



Memorandum

Date: May 18, 2012

To: John Kovash, Mayor
Members, West Linn City Council

From: Chris Jordan, City Manager 

Subject: May 21 Work Session

The City Council is scheduled to meet in a Work Session at 6:00 on Monday, May 21, 2012. The agenda includes:

Sustainability Advisory Board Presentation

Please see the attached memorandum.

Street Funding

On March 12, the Council held a work session to discuss the state of the City's streets and learned that, due to a lack of dedicated funds, the City could expect the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) to continue to decrease. This information was somewhat out of date as it was based on past actual revenues. However, in 2011, the state gas tax increased providing the City of West Linn with approximately \$200,000 of additional revenues annually. The City's Transportation System Plan anticipated \$750,000 annually of needed pavement maintenance. The City's current five year forecast indicates that an average of \$760,000 annually will be available for the five year period of 2013-2017.

In the meantime, the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C-4) is taking a long-term view of transportation funding needs throughout the County. There seems to be general agreement among C-4 representatives that a county-wide solution is preferable to numerous local plans. The county-wide options could include a gas tax, property tax, street maintenance fee, or other funding concept. This will be discussed in greater detail at the C-4 retreat in the fall, and it is unlikely any of these ideas would be implemented until at least 2014.

To ensure transparency in this process, the City's C-4 representative Councilor Carson and the alternate, Council President Tan, would like to make the Council aware of these discussions and listen to any feedback the Council may have.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Attachment



CITY OF West Linn Sustainability Advisory Board

Memorandum

Date: May 8, 2012
To: West Linn City Council
From: West Linn Sustainability Advisory Board *NAA*
Subject: The Natural Step Workshop

One of the most important, if not the most important goal for the Sustainability Advisory Board this year is to update the Sustainable West Linn Strategic Plan. This is a challenge that the Board is not taking lightly and we are striving to produce a document that will not only guide the City of West Linn toward a sustainable tomorrow but will be easily integrated into the City's Comprehensive Plan. To create the most robust and pertinent plan possible, the Board has agreed that it is essential to develop the plan around a single sustainability framework. At the Board's May 1, 2012, meeting, a motion was passed to proceed with the plan update utilizing The Natural Step framework.

In order to become well versed in The Natural Step and to properly use this as the framework of our strategic plan, we have consulted with Duke Castle, an expert in this framework, on multiple occasions this year. Mr. Castle's presentations have been invaluable to our Board in gaining insight and understanding of this framework and how we might apply it to our plan update. While Mr. Castle has met with us to give an overview of The Natural Step, a more in-depth workshop is essential to properly base our plan on this framework.

At the May 21, 2012, West Linn City Council work session, Mr. Castle will give a short presentation on the fundamentals of The Natural Step. Following the presentation we would like to have a discussion, including time for questions, as well as talk about a Natural Step workshop that we would like to see take place in fall 2012. On May 1, 2012, the Board approved a motion to allocate up to \$2,000 for a half- or full-day workshop on The Natural Step to be given by Mr. Castle.

We feel that a workshop on The Natural Step would be highly beneficial to the City Council, the Sustainability Advisory Board, chairs of the City's Advisory Boards and presidents of the City's Neighborhood Associations for the following reasons:

1. The Natural Step framework will be beneficial to all parties involved in updating the City's Comprehensive Plan by giving the plan a solid, sustainability-minded basis;
2. The Natural Step framework will help City Council make sound, sustainable decisions in 2012 council goals such as the Community Aquatic/Recreation Center and the Blue Heron Property; and,
3. The Natural Step framework will give Neighborhood Associations a foundation to help foster sustainable West Linn neighborhoods.

The Board envisions this workshop as an initial step in the education and outreach phase of an eventual Sustainable West Linn Strategic Plan Update. Furthermore, as previously mentioned, the Board anticipates an update to the Sustainable West Linn Strategic Plan to serve as a guiding document for the next update of the West Linn Comprehensive Plan; incorporating sustainability throughout the City's decision-making in all aspects of government administration, operations and planning.

As the Board remains in the pre-scoping phase of an eventual Plan update, approximate financial and personnel resources as well as project timeline and deliverables are unknown at this time. The Board expects to detail the scope of the project in June and July and will request a future work session with the Council to outline the scope of the project and get the Council's direction prior to moving forward with the Plan update.