

Tammy Cloud-McMinn

From: Kris Wright <kriswrt222@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 8:03 PM
To: City Clerk; Council Internet Email
Cc: Kris Wright
Subject: Agenda item #14

All Receive - Agenda Item # 14
For the Information of the:
CITY COUNCIL
Date 6/25/24 CA CC
CM ACM DCM (3)

Greetings Mr. Mayor and Council members,
I am all for grants but not at the expense of our City, when we have been told repeatedly that our expenditures will outpace income to the City in the near future.

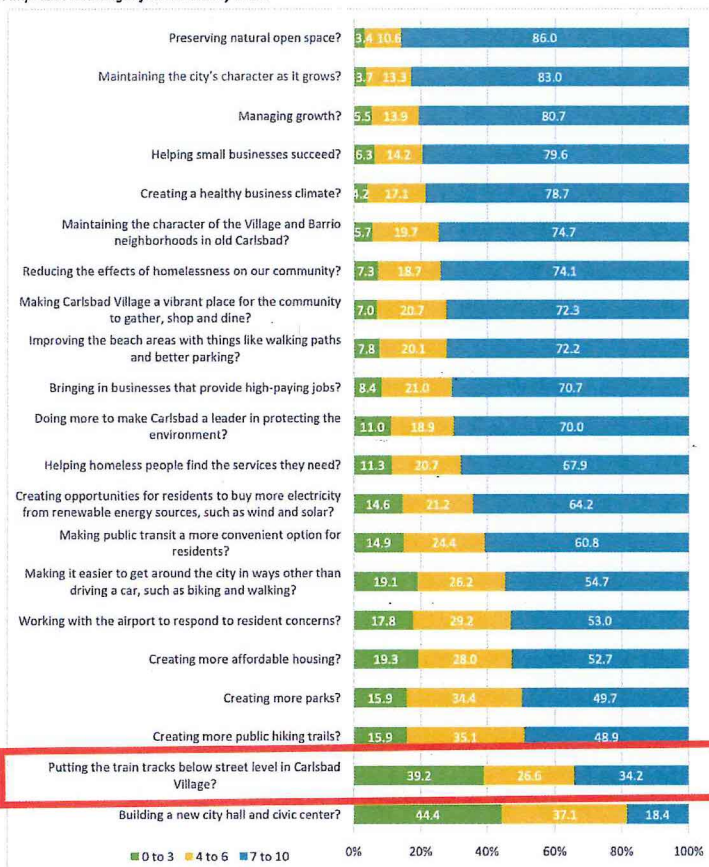
This time our City is expected to come up with up to \$5,220,000 to pursue a matching grant. No guarantees to get the grant, however, and this makes me wonder why we are trenching the tracks in the first place. And I am concerned that not many of our citizens are in agreement with the trenching.

1. Provided here is a survey taken in 2019 with regard to the importance of trenching to residents over other projects. Note: trenching is second to last. I realize this is an older survey but there has to my knowledge been any updated survey similar to this one.

Results at a Glance

The figure below shows the distribution of responses for all survey items grouped by low (0 to 3), moderate (4 to 6), and high (7 to 10) importance ratings.

Figure 1. Importance Ratings of the 21 Survey Items



2. Would this be considered a Capital a improvement project subject to Proposition H and subject to a vote by citizens? Shouldn't citizens vote for whether \$5.22M (certainly above the \$1M limit) ? My answer is what I found in one of my files that specifically mentions Prop H funding and that it INCLUDES the trenching of the tracks and other projects such as the Monroe Pool found in a prior staff report.

Multiple projects within the Capital Improvement Program are also anticipated to require the expenditure of more than \$1 million in city funds, as defined by Carlsbad Municipal Code section 1.24.020, and based on preliminary assessments by staff, certain projects may not be eligible for exceptions to the provisions of Proposition H. In such cases, Proposition H ballot measures would need to be approved by voters for the city to proceed with construction. Projects that might require a vote of the members of the public to approve an expenditure of more than \$1 million in city funds include, but are not limited to, renovating the Monroe Street Pool, constructing Fire Station 7, trenching the railroad tracks, extending College Boulevard and developing the Robertson Ranch Community Park, as well as potentially Veterans Memorial Park, the Public Works Operation Center (the Orion Center), and the City Hall/Civic Center.

3. As this issue requires even more money than we have already spent "Ten percent of the design for the lowered tracks option, the long trench alternative, has been completed, and additional

funding is needed ..." in my opinion this is placing more money-good after bad.

4. I find it concerning that the Staff Report did not mention how much of our General Fund money has been spent so far. I know it has been in the Millions (because of the above statement that ~10% has been done). In a report from 2020, it seems that as the Council had selected the Long trenching then, that shows in 2020 dollars up to \$395 Million.

Project Cost Estimates



- Estimates based on 26 feet of vertical clearance standard:

Alternative	2020 \$s
Short Trench	\$245 - \$265 million
Long Trench	\$375 - \$395 million

- Per NCTD, 24 feet of vertical clearance may be possible:

Alternative	Construction Cost Savings (20 \$s)
Short Trench	\$9 million
Long Trench	\$16 million

Please drop this boondogle. I've been studying the various proposed and approved housing projects and the water table is between 5ft and 17 ft below the surface. We will be forever bailing out the trench and I foresee multiple problems with this issue.

Please vote no.

Thank you,
Kris Wright
District 1
Carlsbad

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