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This newsletter has some typos that were fixed post the original newsletter distributed via email. Those fixed typos are in red in this document.

Any opinions contained herein are my own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the City of Sedona or the Sedona City Council. My highlights are not intended to be all inclusive - the public record is the final authority. If you have friends/neighbors that would like to get added to my newsletter send them to my campaign website (chisholm4council.com) where they can sign up. I have also posted my previous newsletters for download on the site. The document on the website is easier to read as current formatting options are minimal via the email distribution.

You can reference [greater detail and supporting documentation](#) related to the city council meetings items via the following:

- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/council-commissions-committees-boards/meetings-video-audio>
- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/council-commissions-committees-boards/meetings-documents>
- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/departments/city-clerk/council-commissions-committees-boards/city-council/meetings-agendas-packets-minutes>

Sign up for the city's e-Notify service to stay in touch with city events, functions, activities.

- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/community/news-information/enotify-sign-up-for-news>

Snapshot of Key Activities Since Last Newsletter

- March 26, 2019 received check for \$18,050 from Yavapai-Apache Nation re: casino profit sharing
- March 26, 2019 approved renewing IGA between the city and the school district regarding the swimming pool & facilities
- March 26, 2019 approved \$2.3M worth of upgrades to wastewater collection systems in Chapel and Mystic Hills areas
- March 26, 2019 approved 5 year Sustainable Tourism Plan
- March 26, 2019 discussed Development Impact Fees (DIF) – part of required every 5 year review/update
- March 26, 2019 received briefing regarding Yavapai County Verde Connect
- March 26, 2019 discussed recommendations of the wastewater financial plan, cost of service analysis, and rate study
- March 27, 2019 received update on several SIM projects including Tlaquepaque pedestrian mgmt. alternatives
- April 9, 2019 council unanimously agreed to fund \$1.5M WWRP Tertiary Filter Improvements Project
- April 9, 2019 council unanimously agreed to allow city to engage in an Enterprise Fleet Management relations with Enterprise
- April 9, 2019 council agreed to support a letter to be signed by the mayor supporting the development of a Verde Valley CTE.
- April 9, 2019 council approved (4-3) the Sunset Community Focus Area plan allowing (if certain criteria are met) up to 45' structures
- April 10, 2019 council received a briefing and discussed the current update of the in-flight Transit Study (a.k.a. shuttle system)

Summary of Above Highlights

March 26, 2019 City Council Regular Session

- The Yavapai-Apache Nation presented the City of Sedona with a check for \$18,050.50 in compliance with Arizona Tribal Gaming Prop202. An important provision of Proposition 202 was the sharing of gaming revenues with the State.
- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved the Intergovernmental Agreements between the City of Sedona and the Sedona-Oak Creek Joint Unified School District No. 9 for: 1) Operation and Maintenance of the Sedona Community Swimming Pool and 2) Use of Facilities. This 3 year pool IGA allows city to facilitate public use of the pool. City gets use of SRRHS & West Sedona Elementary gym, classrooms, multi-purpose room and fields. City provides lifeguards, school district lets city use parking spaces, city lets school swim team use the facilities, city responsible for operations. Maintenance costs are paid for by collaboration with city and school district. Typically the city has handled all of the maintenance costs.
- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved a \$2.3M waste water collection system lift station upgrades for the two lift stations that are located in the Chapel and Mystic Hills areas. The 2017 Waste Water Reclamation Update and Arizona guidelines highlighted the need for increased capacity. These upgrades are expected to handle the capacity needs in those areas for the next 15-20 years. Note: Lift stations are used to move sewer waste through our sewer collection system ultimately making its way to our waste water reclamation plant west of the city limits. Lift station facilities with appropriate capacity and redundancy are required to avoid 'overflow' situations that would negatively impact the environment.
- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved the adaption of the 5 Year Sustainable Tourism Plan. The Sedona Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau (Chamber) in partnership with the City, a consultant team, and a local advisory group have been working for more than a year to create a Sustainable Tourism Plan. The Plan is meant to be a comprehensive approach to

managing tourism in a way that ensures a vibrant economy while preserving a healthy environment and high quality of life. The plan will be used to guide future decisions relating to annual budget and workplans.

- Development Impact Fee review/discussion - Development Impact Fees (DIFs) are one-time charges applied to new development so that new growth will pay its fair share of infrastructure improvements needed to provide municipal services, and to ensure that existing residents are not unduly burdened to pay for improvements and services needed to accommodate new development. The City of Sedona first adopted DIFs on May 18, 1998. A.R.S. § 9-463.05 is the state statute that enables municipalities to assess, collect, and spend development fees. The City's DIFs were last updated in 2014 and became effective on August 5, 2014. They are required by statute to be updated every five years. State statute also requires the City to follow a series of prescribed steps to develop and implement new DIFs. These steps include a minimum of 225 days and include public hearings and public comment periods. The current process has us on track to adapt the new fees in June 2019.
- Yavapai County Verde Connect briefing – Council received a briefing regarding the \$25M Federal Grant won by Yavapai County to support putting in a connection between Cornville and SR260. Check out VerdeConnect.com for current details.
- Waste Water Rate discussion – Council was in agreement that a move to a 'flow' (the amount of water used) based sewer billing model would be fairer than the current fee model. The cost of processing wastewater from a single user is driven by the volume of waste water and by its 'strength' which impacts the cost to processes to A+. A down side to using the 'flow based' model is that there are times when water used by does not make it into the sewer system e.g. irrigation, filling a pool. Council agreed to help mitigate that discrepancy by discounting the number of gallons used by 70% in the months of May through September. Without a direct measurement of wastewater flow and strength this was determined to be an improvement to the current model. Analysis continues on this topic and you should expect to hear more in the near future. The current model anticipates all users having a monthly fixed fee component of \$29.29 and a variable component based on water usage. Further commercial users will be impacted by a 'strength factor' which uses data collected about certain businesses e.g. hotel/resort, medical, bars, brewery's, retail, etc. to modify billing up/down based on the type of business using the system.

March 27, 2019 City Council Special Session – SIM (Sedona in Motion) Status Update

- City continues to address the #1 issue communicated to us by the community i.e. Traffic Congestion. More than 3,500 people have been engaged over a two-and-a-half year period of the TMP (transportation master plan) and SIM (Sedona in Motion), between spring 2016 to now.
- SIM 8 - Transit Study – The LSC firm was contracted to perform the analysis and they are utilizing a Technical Advisory Committee **consisting** of City staff, ADOT, USFS, AZ State Parks, Coconino County, Verde Lynx, SFD, and Chamber of Commerce. LSC is presenting preliminary service recommendations at an April 9 public meeting and at the April 10 Council Special session.
- SIM 4 – SR179 Improvements
 - Tlaquepaque pedestrian management - Consultant working on feasibility of pedestrian crossing improvement alternatives at the SR 179 crosswalk. There were 4 alternatives discussed; •Overpass, •Underpass, •Multiuse path under Oak Creek Bridge, and •Additional Ped Control. Council was unanimous in sharing their current preference for alternative 3. Alternative 3 not only provides a solution to the pedestrian impact on traffic flow at that location but in my opinion also provides a 'creek walk' type experience in line with our community feel. We still do not have cost estimates yet so final selection is pending additional analysis.
 - Bypass Lanes - State board approval expected in mid-May. City staff will set up a meeting in late May with adjacent owners & stakeholders. Design starting FY19, construction in FY21. ADOT currently believes the objectives can be achieved within the existing ROW (right of way) – great news – however not finalized until design complete.
- SIM 1 - Uptown improvements; Design is 90% complete, Median concept selected on February 12. A public meeting was held on March 18. City staff received feedback about schedule and hours. Targeting start of construction after Memorial Day this year with completion expected before Spring 2020. Specific days and hours of work will be a collaborative process between the City, businesses, and contractors. Additionally there is a significant awareness/status effort being planned which will run the duration of the buildout.
- SIM 11 – Improve our Bikeability & Walkability - Consultant under contract to provide construction plans for high priority areas. Per surveys and community plan there is a high level of support for this strategy. The GO Sedona workgroup was established.
- SIM5 - Forest Road Connector – staff continues to gather more detail regarding this connector. We are expecting more information regarding estimated costs associated with various route options in a future briefing.

April 9, 2019 City Council Regular Session

- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved 2 contracts totaling a 'not to exceed' figure of \$1,505,499 in support of updating our tertiary filters at the WWRP (waste water reclamation plant).

- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved allowing the city to enter into a Master Equity Lease Agreement and related Maintenance Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management subject to final review by the City Attorney. Initially this tool will be used for our non-police city cars and trucks.
- City Council unanimously (7-0) approved support for drafting a letter to the Yavapai College Governing Board expressing support for the formation of a centralized career and technical education facility for the Verde Valley.
- Council approved (4-3) the Sunset CFA (community focus area). This CFA intends to be an industrious, creative, and active district where people live and work, bordered by a city park and National Forest with an abundance of trails and scenic views. The CFA also intends to be able to accommodate more affordable housing options, especially for employees of local businesses i.e. Apartments, live/work units, and mixed use developments are encouraged. The key issue driving the 4-3 vote was whether or not staff should be allowed to approve developments up to 45' (4 stories), in this specific CFA only, for projects that agree to contribute to the affordable/workforce housing and economic diversity priorities of the city. While I support the need for Sedona to play a role in the Regional affordable/workforce housing problem I was in the minority and voted no on this proposal. The reason for my no vote was that I felt the "Flexibility of Development Standards" and related "CFA Objectives" included in this version of the CFA were not specific enough to ensure that we would actually get the partial affordable/workforce housing relief we intend. My position is that granting height flexibility is valuable and that to grant exceptions to our development standards requires a greater guarantee that the development will provide some relief on the affordable/workforce housing front. I believe that the majority position on council understood my concerns but felt strongly that our staff would work through the details when actual development proposals were presented to the city hence ensuring we would actually get what was intended. I wanted greater assurance.

April 10, 2019 City Council Executive Session - Discussion/consultation with staff and the City Attorney regarding potential negotiations for the acquisition of real property for the siting of a transit hub in the vicinity of the "Y" intersection in the City of Sedona. This matter is brought in executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(7). I am not allowed to share the content of any discussion held within executive session but wanted to ensure people knew this agendaized meeting occurred.

April 10, 2019 City Council Special Session – Transit (a.k.a. shuttle) Plan Update Briefing/Discussion – Council received and discussed the preliminary recommended service options identified by LSC Consultants as part of the development of a greater Sedona/Oak Creek Canyon transit system and implementation plan. The team presented a 4 phase plan whose cost is estimated at \$47.5M plus land acquisition, and some road work costs as the onetime cost, and approximately \$7M annual recurring cost. Sources of funding e.g. federal, state, and county grants/ongoing funding, along with city contribution details have yet to be fleshed out. Key points to understand; 3 of the 4 phases i.e. Phases 2, 3, and 4, will require extensive USFS analysis and/or NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) studies to occur which is probably a 3-5 year process. The 1st phase, which does not have the USFS/NEPA pre-requisites, involves establishing 3 fixed routes (cultural park to/from the Y area, VOC to/from the Y area, and uptown to/from the Y area), and trailhead shuttle service to/from the Y area to/from 4 trailheads (Mescal Trailhead, Jim Thompson Trailhead, Little Horse Trailhead, and Huckaby Trailhead). Phase 2 involves expanding the number of trailheads serviced. Phase 3 establish a route with several stops in Oak Creek Canyon. Phase 4 would establish an express service to/from Slide Rock State park. The analysis continues and there will be more information coming. Still under discussion are topics like; (a) will there be a fare? The current proposal recommends zero fare for the fixed routes but a modest charge for the trailhead service, (b) diesel vs. electric battery vehicles? over the life of the vehicle it appears the electrical/battery is ~33% more expensive from a hard dollars view, (c) policy discussion regarding allowing dogs on the shuttles, etc. Based on what we heard during the briefing it is estimated that all 4 phases would have total annual rides of ~2.6 million resulting in an estimated reduction of 3%-7% of traffic during peak periods. Definitely more to come on this topic. See the following link to the 58 page report that was discussed during the meeting.

<http://www.sedonaaz.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=37934>

Did You Know

- Five citizen volunteers for the city received special recognition at the city of Sedona annual Volunteer Luncheon. The luncheon honors and thanks the many people who volunteered with the city throughout the year to improve programs and processes, and provide service to the community. The 2019 award winners: Heart Award: Rick Kimberly - Parks and Recreation Department, Santa Claus at Breakfast with Santa. "Rick always makes time during the holiday season to ensure the Breakfast with Santa event is exceptional. I truly appreciate all that he and the Sedona Elks Lodge have provided to our department and the kids in our community." – Ali Baxter, Parks and Recreation Department recreation coordinator. Commitment Award: Charlotte Hosseini - Member of the Budget Work Group and Planning and Zoning Commission. "Charlotte has demonstrated a high level of commitment to the City of Sedona and dedicated significant time to understanding the issues and offering her knowledge and expertise for the betterment of the community we live in." – Cherie Wright, Financial Services Department director. Dedication

Award: John “Jack” Fiene - Member of Historic Preservation Commission. “Jack was instrumental in garnering the support for the efforts of the Route 66 communities in requesting a National Trails designation from Congress for the historic highway. Further, he was a leader in creating a Historic Resource Recognition Program which will result in recognition of important historic structures in the community.” – Warren Campbell, assistant director of Community Development. Insight Award: Larry Klein - Member of Planning and Zoning Commission. “For years Larry has been coming to meetings having thoroughly reviewed and analyzed the materials, prepared to offer insights into every topic from the simplest and most straight forward to the most complex and controversial. His ability to discern the issues and provide well thought out perspectives routinely results in a higher quality end product for the community.” – Karen Osburn, assistant city manager and director of Community Development. Police Department Volunteer of the Year: Phil Wadsack - Police Department Volunteer. “Phil Wadsack has been with the department as a volunteer since 2011. He helps in many areas of the department — to name a few: fingerprinting, destruction of property and drugs, vacation watch, vehicle maintenance, form desk, transport of prisoners to jail, and interview panel assistance. Phil does all of this work and is even willing to do more. On top of that, he is friendly, has a great sense of humor and can always be seen smiling.” – Lt. Lucas Wilcoxson, Sedona Police Department

Key Upcoming Events

- City Council Meeting - Wednesday April 17th, and Thursday April 18th – 8a-5p The Council may take action to give direction regarding amendments or changes to the proposed City budget or Capital Improvements Plan for FY20 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020). Public comment on all budget items will be taken at the outset of the meeting. Each person commenting will have a maximum of two minutes. The entire period for the public comment will not exceed thirty minutes.
- City Council Regular Session - Tuesday April 23 – (a) Discussion/possible action to approve the publication of a Notice of Intention to Increase Wastewater Rates in accordance with A.R.S. § 9-511.01 and to set a public hearing date at which time Council will consider adoption of a final ordinance changing the City's wastewater rates and rate structure, and (b) Discussion regarding staff plans for evaluation of expenditure limitation options, including a possible permanent base adjustment (PBA) or alternative expenditure limitation (Home Rule).
- City Council Special Session - Wednesday April 24 - Discussion/possible direction regarding the Sedona Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau’s Destination Services Plan, plan of work, contract, and preliminary budget [this is related to FY20 (starts July 1, 2019)].

Have a great rest of the month. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns at wchisholm@sedonaaz.gov

Bill