

MINUTES
RICHARDSON CITY COUNCIL JOINT WORK SESSION WITH COMMUNITY
INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION (CIEC) AND COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2025

- **Call to Order**

Mayor Dubey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following Council members present:

Bob Dubey	Mayor
Arefin Shamsul	Mayor Pro Tem
Curtis Dorian	Councilmember
Jennifer Justice	Councilmember
Dan Barrios	Councilmember
Joe Corcoran	Councilmember
Ken Hutchenrider	Councilmember

- **Call to Order**

Chair Varma called the CIEC meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Rashmi Varma	Chair
Kristen Schascheck	Vice Chair
Siraj Akhtar	Member
Kristen Ceaser	Member
Audrey Oatis-Newsome	Member
Jessica Rivera-Lucas	Member
Hisham Syed	Member

Absent:

Niranjana Hanumanna	Member
Grace McClure Topete	Member

The following staff members were also present:

Don Magner	City Manager
Kent Pfeil	Chief Operating Officer
Charles Goff	Assistant City Manager
Michaela Dollar	Assistant City Manager
Dannette Garcia	Assistant City Manager
Aimee Nemer	City Secretary
Crystal Brown	Deputy City Secretary
Greg Sowell	Communications Director
Anita Cothran	Finance Director
Todd Gastorf	Assistant Finance Director

Consultants/Partners Present:

Rick Robinson, Ramsee Consulting Group
Kay Shelton, Chief of Staff, DART
Gary Slagel, Board Chair, DART
Mark Enoch, Board Member, DART

1. REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE COMMUNITY INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN

Greg Sowell, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, and Rick Robinson, Ramsee Consulting Group, reviewed the Strategic Plan process, and the development of a Mission, Vision, and Role Statement, and shared the following goals and strategies.

- 1) Goal – for Richardson to be a community where all stakeholders feel welcomed, connected, and empowered to engage in meaningful ways.
- 2) Goal – for Richardson to celebrate our diversity and promote trust, connection, collaboration, and cross-cultural understanding.
- 3) Goal – for Richardson to maintain and enhance our reputation as an engaged and inclusive community that attracts businesses, residents, and visitors who contribute to a thriving local economy.
- 4) Goal – to ensure the success of the commission by enhancing member skills, establishing commission standard processes, and fostering collaboration with City departments and other partners.

Strategies

Improve communications messaging and channels.

Improve overall accessibility to the City.

Foster an increased sense of community.

Build knowledge and trust in City services.

Identify and/or create opportunities for sharing, engaging, and connecting.

Establish Commission SOPs and success metrics.

Council expressed appreciation to the Commission and concurred with the strategic plan and the outcomes.

2. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMUNITY INCLUSION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION PORTION OF THE JOINT MEETING

Chair Varma adjourned the joint CIEC meeting at 6:56 p.m.

3. RECESS

Mayor Dubey called for a recess of the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE JOINT WORK SESSION

• RECONVENE

Mayor Dubey reconvened the City Council meeting at 7:05 p.m.

4. INVOCATION – CURTIS DORIAN

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS – CURTIS DORIAN

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS AND VISITORS FORUM

The following public comments were submitted.

Submitted Online

Patricia Griffin, 441 Valley Glen, Richardson – regarding respect for immigrant rights

Cathy Mruphree, 911 Beechwood, Richardson – regarding standing with immigrant neighbors

Submitted In-Person

Ginny Laughlin, 804 Firestone, Richardson – regarding immigrant community in Richardson
Meadow Pena, 2800 Waterview, Richardson – regarding community support and resources for documented and undocumented people

Regina Ferree, 205 Betty, Richardson – regarding townhouses on Groves

Steven Butler, 1114 Pacific, Richardson – regarding

Regarding the public comments about immigrant rights, City Manager Don Magner provided some clarity and a statement of facts stating that the City of Richardson's priority is to ensure every person is treated with dignity, respect, and compassion and is committed to providing a safe and secure community.

Referencing a statement of equality issued in 2020, he stated that every member of our municipal staff is expected to consistently deliver exceptional service, dependability, community engagement, and compassion in every interaction with the people they serve, and we stand together in our commitment to justice, peace, kindness, and understanding, in order to be the best possible civil servants we can be. He stated that the City is committed to justice and is here to serve everyone, no matter who they are.

Mr. Magner clarified that the Richardson Police Department (RPD) does not have the authority to enforce U.S. immigration laws and is not seeking that authority. He stated the police department's focus is to enforce the laws of the state of Texas and the City of Richardson ordinances and to ensure due process and adherence to the rule of law. He further stated that the men and women of RPD are focused on keeping our City safe and positively engaging with everyone in our community.

He further stated that the City firmly believes in the fundamental rights, security, and dignity of every individual, and the City Council expects staff to uphold these values in every interaction within our community. He affirmed that as city manager, he is committed to ensuring that the City does exactly that.

7. REVIEW AND DISCUSS DALLAS AREA RAPID TRANSIT STATUS REPORT

Gary Slagel, DART Board Chair; Mark Enoch, Board Member; and Kay Shelton, Chief of Staff, provided an update to Council.

- Governance realignment that will allow cities to have better representation
- Providing increased services to cities rather than returning funds
- Work with cities to increase ridership
- Collaborate with cities on economic development projects
- Ask DART cities to pass resolutions to support funding DART at the current \$.01 sales tax level

8. REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE OVER 65 AND DISABLED PERSONS EXEMPTION

Todd Gastorf, Assistant Director of Finance, provided the following recommendation.

The current \$145,000 exemption is estimated to generate a 28.77% tax benefit after factoring residential value growth of 5%

Staff recommends increasing the exemption to \$160,000

- Increase will provide an estimated 31.75% tax benefit for FY 2026
 - Total savings of \$867 or \$81 increase for a senior
- City exempted taxes are estimated at \$7,888,094

PUBLIC HEARING:

9. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING, ZONING FILE 24-24, A REQUEST TO REZONE APPROXIMATELY 4.08-ACRES LOCATED AT 601 E. MAIN STREET, NORTH OF E. MAIN STREET, EAST OF GROVE ROAD, FROM R-1500-M RESIDENTIAL TEMP DISTRICT TO PD PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR A TOWNHOME DEVELOPMENT WITH 38-UNITS.

Council Action

After reviewing a request from the applicant to continue this case, Mayor Pro Tem Shamsul moved to continue the hearing on Zoning File 24-24 to February 17, 2025. Councilmember Hutchenrider second the motion. A vote was taken and passed, 7—0.

10. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. CONSIDER AWARD OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS:

- 1. BID #47-25 – WE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A COOPERATIVE ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS CONTRACT TO KAITLIN KENT ENTERPRISES, INC. DBA KKE CONCRETE LIFTING FOR STREET LEVELING SERVICES THROUGH THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM ("TIPS") CONTRACT #23010401.**
- 2. BID #48-25 – WE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO ELEVATED FACILITY SERVICES FOR THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASE FOR EISEMANN CENTER ELEVATORS 1 & 2 MODERNIZATION THROUGH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COOPERATIVE ("BUYBOARD") CONTRACT #757-24 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$267,865.**

B. AUTHORIZE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE ORDER TO INCREASE CONTRACT #321000520 TO REBCON, INC. FOR MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$274,915.22.

Council Action

Councilmember Hutchenrider moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Justice seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed, 7-0.

11. REPORT ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Council reported on items of community interest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In compliance with Section 551.087 (1) and (2) of the Texas Government Code, Council will convene into a closed session to discuss the following:

- Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations
 - Commercial Development – U.S. 75/Main St. Area

Council Action

Council convened into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

Council will reconvene into open session, and take action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Council Action

Council reconvened into open session at 9:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

ATTEST:


CITY SECRETARY


MAYOR