

MINUTES
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE
APRIL 11, 2016

Members in Attendance: Kent Butler, Chair
Jennifer Cochran, Vice-Chair
Peter Kotses, Member

Other Council Members: Chris Fahl
Patrick McGee
Michele Papai
Jeff Risner

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

- Bigbelly (presentation on Uptown trash/recycling receptacles)
 - Joe Nardello, Regional Account Manager and Rob Kutner, Area Vice President, presented an overview of the system (see attached) -- system agreement includes software, hardware, installation, and setup and training -- data is stored and historical trends can be tracked -- system is user-friendly for pedestrians -- receptacles are totally contained, no overflows, improves public space and provides operational efficiency -- increases recycling -- aesthetics are important

-Cochran -- will it accommodate our single-stream recycling efforts?

-Nardello -- yes -- faceplates are available for any option

-Kotses -- asked about displays on side panel?

-Nardello -- can replace Bigbelly logo with local logo or art

-Kotses -- asked about software fee

-Nardello -- part of agreement

-Kotses -- asked about turn around time for repair

-Nardello -- within 48 hours

-Papai -- questioned maintenance service, and graffiti surface cleanup
-Nardello -- maintenance is as easy as sliding plastic bag from bin -- has a smooth surface for easy graffiti cleanup

-Risner -- wireless data collection -- who owns it?
-Ralph -- Bigbelly owns data -- it is password protected specific to Athens -- data is used as a reporting tool only for Athens

-Butler -- a wrap could be a deterrent to graffiti
-Kutner -- would be a good avenue to look at

-Mayor -- has explored concept of trash compaction -- is soft and can be sent to MRF

-Kutner -- system eliminates illegal dumping and tight containment is a deterrent to rain water -- it is enclosed and secured

-Mayor -- fewer pickups would allow for possible future savings -- would like to this system expanded to City parks

-Papai -- expressed concern about the use of plastic bags
-Ralph -- don't have to use liners

-President -- questioned the amount of savings he believes the City could see with regard to pickups

-Ardello -- cost could be reduced by half

-Papai -- appreciates the concept for a cleaner city

- Gas Aggregation (Buckeye Energy Brokers, Inc.)

-Thomas Bellish, President -- company is first PUCO certified natural gas broker in Ohio, since 2000 -- 57% of City of Athens residents use gas -- 4500 residents could realize a savings benefit -- pricing structures include fixed rate, variable rate, and percentage-off rate -- gas market is volatile, so recommends percentage-off rate -- will need RFP to suppliers for implementation -- 21 day opt-out period -- could start by October, 2016

-Cochran -- asked if this is a SOPEC project for both City and County

-Mayor -- City is only entity that approved gas aggregation, not County, Buchtel, Amesville, or Trimble

-Bellish -- concentration of gas customers is in City

-Risner -- what would savings be?

-Bellish -- rate would be guaranteed below Columbia Gas, possibly 7-10% savings

-Butler -- will continue dialogue at a future committee meeting on how to proceed

- Uniform Recycling Carts (residential)

-Butler -- sees merit with larger carts -- benefit of larger 64-gallon containers provides the opportunity for increased volume of recycling

-Mayor -- The Recycling Partnership has indicated that best practice is to use 64-gallon, not 48 gallon -- Athens-Hocking Recycling Center concurs -- noted that footprint of 18-gallon vs. 64-gallon containers is very similar

-Fahl -- asked if there will be an on-going relationship with the grant provider? -- larger containers are a problem with limited space -- doesn't appreciate not having a choice in size

-S-S Director -- clarified that grant does establish size -- added, we were selected for this grant because we meet many of the criteria

-Fahl -- if not using container would recycling not be picked up?

-Mayor -- could negate grant , and City may not get reimbursement

-President -- consideration of uniform recycling containers will move City forward

-Papai -- agrees, we are interested in uniform recycling and zero waste, but she feels pressured with enticement of grant dollars

-Cochran -- uniform recycling containers is in keeping with many of our past discussions -- change is difficult, but change is good -- may be some obstacles along the way, but this can move our City forward

-McGee -- asked about open market pricing

-Mayor -- carts retail at about \$70.00 -- grant will be approximately \$50.00 -- cost totality will be much less

-Butler -- residents will be more mindful of recycling

-Fahl -- asked about warranty, or replacement carts and questioned how long the metrics will be reviewed prior to reimbursing the \$80,000 to the City?

-Mayor -- within the grant, 3500 carts will be going out to community residents with 1000-1500 available for replacement

-Risner -- is 3500 total customer base?

-S-S Director -- will get answers to questions prior to second reading of the ordinance

-Papai -- there are properties where it would be difficult to drag up and down steps -- questioned whether S-S Director can offer remedy

-S-S Director -- understands topography is a problem -- however, if there is 20% opt-out, City would not meet grant guidelines

- NatureWorks Grant

-Butler -- would be used for accessibility trail on Dowler property -- grant deadline of June 1st

-Papai -- asked whether this grant is reimbursable or match based

-S-S Director -- 75-25% match

-Cochran -- asked about unfinished Sells Park project

-Mayor -- project is not complete -- will be completed by next fall

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. NatureWorks

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
APRIL 11, 2016

Members in Attendance: Michele Papai, Chair
Jennifer Cochran, Vice-Chair
Peter Kotses, Member

Other Council Members: Kent Butler
Chris Fahl
Patrick McGee
Jeff Risner

Administrators and/or

Other Elected Officials: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

- Boogie on the Bricks (street closure)

- Judy Wymer, Event Coordinator -- requested Court Street closure between Union and State from 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 25, to 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 26th -- noted that Rick Wasserman will attend the next AUBA meeting to collaborate

- West Union (plaza)

- Papai -- Mayor has shared a vision for an enhanced pedestrian area on West Union Street between Congress and Court -- noted that this idea has been discussed and reviewed for parts of Athens at past Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety meetings -- is concerned that this is a critical intersection and high traffic area, and suggested that a traffic study would be helpful -- asked about potential loss of loading zones & general parking-- would be a good space for outdoor eating

- McGee -- concerned about the upcoming demolition of the President Street Academic Center (Science Hall Building), and asked how this might affect the traffic

- Mayor -- demolition will take approximately a month which shouldn't be a problem, adding that the location will likely stay vacant for some time

-Kotses -- expressed some worry about traffic tie-ups -- asked about a possible smoking ban for this area

-Fahl -- clarified, this is not a pedestrian mall -- we are a pedestrian heavy City that is overwhelmed by motor traffic -- believes this is a good move toward a more pedestrian friendly area -- traffic patterns need to be carefully studied -- this area is prime for a Special Improvement District (SID)

-Butler -- with proper planning, to include delivery access and traffic solutions -- he is amenable to the concept

-President -- business owner expressed concern about loss of parking and traffic congestion -- need to work with AUBA -- need to be cognizant of O.U.'s developing Master Plan

-Papai -- Papai noted that 11 spaces are lost on the North side looking at the map provided.

-Mayor -- there would be a loss of 6-7 parking spaces on the north side -- will likely continue with two lanes near the corner of Court as is now available during construction of the fire damaged area, with parking for delivery on corner of Court and Congress -- could make parking spaces shorter (to 18 feet) and would gain possibly two more spaces on south side -- area would create a nice communal space -- would encourage tables in space for eating -- will continue to explore the concept in more detail -- hardscape should be reviewed now -- traffic signal timing will need to be changed -- SID will take time and will bring more resources to this area -- has discussed idea with both President McDavis and O.U. Planner

-Papai -- would like counters placed for vehicular traffic -- lots of ideas to entertain

-S-S Director -- placement of counters will need to be timed for an accurate count prior to students leaving campus

-Guy Philips, owner of one of the buildings currently being restored in the fire area -- feels this is a good and interesting idea -- ideal for eating

-Mayor -- maintenance of SID could be handled through creation of a new position

-Papai -- more specific ideas will be entertained at the next committee meeting

-Kotses -- asked about the City Planner's thoughts on this proposal

-Mayor -- Planner is aware of the concept, however no details have been discussed at this time -- shared that during the recent National League of Cities Conference, he is aware of a couple of Cities that have taken advantage of SID's and has reinvigorated their city's economic development -- added, a bike lane could be incorporated on south side