

**GRAND JUNCTION
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

April 15, 2002

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met on Monday, April 15, 2002 at 7:09 p.m. in the City Auditorium to discuss workshop items. Those present were Harry Butler, Dennis Kirtland, Bill McCurry, Jim Spehar, Reford Theobald, and President of the Council Cindy Enos-Martinez.

Summaries and action on the following topics:

1. **AVALON THEATER:** City Council will discuss the possibility of the City managing the operation of the Avalon Theater. David Varley, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the proposal along with a brief summary of the discussions that have taken place to date. Usually a facility such as this is subsidized. There is a three -year review provision. Joe Stevens, Parks and Recreation Director, then detailed the proposal as far as operations are concerned and what the plans are for utilizing the facility. Ed Lipton, Chair of the Avalon Board, stated much of the Board's time over the last three years has been spent on reviewing operating expenses rather than pursuing their charge of finding major funding sources to pay for capital improvements. DDA Chair and Interim Director Bruce Hill stated that the DDA is in full support of the City taking over the management of the Avalon Theater.

Council had questions on the assertion that there would be some efficiencies when the payroll will increase by a factor of 6X, as well as building operations increased. Some of that was explained. City Manager Arnold stated that marketing is the key and if they are successful, then the efficiencies will happen.

Action summary: Councilmembers expressed concerns but felt it was worth going forward and seeing if it will succeed, with the three-year review proviso. The City Manager said the MOU will be presented to Council for formal approval in the near future.

2. **REDLANDS PLAN AND TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE:** Tim Moore and Kathy Portner will update City Council on the development of the Redlands Plan. The City is proposing an overlay district for the entrances into the monument , the use of the geological hazards map, the use of design standards and the control of night lighting.

Tim Moore, Public Works Manager, gave an overview of what came out of the public forums relative to transportation corridors. The need for safety was a primary concern. He identified areas where improvements are planned. Another idea is to create some neighborhood connections to discourage travel on Highway 340 to get to adjacent neighborhoods. The total proposal over the long term is estimated at \$31.7 million.

Councilmember Theobold asked how much of the proposal is actually in the City's jurisdiction. Mr. Moore replied the Redlands Parkway, the Ridges and some of Monument Road. Mr. Theobold asked if there is any project currently in the City's Capital Plan. Mr. Moore said some of the improvements on Monument Road are currently planned.

Action summary: This was only an update and there was no action being requested.

3. **TRAFFIC CALMING:** City Council will discuss the current policy for traffic calming and possible future modifications. City Manager Arnold introduced this item and identified two areas that are up for consideration under the current policy. If the Council is dissatisfied with the current policy, then it should be considered now.

Staff reviewed the current policy, including the ten-step process. Grand Junction is somewhat more lenient than other communities in their process. Other communities have thresholds and have cost sharing, whereas Grand Junction does not have any thresholds and the City then funds and maintains the traffic calming devices if the ten step process is accomplished.

Transportation Engineer Jody Kliska addressed the Council on the two most recent projects and some of the past projects.

Councilmember Spehar supported development of some criteria. Some of the same things that are in TEDS. Public Works Director Relph suggested that there be a speed threshold

Action summary: Staff was directed to propose some thresholds and definitions in order to refine the process. Council supported a moratorium on any projects until the policy can be amended to include thresholds (speed, traffic volumes and TEDS manual criteria) and considers emergency services and traffic flow needs.

