

**CITY OF FARMINGTON
GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES
JULY 11, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Farmington Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chairman King.

Members Present: Accettura, Carron, Graham, King, O'Dell, Schneemann, Thomas
Members Absent: None
Staff: Weber

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Carron, supported by O'Dell.

PASSED unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 9, 2024 minutes made by Carron, supported by Accettura.

PASSED unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Chairman King raised the point of past discussion about entry signage to the City of Farmington, and past concepts laid out in the CIA Plans to allocate funds for a Corridor and/or City entry feature. He also raised concerns that existing City of Farmington signs were inconsistent, and that the stylistic choices made some signs difficult to read.

The Board discussed the Plan documents (Vision Plan, etc.) and reviewed the original vision and purpose for the CIA sign budget item allocated in the Capital Improvement Plan. Schneemann observed that City Council may consider rejuvenation of all City signs at a future time (not a CIA topic).

The Board was in agreement that a significant structure overarching the roadway was likely cost-prohibitive, and agreed to remove this item from consideration on the budget until further notice.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) **CONSIDERATION TO AMEND 2023/24 BUDGET**

Chris Weber, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through proposed updates to the funds assigned by the City to the CIA, particularly for property acquisition and corridor entry signage, as well as updates from the TIF Plan. There was routine discussion of these updates.

MOTION by Carron to Amend Fiscal Year 23/24 Budget as shown in the Projected Column of the Budget which was provided by Weber. Supported by Thomas.

PASSED unanimously.

- b) **CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT 2024/25 BUDGET**

Chris Weber, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through a recap of May 9 discussion regarding the CIA's budget, which was approved at the June 3 City Council meeting. Requested action is for CIA to confirm and formally adopt the budget.

MOTION by Schneemann to Adopt Fiscal Year 24/25 Budget as shown in the Proposed Column of the Budget [as attached in meeting packet]. Supported by Accettura.

PASSED unanimously.

c) DISCUSSION OF JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Weber noted that City Council members are looking to engage with each of the Boards and Commissions to align on objectives and enhance communication. In the case of the CIA, possible topics could include TIF Plan allowed uses and SWOT analyses (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) of planned Corridor activities. Tentative dates of October 1 and 8 were proposed. Weber and Schneemann will confirm these with Council and plan a meeting.

d) DISCUSSION OF JOINT MEETING WITH FARMINGTON HILLS CIA

Although Farmington & Farmington Hills began their respective Grand River Corridor Improvement Authorities in close alignment, the FH GR CIA had dealt with some changes in personnel that had disrupted their momentum. At this point, the FH GR CIA is in a position to re-engage. This will be particularly critical in dealing with connectivity objectives (walkability, improved transit, pathways) and the possible reconfiguration of the M5 ramp area near Target, which is underutilized as well as being confusing and inconvenient for motorists. Weber will approach FH leadership and discuss meeting options.

e) DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities and challenges in the CIA jurisdiction were discussed, with the proposal from Weber that perhaps a resource used previously by the Farmington Downtown Development Authority may be able to contribute to enhanced marketability of some of the properties and attracting new development. It was noticed that without this help, discussions sometimes become cyclical (“What can you do for me?” ↔ “What do you need?”). Tabled for further discussion. Weber may have further discussion with this resource to discussion availability and proposals of how they can help.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Schneemann to adjourn. Supported by Accettura.

PASSED unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:01AM