

CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

January 29, 2010

This week Mayor Di Giulio, Councilmember Kidd, and I joined the AWC Conference for an update on legislative issues that are facing communities across the state. A report on the conference will be provided at Tuesday's Council meeting. We were also able to meet with Senator Hargrove and Representative Van de Wege to discuss several important local issues such as the agreed order that the Department of Ecology has recently issued. Although it was clear that the legislative members are preoccupied with dealing with the State's financial challenges, our visits were productive in providing updated information on some of the economic development and environmental issues that we are currently facing.

This week we received the traffic analysis for the Maloney Heights Development planned by Habitat for Humanity. Based upon the conclusions from this traffic study, the extension of 16th Street past their site is not required. We met with representatives from Habitat on Friday morning and we agreed to provide them a letter removing this requirement. Once they receive this letter then they plan to dismiss their suit.

This week we had a very productive Incubator Board meeting which also involved tenants from the Lincoln Center. Based upon input from the tenants, the Board is developing a long-range plan on how to better meet their needs and how to expand the occupancy of the Lincoln Center. I hope that we will have a plan to present to the City Council in the next 90 days.

I also attended the discussion on the possible establishment of a Co-Op in the former Gottschalk's building. Based upon comments from the 10 to 12 people who attended this meeting, there is continued interest in exploring this concept and we plan to meet again in three weeks to develop some strategies on how to move forward with this type of business.

- Kent Myers