

City of St. Helens
RESOLUTION NO. 1911

A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. HELENS CITY COUNCIL TO ACCEPT THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY AD-HOC
COMMITTEE AND HONOR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

WHEREAS, a new public safety facility is needed within the community to improve police service delivery and municipal court operations, as well as provide training space accessible to our community and serve as a backup emergency operations center; and

WHEREAS, the current, 50-year old Police station has become inadequate to serve the community and does not have all the necessary tools and amenities that are needed for a community of our size; and

WHEREAS, a volunteer citizen advisory committee was appointed by the City Council to review a needs assessment and recommend funding for a new public safety facility; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Helens Strategic Workplan 2020-2022 recognizes safety and livability, community and civic engagement, and long-term planning as priority goal areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF ST. HELENS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council welcomes meaningful citizen involvement on City advisory boards and commissions.

Section 2. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends that the City continue a robust community engagement period to inform the community about the shortcomings of the current station, opportunities offered by constructing a new Public Safety Facility and the need for future growth planning.

Section 3. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends, if Council deems necessary, to seek additional polling information after a community engagement period.

Section 4. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends increasing funding for utility assistance programs when a Public Safety Fund is created to help ensure that community members have an opportunity for support if it is needed to help make their monthly payment.

Section 5. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends the creation of a public safety fund. The Committee agreed that the monthly fee should be determined by the City Council but that the Public Safety Fund should be created administratively.

Section 6. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends that the current Police station be sold when vacated and the proceeds from the sale should be put towards the debt service of the new facility.

Section 7. The Public Safety Facility Ad-Hoc Committee recommends that staff continue to research potential grants and funding opportunities to help pay for the new public safety facility.

Approved and adopted by the City Council on January 20, 2021, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Rick Scholl, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder