



Meeting Minutes

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Study Session

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Cheryl Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jessica Bateman, Councilmember Clark Gilman, Councilmember Julie Hankins and Councilmember Jeannine Roe

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Jim Cooper

2. BUSINESS ITEM

2.A [17-0265](#) Isthmus Update and Schedule

Parks, Arts and Recreation Director Paul Simmons gave an overview of the City-owned Isthmus properties. He shared the history of the City's investment in the area, beginning in the 1990's when the parcel now known as Heritage Park was purchased and developed. In 2013, the City purchased 2.3 more acres. Mr. Simmons outlined the buildings that were demolished in 2015 and 2016 in order to clean up the parcels. Collectively through acquisitions and demolition, the city has invested \$5M on the isthmus properties.

Mr. Simmons reviewed the current work plan status which includes the Isthmus Property scoping and planning process and the inclusion of feedback received at a 2016 Finance Committee meeting and January 2017 City Council retreat.

Mr. Simmons outlined three options to move forward with the Isthmus property.

Option 1: Stay the course - scope the Isthmus Master Plan in 2017; begin the public process in 2018.

Option 2: Continue blight removal with interim Improvements: blight removal and interim improvements in 2017; scope the Isthmus Master Plan in 2017; begin the public process in 2018.

Option 3: Expedite long-term planning: scope the Isthmus Master Plan in 2017; begin the public process in late 2017.

Mr. Simmons discussed the timeline for interim improvements with the goals of removing blight and creating a flat space for events. He shared a proposed timeline and cost estimates for the improvements.

Councilmembers asked clarifying questions and discussed the options.

Councilmembers agreed to move forward with option 2; interim only, has a budget of no more than \$500,000, maximizes reuse of the investment and includes an expedited public process.

The study session was completed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.