

MINUTES
DOWNTOWN TRANSFER CENTER SITE
COMMITTEE
3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
LAWTON CITY HALL
NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Councilman Burk called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room. Meeting notice and agenda were posted on the City Hall bulletin board as required by State Law.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Jay Burk, Allen Hampton, Onreka Johnson

ABSENT: Mary Ann Hankins

OTHERS PRESENT: Jonathan Stone, Planning; Kameron Good, Planning; Charlotte Brown, Planning; Ryan Landers, LATS; Tony Hansley, LATS; Megan Loftis, Legal; Dewayne Burk, City Manager's Office; Kelly Harris, Councilmember.

Business:

1. Discuss possible locations in the downtown area for future transfer center administrative and maintenance buildings.

Landers stated the locations of Railroad and B Avenue and the old police station were previously discussed, but there was some pushback from local business, and he was asked to come up with an alternate location. Landers presented a design concept for the transfer station, maintenance center, and a welcome center to be located in the median of Gore Blvd between 6th and 3rd. The design concept features pedestrian bridges crossing over Gore Blvd, highway style off and on ramps for buses to enter and exit the facility, and possible lease space. Landers stated all three properties are 100% owned by the City and can be used as leverage to go after federal dollars. They are all also accessible to the downtown area, including the library, the Farmer's Market, Shepler Park, FISTA, and any other future developments.

Councilman Burk stated the current lack of a transfer station is not right. Getting this built will bring Lawton into a new phase of transportation for our citizens, and it will be a more welcoming place. He liked the other location because of the proximity to the police station, but the new location isn't too far, and it's a good area of town. He stated he likes the idea of closing the two streets in the middle because it would help with pedestrian safety and it would eliminate some of the excessive stoplights on Gore. He stated it is a benefit that the land is city owned because it can be used for matching grants.

Landers stated it was just announced that there is \$66 million available just through the infrastructure bill for Oklahoma. We can go after other grants as well. And this grant would also cover electric. There is a federal mandate to be all zero emission by 2035, and we are in a unique position now because in the next 2 or 3 years, half our fleet will be at the useful life or past the useful life. If we don't select a site and present our master plan, we are in a bad situation because then we can't leverage our plan to get money for no emissions buses.