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Planning & Zoning Commission
April 16th, 2020
Staff Update

In lieu of our regular, in-person meeting, I wanted to provide you with an update on a few different topics that we have been talking about over the last several months. Please review the information and don't hesitate to send feedback, comments, and questions to the group for discussion. I hope you are all safe and well and look forward to when we can all meet together again.

Comprehensive Plan Update: Before COVID-19, our plan to start the Comprehensive Plan update was to begin in April with a big kick-off and public engagement announcement and to hit the ground running. Now that we are all living and working in many different ways and we are dealing with a pandemic, our work over the next several weeks is going to look a little different than expected. We (City Staff) will be participating in a video conference with Shockey Consulting next week to solidify our next steps. Shockey Consulting has recommended and offered to help us with some short-term financial planning and resiliency planning as part of our Comprehensive Plan update. As we continue to move forward with the project, I will be sure to keep you updated and include you in any discussions as necessary.

TEAP Project: On April 10th, Sydney, Tracy, Jerry, and Gail had a video meeting with Andrew Robertson from CFS Engineering to get an update on the progress of the TEAP (Transportation Engineering Assistance Program) project. If you'll recall, the project area is the intersection of Springfield Avenue, Buffalo Road, and Albany Avenue. As you know, this intersection is dangerous for all users and a constant point of congestion in our community. The goal of this project is to have a plan of action for the location as far as design, traffic control and flow, and pedestrian movement. Andrew will be submitting two possibilities for the intersection that also includes a section of Albany Avenue to the north. City staff hopes to receive the draft report by the end of the week and the final report is due to MoDOT before the end of the month. I'm excited to present the final report to you upon its completion. Once we have decided on a plan (the Planning & Zoning Commission and Board of Alderman) we will be well equipped and ready to go after any funding that might be appropriate for the project.

2020 Census: There is still time to respond to the 2020 Census and I urge you all to spread the word as much as you can! Folks can respond via internet, phone, or wait for a paper questionnaire in the mail if they haven't already received one. As of April 14th, 2020, Polk County had a response rate of 54.5% and the City of Bolivar's response rate was 56.5%.
www.census.gov