

Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting
March 10, 2006

Present: Committee Chairman Mayor Bob Sheckler, Councilmember Carmen Scott, Councilmember Susan White, City Manager Tony Piasecki and Planning, Building & Public Works Director Grant Fredricks

The meeting convened at 2:05 pm.

City Manager noted that the full City Council had not officially remanded most of the Finance and Economic Development subjects that he felt the Committee would need to discuss in preparation for the full Council. It was agreed that Tony would work with the Mayor to prepare a motion for the next Council consent calendar to more fully and officially define the Committee's responsibilities.

A general discussion then followed about ways to accelerate economic development in the City. Consensus developed around the need to consider an Economic Development City staff position to coordinate economic development-related activities and serve as a focal point for businesses that may have interest in locating in Des Moines. Tony will work up a proposal for Committee review and possible Council consideration in late May or June.

The Committee also asked Grant Fredricks to prepare a map showing commercial development projects planned or underway in Des Moines.

Grant Fredricks presented an updated list of ideas and actions developed by the Leadership Summit Permit Committee and PBPW staff to streamline and improve permitting and promote economic development in Des Moines. Included was a conceptual approach to moving these ideas forward for Committee and Council consideration. The list is very ambitious and probably more realistically represents a 2 or 3 year work plan. PBPW will continue to refine and focus this proposal to a proposal that both they and the Council can realistically accomplish in 2006.

The Committee decided to schedule regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at 2 pm.

The meeting concluded at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Grant Fredricks
Planning, Building and Public Works Director