

Superior Infrastructure Sub-Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 3, 2006
Roosevelt Band Room
Superior, Arizona

M I N U T E S

1. WELCOME

On behalf of Superior Mayor Michael Hing, Mr. Gutierrez welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Superior Infrastructure Committee. Mr. Gutierrez gave a brief description of the committee and explained that this committee was a sub-committee of the overall Superior Community Development Committee. He explained that the committee was meeting to talk about the current and future infrastructure needs for the Town of Superior. He introduced Ms. Rosalyn Boxer Director of Special Projects for the Arizona Department of Commerce.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Gutierrez introduced Mila Lira who was assisting the committee with minute taking via telephone. Committee members and guests gave introductions.

Members and Guests Present: Kathy Borquez, George Favela, Hank Gutierrez, Rick Hettler, Bill Marshall, Jim Nelson, Ruben Castro, Rick Powers, Craig Ringer, Brad Ross, Geneene Walker, Jack Maggard, Doug Hensen, Brad Ross, Greg Rowles, Alan Benoit, William Sanchez, Ercell Sanchez, Mila Lira via Telephone

3. ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE

Mr. Gutierrez gave a brief introduction of the various committees and their functions which have been formed to assist the Community Development Committee. The sub-committees are:

Tourism
Business Development
Education
Land Use
Infrastructure

He explained that the Arizona Department of Commerce (ADOC) is assisting the committee chairpersons with their meetings and planning.

Ms. Boxer explained how the committees have been set up and how the ADOC will be assisting the committee chairs she also explained that the ADOC will help to communicate with other state and federal agencies that may be able to assist with the various development projects. She explained that ADOC along with the Town of Superior (TOS) have been working with Pinal County and the Governors Office to help Superior with economic development and planning for future growth in the community. She explained that this project is a pilot program and that this model may be used by other small communities to help them implement new economic development projects.

4. WiFi PROJECT

Mr. Gutierrez explained how the WiFi project began in Superior and how the committee worked together to apply for a grant to bring High Speed Wireless internet to Superior. He explained that the project was funded by grants received from the USDA for \$270,000 with \$140,000 that was matched by the community for a total of \$410,000 to complete the project.

Mr. Gutierrez stated that this WiFi project is not like any other WiFi project in the country and that unlike other projects this project will be a fee based service. He explained that by working with first responder agencies such as the fire department, police department and the forest service they were able to ensure that there was no duplication and that they could build co-locations for the project.

5. TOWN of SUPERIOR INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT

Mr. Gutierrez introduced Mr. Rick Hettler Public Works Director for the Town of Superior. Mr. Hettler shared with the committee his Capital Improvement Projects which includes road maintenance and paving, main street improvements and drainage, waste water treatment plant improvements and extensions of the sewer lines throughout the community.

Mr. Gutierrez explained the development of Resolution Copper project has been a catalyst to form these committees and complete the needs assessment as well as to evaluate all the needs of the community.

The members of the committee along with Mr. Gutierrez and Ms. Boxer discussed other infrastructure needs such as electric power lines/grids, water supplies, transportation corridors, waste water treatment, moving existing utilities such as phone and power lines underground. They also discussed what it will cost to develop the infrastructure needs and aesthetic designs for existing and future infrastructure.

In addition to discussing the needs the committee members also discussed several studies and assessments that are completed and that are in progress. They discussed how these studies and assessments will help with writing the grants and assessing what the infrastructure needs are in Superior.

Mr. Marshall from Arizona Public Service also informed the committee of the Joint Utilities Meeting that is held by the utility companies in the area. He explained that the companies discuss upcoming projects and construction in the area. He suggested that someone from the Infrastructure Committee attend those meetings and represent the committee. Mr. Hettler already attends the meeting and he was asked to report on the Joint Utility meetings to the Infrastructure Committee and also to share with the Joint Utility committee what the Superior Infrastructure Committee is doing.

6. GRANT GOALS

Ms. Boxer and Mr. Gutierrez explained that the committee needed a broad range of people involved in order to make the grant as comprehensive as possible.

They explained that the process would happen in two phases. The first phase would be applying for a \$150,000 grant from the EDA that would fund the assessment process. Once the assessment project was funded by the EDA grant the committee would work with a consultant to develop an infrastructure needs assessment for the community and create infrastructure priorities based on those needs.

The second phase would be to apply for grants to fund the projects that were identified and prioritized by the infrastructure needs assessment.

Ms. Boxer explained that the first step of writing the needs assessment grant should be completed no later than the end of October since the money available for the project is first come first serve. Members of the audience asked questions about whether that would be possible and which organizations could possibly facilitate the grant writing process.

7. Sub-Committee (if required)

After discussion on current workloads and timelines for writing the grant Craig Ringer, Ruben Castro, Kathy Borquez volunteered to assist with writing the first grant proposal they will include Ernie Feliz a grant writer from Pinal County to assist with the project. They will serve as the sub-committee along with anyone else who is able to assist. They will meet on ***Thursday, October 12, 2006 at 8:00 a.m. in building F at the Pinal County Complex.***

Ms. Boxer also explained that everyone could get involved with the process by writing letters of support, contributing in-kind support and or matching monetary contribution. She said that form letters stating support of the project will be e-mailed to everyone to use for their letter of support.

8. Next Meeting

The group decided to meet on **Wednesday, October 25, 2006 at the Roosevelt Band Room at 9:30 a.m.** They will review the grant proposal prior to its submission.

The meeting dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

These minutes have been transcribed and compiled by
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