



**Public Works/Library Committee Meeting  
August 11, 2021, 6:00 pm**

**Attendees Present:**

Mayor Boudreau

Council Members: Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, Morales, Molenaar

Staff Members: Public Works – Bullock; Library Director – Huffman; City Attorney – Rogerson; Project Development Manager – Donovan

**1. Approval of Public Works Committee Minutes:**

Councilmember Beaton moved to approve the minutes from June 9, 2021; Seconded by Councilmember Hudson; Carried by all.

**2. Project Updates – Bill Bullock**

a) Brief on Council Items:

Freeway Drive (Cameron Way to College Way) Improvements: Staff will be recommending approval of Amendment No 2 with PBS Engineering to cover required scope changes in preparation for bid. Public Works will recommend Council approve the amendment at tonight's council meeting.

b) 2021 Street Improvements Program:

Paving has been going well. Little Mountain Rd and Fir Street (Laventure to Apache) are complete. Work on Laventure consisted of an additional four large dig-outs. Fir Street pavement was increased by ½" as the last overlay was not sufficient. The changes will increase the project cost by \$180,000, however the project remains within budget.

c) Solid Waste Building Addition:

This project is 90% complete with just finish work remaining consisting of interior wall texture and paint, and metal siding which had to be reordered.

d) Shop Canopy Addition:

The main shop modifications and slab are complete. The main structure is 50% complete.

e) WWTP Supernatant Tank Coating:

Work will begin on August 23, 2021, and will take approximately 3-4 weeks. The contractor will be refurbishing and coating the tank. The new coating should last for another 20-30 years.

### 3. Library Committee – Isaac Huffman

#### a) Updates and Highlights:

The library reopened four days a week from 12-6pm. Curbside pick up will continue from 10-6 on Saturday. Everything is working well and people have been compliant with mask mandate. Isaac shared an article commending the library on the changes and updates.

Staffing is underway with a lot of applications to sift through and many positions to fill and hope to be fully staffed over the next couple of months.

The library will be focused on more outreach within the community.

Summer reading is going well with the limited building access. Reading has been more self-directed with suggested titles, and it has been great to see parents reading more with the kids.

Programming continues though not as full as in the past.

#### b) Library Commons:

Design is about 50% complete and is off to a great start. Isaac highlighted the children's space, which allows for separate teen space; and the great line of sight allowing for much better visibility. He also highlighted the newsletter with monthly updates which is very good for exposure to the project within the community.

#### c) Radio Frequency Identification (RFID):

Isaac explained how the library has been implementing RFID in the checking in and out of library materials. The use of RFID will allow patrons a better experience in the process, making it much easier and quicker, as well as better circulation and more efficient use of staff time. Implementation of RFID tags on approximately 40% of the collection has been completed.

#### d) Programming:

Programming behind the scenes with community partners such the juvenile detention book club, boys and girls club, and the school district are doing well. Fall programming is underway.

### 4. Miscellaneous / For the Good of the Order

#### a) HB 1590 Discussion

Skagit County has notified cities that they will be enacting the 0.1% sales tax increase to support behavioral health and affordable housing services, regardless of the decision by cities to enact it themselves. Discussion was held to determine whether or not the City should enact the tax beforehand, enabling the City to have more control of their portion of the funding.

Council elected to move forward with a public hearing at the next regular council meeting. City Attorney will draft an ordinance to adopt and approve if council chooses to do so.

b) Budget

Mayor Boudreau invited Council to meet with staff early on in budget discussions in an effort to gain more in depth understanding prior to Council discussion and approval.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.**

Submitted by:

*Michele Myers*

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Michele Myers, Public Works Department