

Dublin City Council Work Session
Monday, May 13, 2019
Council Chambers

Minutes of Meeting

Mayor Peterson called the Monday, May 13, 2019, Work Session of Dublin City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. at Dublin City Hall.

Members present were: Mayor Peterson, Vice Mayor Amorose Groomes, Mr. Keenan, Ms. Fox, Mr. Reiner arrived at 6:10 p.m.
Ms. Alutto arrived at 6:40 p.m. due to a previous commitment.
Ms. De Rosa was absent (out of town).

Staff members present: Mr. McDaniel, Ms. Mumma, Ms. O'Callaghan, Mr. Earman, Mr. Ashford, Mr. Syler, Interim Chief Paez, Mr. Hammersmith, Ms. Willis, Mr. Stiffler, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Garwick, Ms. Crandall and Mr. Dearth.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the packet included an agenda and a brief memo to frame tonight's discussion. Tonight's work session is designed to obtain Council's input to the 2020-2024 Capital Improvement Program. Over the next couple of months, a proposed Five-Year CIP for 2020-2024 will be developed for future Council work session review. Staff has done some preliminary work, focused primarily on maintenance and replacement costs; validating the current four years in the remaining Five-Year budget; and looking out toward the fifth year. Staff wants to learn of Council's interests, needs, ideas from the community that are not already programmed in the current CIP or any adjustments Council might believe are needed in the CIP. Staff is present to support this discussion of Council.

He asked Ms. O'Callaghan to present a quick overview of the new CIP map tool that is both internal and external facing. Mr. Earman will then bring Council up to date on the results of a map exercise in response to information requests of Council in the 2018 retreat.

Ms. O'Callaghan demonstrated a tool developed as part of the Infrastructure Asset Management program that utilizes GIS to map the locations of the capital projects programmed in the adopted Five-Year CIP. This tool might be helpful in this meeting discussion. Currently, it is being used in house, but the plan is to roll it out to the public and add a link on the website in the near future. Staff is seeking Council's feedback prior to that roll out.

Originally, this tool was developed for internal use to help staff identify projects that might overlap as different types and to help coordinate the timing of different types of projects. This tool has been utilized for about a year and is a work in progress. The tool shows the location of construction projects. Each project is shown in the year that funding for construction is programmed in the CIP. As Council is aware, some of the larger projects might have programmed funding for design in one year, acquisition in another, and construction the following year. The decision was made to map only the year that construction is funded, as typically the public is most interest in that timing. That is typically the phase of a project that is most important to coordinate.

She accessed the link and noted all the projects of all different types programmed for construction in the Five-Year CIP. There are some items in the CIP that are not able to be mapped like fleet items and some technology items. The map allows one to hone in on the type of project as well as for specific years. For example, for all of the Facilities programmed in all five years, click on "Facilities." The same for Parks

projects, Transportation projects, utilities, etc. A user can toggle between the years for the various projects as well, and the ones programmed for construction are shown in each of those years. (She demonstrated use of this interactive tool.)

The bottom of the screen shows the infrastructure dashboards. For example, with sidewalk maintenance, there is a lot of data and work planned within that program. This pulls up a citywide map, with all of the sidewalk maintenance separated into two categories – one is replacement (R) and one is shaving (S). There is a list by address of what is programmed.

Another example of a dashboard is for pedestrian tunnel maintenance. The infrastructure dashboard shows the 56 culverts in the City; an average condition score goal of 80, which is currently met; the work plan for culverts for each of the years of the CIP; and the location on the map of the culverts. There is a lot of data and information in this tool, and staff hopes that the public will find this very useful when it is rolled out.

Ms. Fox asked if the link is available through Dubnet or GIS.

Ms. O'Callaghan responded that it is not on the web yet, as staff wanted Council's input prior to doing so. Ms. Mumma has a website for the CIP, and a link will be added to that website for the adopted Five-Year CIP.

Mr. Reiner asked if the culvert repair program is designed to address drainage problems in the City.

Ms. O'Callaghan responded that a couple of years ago, all of the culverts were inventoried citywide. Culverts are pipes of less than 10 feet. Staff then performed an inspection on all of these culverts, gave them a condition rating and identified needed maintenance. This work plan is what is necessary to keep those culverts in good condition. It does not address stormwater issues that may exist elsewhere; that would be a separate CIP program. This specific work is limited to the culvert and the location of the culvert. If there is a stormwater issue that is not associated with an existing culvert, that work would be performed as part of another project in the CIP.

Mr. Reiner asked if there is another sheet listing these. He often encounters homeowners who interrupt the stormwater flow by building mounds, impacting the drainage plan for several houses to get to the culvert. Do we have a program for that work?

Ms. O'Callaghan stated that the City receives many of those calls. She asked Mr. Garwick to comment.

Mr. Garwick stated that, currently, there are seven projects on the stormwater maintenance program. They are funded in the stormwater improvement program and there is \$250,000 for that program; some stormwater maintenance funds will be used to do seven current projects. They are not specifically shown on this map, as they have accumulated over the past 6-8 months subsequent to the last CIP update. The issues are documented as the City is notified. Where there are easements or right-of-way locations, the City addresses the issues.

Mr. Hammersmith pointed out that the only qualifier is that the issue must be in a public easement or public right-of-way; the City does not repair private property issues. The City will work with private property owners to help resolve the issues among neighbors, but these repairs must be done privately.

Mr. McDaniel stated that Mr. Earman will provide information requested in follow up to the 2018 retreat.

Mr. Earman presented a map of Parks CIP investments and area amenities. What Council had requested was a map of the City, listing all the parks, park properties, as well as the capital funding that has supplied those parks with amenities over the past several years. Staff looked back 10 years and gathered all of the CIP funding requests for all of the Parks projects throughout the City. This map displays each of the parks with the investment to date over the past 10 years.

Council also asked for the private, school district, Metro Parks, Muirfield recreational amenities that exist throughout the City. All of that data is accumulated and placed on the map, as well.

There are a variety of maps available, one layer at a time, with a better indication for these. There is a map posted on the wall as well. The map as shown reflects in beige the private Muirfield-owned properties; the Metro Parks property; and 42 pink dots reflecting private recreation facilities, both indoor and outdoor.

Eventually, staff will take all of the existing assets in parks that are in need of maintenance and will map that information as well – the year constructed, maintenance and inspection reports for each asset, and provide a roadmap for planning future funding needs. A good example is there are 43 playgrounds within the City that are owned and maintained by the City. Each is inspected on a regular basis and those replacement needs are plugged into the capital budget. He estimated that the City owns \$12 million in playground assets. This map will become more interactive as things are updated. There remains five years of recent amenities to update/incorporate into this map.

He offered to respond to questions.

Mr. Reiner asked if the first map shown is only capital expenditures and not maintenance.

Mr. Earman confirmed that it was only capital expenditures.

Mr. Reiner noted that the northern area around Muirfield Drive is showing parks not available to the public like Muirfield Village and the Country Club at Muirfield. Is there a map that depicts City parks or assets in that same area?

Mr. McDaniel stated that much of that area is golf course, but there are walking paths that are private, the reserve areas, and the Muirfield pools and the Country Club pool. Those are only accessible to those who live in Muirfield or belong to the clubs. This layer is not shown.

Mr. Reiner agreed those are private amenities. However, he is interested in seeing amenities the City has invested in for this general area of the City.

Mr. McDaniel responded the City has not made such investments due to these private amenities already existing. There would be little use for a park or pool next to a Muirfield park or pool.

Mr. Reiner stated that a park for general public utilization in this area is what he is suggesting.

Mr. Keenan noted that the City paid for an extensive shared-use path along Muirfield Drive.

Mr. McDaniel stated that staff will ensure that layer is shown of the private amenities.

Mr. Keenan stated there is not room to accommodate a park in that area, based on what he views.

Mr. Reiner responded there is common ground in which a park could be located, if the City wanted to invest funds in this area.

Mr. Keenan stated that his point seems to be the City is not doing enough for Muirfield in terms of park investments.

Mr. Reiner responded that the City, in general, is not doing enough Parks investment for the northwest quadrant of the City.

Discussion continued.

Mr. McDaniel summarized that the amenities the City has installed in this area will be reflected in an updated map.

Mr. McDaniel invited Council to participate in a map exercise. There are four maps – Parks, Transportation, Facilities, Other. There is also a Dublin fiber optic map with the current route as well as traffic signal fiber optics. The legends are in the right lower corner. There are also electronic versions available for review. He suggested that Council members post notes on the maps to identify their areas of interest for future CIP projects. (Different color post-it notes were provided to each member.) Each Council member can then brief back his/her ideas/suggestions to enable the discussion to be captured for

the minutes. After this exercise is completed, he suggests Council have a group discussion on the ideas/suggestions in order to summarize priorities and provide direction to staff.

Ms. Fox stated:

1. She reviewed the 2018 Citizen Survey for community priorities, which may help guide Council in this exercise. Fifty-eight percent felt a high priority was to improve traffic flow. Public transportation was indicated as not available, and therefore no one uses it. Seventy-five percent had not walked or biked instead of driving. In looking at the Mobility Study, there is a large gap for transportation, given these factors. The quality of the overall natural environment was identified by 96 percent of citizens as essential or very important. Twenty-one percent rated the City fair to poor on preserving natural areas, greenbelts and farmlands. There was some priority for improving the current parks and greenspaces. Thirty-six percent placed a high priority and 47 percent a medium priority on using money for additional parkland acquisition.

Mr. McDaniel stated that these parkland acquisition priorities are low in terms of percentage compared to years previous. This is reflective of the City's ongoing purchase of land.

Ms. Fox stated that she looked for areas with priority over 20 percent. The trend to her indicates that Dubliners want easy traffic flow, lots of natural environment, and recreation opportunities.

2. Another item that was of interest was 77 percent felt health and wellness opportunities were essential to very important. That speaks to the recreation piece, the movement piece for investment by the City.
3. Forty-eight percent indicated their internet speed was fair to poor. They want higher speed at a lower cost.
4. For economic development, they encourage more shops and restaurants, with 46 percent indicating it was a high priority.
5. Improve current parks and greenspaces was also a priority piece. She believes it is important to be mindful of the citizens' perspective on priorities as Council undertakes this exercise.

Mr. McDaniel stated that Mr. Earman has information regarding comparisons of national averages with Dublin in terms of parkland.

Ms. Fox responded that she believes Dublin would rate higher than most anyone for parkland. But from the perspective of what citizens prioritize in improvements, those were the trending topics.

Mr. Keenan agreed that Dublin would likely exceed most other communities in any comparison. Dublin has over 100 miles of shared-use paths and many parks. He is not certain if more can be absorbed. Per capital, Dublin is far ahead of any city in Ohio.

Mr. McDaniel stated the survey information is an important consideration. There are several surveys prior to 2018 that should be reviewed as a whole. These are all great topics and good information. Staff can provide the survey information over time, if that would be helpful.

Ms. Fox stated it may not mean adding more parkland – it may mean ensuring that what the City does have is enhanced or programming added. The citizens believe these are very important amenities.

Mayor Peterson noted that staff has made an emphasis on maintenance in recent years. The more parkland that is acquired, there is also maintenance responsibilities that come with that. The maintenance budget as a percentage is likely growing larger.

Mr. McDaniel added that as the City assets age over time, it is important to keep a focus on the maintenance needs. Adding a large park like Riverside Crossing Park and the additional maintenance that brings is another factor to consider. The landscaping maintenance throughout the City is a very large undertaking each year.

Mr. Keenan pointed out that Riverside Crossing Park will be a more challenging park to maintain in view of the structures, landing areas, seating areas, and water features it includes.

Mayor Peterson agreed, noting that there will be a constant round of maintenance for the various components of the new park. Generally speaking, for 2020, what percentage of the CIP is for new acquisition/construction/new items and what percentage is maintenance for assets already acquired?

Ms. Mumma noted that for the Five-Year CIP, 2019-2023, of the \$194 million programmed as part of the CIP, \$77 million of that is capital maintenance. Capital maintenance would involve the street and sidewalk maintenance, the park equipment replacement – not necessarily operating expenses like trash pick-up, which will be in the operating budget. To put the \$77million in perspective, the main funding source for the capital budget is the 25 percent income tax allocation (75 percent goes to the General Fund, 25 percent to the capital fund.) Of that 25 percent income tax allocation, 60 percent is used to retire debt service; and the remaining 40 percent is used to cash fund projects. In particular, maintenance items would not be funded by debt issuance. Looking at that 40 percent allocation, over the course of five years, that is \$43 million. The maintenance program itself totals \$77 million. As the community continues to age, that maintenance number will grow. That is why other sources of revenue are sought to fund the capital program, including hotel-motel tax funds, TIF revenues, utility funds, etc. In terms of the fundamental baseline of revenue to pay for capital projects, the maintenance is almost double that amount.

[At this point, Council members proceeded to review the maps on the wall and place notes on any priorities they have for the CIP update.]

(Ms. Alutto arrived at this point.)

Mayor Peterson invited Council members to share their areas of interest as noted on the maps.

Mr. Reiner noted his areas of interest:

- Potential future traffic circle at Glick and SR745 (Dublin Road). All of the increased traffic from the west (Jerome Village and other development) is being channeled through Glick Road to 745.
- Whenever curb cuts are planned for any new subdivisions, the developer should install a left hand turn lane to avoid traffic back-up. This is especially true for two-lane roads in the City.
- Opening up Post Road as an east-west connector. This was discussed over several years. Anytime there is a traffic issue on US33 from Marysville, the City is flooded with traffic and lacks adequate east-west connectors. Post Road should become a major east-west connector. He asked Mr. Keenan for input, as his office building is along Post Road.

Mr. Keenan stated that he would have a conflict due to his building ownership on Post Road.

Mr. McDaniel asked for clarification. Is Mr. Reiner suggesting opening up Post Road as an east-west connector through Coffman Park?

Mr. Reiner stated that additional lanes would be needed to do this, and the setbacks along Post Road are large enough to accommodate a road widening. It would not necessarily have to be routed through Coffman Park, but the road must be a functional east-west connector.

- Do not dead-end Bright Road. He travels this roadway every morning. There is a large volume of traffic using Bright Road from Riverside to the Emerald/Bright traffic circle, and it works perfectly in sync. In his view, dead-ending Bright Road is one of the worst ideas.

Mr. Keenan recalled the Bright Road dead-ending plan was driven by accidents occurring on Riverside Drive and Bright Road.

Mr. Reiner stated that it should be a right-turn only from Bright onto Riverside. Between 6:30-7:30 a.m., lots of drivers use this stretch of road. Emerald Parkway traffic circle at Bright works very well.

Mr. McDaniel responded that if this is supported by Council, staff needs to know that due to the timing of this project.

Mr. Keenan stated that information would be needed about traffic numbers, accident frequency, etc. before any discussion can take place.

Ms. O'Callaghan noted that this information can be provided in follow-up.

Mr. McDaniel stated that staff will report back about the status and the supporting information to confirm Council's desire in this regard.

Ms. Fox stated that she would like to have input from the Fire Department as well.

Mr. Reiner added that investing in the traffic circle at Bright and Emerald makes no sense if Bright will be dead-ended.

- Bring Bird scooters back to the City. Having a limited amount of these scooters would be a great amenity for those traveling back and forth across the river for dining. He believes this is still under study by the City.
- Develop a new City flag, as the City has completely changed and an upgrade to this image is needed.
- Find a source for the spring under the 161 bridge. The Kiwanis built a beautiful basin there, and he understands that the water has been diverted by 30-40 feet and does not flow to the basin. A sign is in place indicating the water is not for consumption by animals or humans. It is a beautiful basin, and that is the source of the original Native Americans' water. Reactivating this spring to refill the basin would be a great project, if the resources are available.
- He continues to be interested in better lighting for the new pedestrian bridge. He is not satisfied that the planned lighting will be appropriate for this iconic element in the future of the City.
- Major funding needs to be provided for the new Riverside Crossing Park in order to complete the implementation.
- If the Corazon Club becomes available in the future, the City should purchase it for use as a senior citizen center or second recreation center. As another option, it could sold through a third party in order to develop retirement homes/condos, given the strong need/interest for those in the City.

Vice Mayor Amorose Groomes noted her areas of interest:

- For transportation, Council has talked previously of acquiring land for a potential Hyper Loop stop. (She identified this pie-shaped property on the map) This seems to be the piece of land that would provide the greatest connectivity and access.
- For bicycles and pedestrians, she would like the City to begin steps to obtain multi-use path access into the OCLC parcel so that when it develops, the City is poised to have access into this space. This could include some of the parcel now owned by Cardinal, and would require having access through there as well. It is important to start planning how to penetrate this area and where it makes the most sense.
- For the north side of Brand Road, shared-used paths heading east from Muirfield Drive are not smooth at present for pedestrian or bicycle transportation. There is need to close the loop on this gap.
- In terms of facilities, the City has done well in this area. She would prefer to see the private sector build some facilities and those who want to use them pay for their use. The City seems to be reaching capacity for what it can fund as a city. Based on her experience, she believes people are willing to pay for facilities they want to use.
- For Parks and Recreation, she would like the City to identify a suitable pond for fishing events. There are fishing clubs in the middle and high schools. Growing up in Dublin, the Sherm

Sheldon Fishing Derby was one of the highlights of the year. The last one she attended was at the Rec Center and that pond can only be fished from two sides, due to cattails surrounding it. Perhaps the pond to be revisited at Frantz Road/Rings could have a shared use parking arrangement on weekends or evenings with Cardinal to accommodate use of the pond. That is one of the recreational activities that cannot be accommodated with a gym. It would be a nice community amenity for families.

- For Dublink, she appreciates having this map. It would be good to share via Dropbox to enable regular access. She would like to see the City have fiber up and down the Dublin Road area so that the elementary school now lacking connection could be connected. There is some aging office space in Muirfield, so having fiber along Muirfield Drive would make the office space more attractive if redeveloped in the future. There is a lot of capacity in that general location for more and higher paying jobs.

Ms. Fox noted her areas of interest:

- For Transportation, she remains interested in partnering with Union County for 33/Hyland Croy improvements.
- When the Frantz Road area is redeveloped, she is still interested in a multi-modal lane to facilitate more public transportation and pedestrian transportation.
- She has heard concern from residents of the Historic District south of SR161 about the need for a left turn lane at N. High Street. Traffic is cutting through the alleys and Riverview Street to avoid the intersection. Even a turn cycle with the traffic light would be helpful.
- She asked if the CIP includes the Franklin Street completion north of SR 161. She is including this because it is a physical barrier for anyone south of 161 to walk across to the parking garage. Unless one is on High Street, it is not possible to cross 161 safely. To enliven the District, the Franklin Street extension to the north will help.
- For bicycles and pedestrians, if shared-use path is not planned for the entire stretch of Bright Road, given the new elementary school being built and the amount of traffic, it will be a dangerous situation. If students will walk to the school or to the park, a shared-use path along Bright Road is very important.
- For Facilities, she is promoting pickle ball courts and more soccer fields. (Note: these actually fall within the Parks and Recreation areas.)
- For historic properties the City owns along Shier-Rings in particular, the City needs to either request the Golf Club of Dublin to improve the maintenance or the City needs to take care of the maintenance. Absent some action, these structures will not survive.

Mr. McDaniel noted that the budget includes some funding to repair the box gutters on the house and roof.

Ms. Fox responded that a walk-through is needed to understand the extent of the maintenance needs.

- For Other, she supports what other municipalities like Upper Arlington and Columbus have done in terms of building/renovating barns in their park space to be used for weddings and banquets. Dublin does not have a space where one could hold a wedding or an evening event with alcohol. This is a wish list for consideration in the future. Maybe an updated barn structure would be suitable. She believes this facility could be self-supporting and a nice amenity for the community.
- For Parks, Monterey Park has not had funding for improvements for many years. The neighborhood is interested in an expansion of Monterey Park and some additional amenities. She would like this to be considered.
- For the Kiwanis park referenced by Mr. Reiner where the Dublin spring is located, this is a lovely setting and one of the City's original most beautiful places. She agrees with the need to

reactive this spring and upgrade it. Perhaps in cooperation with Kiwanis, others groups, or maybe the neighborhood, there would be interest in this project. She is an advocate of restoring the Dublin spring. She knows that there is still spring water in that location as watercress grows in that area and it only grows in spring water.

- For the Darby lot in Historic Dublin, she is interested in having electrical service added. It is the only open space in the HD where a festival or farmers' market could be held. On days it would be used for other purposes than parking, it would facilitate such events, but electrical service is needed. Currently, there is no place to gather on the west side of the river.
- For Dublink, people are still interested in improved speed and a better value for their money so the City should continue working on extending fiber as has been discussed.

Mayor Peterson noted his areas of interest:

- He agrees with purchasing land for the Hyperloop stop, as suggested by Vice Mayor Amorose Groomes.
- He commented in regard to the underpass wall at Riverside/SR161. This was discussed by Council previously – specifically, the need to have this concrete wall improved aesthetically. Perhaps the color could match the color of the bridges at the interchange or even be faced with stone to improve the aesthetics.
- He has talked previously of his interest in having an intracity shuttle. A shuttle operated by the City could transport residents from neighborhoods to Bridge Park or other locations in the City and that would be of interest to him and many others.
- In terms of land acquisition for economic development, he and Mr. Keenan agree that the two significant land purchases done recently to accommodate Cardinal Health's retention and to attract OSU have been very successful. Acquiring land as a strategy for economic development seems critical. It might also be useful to address other development-related issues where efforts have not achieved desired results.
- He asked about the caves on the east side of the river that were discussed in conjunction with a recent land purchase along Emerald Parkway. This is a very cool, natural feature of interest to people.

Vice Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that the caves are actually located on property to the immediate north of what was purchased by the City. That property is owned by Tom McDowell.

Mr. Reiner stated it is worthwhile to pursue this land that has the caves.

Mr. McDaniel stated it is on the list of desired acquisitions for the City to pursue at some future date.

Mayor Peterson noted that the City should be ready, if an opportunity presents itself to acquire that land.

- He also has some level of interest in extending fiber to the entire City.

Mr. Keenan noted his areas of interest:

- For facilities, he remains interested in the City pursuing a performing arts center. The previous Councils he served on had given this a high priority. He is aware that the current Council did not support this to the same level, but he wants to keep this on the five-year program.
- Acquiring land for economic development. Nothing else is more important than land to facilitate economic development. Land only becomes more expensive. Obviously, this would be an executive session topic for land acquisition.
- For Parks and Recreation, there is need for an ice rink. He is aware that the current lease for the Chiller facility is expiring and the City needs to do something with the existing ice rink or build another one. There is a large community within Dublin in need of ice time.

- Pickle ball and bocce ball are needs to be met. In Savannah, GA these facilities are highly used by leagues. These are competitive sports and suitable for the aging population as well. Perhaps building these in the pocket parks would be something to explore.
- He would like to see the Riverside Crossing Park development be accelerated from the current timeline.
- He agrees that the wall along the Riverside Drive underpass needs to be improved aesthetically.

Ms. Alutto noted her areas of interest:

- For Transportation, she, too, agrees with the land for the Hyperloop stop as a priority.
- The Cara Road/Avery Road intersection needs to be improved due to near accidents occurring.
- She is interested in protecting the Indian Run and the entire green area. This is very important.
- For Glick Road/Muirfield Drive, she would be interested in having a roundabout at that location versus the current water feature.
- She, too, supports land acquisition for economic development purposes.
- She supports continuing to work with Columbus to address the Bright Road/Sawmill intersection area. It is a problematic area for traffic.
- For facilities, the Kaltenbach Park building is not in good condition and needs to be upgraded. This is a nice area and the City has done significant improvements for the park; however, the building needs to be improved as well.
- Supports the idea of securing access to the caves north of Emerald Parkway, as proposed by other Council members.
- She, too, is interested in the extension of fiber up Dublin Road.

Mayor Peterson asked if staff is in need of additional input.

Mr. McDaniel responded that staff will take this input and report back. Some of these items may be underway or planned and a status report will be provided. He appreciates the comments about land acquisition and, as discussed previously, a separate land acquisition session in executive session will be scheduled. This exercise was designed to inform staff about any general acquisition and or right-of-way needs.

Mayor Peterson asked about the dashboard shared tonight for the CIP. Is there a section for the public that explains the process for the CIP budget, including the fact that the CIP is updated each year?

Ms. Mumma responded that the CIP website indicates that it is a blueprint for what will occur over the next five years and that it is updated annually. Staff will review the language to make sure it is clear.

Vice Mayor Amorose Groomes noted that a reference could be made to changing priorities that might impact the CIP in future years.

Mayor Peterson added that it should be pointed out that the CIP is an evolving document and that the Five-Year Program can be modified during the annual updates.

Mr. Keenan noted that the water and sewer extension lines discussed in the past are programmed in the CIP. Perhaps staff could provide a quick update on the status of that plan and any feedback from neighborhoods that are coming online. He asked about the requirement for participation in terms of the percentage of the specific area in order for the City to proceed with an extension.

Mayor Peterson noted that his recollection is that for a neighborhood to be moved up on the extensions programmed, they could petition the City and in that petition process, a certain percentage had to commit to connecting.

Mr. Keenan recalled that for the Thornhill area, many of the residents are satisfied with their wells and septic systems and not interested in connecting.

Ms. O'Callaghan commented that staff recently provided to Council feedback from a public meeting that occurred regarding utility extensions. There is currently not anything in the policy that stipulates a certain percentage of concurrence from the residents. Staff has received feedback from some of these extension areas, however, and some are not interested in the services.

Mr. Keenan stated that a general update would be helpful.

Ms. Mumma added that in last year's CIP update, staff kept the extensions in the CIP that were already underway, but did not program any future extensions because the City is in the process of a water/sewer rate study. Not only does the City need to take into consideration the extension cost, but also the maintenance of the systems, especially the sewer system. The results of the rate study will not be available for the CIP update in June. Therefore, the CIP for 2020-2024 will likely have the same recommendations for water and sewer extensions as last year's CIP. The future recommendations will be influenced by the rate study.

Ms. Fox noted that the Blue Zones or the Health and Wellness programs are not a brick and mortar item. However, for the City-promoted wellness programs, where do they fit -- in the CIP or in the operating budget?

Mr. McDaniel responded those would likely be operating budget items. He noted that there are lots of different programs underway, including some amenities in the parks that promote wellness as well as corporate wellness programming, wellness for employees, the Corporate Challenge, etc.

Mr. Earman stated that a few years ago, the Healthy Dublin program existed. It was a consortium of a variety of stakeholders in the community – the library, the Chamber, the City, etc. It required a lot of effort to do this program by many entities.

Ms. Fox stated that it is important. During the period that Healthy Dublin existed, she observed more people walking and taking part in activities. She would like the City to find a way to bring that health and wellness piece back into the visuals that people would recognize. Perhaps the City could do this on its own, or perhaps the City could partner with others for this. In seeing how well this is done with employees, extending that to the community would be a wonderful gift.

Ms. Fox added that another survey outcome was that people indicated there was not enough affordable housing choices, especially for seniors. Dublin has a lot of single family and condominiums, plus senior living facilities. Many have said they cannot retire in Dublin and cannot find affordable housing for downsizing.

Mr. McDaniel responded he heard this in the coffee sessions he hosted in the community. That topic came up frequently. He will be requesting Council's authorization for the City's participation in a regional housing study MORPC will undertake. MORPC is asking the entire region to contribute to this, as it has a regional impact. An *a la carte* add on could include more specifics about Dublin in terms of particular needs. The other factor mentioned is to what extent is there such housing available in the adjacent areas, if not within the City of Dublin. Staff will request that Council authorize participation in this regional study, plus the add-on to focus on Dublin. This may help to respond to questions about this topic. He has shared some information that the Columbus Realtors has assembled – data about values and sales rates to see

how Dublin performs compared with other cities. However, it does not include affordable housing or housing for the aging population.

Mr. Reiner recalled that in the past, the City received funding from an insurance company for a wellness program, perhaps an amount of \$300,000.

Mr. McDaniel responded he believes that was several years ago and was relative to an internal wellness program for employees. The City's insurance plan administrator contributed to that. Internally, there has been discussion of asking them for a contribution to the Blue Zone analysis, which also helps inform employees. He is not certain if the company will do so.

Ms. Crandall added that monies were used for speakers brought in for the Healthy Dublin program. Those monies were deposited into the General Fund, but she is not certain if all of that funding was utilized.

Mr. Reiner recalled that two thirds were expended. He agrees with Ms. Fox that the Blue Zone concept would be important for Dublin. He recalled that a health insurance company had reported at a Council meeting that the City's health insurance costs were not rising exponentially due to the management of the health care costs through Healthy Dublin. He would like to see a return to such an organized, comprehensive program.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Clerk of Council