MAYOR AND COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE SPECIAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 28, 2024 AT 5:30 PM



MINUTES

The City of Douglas Mayor and Council met in a Special Meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at City Hall Council Chamber, 425 10th Street. The Honorable Mayor Pro Tempore Morales called the meeting to order.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 p.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL.

	PRESENT	<u>ABSENT</u>
MAYOR, DONALD C. HUISH		X (excused)
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, MARGARET MORALES	Х	
COUNCILMEMBER, MITCH LINDEMANN	Х	
COUNCILMEMBER, DANYA ACOSTA	Х	
COUNCILMEMBER, RAY SHELTON		X (excused)
COUNCILMEMBER, MICHAEL BALDENEGRO	Х	
COUNCILMEMBER, JOSE GRIJALVA	Х	
CITY MANAGER, ANA URQUIJO	Х	
CITY ATTORNEY, DENIS FITZGIBBONS	Х	
CITY TREASURER, LUIS PEDROZA	Х	
CITY CLERK, ALMA ANDRADE	Х	

3. PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL IN WRITING OR VERBALLY ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Cheryl Knott of Pearce, AZ commented on the following:

Opposes the IDA approval of the Riverview, LLC \$15mil bond.

Christian Sawyer of 510 E Globo Lane, Douglas, AZ commented on the following:

Introduction of himself.

Joanna Seeley of 3359 E. Red Stag, Pearce, AZ, commented on the following:

• Opposes the IDA approval of the Riverview, LLC \$15mil bond.

Diana LaMar of 1303 F Avenue, Douglas, AZ, commented of the following:

- IDA open meeting law violations.
- 4. DISCUSSION/DECISION on APPROVALS.

A. **RESOLUTION No. 24-1592**, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **APPROVING** the **SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT (THIRD)** to the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)** Annual Action Plan FY2019 and Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2019-2023 for the City of Douglas.

Xenia Gonzalez provided background on the item. Ms. Gonzalez reported that a public hearing was held prior to the current meeting for the approval of a substantial amendment. She highlighted that the City of Douglas receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and was allocated \$200,518 for COVID-19 eligible projects under the CARES Act. Ms. Gonzalez added that a previous agreement with a local nonprofit for a community garden project fell through, leading to the proposal to reallocate \$22,913.23 for contactless water stations to be installed in public facilities in low and moderate-income census tracks in Douglas. Lastly, Ms. Gonzalez corrected a previous statement about the cost of the water stations, indicating they are around \$2,200 each, potentially allowing the purchase of up to eight stations.

Motion by Council Member Acosta, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve Resolution No. 24-1592.



Council Member Lindemann stated that it is a great idea, and hopes in the future that they can expand it to other areas.

Council Member Grijalva asked if the golf course qualifies for a station.

Ms. Gonzalez answered that unfortunately not since the golf course is not located within a low- and moderate-income census tract.

Mr. Baldenegro inquired of a station at La Placita Park.

Ms. Gonzalez stated there is a water station at Placita Park but it is not a contactless station.

Council Member Acosta asked how long would it take for all of the water stations to be operation.

Ms. Gonzalez reported that the operationalization of all water stations will depend on factors such as lead time for ordering and delivery, supply chain issues, availability of a concrete slab for placement, and access to a water source and acknowledged the need for potential work in some locations to facilitate installation. Lastly, Ms. Gonzalez expressed the hope to complete the installation quickly to maximize the utilization of remaining funds.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Council Members: Margaret Morales, Mitch Lindemann, Danya Acosta, Michael Baldenegro and Jose Grijalva. Voted Against: None.

5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION.

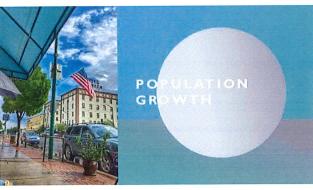
A. COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER PLAN draft by PROS CONSULTING.

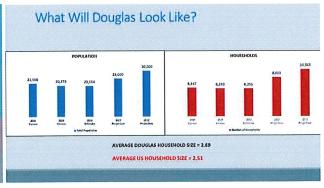
Jennifer Smith provided background and reported Pros Consulting worked on developing the community services master plan aimed at guiding future investments in recreational experiences, parks, and facilities over the next decade. The plan focuses on identifying current and future recreation needs of the city and aims to ensure equitable distribution of recreational facilities and opportunities to Douglas residents and stakeholders. Ms. Smith added that the purpose of tonight's presentation is to share the final draft prepared by Pros Consulting and to welcome any questions or feedback from the audience. Lastly, Ms. Smith stated the plan is included in the meeting packet, and a presentation will be delivered by consultant Mike Svetz, who attended virtually to present the draft and review the recommendations.



Agenda

- · Population Growth
- Park Assessment Findings
- Community Needs
- · Level of Service
- Cost Estimating for Capital Improvements
- Funding Strategies
- · Strategic Implementation
- Next Steps
- Questions







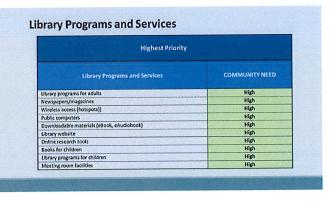




Overall Score	PARK/FACILITY NAME	AGGRESS	PARK TYPE	OVERALI SCORE	RATING
	17th Street Park	17th Street and & Avenue	Neighborhood	2.0	für
	Aisport Park (30 seres developed)	Last Gergalina Trad	Carrelally	2.7	Good
	Dougles Colvery Cemetery	\$433-2339 5ch Street	Special Use	4.3	Nery Good
	Douglas Golf Club and RV Fark	1372 Kest Fairway Grive	Regional	3.1	Good
	Joe Chancy Park	13/0 (5/6 Street	Community	2.1	# sile
	Metrorial Fack	300 Feet Stife Street	Pockst	5.0	Proprient
	Pan American Park	North Euston's Avenue	Focket	1.3	6and
	Paseo de las Americas tincor Park	Rue Amprican Avenue	binear	3.0	Excellent
	Placea Del Sol Pork	102's G Aurenia	Paciet	5.0	Excellent
	Revi Casiro Fark	700 East Mich Street	Community	2.7	Good
	State Park	300 East 14th Street	Special Use	1.0	Platr
	Speci Fark	East 3rd Street	Neghbarhood	2.1	Tale .
	Fermite Field Park	1700 North Louis Avenue	Negharhood	1.0	Foor
	Verena Memocial Park	1560 Black feb Street	Community	w	Econd



Recreation Programs and Services Highest Priority Recreation Programs and Services COMMUNITY NEED Fitness & wellness classes (adult) Free/low-cost community events High Cooking classes High Art, dance, performing arts Education classes High Water fitness classes High Water fitness classes Equipment rental High



Highest Priority				
Facilities and Amenities	COMMUNITY NEED			
Walking & biking trails	High			
Indoorwalking tracks	High			
Communitygardens	High			
Urban trails (cycle/walking)	High			
Dogpark	High			
Indoor fitness equipment	High			
Indoor event/party/meeting space	High			
Outdoor large event space/amphitheater	High			





Level of Service Methodology

- Level of Service standards guide the investment in new parks, facilities and amenities.
 Developed using a combination of local, regional and national resources, including:
- · Prioritization of Community Need
- Current Level of Service Is current level of service appropriate?
- Population Growth What is the anticipated population growth in next 15 years
 Current Inventory and its condition ratings is there a greater need to take care of what already exists vs. construct new?
- Opportunity to acquire and develop parkland
- National Recreation and Park Associa on (NRPA) guidelines.
- Recreation participation rates reported by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA) 2022 Study of Sports.
 Market Potential Indices
- Financial Sustainability Operations and maintenance funding needed to support new Investment

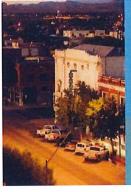
Level of Service - Park Acres

	2023 Inventory	Service Levels				2033 Needs				
Recreation Component	City Inventory	Current Service Level		Recommended Service Levels				onal Facilities Ities Needed		
CORE PARK TYPE										, T. S.
POCKET PARKS	0.63	0.04	acres per	1,000	0.05	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	1	Acre(s)
NEIGHBORHOOD PÄRKS	4.47	0.21	acres per	1,000	0.45	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	. 9	Acre(s)
COMMUNITY PARKS	174.25	5.25	acres per	1,000	8.00	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	55	Acre(s)
Total	179.60	8.51	acres per	1,000	8.50	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	75	Acre(s)
OTHER PARK TYPES										
GOLF COURSE	202.80	961	acres per	1,000	NA	scree per	1,000	NA NA	NA	Acre(s)
LINEAR PARKS (PATHNAYS)	18.20	0.66	acres per	1,000	NA	acres per	1,000	NA	NA .	Acre(s)
SPECIAL USE PARKS (Skatepark and Cemetery)	35.85	1.70	acres per	1,000	NA	acres per	1,000	NA	NA.	Acre(s)

Level of Service - Indoor Facilities









Capital Improvement Plan

Understanding Cost "Buckets"







Overall Capital Improvement Plan Summary

	Estimated Total
Tier	Project Cost
Sustainable Projects	\$5,732,183
Expanded Service Projects	\$100,000
Visionary Projects	\$24,560,000

Projects that Drive the CIP Cost Estimate

Project	Brief Description	Estimated Total Project Cost
Park System	Amenity Replacement throughout Park Systems	\$5,732,183
Airport Park	Develop up to 60 acres west of airport runway for athletic field expansion, dog park, relocation of skatspark and support amenities including restrooms, parking, ramadas, loop trail.	\$20,000,000
Douglas Calvery Cerestery	Cornetery Master Flan	\$50,000
Douglas Golf Club and RV Park	Feasibility Study to repurpose golf course	\$80,000
Douglas Municipal Library	Conduct Library Master Plan that considers expansion	\$80,000
Recreation/Community Center	Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of constructing a 30,000 square foot recreation center to support gymnasium, faxess, and enrichment programming needs of corrent and future residents.	\$100,000
Skate Park	Repurpose existing skateboard location as urban park that complements Visitor Center	\$250,000
Veteran Memorial Park	Construction of New Outdoor Aquatic Center (Concept 2 or 3)	\$4,000,000
	TOTAL	\$30,292,183



CAP FU ST



Primary Funding Strategies

- Grants
- City Capital Improvement General Fund Funding
- General Obligation Bond
- Impact Fees
- Partnerships



Focus Areas

- <u>Level of Service Provision</u> Maintain the proportion of park acres per population
- Trails Establish connectivity between parks and greenways
- Park Land Improvements Provide a park and recreation system offering the community a variety of parks and services

Focus Areas

- <u>Recreation Programming</u> Increase community participation in programs to align with national standards.
- Operations and Staffing Empower and train current department employees while growing staff as the parks and recreation system expands.
- Financing the Park System Pursue adequate funding to support improvements to existing system and operations & maintenance

Next Steps

- Final Edits to Master Plan Document based on City Council Feedback/Direction as needed
- Consideration of Adoption on Future City Council Agenda



Council Member Lindemann proposed an idea to consider reallocating funds designated for the Eighth Street Pool towards transforming it into a ball field, addressing an existing need, and expanding the Aquatic Center into a water park.

Mr. Svetz acknowledged the interesting idea of reallocating funds from the Eighth Street Pool towards transforming it into a ball field and expanding the Aquatic Center into a water park, although this concept wasn't incorporated into the master plan due to prior assessments. They expressed doubts about the feasibility of expanding athletic fields at Veterans Park due to limited acreage. They suggested expanding fields at Airport Park for dedicated use in baseball, softball, and soccer. Additionally, they supported the idea of integrating the outdoor pool with the indoor Aquatic Center to streamline operations and provide a cohesive indoor-outdoor experience.

Council Member Grijalva highlighted ongoing discussions regarding the issue of abandoned houses and potential solutions such as demolition and redevelopment, and suggested that instead of leaving vacant lots after demolition, these spaces could be repurposed into pocket parks, particularly in areas with high community need. He provided an example of Tompkins and 21st Street where an abandoned house has been present for years, proposing that creating a pocket park there could benefit local children and enhance the community's aesthetics.

Mayor Pro Tempore Morales expressed concern about the lack of upgrades listed for Castro Park in discussions about park improvements. Mayor Pro Tempore Morales noted the park's significance for events like Douglas Days and

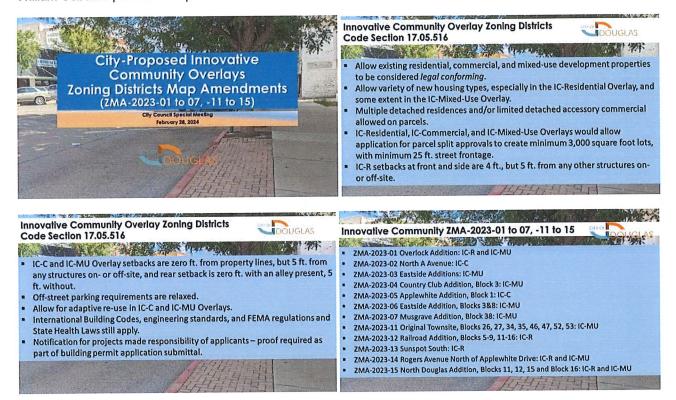


suggested remodeling the restrooms or upgrading the band stage and sound system to better accommodate the frequent use of the park.

Mr. Svetz reported \$300,000 has been allocated to Castro Park as part of the \$5.7 million, which includes life cycle replacement associated with that is concrete replacement, restroom replacement, and performance area.

B. **PROPOSED MAPPING** of **INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS** in twelve (12) delineated areas within the City of Douglas.

William Osborne provided the presentation.



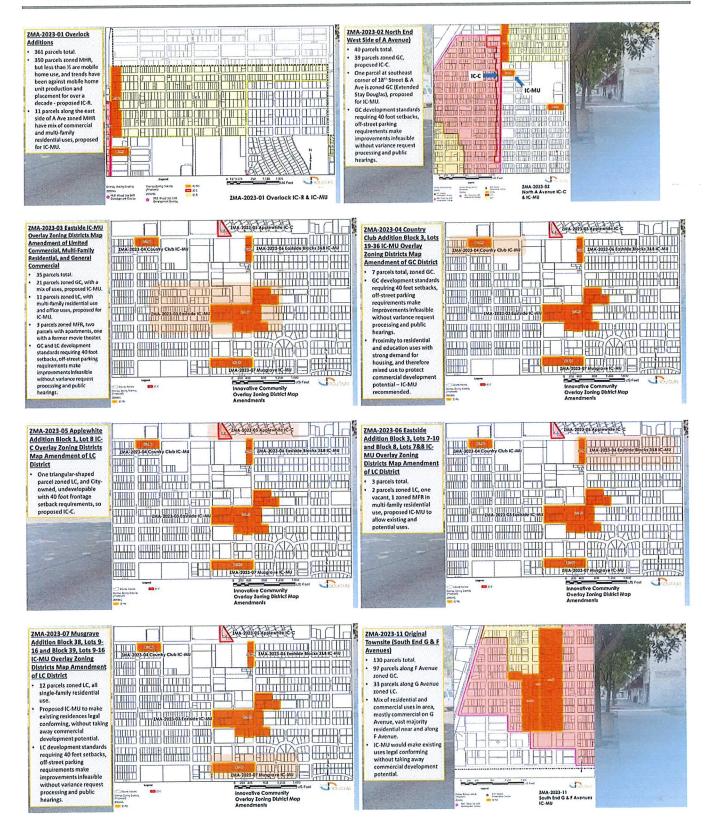
Council Member Lindemann inquired on the off street parking requirements.

Mr. Osborne discussed the challenges faced by properties with General Commercial zoning, particularly regarding parking space requirements based on outdated standards. He noted that many existing retail properties on A Avenue do not meet these requirements due to their development predating current zoning codes which makes it difficult for such properties to improve or expand their use, especially in areas close to residential neighborhoods. Lastly, Mr. Osborne emphasized the need to address these challenges to encourage investment in existing developments, and proposed Innovative Community overlays as a solution to adapt regulations for developed areas, aiming to streamline processes and reduce barriers to investment.

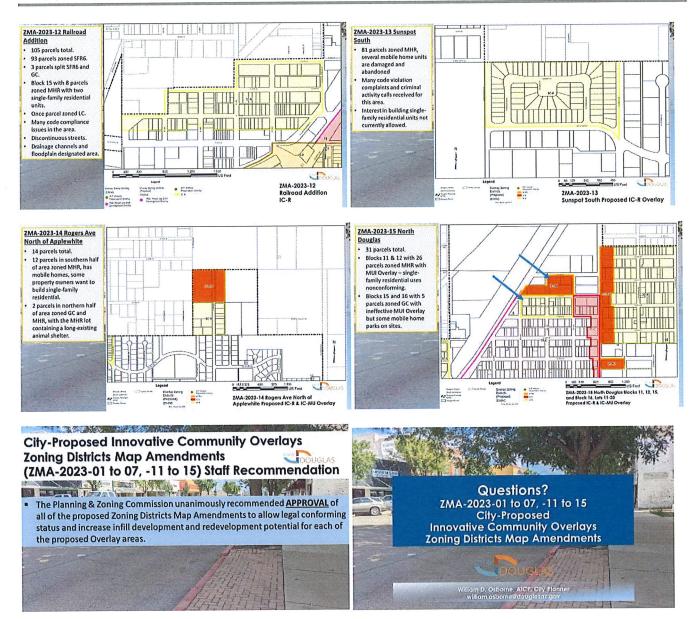
Council Member Lindemann inquired about the possibility of revitalizing the concept of old neighborhood grocery stores. He suggested that many existing buildings, formerly grocery stores, have limited parking due to their location on streets. Council Member Lindemann sought clarification on whether the proposed changes aimed to relax parking requirements to facilitate the return of such neighborhood grocery stores.

Mr. Osborne agreed with the notion, citing a nearby snack shop near a laundromat as a prime example. He highlighted that imposing parking requirements on such businesses could hinder their ability to reinvest in their properties.









Mr. Osborne mentioned it had been considered amending zoning district regulations for certain areas but found the use of overlays to be the most efficient and least burdensome approach. He explained that amending zoning regulations would require mailing notifications to every affected property owner, which could be costly and time-consuming. By using overlays, property owners retain their development potential without significant zoning changes, allowing them to choose how to use their property. This approach avoids the need for extensive mailings and streamlines the process for property owners.

Council Member Lindemann raised a concern that zoning overlays might exclude certain sections of the city where non-conforming structures, like casitas in backyards, have been established over the years. He pointed out that implementing overlays in specific areas may overlook these existing structures and their unique circumstances.

Mr. Osborne acknowledged that there might be areas not covered by the current overlay process. He noted that some properties not initially identified may still benefit from overlays, and suggested that property owners in those areas could propose amendments. Additionally, Mr. Osborne mentioned the possibility of considering further areas for overlays in the future.

Mr. Osborne highlighted the existence of another overlay district, the Mixed Use Infill Overlay Development Zone, which shares similarities with the current proposal. However, he noted issues with the regulations of this overlay, particularly regarding the benefits provided to properties with substandard lot sizes. Mr. Osborne explained that the benefits outlined



in the purpose statement of this overlay were not fully accessible to properties with commercially zoned underlying zones and standard lot sizes. The Innovative Community overlays address this issue by providing direct access to benefits such as mixed-use development or increased residential intensity without being hindered by lot size restrictions. This approach ensures flexibility and options for property owners, particularly in zoning districts where existing regulations may not effectively meet community needs.

Council Member Lindemann emphasized that homeowners should have the right to make improvements on their property, which they pay taxes on. They hope this principle will be upheld, enabling homeowners to make necessary accommodations for aging family members, such as building additional rooms.

Mr. Osborne noted that many individuals are already making modifications to their properties without adhering to existing codes. In addition, this will provide opportunity for property owners to have the cover of city regulations.

Council Member Baldenegro raised a concern of homeowners on Sunspot area and property owners on 19th Street through 23rd Street when their dwelling becomes condemned they cannot build they have to put another mobile home.

Mr. Osborne respond that the Innovative Community Overlay for residential or mixed use would allow for that to happen.

Council Member Acosta inquired of designating this overlay across Douglas.

Mr. Osborne answered that is the next step and highlighted that properties conforming to current codes likely have owners satisfied with their neighborhood's layout, whereas those identified for the overlay are already non-conforming. This recognition reflects the unique situations of these properties compared to others. Mr. Osborne suggested that the Mixed Use Infill Overlay might be the next consideration for changes, but it requires notification to all affected properties, and it only applies to substandard-sized parcels. The Innovative Community overlays, on the other hand, offer flexibility in mixing uses or increasing residential or commercial intensity while accommodating unique property configurations.

Council Member Grijalva suggested that the term "not legally conforming" creates a disconnect with constituents, as it implies that the city allowed them to build non-conforming structures. He emphasized the need for empathy and understanding from the city's perspective, acknowledging that mistakes may have been made in issuing permits for non-conforming buildings. Lastly, Council Member Grijalva proposed bridging this gap by acknowledging any oversight on the city's part and working collaboratively to rectify the situation. This approach could help alleviate hostility from constituents and foster a more collaborative relationship between the city and its residents.

Mayor Pro Tempore Morales reported that this will be coming to Mayor and council at the March meeting with ordinances.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Council Member Acosta, second by Council Member Grijalva to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Prepared by: Cynthia Acuña Robles, Deputy City Clerk