



WORK SESSION OF GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL meeting with the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center held Wednesday, July 23, 2008, in the Multi-purpose Room of the Community Center

The meeting began at 8:00 pm.

PRESENT were Mayor Judith Davis, Mayor pro tem Rodney Roberts, and Council members Edward Putens and Leta Mach. Mr. Herling arrived at 8:10 pm.

ALSO PRESENT were Rick Obenschain, Acting Center Director, Tom Paprocki, Director, Management Operations, Phillina Tookes, Legislative Affairs Specialist, Alan Binstock, Master Planner, and Teresa Spagnuolo, Chief of Facilities from Goddard; Virginia Beauchamp of the Greenbelt News Review; Anya Bergman of the Gazette; Bill Orleans; Dale Schamer; Yohan Knox; and David Moran, Assistant City Manager and Michael McLaughlin, City Manager.

Mayor Davis welcomed everyone. Mr. Obenschain gave an overview of operations at Goddard. He noted there is an unprecedented period for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) with 11 launches in next 15 months including the last repair mission of the Hubble telescope. This repair will improve the Hubble to better than ever and enable it to last another 5 to 10 years. The information from the Hubble has rewritten all the astronomy books with the results of its information.

Mr. Obenschain advised that Rob Strain has been named the new Center Director and he will be coming on board in the near future. He also noted the budget is fairly flat - \$17.2 billion supporting 3,150 government employees and 4 to 6,000 contractors.

This fall Goddard will be hosting Launchfest, the first open public event in at least 5 years. The planned program includes offering a class with Greenbelt 's Recreation department. Under Sen. Mikulski's leadership, a non-profit has been established to assist with funding and operation of a revitalized visitor center.

Mr. Binstock gave a review of the Goddard master plan. The Exploration Sciences building is underway and anticipated to be complete in mid-2009. It is expected to be the first LEED Gold standard building in NASA including the use of landfill gas for heating/cooling. In response to questions from Council, he noted the new projects in the federal Capital Improvement Program are not in active work mode. He also offered to brief Council on an updated long range plan that would likely be ready by the end of 2008.

He advised that the Goddard campus has received an award for its sustainability work including reforestation and minimizing lawn maintenance. He reported on the work Goddard is doing on site to measure environmental changes as the master plan evolves, especially the sustainable actions. Mr. Binstock pledged to keep the city apprised of progress on Goddard's master plan

and sustainability efforts.

Mayor Davis raised the matter of possible bicycle access from Northway. The Goddard representatives agreed to look into the potential, though it was noted the preferred route utilizes a narrow highway ramp which may create safety concerns.

Mr. Putens raised the matter of annexation and Goddard agreed to check into the matter. Also the partnering zone which has been mentioned in earlier versions of the master plan is no longer under consideration.

Council thanked the Goddard representatives for attending and noted the valuable work done at Goddard.

Council then mentioned a number of informational items. Mr. Herling noted the swim team banquet and that the Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee was beginning to discuss the name change referral from Council. Ms. Mach advised the Clean Air Partners made a presentation at Camp Pine Tree. Mr. Putens reported that 25 vehicles had been vandalized in Greenbelt East and a flyer was being distributed urging neighbors to turn on their exterior lights. Mayor Davis asked that a briefing from the Greener Greenbelt Initiative on the information it had gathered about Roosevelt Center and non-GHI Greenbelt be scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael McLaughlin,

City Manager