



Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes June 11, 2020

Present: Judy Williams, Sid Roberts, Patricia Love, Krista Hintz
Also known to be present: Gunnar Birkeland

The June 11, 2020 meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Community Development Director Patricia Love presented the Stanwood City Beautification Action Program with focus on the Pilot Parklet Program.

The City of Stanwood is the commercial and cultural center of the greater Stanwood / Camano and the northern Snohomish County region. It is the desire of the City to preserve the community's historic rural, small town character while promoting the regions as a wholesome place to live, work, shop and play.

Over the last 10 years the City has developed an economic development strategy to promote the vitality of Stanwood's business districts and neighborhoods. A substantial amount of community volunteer hours went into crafting a vision for Stanwood's future.

Following the guidance laid out in these plans, the City is moving forward with an action plan referred to as the Stanwood City Beautification Action Program. It consists of 5 key program elements:

- Gateway Signage and Landscaping. The idea is to make the signage at Highway 532 and 72nd Ave more prominent, to add simple landscaping and make the signage pop.

Judy Williams asked if it would be better to wait until the new City Hall is built and move the sign to the northeast corner of the intersection, rather than the northwest corner. With the City Hall project on hold, there would need to be discussion regarding how long to wait to complete the project.

- Main Street Revitalization.

East End Design Options: The question at hand, should we close off 271st St NW between 88th Ave NW and Florence, utilize the parking lot to the north of the 271st and install a passthrough where the Chamber currently sits to create more of a festival area with restaurant seating, public seating, art space.

Options Discussed

1. Permanently close this section of 271st St NW
2. Narrow the roadway as a way of controlling speed
3. Create Parklets by eliminating or reconfiguring some of the parking spaces
4. Create a One-Way street to allow for outdoor seating areas

Judy Williams and Sid Roberts were both supportive of the overall concept and would like to see a destination in Stanwood where people can gather.

Judy Williams likes the One-Way street concept, recognizing there is easy access both eastbound and westbound to go around.

Connecting the Center District: The section of 271st St NW between 88th Street NW and Camano Street was looked at. To do a complete street with bike lanes, wide sidewalks, on-street parking, landscape and travel lanes would be very expensive due to the need to purchase right-of-way.

Working within the existing right-of-way:

Option One: Remove center turn lane, add bike lanes and on-street parking.



Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes June 11, 2020

Option Two: Boulevard Concept -Keep center turn lane and place planter strips in strategic locations to give a boulevard look.

West End Brick Road: The west end has about half of the right-of way which gives less room to play around with design. Could the area be widened and made into more of a district that continues down to City Hall? The west end will take more work, but the idea is to create an Art District with parklets and outdoor seating.

- Downtown Gateway Features:

Create a City Center Intersection. Potentially 2 Gateways: One at the 271st / 88th Avenue Intersection and a smaller one near SR 532

- SR 532 Beautification: Improve aesthetic quality of SR 532:

- Create a colorful tree lined street curb appeal
- Establish landscape themes at key intersections
- Improve walkability & pedestrian crossings
- Adopt a seasonal banner program on streetlights

- Wayfinding Signage: Purpose:

- Promote Economic Development in the City of Stanwood
- Promote Community Identity
- Encourage Tourism
- Promote Shopping Districts & Parking Opportunities
- Promote Community Events

PRIORITIES:

Yearly: Create an annual budget for beautification projects

Yearly 532 Landscape Improvements

Pilot Downtown Parklet Program

Main Street Benches/Flowers

Years 1 & 2: Gateway Signs at 72nd Ave and Ovenell

Service Club Signs

Wayfinding Signs

88th Avenue Arch

Pre-design and Public Outreach for Main Street Reconfiguration

Years 3-5: Wayfinding Signs

Implementation of Main Street: Widen sidewalks and Reconfigure Travel Lanes

Years 6+: Design and Permitting of Main Street Reconfiguration

Construction of Main Street Projects

Community Development Committee was in full support of the City Beautification Action Program.

Adjourn: 6:50 pm