

City Council Meeting

Hybrid Meeting in Person and Via Zoom

Monday, July 17, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Baker called the City Council's hybrid meeting to order on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Terry Baker, Karen Shrader, Angie Vermillion, Scott Clauson, Krista Peterson

ABSENT: Jim Snyder (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Eric Swanson, City Manager
Bonnie Pickett, City Recorder
Joe Slaughter, CEDEV Director
Derek Bowker, Chief of Police
Doug McGeary, City Attorney

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

3. PRESENTATION:

a. Richard Randleman, HMK - Government and Public Safety Center update.

Richard Randleman, HMK, presented the monthly report on the Government and Public Safety Center. He spoke about a unique process when pouring the concrete to prevent cracking with successful results.

b. Brad Taylor and Julie Smitherman, Medford Water Commission – Regional Water Conservation

Eric Swanson introduced Brad Taylor and Julie Smitherman. He thanked Mr. Taylor and his team for representing Medford Water Commission (MWC) so well in transferring Charlotte Ann Water District (CAWD) customers to the City of Phoenix. Mr. Swanson noted that we are working with MWC to send welcome letters to the CAWD customers welcoming them to the Phoenix water system.

Brad Taylor and Julie Smitherman, Medford Water Commission, presented the Regional Water Conservation activities in the valley. He discussed the importance of water conservation is more important than ever. Mr. Taylor and Ms. Smitherman answered questions on how water loss can be measured from our water system. He spoke about MWC outreach and education on water conservation. Ms. Smitherman spoke about the water conservation programs MWC offers to the public.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Reports for Information & Possible Action:

1. None.

b. Minutes to Approve and File:

1. Minutes from City Council Meeting June 05, 2023
2. Minutes from City Council Meeting June 19, 2023

Motion: I Move to Approve the Consent Agenda. MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY VERMILLION.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Peterson, Vermillion, Clauson, Shrader

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION:

None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. New Tap Intergovernmental Agreement

Mr. Swanson introduced Catherine Hansford. He spoke about the work that has happened over the past year to update the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that is being presented this evening.

Catherine Hansford, Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC, presented the updated TAP IGA to the Council.

Motion: I Move to Approval of the New Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Cities of Talent, Ashland, and Phoenix Water Distribution System Facilities, Operations and Maintenance Management, Cost-Sharing, and Authorize the City Manager to Execute Said IGA. MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY CLAUSON. No further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Peterson, Clauson, Shrader, Vermillion

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

8. ORDINANCE: READING / ADOPTION:

a. Ordinance No. 1031 – An Ordinance of the City of Phoenix to Amend Chapter 3.4 of the Phoenix Land Development Code (Ord. No. 851 & 999) Regarding Parking Mandates.

Joe Slaughter, CEDEV Director, presented the history behind the new parking regulations established by the Oregon State Legislation for Oregon's Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC). He noted that there had been some difficulty with the rollout of the new regulations that have been created. Mr. Slaughter highlighted the Ordinance before the Council with recommendations from the Planning Commission and staff. He answered

questions from Council. He answered questions about placing different parking regulations on areas outside the radius of the main thoroughfare in Phoenix.

Doug McGeary noted that this Ordinance would not stop developers from putting in parking for their developments.

Mr. Slaughter answered questions regarding the two properties slated for affordable housing parking plans. He stated that he believes developers see the value in parking for their customers. Mr. Slaughter noted that we are not telling people that they can't put in parking; they are now not going to be required to put in parking.

Open Public Hearing: 7:57 p.m.

Public Comment: Julia McFadden spoke about the parking requirements and DLCD letter presented to the Council. She presented documents to the Council; see attached.

Close Public Hearing: 8:02 p.m.

Motion: I Move to Revisit Ordinance 1031, and I Direct Staff to Adjust the Map to the Half Mile Radius Mandated by the State and to Bring it Back to Council at a Date to be Determined. MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY SHRADER. No further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Peterson, Shrader, Vermillion, Clauson

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

9. STAFF REPORT:

a. City Attorney Doug McGeary is working on city Ordinances regarding possible prohibited camping concerns. He noted the Ordinance would reflect the updated Oregon State laws that went into place on July 01, 2023. Mr. McGeary stated that the Ordinance will focus on time, place, and manner when making regulations regarding prohibited camping.

b. CEDEV Director Joe Slaughter spoke about the upcoming Planning Commission, where they will review two separate annexation applications. He noted that Planning Commission will make recommendations regarding the annexations that will be presented to the Council in August. Mr. Slaughter spoke about the Local Innovative Fast Track program (LIFT) that the State of Oregon has funded to bring in more affordable housing for Oregon residents. He noted that the City of Phoenix would see two private projects for affordable housing in Phoenix that were awarded 28.8 million, a quarter of the 100 million allocated by the State of Oregon. Mr. Slaughter noted that historically, Phoenix had been a more affordable area in the valley. He answered questions regarding the two housing projects upcoming in Phoenix.

c. City Manager Eric Swanson stated that having the Community Development Department in Phoenix helped the two housing developers successfully get funding. This would not have happened if it were not for the MWAP funding the City has received from the State.

10. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENT / REPORTS:

Councilor Shrader noted that the meeting was good and that she was sorry to hear about the change in parking standards.

Councilor Vermillion noted that she was pondering all the homes that were lost in the Almeda Fire and how far the City has come in the rebuilding process. She stated that Phoenix is truly blessed to have such great people driving the rebuilding process.

Councilor Peterson noted she is happy to hear about the new development in Phoenix. She stated the benefits for the business community will be substantial. Councilor Peterson reminded everyone about the Dog Days Event that will be happening this Saturday.

Councilor Clauson questioned Chief Bowker about complaints received during this year's 4th of July holiday. He stated that Chief Bowker advised that they received few complaints this holiday season. Councilor Clauson said he was happy we made it through the holiday without any significant structure fires. He noted that he is happy to see the new golf shop in Phoenix.

Mayor Baker spoke about an interview he recently did on the Bill Meyer show, where he was questioned about the two affordable housing developments coming to Phoenix. He passionately spoke about how the fire disproportionately affected the folks that would have the most challenging time rebuilding what they had lost. Mayor Baker stated that the two housing projects would allow residents that didn't have anywhere else to come back home to Phoenix. He noted how proud he is of the staff and the Council for all they have done to help the process along under the outstanding leadership of Eric Swanson.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Bonnie Pickett
City Recorder

Parking Mandates

A Resident's Perspective

By: Julia McFadden

Purpose

- ❖ “This is an ordinance to adopt an update to the Land Development Code (LDC) to modify parking standards as required by OAR 660-012-0405, OAR 660-012-0430 and OAR 660-012-0440.”(1)
- ❖ “the City of Phoenix can no longer require vehicle parking for most of the city area. Staff recommends eliminating all parking minimum requirements across the entire city” (1)

1. DC22-02 - An ordinance of the City of Phoenix to amend Chapter 3.4 of the Phoenix Land Development Code (Ord. No. 851 & 999) regarding parking mandates.

Problem

❖ DLCDC letter on record states “the structure of the rules presumes cities opting to repeal parking mandates citywide have removed garage and carport mandates as part of that repeal”

BUT

- ❖ The proposed ordinance does not remove carport and garage requirements in PLDC 2.2.9.L, 2. 2.9.B.4 & others.
 - ❖ Therefore compliance is not achieved by the current proposed ordinance alone.
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Solution

Pass a modified version of the ordinance that also removes all requirements for carports or garages.

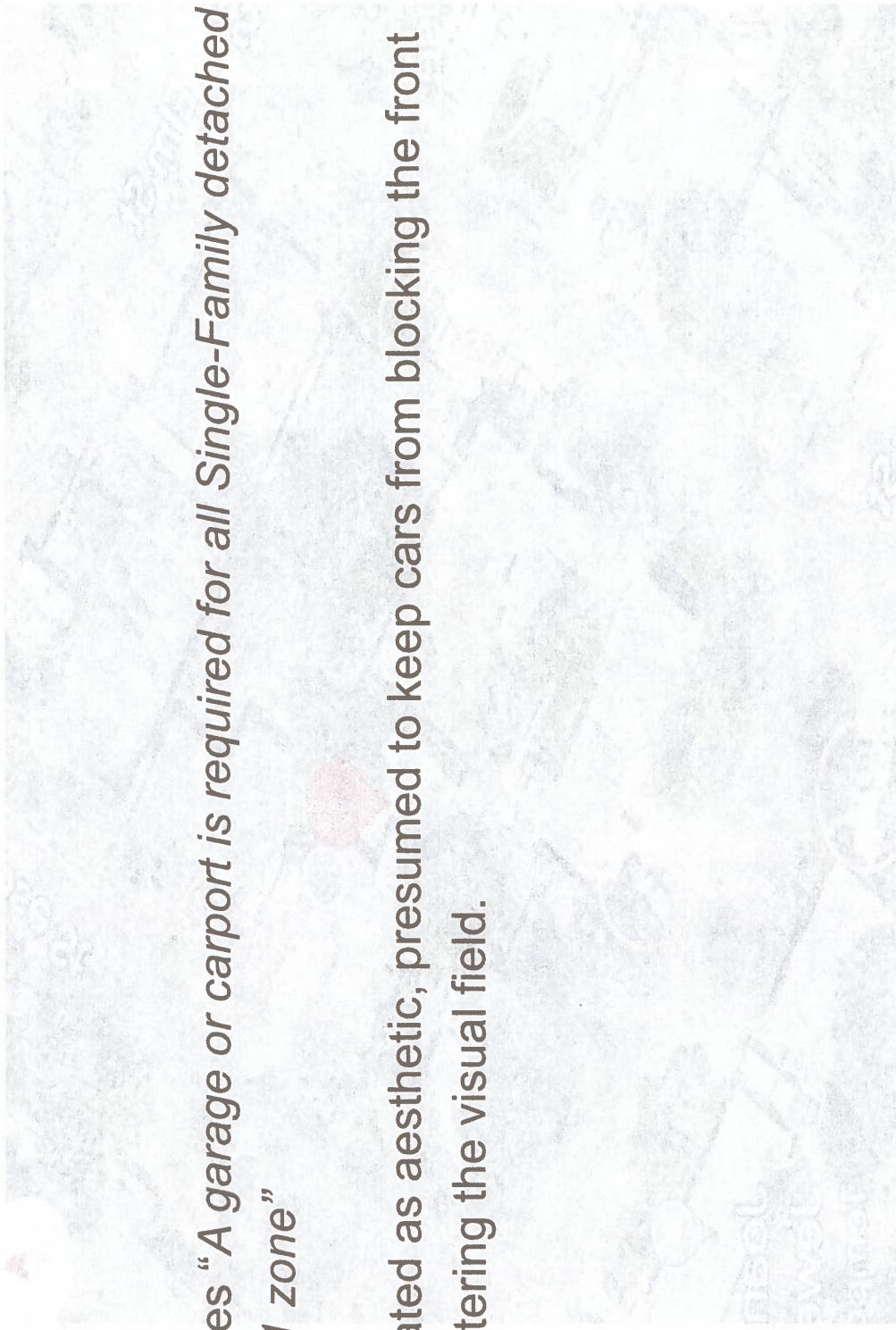
BUT

- ✦ The proposed ordinance does not remove carport and garage requirements in BRDC 5.5.01.5, 5.9.B.4 & others.
- ✦ Therefore compliance is not achieved by the current proposed ordinance alone.

Discussion

PDLC 2.2.9.L states *“A garage or carport is required for all Single-Family detached housing in the R-1 zone”*

The intent was stated as aesthetic, presumed to keep cars from blocking the front of homes and cluttering the visual field.



If the goal of PLDC 2.2.9.L is to prevent car storage in driveways, it did not work.





This is the front
of my home

Subject of BTD 53.87



Impact of PLCD 2.2.9.L



- ❖ Location for a carport totally blocks the facade
- ❖ Adds clutter to the driveway (not only cars, but cars and carports)
- ❖ Modern carport and garage structures clash with the time period and original architecture of house (1965)
- ❖ Reduces available parking
- ❖ Heavy equipment can no longer safely use the driveway to access and work on gas and sewer line- has to be on top of gas line in soft soil

Surcharge on Housing

- ❖ A garage is the most affordable way to build an ADU for affordable housing or extra living space. It creates housing for potential renters and can offset costs of home ownership for homeowners.
- ❖ Cost for a garage is Tens of thousands of dollars
- ❖ Cost for carport is three to five thousand dollars
- ❖ Costs will either prevent residents from being able to build housing, or be passed on to potential tenants in increased rents.
- ❖ This extra costs for garage or carport create barriers to affordable housing

Why it Matters

Housing people is more important than housing cars.

It is not just words on paper, its our lives, our families. Each non-essential code requirement makes lives of seniors, families, and working class folks that much harder, our dreams harder, our attempts to build our lives or even just to get by and stay in our homes that much harder.

Families are facing rising home costs and with it property taxes, higher interest rates, inflation and wages not keeping up with the cost of living. - $\frac{1}{3}$ of Jackson county renters spend 50% or more of their income on housing.

I ask that the council modify the ordinance to remove the burdensome, and ineffective requirements for carports and garages thereby fulfilling the intent of the ordinance to be in compliance with current state rules.