

**FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION AGENDA**

**MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

- 1. Call To Order**
- 2. Pledge Of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Agenda Modifications**
- 5. [2020 Budget Expectations Discussion](#)**
- 6. [Electron Way Parking Evaluation](#)**
- 7. Adjournment**

ITEM 5: 2020 Budget Expectations Discussion**FROM: Scott Pingel, City Manager**

Background: This agenda item is for the City Council to discuss budget expectations for the 2020 budget. As City staff begin preparing the 2020 budget, it is important to understand the general expectations of the Council as well as to make sure the Council knows what we are working on as well. At the May 20, 2019 Study Session, we discussed budget items that go with the goals the City Council has established. The Pool and Bathhouse construction, completing design for the Community Center, and parks projects associated with the bond will be major items along with the software upgrades we discussed on May 20th.

Beyond those major items, the budget will be fairly status quo, but we want to make sure we are on the same page for what that means. For staff, that means we will continue to replace vehicles and equipment according to the ERR schedule, we will continue scheduled capital improvements for facilities, streets and utilities, and we will assume a COLA and step increases for employees not at the top of their range.

Included in the agenda packet is an update from Public Works Director, Jerry Wakefield, regarding water meters upgrades. As we make progress on water meters, and move towards various decisions, we want to keep the council aware of where we are.

Attachment: [Water Meter Upgrades](#)

6/12/19

Meter Upgrades

The City's water meters were installed around 2001. These meters are positive displacement type meters. In order to maintain their accuracy, the life expectancy of the meter is 10-12 years. As most of the meters have been in and operating for 18 years, we can expect that they need to be replaced. Since our meter reading software will not be supported next year, we have been looking into new software and also how we read meters. At present, we manually read each meter and manually input the read into a hand held device that stores the reads and then downloads those onto the Billing Clerk's computer. This process takes approximately nine days every two months.

As we have looked at new technology, most utilities are presently using radio read meters. This has a signal at each meter and the read is picked up by software that is located in a vehicle that drives the route to pick up the meter reads. This would reduce the meter reading time to less than one day.

Most water utilities are looking at upgrading to advanced metering infrastructure (AMI). This process provides for the meters to send signals to a base station and then on to the Billing Clerk. The meters are continuously monitored without any meter reading needed.

As we look at replacing meters, it is Public Works' recommendation that the meter replacements have the technology to be AMI capable.

The Public Works staff has been researching out the options with different meters and infrastructure to support our City. We have met with vendors, talked to other utilities, looking at grants and funding, and alternatives and are presently working with the City of Tacoma as they are doing the same process.

Meters evaluated to date include:

- Neptune, which is our current meter that is installed.
- Sensus, which is the meter being installed by City of Tacoma
- Kamstrup, a ultrasonic meter that picks up low flows. Spanaway Water recently upgraded to these meters.
- Hersey/Mueller, another vendor from the local area.

It is the goal of Public Works to begin this process of meter replacements in 2020. Based on estimated costs of replacements for the entire system is approximately \$500,000 - \$700,000. Due to limitations in the water capital fund, the concept of upgrading the meters over a 4-5 year time frame is being considered. This would allow us to pay for this as we go similar to the street light upgrade program that was done.

We will also need to upgrade our meter reading software along with this process.

ITEM 6: Electron Way Parking Evaluation**FROM: Jerry Wakefield, Public Works Director**

Background: The City of Fircrest is looking at additional parking and traffic calming features along Electron Way adjacent to the Fircrest Park. Electron Way is a local collector roadway with a 20-mph speed limit, and information provided by the Police Department estimates the average speed in this section of electron is near 22-mph. Currently, parallel parking is provided along both sides of Electron Way. The City has a desire to increase the available parking along the park frontage and wants to evaluate potential angle parking along Electron Way between Spring Street and Contra Costa Avenue. In addition to a revised parking layout, there is also a desire to provide additional traffic calming along that stretch of the roadway. Currently, there are marked pedestrian crossings at Contra Costa Avenue and Spring Street.

Current City Code: Preferred Concept complies with Fircrest Municipal Code 22.60.008 – parking and driveway design standards.

Preferred Channelization Concept: KPG identified a range of street parking concepts along Electron Way adjacent to Fircrest Park. These concepts were vetted based upon the existing Electron Way cross section and impacts to the existing conditions.

The preferred channelization concept includes 45 degree angled parking with 9' wide parking stalls. This degree of angled parking allows for easy, pull-in access for traffic driving west on Electron Way. The 9' wide stalls add comfort between cars that have higher stall turnover rates. An additional benefit of 45 degree angled parking includes the space saving of stall depth. The preferred 45 degree option proposes 16.5' stall depth while 60 degree angled option recommends at least 18'. The overall roadway width that is being saved in stall depth was utilized in a wider westbound through lane. This allows more clearance between through traffic and the back of parked vehicles.

Due to the existing conditions of the planter strip in front of existing curb allows for the angled parking to account for approximately 1.5' of nose overhang.

This section of roadway with the angle parking would change the bike lane to a shared lane for this section.

Traffic Calming: The added parking provides for a traffic calming effect due to the visual narrowing of the roadway. Traffic will tend to slow down along the parking. Due to the offset in center lines at the intersection of Electron Way and Contra Costa Avenue and also a proposed painted island, traffic should be calmer in this area. Since there is no history of accidents in this intersection and with the proposed stripping improvements, a need for a stop condition does not seem warranted.

Review of Mid-Block Crossing Concept: In addition to alternative parking configurations, KPG reviewed the concept for a proposed mid-block pedestrian crossing between Contra Costa Avenue and Spring Street. The mid-block crossing is not recommended at this time due to concerns of site distance for drivers heading eastbound and proximity to existing crossings at Contra Costa Avenue and Spring Street. The approximate distance between existing pedestrian crossings is 685 linear feet.

The proposed concept does include striping improvements at the existing crossings. The 45 degree angled parking shows striped curb bulb outs to bring additional attention to drivers. The existing crossing for pedestrians is 48 linear feet from ramp to ramp.

Conclusions:

- The proposed concept creates approximately 17 additional parking stalls in front of park.
- 45 degree angled parking and 9' wide stalls allows ease of access for drivers with expected high stall turnover rates.
- This proposed striping concept can be implemented in Summer 2019 prior to construction of Community Center renovations.
- The striping can be modified with little restriping effort after Community Center renovations are complete.

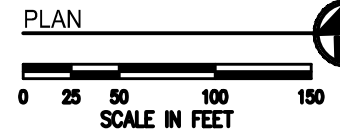
Attachment: [Electron Way Option Figure](#)

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45 DEGREE PARKING OPTION

ELECTRON WAY PARKING STUDY



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