 7612 NE 259th Street). He asked where the money from the lease would go.

Capell said the lease monies go back into the General Fund.

There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to approve items 1 through 25. Commissioners Boldt, Stuart, and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: ROAD VACATION, NE 87TH STREET

Held a public hearing to consider the County Engineer's Report on the advisability of vacating a portion of NE 87th Street lying west of and adjacent to NE 64th Avenue. Hearing rescheduled from March 10, 2009.

Laura Henry-Slye, Department of Public Works, presented the staff report. Ms. Henry-Slye stated that the vacation request was for approximately 1,300 square feet, .3 acres, in

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an area that is zoned Highway Commercial. She said the petitioner has agreed that the Final Order to Vacate would not be recorded until the declaration amending the short plat has been signed and accepted by the Community Development Department, and that the replacement of the east-west road has been constructed, accepted and dedicated to Clark County. She said staff was recommending approval of the Engineer's Report and Preliminary Order to Vacate.

Randy Printz, 805 Broadway, Vancouver, representing the applicant, stated that when this was originally discussed they talked about vacating 87th and the reason for the road was to minimize conflicts with the Costco access and make transportation in the area work better for their site, as well as some others. At the time of vacation, they originally discussed with staff the full dedication of that right-of-way and construction up to where the access comes down (he referred to the map). The current staff recommendation now says to construct the whole road, but at this point there was no need to do that. He said the County is getting much more in the exchange with the right-of-way and the construction of that and the reason for that is that they don't know how it's going to develop. If Lot 4 comes in as Phase 1 and if there is no transportation need to extend all the way, they don't want to just as a condition of the vacation have to build all of that at that point. Printz said it would ultimately get built, but they wanted to have a condition that says you have to dedicate all of that right-of-way and construct up to that point. He didn't think staff objected.

Henry-Slye said she spoke with the Public Works Director and he concurred

Boldt asked if that would be a change to the Preliminary Order to Vacate.

Chris Horne, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, said for the purposes of clarification it would probably help to reflect what Mr. Printz and staff understands; that they would dedicate the entire right-of-way, but only construct to the driveway—the portion that goes southwest to northeast off of 87th Avenue—and then the remainder would be built in future phases, but the county would get the entire right-of-way dedication prior to the vacation being finalized. He said they could put that in the document so it's clear for the applicant; he knows at what point he's entitled to vacation and they would resolve any kind of ambiguity. He said he could do that for the following week's consent agenda.

Printz added that this doesn't have anything to do with whether the road would get built or not.

Mielke asked if it was appropriate to look for a time period that it might be completed.

Printz said right now they were in for development review for not only this project, but a large project on the north side of 88th that includes a couple hundred thousand square feet of medical office and a huge number of jobs. He said it was highly likely that if that was Phase 1 it would trigger the need for the whole road to be constructed. At this point he

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was trying to separate out the two from the development review issues from the actual vacation. He said what benefits the county most is getting the entire cross-circulation over to 62nd, which they don't have today, so the applicant would give the county that at the time of dedication, as well as to construct most of it. Also, the reasons for the construction was that the county wanted to make sure they got pavement for pavement and they have agreements with the folks on the north side to re-do their access.

Boldt asked if the Board could approve the resolution as amended and then Mr. Horne would work on it and bring it back.

Horne said yes.

There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Stuart to approve RV 09-31 – Road Vacation of NE 87th Street, as amended. Commissioners Boldt, Stuart, and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: MILL CREEK SUB-AREA PLAN

Held a public hearing to consider amendments to the 20-year Comprehensive Growth Management Plan Document, Arterial Plan Map, and Zoning Map, UDC Title 40 Chapters 40.200.020 and 40.250.060 regarding Mill Creek Sub-Area Plan.

[See separate verbatim transcript by Cindy Holley, Rider & Associates]

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

There were no comments.

2:00 P.M. PUBLIC BID OPENING

Present at bid opening: Tina Redline, Board of Commissioners office; Mike Westerman and Beth Balogh, General Services-Purchasing Department

BID OPENING WO 400580 – Curtin Creek Mitigation

Held a public hearing for Bid Opening WO 400580 – Curtin Creek Mitigation. Mike Westerman, General Services-Purchasing, opened and read bids and stated it was the Purchasing Department's intention to award Bid WO 400580 on March 24, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' hearing room, Public Service Center, 6th Floor.

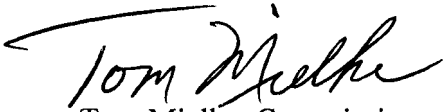
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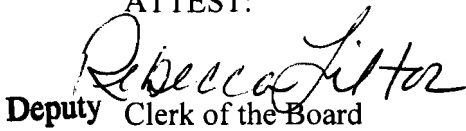
Marc Boldt, Chair

Steve Stuart, Commissioner



Tom Mielke, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Deputy Clerk of the Board

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