


MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor England
Vice Mayor Samora
Commissioner George
Commissioner Rumrell
Commissioner Torres

FROM: Max Royle, City Manager 

DATE: August 30, 2021

SUBJECT: Presentation: Green Infrastructure Model for Parkettes by Mr. Craig Thomson and Dr. Lonnie Kaczmarzsky of the Sustainability and Environmental Planning Advisory Committee

Attached from Mr. Thomson is an August 23rd email in which he explains the purpose of the presentation. As an update to that email, Mr. Thomson sent another one to the City Manager on August 27th, in which he wrote:

“I noticed there was an error referencing priority items in the last paragraph of my email of August 23rd. Item 2, the creation of an inter-departmental task force to address climate change initiatives, was addressed as item three in the last paragraph. Again this proposal seeks to create an effective structure (task force) and allow the particular concerns raised by SEPAC to be reviewed and addressed by government staff which could then reported to the commissioners in their monthly reports.”

At your meeting, Mr. Thomson and Dr. Kaczmarzsky will explain in more detail the green infrastructure model they wish to develop and for which parkettes.

As you discuss their proposal with them, the staff asks that you keep in mind the following: that whatever is proposed should not cost much to implement and should require low to no maintenance so that Public Works employees can concentrate on their key responsibilities of trash removal and maintenance of streets, drainage facilities and other parts of the City's infrastructure.

Max Royle

From: craig thomson <craigthomsonaa@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 3:37 PM
To: Max Royle
Cc: Craig Thomson
Subject: SEPAC presentation

Max

This is in response to your email of August 17 regarding the SEPAC presentation.

Lonnie and I have agreed to represent the committee in making a formal presentation and request for support.

We are hoping for feedback from the commission and staff concerning their specific interest in addressing the crisis of climate change affecting our city.

There are two aspects of our presentation. One focuses on a specific project to demonstrate environmentally sensitive initiative to control and conserve stormwater runoff and allow it to recharge our ground water resource ,

Protecting our urban tree canopy and allowing biodiversity In our green spaces.

Lonnie's presentation will explain the technical aspects of this project and SEPAC's request to allow tree fund monies to design and implement the project.

I believe you received a PDF which explains the rationale and technical aspects of the project in some detail.

My presentation will focus on the policies and procedures which our committee has asked the commission and staff to implement in reducing the impacts of climate change on our community. The committee has made great strides in researching and identifying more sustainable practices for our community.

Unfortunately due to limited funding and staff involvement very little has been implemented over the past four years.

As indicated in my previous email I will discuss three areas of concern and recommendations.

1 Sustainable Stormwater management best practices.

2 Creation of a inter-departmental task force to address climate change initiatives for our community.

3 Floodplain and land development best practices to preserve our natural environment.

Items 1 and 2 have been thoroughly discussed during our SEPAC Meetings.

Yet , we have received minimum feedback and support from staff as you are aware.

Item 3 is a proposal to enlist staff participation so as to create a feasible and effective response to the climate change threats our community is facing.

The committee will be looking for feedback from staff and the commission in order to continue our sustainability goals.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Craig Thomson

Sent from my iPad