

Linda Lehman- Mayor
Stephanie Haug, MMC- City
Spink Engineering- City Engineer
Kerr Law Group-City Attorney



Lisa Stade- Councilwoman
Mary Lettau- Councilwoman
Vanessa Coates- Councilwoman
David Sandretto- Councilman
Jake Mokler- Councilman

SPECIAL MEETING

September 5, 2017

A G E N D A

Benton City Community Center
6:00pm

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. 2016-2017 COUNCIL GOALS STATUS UPDATE
- D. TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY REGULATIONS
- E. ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF BENTON CITY

City Council Agenda Item



PROCESS INFORMATION

SUBJECT: 2016-2017 Council Goals Status Update

DATE/ITEM: 09-05-2017- C

BUDGET INFORMATION

DEPT:

BUDGETED?

FUND:

EXPENDITURE:

DESCRIPTION/SUMMARY

ACTION

Presentation/Discussion of current Council Goals, their current status, progress made toward achieving the goal, and next steps

HISTORY

ATTACHMENTS

1)

3)

2)

4)

RECOMMENDED ACTION/SAMPLE MOTION

N/A

2016-2017 Council Goals Status



	GOAL	STATUS	NEXT STEPS / NEEDS
1	<p>Splash Pad: The City will work with other jurisdictions that have these types of facilities to learn what works, what doesn't, and how much they cost to build and operate, and <i>create a local aquatic play area in Benton City.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City Engineer, with staff, has researched other parks in our region, including Richland and Kennewick parks A preliminary plan has been developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm location Authorize design Designate funding in the 2018 Budget
2	<p>Community Outreach/Communication: The City could hire a designate Public Relations person to create additional stories, articles and news releases on the City's behalf. This position would most likely be a part time position, based on the size of our jurisdiction. The City would also need to evaluate the Public Records liability of expanding onto social media platforms, and the cost of implementing systems to capture any records created through those sites. A policy for what and when information is published should also be created. <i>The City will implement a plan that communicates the City's story & celebrates the City's accomplishments to its citizens.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City currently utilizes the City website, the Sentinel, utility billing inserts and Facebook events to notify the public of upcoming events, emergency water shutoffs, updated documents, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City to develop plan for Public Relations, to include hiring a dedicated PR person for the City (2018 Budget?)
3	<p>Purchase Land for Sports Complex: The City should consider the type of ball fields desired will determine the amount of land needed, what parking facilities will need to be constructed to serve the new complex, and if the complex be multi-sport? <i>The City will acquire a large section of land to construct ball fields/create a sports complex.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential sites have been determined and evaluated Met with youth sports organizations for needs Developed preliminary layout of complex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select site and obtain funding/financing Create a development plan, seeking grants, possible sponsors, etc. to obtain funding to construct Complex
4	<p>Improve and Add City Events: The City only sponsors the 4th of July fireworks event and the Halloween carnival. The City lends its resources to help the Benton City Chamber of Commerce put on Benton City Daze, the 4th of July parade and Winterfest. The City should consider: events require a lot of manpower, and most events are put on by volunteers, with the improvements of the stage area at City Park, additional events could take place there, including movies and concerts, if the City wishes to host these events themselves, a substantial investment in manpower and overhead costs will need to be budgeted. <i>The City will utilize existing venues to bring additional activities and events to Benton City.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City put on 3 movies in the park this summer, with an additional movie to be shown in October Hired Coordinator and held Summer Youth Activity Program, including Egg Drop event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research hiring a professional event planner to assist local groups in putting on existing events. Develop new event opportunities within existing City Budget/personnel availability.
5	<p>Improve Entry to City: The City will need to work with WSDOT to determine what can be done in the ROW. The City will also need to work with Washington State Fish & Wildlife, as it leases the boat launch area from them. The City will need to develop a common vision for the area. Disagreements on what should happen have slowed progress in the past. The process should include public hearings and opportunities to hear from the public as to what should be done. <i>The City will develop a plan for improvement of the area from South entrance of the City to Downtown, including lighting, a wall, directional signs, art and branding.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City grant writer is researching funding opportunities for Entry corridor improvement CPAT event topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City to develop a cohesive plan for area

Goal Complete

Substantial Progress

Moderate Progress

Limited Progress



2016-2017 Council Goals Status

	GOAL	STATUS	NEXT STEPS / NEEDS
6	<p>Develop Main Street program: A few years ago, students from Eastern Washington University prepared a report entitled "Benton City Action Plan" and presented it to the Benton City EDC. This plan outlines the steps needed to develop a Main Street program in Benton City. The City shall consider how it can utilize the report created by EWU and work with the Benton City EDC and Benton City Chamber of Commerce to implement the steps outlined in the report. The City will develop a Main Street Program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City held the CPAT event on August 11th, 2017. A formal report with the outcome will be presented to the City in the near future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research/Implement a complete streets ordinance Coordinate development of downtown plan with local organizations Look at downtown parking configuration and possible alternative options to angle parking
7	<p>Develop Pathway Plan: Developing a comprehensive trail plan will prepare the City for future projects and funding opportunities. It will also help identify needed right of way for future paths that can be addressed during land use application review. The City has a map of existing sidewalks that can be used as a starting point for developing the plan. It will probably take substantial time to develop the plan and it is proposed that the City form a committee with participants from Spink Engineering, the City Council, Kiona-Benton School District, WSDOT, Ridges to Rivers/Tapteal Greenway and City Staff to help determine what is needed and points to connect within the City and outside its borders. The City will develop a plan that identifies continuity between existing walking/biking paths and new opportunities, including equestrian, to connect key points within the City and beyond its borders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City Engineer, Grant Writer, Mayor and Councilman Sandretto have been collaborating on a trail map for the City A preliminary trail plan has been created The City Grant Writer met with an RCO representative to gauge which areas would have the best opportunity for success in receiving grant funding. City Engineer met with Kiona Irrigation District about future extension to north of Archie Borden Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to meet with WSDOT, Bike Tri-Cities and Benton County for their input on collaborating in developing additional pathways within the City and surrounding areas The City will need to prioritize the trail routes for future funding opportunities Property owner reports will need to be created and outreach to those owners for potential access.
8	<p>Expand Skate Park: A property line adjustment would need to happen in order to expand the skate park area. Things to consider include: more land will need to be acquired in order to expand the existing park, issues with the noise from the park will need to be addressed when working with adjacent property owner, the City must accept additional liability when expanding the features, and additional input on what features are needed/wanted is needed. The City will provide additional skate space and equipment for participants of all ages and abilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property line issue is still ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City needs to determine the future plans for the existing tennis courts and allocate funding to any additional skate park projects
9	<p>Improve Playground Equipment: The City should consider that the play equipment at City Park to be replaced with newer equipment. Input on what is desired will need to be gathered by the City. The new equipment will need to meet current safety standards. The proximity of the play area to the alley should be addressed with fencing, and any changes to the play area should incorporate the use of the stage area for events. The City will replace/upgrade playground equipment at City Park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated equipment installed at Legion Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City needs to construct a barrier between the play area and the roadway in City park New equipment should be researched and funding needs to be allocated in future budgets.
10	<p>Construct Large Community Center near library: More information is needed on what type of facility is desired, and what features should be included. A new building of this caliber will require additional manpower and security. This building should add opportunities for Benton City youth and adults to participate in their community. The City will construct community center near library.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City Grant Writer has investigated potential funding opportunities for facilities of this nature Hired Coordinator and held Summer Youth Activity Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City needs to evaluate the Community needs to create a design for the building Develop Preliminary Layout w/\$ Estimate Funding needs to be secured.

CITY OF BENTON CITY

City Council Agenda Item



PROCESS INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Transportation Network Company Regulation

DATE/ITEM: 09-05-2017- D

BUDGET INFORMATION

DEPT:

BUDGETED?

FUND:

EXPENDITURE:

DESCRIPTION/SUMMARY

ACTION

Discussion regarding the current law and potential regulations regarding Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)

HISTORY

ATTACHMENTS

1)

3)

2)

4)

RECOMMENDED ACTION/SAMPLE MOTION

N/A

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lehman
Members of the City Council
City of Benton City

FROM: Eric W. Ferguson *E.F.*
Attorney-at-Law

DATE: August 31, 2017

RE: Transportation Network Companies (Uber)

Our office has been asked to update the Council on the current state of the law with regards to Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) such as Uber and Lyft, and inform the Council on how other cities are using local ordinances to regulate TNCs within their jurisdictions.

What Are TNCs?

TNC are companies that use a digital network or software application to connect passengers with TNC drivers for the purpose of providing a prearranged ride for a fee. While they are most commonly known as “ridesharing” services, many local ordinances use the term “transportation network company” to distinguish them from more traditional types of “for-hire” vehicle services like taxicabs.

TNCs, like Uber and Lyft, have emerged only recently, but have been growing rapidly in size and popularity. Uber, the largest TNC, was founded in 2009 in San Francisco and now operates in cities all around the world.

In 2016, Uber approached the cities of Kennewick, Richland, and Pasco requesting that the cities adopt ordinances allowing TNCs to operate within their jurisdictions. Since then, both Kennewick and Richland have adopted ordinances that allow and regulate TNCs. In agreement with the terms of the ordinances, Uber has begun operating within the two cities, while Pasco and Uber have continued to disagree on the terms of a TNC ordinance. In order for TNCs to operate within the City of Pasco, the City has stated that it will require the TNCs’ drivers to be fingerprinted and maintain such fingerprints on file with the City in order to obtain a business license, in addition to other requirements that are similar to Kennewick and Richland.

Mayor Lehman
Members of the City Council
August 31, 2017
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Uber has made it clear that it will not operate within the City of Pasco so long as the fingerprinting requirement is in place. Uber also made it clear during negotiations with the cities that it would not operate in the cities if its drivers were required to submit to a background check by the city prior to obtaining a business license, in addition to the background check that Uber claims it performs on its drivers.

The City of Kennewick has structured its TNC ordinance so that the TNC is required to obtain a Special Permit to operate within the City - meeting certain requirements, as well as paying a permit fee. Kennewick also has requirements in place for TNC drivers, including: a minimum age of 21 years; requiring that the driver have a valid driver's license; and meeting certain insurance requirements. Kennewick also requires the TNC to keep up-to-date records on its drivers, including criminal history. Other cities in Washington have chosen to require each TNC driver to obtain a city business license, among other varying requirements such as annual vehicle safety inspections.

Some cities have combined their new TNC code provisions with their existing for-hire vehicle/taxicab provisions. It does not appear that Benton City has any for-hire vehicle/taxicab provisions in the Benton City Municipal Code. If the City Council wishes to adopt an ordinance allowing and regulating TNCs, Title 5 "Business Licenses and Regulations" may be a good place for this ordinance.

Finally, it appears that a primary portion of setting up a TNC in a specific city is to have the TNC (Uber) onboard with setting up the City within their network. The way the technology appears to work, is the TNC must have the specific area where pickup will be made integrated into their system. An example is a city, such as Pasco above, who is not setup with Uber. Uber drivers picking up customers in Richland or Kennewick would be able to drop off those riders anywhere, but a potential rider within the Pasco area would not be able to use the app to request a driver to pick them up from within Pasco. As such, the ordinance allowing and regulating TNCs within the City would only be a portion of what is required to get the TNCs operating within the City, while the other portion would rest with the TNC themselves.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please let us know.

EWf/sla