

CITY BILL ADDENDUM

We provide the following information concerning various components of the bill that we believe are of significance to Council:

1. Discount Sleep, et al. v. the City remains pending in trial court. Thomas Cloud and Jason Zimmerman of GrayRobinson continue to serve as lead counsel at the expense of the City's insurance carrier. We are serving in a support and supervisory role with outside counsel and have recently worked with staff on preparing to fund the common fund and with outside counsel on the filing of motions to provide sufficient time to do so. We will continue to keep City Council apprised of the status, which will include an update following the hearing of February 11.
2. We have continued to work with staff, Tindale Oliver, and opposing counsel representing Carlton Arms in the City's fire assessment and the pending challenge. We have advised the Plaintiff of the City's denial of the settlement offer and intent to pursue a bond validation proceeding concerning the fire assessment unless it voluntarily dismisses the suit by early February.
3. We have continued to interface with outside counsel concerning the status of the multi-district litigation against opioid manufacturers and distributors. This continues to progress as settlement negotiations, bankruptcy proceedings of more defendants, and discussions with the City's partners (including Marion County and the Attorney General) about the settlement structure and the highest and best use of proceeds are ongoing. Council will be presented with an interlocal agreement in February.
4. We have worked with Growth Management, Engineering and applicants or third parties concerning several pending land use matters including plats, concurrency development agreements, transfers of right of way, redevelopment agreements, developer's agreements, comprehensive plan amendments, rezonings, and alcohol location permits. As the City remains extremely busy managing population growth and development activity, staff has done a tremendous job keeping up with demand.
5. There is unprecedented activity at the Airport and we are assisting with the negotiation and drafting of several leases and contracts for grants and construction projects.
6. We have worked with Code Enforcement on active cases, public records requests, and requests from property owners or title agents concerning lien releases and payoffs.
7. We are awaiting a decision on the appeal of three Code Enforcement Board Orders filed by the property owner and respondent, PG SARRES, Inc. We have prevailed on an appeal of a contractor's Board of Examiners and Appeals Order filed by Respondent, William Slavich.
8. Ocala Electric Utility is attempting to renegotiate the renewal of its territorial agreement with SECO, which is a high priority, long term contract. We are also working with Electric and Real Estate departments concerning relocations of our facilities on properties undergoing major development or within right of way that is scheduled for expansion.
9. We are working with private partners on several Economic Incentive Program agreements to bring jobs, infrastructure expansion, and utility utilization to the City.
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11. We are working with the Heathbrook developer and the County concerning the construction of SW 40th Avenue under an arrangement pursuant to which the City will return the developer a now-unneeded strip of land adjacent to I-75 and the developer will convey right of way to the County. The sticking point has been the need for the City to reserve a 69 kV transmission line easement in the property it currently owns, but we are making progress on that front.
12. We are working with Growth Management and Engineering staff to finally obtain the final right of way that will permit the City to complete the “missing link” in 44th Avenue (just south of NW 20th Street). This involves two developers who have been fighting in court for years but who now appear to be motivated to work with us to wrap this up. We anticipate finishing the agreements to wrap this up in February.
13. We are working to close the conveyance of the property upon which the Watula South redevelopment project will be located.
14. We are working with staff and a developer to sell the Tuscawilla fire station property for redevelopment.
15. We are working with City staff and the County concerning the management of animal control services.
16. We assisted Real Estate staff with property swap agreements, purchase and sale agreements, replats, and corrective deeds for several properties owned or being acquired by the City.
17. We have worked with Water Resources concerning water and sewer rates and impact fees for isolated projects and to close out the long-awaited agreement with Trinity Catholic to provide for the conveyance of easements and property to accommodate drainage and allow additional expansion of the school and athletic facilities.