

**CITY OF FARMINGTON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA
June 15, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

1. Roll Call and Convening the Meeting (Mayor)
2. Presentation regarding the Comprehensive Plan update (Beth Escobar and Kristina Kachur) ----- **1**

Action Requested of Council:

Provide direction to staff.

3. Presentation and direction to staff regarding the final recommendations of the traffic signal removal study (David Sypher and Mark Hathcock) ----- **2**

Action Requested of Council:

Provide direction to staff.

4. Update regarding drought conditions (David Sypher)
5. Presentation and direction to staff regarding pickleball courts (Shaña Reeves)

Action Requested of Council:

Provide direction to staff.

6. Discussion and direction to staff regarding the naming of the Neck, LLC and Riley properties located to the east of Foothills Drive (Shaña Reeves)

Action Requested of Council:

Provide direction to staff.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

7. Appointment to the Airport Advisory Commission (Mayor)
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CLOSED MEETING

8. To discuss limited personnel matters pursuant to Section 10-15-1H(2) NMSA 1978 (City Clerk and City Manager annual evaluations).

AGENDA ITEM SUPPORT MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND/OR PURCHASE AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 800 MUNICIPAL DRIVE, FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO.

ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: The meeting room and facilities are fully accessible to persons with mobility disabilities. If you plan to attend the meeting and will need an auxiliary aid or service, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 599-1106 or 599-1101 prior to the meeting so that arrangements can be made.

Memo

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Beth Escobar, Planning Manager

Date: June 15, 2021

Subject: Discussion/possible action regarding Comprehensive Plan Update Schedule

Background

The Comprehensive Plan Update process was suspended in December 2020 due to the inability to garner sufficient public comment because of health order restrictions related to COVID-19. The contract with Logan Simpson, the Comp Plan Update consultant, has been extended through to September 30, 2021.

The draft 'Navigating Farmington's Future Comprehensive Plan' was digitally distributed to Council members earlier this year.

With the current (and hopefully continuous) loosening of health order restrictions, the consultant team and staff have been working on a schedule to reinvigorate the public input process.

The draft schedule, which includes information about outreach opportunities, proposed use of website, social media and video and an outline of the adoption process, is included with this memo. Kristina Kachur, with Logan Simpson, will be making a detailed presentation to Council at the June 15 meeting.

Council Action

Staff is seeking Council input on the following items:

- Comments on the draft plan
- Council preference for public outreach
- Specific events Council members would like to schedule or attend

NAVIGATING FARMINGTON'S FUTURE

Jolt Your Journey™ Comprehensive Plan Update

**Proposal for Project Completion and Outreach
Meeting #6
Draft | June 9, 2021**

Overview Schedule

The following outlines key milestones to complete the Comprehensive Plan Update prior to September 30, 2021.

Event	Date Due	Notes and Responsibilities
Council Work Session – Present current Draft Plan Highlights/ Outreach Plan	June 15 (9am)	Logan Simpson prepare presentation 1-person attend in-person
Staff Comments/Council Discussion on current Draft	June 15	Comments due from staff and council (verbal comments and concerns on June 15 meeting)
Add in new sections (housing, ebikes, implementation, etc) and complete stakeholder/TAC/SC (including Council) sessions as needed	June 30	Logan Simpson (virtual meetings) LS draft new sections by June 18 for Staff/Stakeholder Review LS Finalize Public Draft
Draft Plan Public Outreach Events	July 6 - August 8	See details below
Council Outreach Dates	Option 1: Week of July 12 or July 19 Option 2: July 9 weekend	
Prepare Adoption Draft for Staff Review	August 12	Logan Simpson
Staff Review	August 18	Staff
Incorporate staff comments and submit PZ Packets	August 19	Logan Simpson and Staff
PZ Recommendation Hearing	August 26	Logan Simpson prepare presentation 1-person attend in-person
Incorporate PZ Comments and Submit Council Packets	September 9	Logan Simpson and Staff
Council Adoption Hearing	September 14	Logan Simpson prepare presentation 1-person attend in-person

Submit final finals and working materials by Contract End Date	September 30	Logan Simpson upload to OneDrive
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Tasks

The following tasks will be revised and expanded upon from the original Contract agreement.

Expanded Key Topic Sections

Since the delivery of the Public Draft in December 2020, a number of trends and challenges have emerged that staff would like to see refined and/or addressed in the draft prior to public distribution. They include:

Plan Implementation:

Review staff completed Plan Implementation section, review for necessary additions, and integrate it into the Comprehensive Plan.

Micromobility (escooters/ebikes):

Logan Simpson will include policy level guidance on micromobility, addressing concerns raised by a recent proposal from the Bird eScooter company. We will look at safety considerations (slow/no-go zones and recommended corridor widths); connections to the Red Apple Transits; and impacts on equity. We'll review possible strategies for public versus private implementation. We will meet with stakeholders (virtually), such as Parks, Transit, San Juan College, and other interested TAC/SC members to gather input for the revised Public Draft.

Workforce Housing:

Logan Simpson will revise existing action and further discuss issues related to workforce housing. Recently the City has had trouble recruiting fire, police, and park employees due to housing constraints (both rental and ownership markets). Building permits are down and those that are being submitted are for homes at the very high end of the market. We will meet with stakeholders (virtually), such as Economic Development, industry specialists, peer communities (Durango), State Housing Department, and other interested TAC/SC members to gather input for the revised Public Draft.

Others as needed:

Logan Simpson will review the action plan and refine topics that may have had new statewide policy direction since December 2020, such as recreational marijuana.

Draft Plan Outreach

The following events will be held to gather input on the Public Draft Plan between July 6 and August 8. Logan Simpson will prepare a Meeting Plan to further detail the activities, notifications, and outreach questions.

Neighborhood Council District Gatherings/Meet Your Councilor Night:

Logan Simpson will prepare materials and prep individual City Council to host neighborhood events on the Draft Plan. City staff to accommodate logistics, hardcopy notification distribution, distribution of digital media based on LS content, and venue reservations.

- Option 1: Weeklong Events (Tuesday – Friday)
 - o 4 separate meetings (Ice Cream Social Type Event) in an outdoor venue in each District
 - o Logan Simpson (2-persons) could attend all events
- Option 2: Weekly Thursday/Friday Night Event
 - o 4 separate meetings (Ice Cream Social Type Event) in an outdoor venue in each District
 - o Logan Simpson (2-persons) can attend first event (and schedule other outreach at that time) and staff to help run others
- Option 3: Other special events planned such as Mama Mia! or other facility such as Bisti Bay and have council piggyback on to these events.

Community Outreach Event:

Logan Simpson will coordinate one outreach event in tandem with an existing festival/public event. The outreach will be used to collect feedback on the draft plan through interactive activities, share where the public can learn more, and encourage comment on the Draft Plan. This event will be coordinated or combined with the Neighborhood Council District Gatherings trip. Possible events could include:

- Option 1: Grower's Market (Tuesday or Saturday)
- Option 2: New Food Hub in the Animas District (cooking classes/demonstrations on Saturday)
- Option 3: Lunches on Friday (possibly Orchard Park)
- RiverFest: Draft Plan celebration event to inform the public about the plan.

If desired, City staff could participate in additional events, utilizing the same materials.

Questionnaire and Online Review of Draft Plan:

Logan Simpson will prepare a website update and online questionnaire to gather additional feedback during the Draft Plan Outreach Month. Questions will be specific to the new sections, future land use plan, and key action plan items. Questions will be the same as asked at the neighborhood and festival.

Draft Plan Video:

Logan Simpson will work City Staff to produce a video. The video should be released at the beginning of the Draft Plan Outreach Month (July 6 - August 8). Options for the video could include:

1. City's in-house videographer (Greg Allen) to create a 10-minute summary film about the Draft Plan. Logan Simpson will work to script the content and provide images from the Comprehensive Plan. The City will provide b-roll footage and narration from the Major, City Council Members, Steering Committee and/or Technical Advisory Committee members.
2. Mayor's Table Talk. Interview about the Plan highlights and upcoming outreach events.

Adoption Process

Logan Simpson will revise the public Draft Plan based on feedback and input from the public, as well as prepare an executive summary describing plan highlights. At this point, Logan Simpson will take a supporting role by providing materials and guidance to the CS and SC. Logan Simpson will assist CS in presenting the final Comprehensive Plan to P&Z and CC. After P&Z and CC hearings, the team will complete minor revisions, based on public hearing comment. Additionally, Logan Simpson will compile and submit all GIS, InDesign, and associated graphic links and files.

Budget

Logan Simpson anticipates completing these remaining tasks within the contracted amount and inclusive of contingency funds to account for project re-start, additional meeting coordination, and expansion of the key topics.



Traffic Signal Removal Study Update



Why Remove Traffic Signals



The City of Farmington Traffic Control Signal Policy adopted by City Council October 22, 2013 provides that the “removal of traffic control signals shall be consistent with the requirements of the most recent version of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).” The policy also states unjustified Traffic signals may result in:

- Increased or excessive delays and intersection congestion.
- Increased aggressive driver behavior and disobedience of signal indications
- Rerouting of trips through neighborhoods to avoid a signalized intersection.
- Increases in collisions (especially rear-end crashes).
- Reduced intersection and/or corridor capacity
- Removing one traffic signal can save up to \$11,376.00 per year in O/M costs.
- Signals can impede traffic flow as drivers wait alone at red lights.
- Swapping signals for stop signs can improve driver concentration.
- Eliminating additional starts and stops result in decreased fuel consumption

Traffic Data Used For Study



- These 6 traffic signals have been planned to study for removal since 2016, because of their excessive delay they create for both the major street and the side streets.

#	Intersection	Date Counted	Warrants Met
1	Broadway and Schwartz Avenue	October 1, 2019	0 of 9 Warrants Met
2	Main Street and Schwartz Avenue	March 26, 2019	0 of 9 Warrants Met
3	Apache Street and Orchard Avenue	October 2, 2019	0 of 9 Warrants Met
4	Apache Street and Dustin Avenue	October 2, 2019	0 of 9 Warrants Met
* 5	Butler Avenue and Ute Street	January 12, 2021	0 of 9 Warrants Met
* 6	Sullivan Avenue and 15 th Street	March 30, 2021	0 of 9 Warrants Met

* In terms of the volume threshold requirement in the MUTCD (whether pre or post COVID-19), the side street traffic (Ute Street and 15th Street) never had a chance of meeting the minimum volume threshold requirement per our pre-COVID-19 observations and data collection

Types of Complaints Received on Traffic Signal Removal



Intersection	# of Complaints	Perceived Issue
Broadway/Schwartz	1	Concern in regard to delay during the peak time (noon)
Main/Schwartz	1	Sight Obstruction on the Southeast corner (Since Removed)
Apache/Orchard	15	Sight Obstruction on the Southwest corner (Since Removed)
Apache/Dustin	0	No Complaints Received
Butler/Ute	11	Sight Obstruction on the Southwest corner Sight Obstruction on the Northeast corner (Since Removed)
Sullivan/15 th	6	Concerned with Speed

Initial Sight Distance Evaluation



- The sight distance at all 6 traffic signals were evaluated during the initial traffic signal removal study period.
- The sight distance was reviewed by way of driving each approach of each respective intersection per the New Mexico Driving Manual which states when a driver stops at a intersection, “and your view of a cross street is blocked, edge forward slowly until you can see crossing traffic”, then make sure the path is clear before crossing the intersection.
- This driving method is required throughout the City as it is common at multiple intersections in town (both signalized and non-signalized). Per this driving method all sight distances at intersection approaches were acceptable.

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Citywide Site Obstructions Example without a Signal



- Example is Apache and Allen (Northbound)
- A currently sight view cannot be achieved without easing forward



Vehicle sitting at the Stop Bar



Vehicle eased forward past the Stop Bar

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Current Sight Distance at Main/Schwartz



Eased out vehicle position aerial view

- Sight triangle sizing and placement provided by the AASHTO produced book "A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets" (i.e. The Green Book)



Eased out vehicle position street view

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Current Sight Distance at Apache/Orchard



Eased out vehicle position aerial view

- Sight triangle sizing and placement provided by "The Green Book"

Eased out vehicle position street view



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Current Sight Distance at Butler/Ute - Eastbound



Eased out vehicle position aerial view

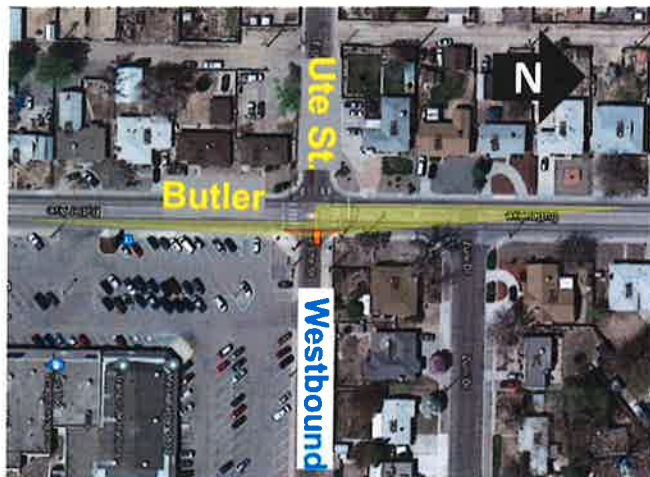
- Sight triangle sizing and placement provided by "The Green Book"

Eased out vehicle position street view



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Current Sight Distance at Butler/Ute - Westbound



Eased out vehicle position aerial view

- Sight triangle sizing and placement provided by "The Green Book"

Eased out vehicle position street view



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Final Evaluation



Intersection	Compared MUTCD Warrants
Broadway and Schwartz Avenue	0 of 9 Warrants Met
Main Street and Schwartz Avenue	0 of 9 Warrants Met
Apache Street and Orchard Avenue	0 of 9 Warrants Met
Apache Street and Dustin Avenue	0 of 9 Warrants Met
Butler Avenue and Ute Street	0 of 9 Warrants Met
Sullivan Avenue and 15 th Street	0 of 9 Warrants Met

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Next Steps – Upon Council Approval



- Decide on a removal date for the removal process to start
- Allow for approximately 12 business days from decided removal date for the signals to be removed from all 6 intersections (2 days per intersection).
- Crane costs should be approximately \$4,000.00 to remove all signals

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