

**GRAND JUNCTION
CITY COUNCIL ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP
SUMMARY**

August 2, 2004

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado met on Monday, August 2, 2004 at 12:07 p.m. at Two Rivers Convention Center, 159 Main Street, to discuss workshop items. Those present were Councilmembers Harry Butler, Dennis Kirtland, Bill McCurry, Gregg Palmer, Jim Spehar and President of the Council Bruce Hill. Absent was Councilmember Cindy Enos-Martinez.

Summaries and action on the following topics:

1. **MESA STATE COLLEGE FUTURE EXPANSION EFFORTS:** Mesa State College President Tim Foster, Lena Elliot of the Board of Trustees and College staff members Andy Rodriguez, Eric Vander, and Jim Brock were in attendance. President Foster reviewed the status of the College's plan for expansion and their immediate plan for new facilities. He noted that the amount of State money the College receives has diminished and yet they want to continue with the expansion. He asked Council to consider renewing their annual commitment of \$250,000. Council President Bruce Hill noted that the City's original commitment was part of a capital campaign and asked if that will be the case again. Mr. Foster said no, the Foundation wants to step away from land acquisition and will conduct a capital campaign for funding for actual buildings (bricks and mortar).

Council President Hill asked if the streets identified to be vacated are indeed vacated, if that will mean more parking for the campus. Mr. Foster answered yes, about 100 parking spaces will be gained.

Councilmember Spehar noted that it would be difficult to consider such a request as the City is in the first year of a two-year budget. He suggested that discussions take place for options that might be available with the College's 29 Road property which might solve mutual problems. Mr. Foster responded that is a different conversation as 29 Road is a different asset.

Councilmember Kirtland asked Mr. Foster what the total would be to acquire the properties identified. Mr. Foster said to "square off" the campus, the figure is in the \$2.5 to \$3 million range. Then they would want to continue the expansion over to Cannell Avenue. Councilmember Kirtland asked if there were any bonding options available. Mr. Foster said they could only do revenue bonds.

Ms. Lena Elliot, Board of Trustees, advised that they need the City's commitment to finish the project. She advised that when the City needs to acquire property in the 29 Road area, they will be there to help.

Time frames were discussed and the College representatives indicated that they need an immediate answer.

Action summary: City Manager Arnold suggested President Foster have the hard copies of the drawings, conceptual drawings of facilities and road vacations sent to the City Council. Council will review the information provided.

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm.