

*WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, June 1, 2016, to discuss Council Goals.*

*Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The meeting was held in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center.*

*PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Silke I. Pope was unable to attend due to illness.*

*STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager, and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.*

*ALSO PRESENT WERE: Bill Orleans and others.*

*Mr. McLaughlin explained that following the visioning work done by the City Council and the community in 2008, a pamphlet was created which listed the agreed to eight (8) goals, a brief explanation for each goal, and 3-4 action steps towards the goal. He said six (6) of these goals have continued and been reaffirmed over the years with two (2) new ones added – 1) Economic Development and Sustainability and 2) Provide Excellent Constituent Services. Mr. McLaughlin noted that these are the goals which have been listed/used annually in the budget for the past few years.*

*Council reviewed the following existing goals and narratives along with suggested revisions provided by Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach.*

*1. Enhance Sense of Community*

*Since its beginning in 1937, the Greenbelt Community has benefited from a strong sense of community. The presence of an active and involved citizenry, citizen-owned cooperatives and the design of the community all contributed to a strong sense of community that continues to exist today. It is important to nurture this sense of community so that Greenbelt will remain a special place to live, work and play.*

*After discussion, the following change to the narrative was suggested.*

*Since its beginning in 1937, Greenbelt has benefited from a strong sense of community. The presence of an active and involved citizenry, citizen-oriented cooperatives, and the design of the City all contribute to the strong sense of community that exists today. It is important to nurture this as we strive to be one, inclusive Greenbelt.*

*2. Economic Development & Sustainability*

*The City supports economic development which adds to the community's vibrancy and vitality while preserving its history. Appropriate economic development will attract new residents and businesses, support tax base retention, and contribute to the financial viability of the City.*

*After discussion, the following changes to the goal and narrative were suggested.*

*Promote Community & Economic Development*

*The City supports community and economic development that adds to Greenbelt's vibrancy and vitality while preserving its history. Appropriate community and economic development can attract new businesses and residents, enhance the tax base, and contribute to the fiscal sustainability of the city resulting in a thriving place to live and work.*

3. *Improve Transportation Opportunities*

*Transportation within a community and easy accessibility to it is key to making a livable community.*

*After discussion, the following changes to the goal and narrative were suggested.*

*Improve Connectivity and Accessibility*

*From its beginning, Greenbelt has emphasized walkable neighborhoods. Providing multi-modal transportation opportunities and easy accessibility are keys to creating and maintaining a livable and thriving community.*

4. *Maintain Greenbelt as an Environmentally Proactive Community*

*We are all stewards of the environment. Greenbelt, as a community, must do its share to minimize its impact on the environment.*

*After discussion, the following changes to the goal and narrative were suggested.*

*Maintain an Environmentally Proactive Community*

*We are all stewards of the environment. The City must continue to be a leader in creating a sustainable, resilient community that minimizes its impact on the environment.*

5. *Improve and Enhance Public Safety*

*A safe community makes for a place where people want to live, work, learn and play!*

*After discussion, the following changes to the goal and narrative were suggested.*

*Continue to Improve and Enhance Public Safety*

*Working together, we can provide a safe community for our citizens. A safe community makes for a place where people want to live, work, learn, and play.*

6. *Preserve and Enhance Legacy as a Planned Community*

*Greenbelt is an important part of the country's history and a model for community planning. It is vital that it continue to thrive for future generations.*

*After discussion, the following changes to the goal and narrative were suggested.*

*Preserve Our Planned Community Legacy*

*Greenbelt – a bold, innovative idea in 1937 – is an important part of this country's history and a model for community planning. It is vital that it continue to thrive and build on this legacy.*

7. *Promote Quality of Life Programs*

*In its planning and development, Greenbelt offered a better quality of life and opportunities for its residents. Such aspirations must continue to guide programs that the city offers.*

*After discussion, the following change to the narrative was suggested.*

*An integral part of Greenbelt's history is the ability of the community to enrich the lives of its residents. Improving the quality of life for all residents - adults, seniors, youth and others with special needs – should guide programs that the city offers.*

8. *Provide Excellent Constituent Service*

*The City government will provide excellent municipal services to Greenbelt residents and businesses. It will also work on their behalf with other governments and agencies.*

*After discussion, the following change to the narrative was suggested.*

*Greenbelt citizens are served by many agencies from our local municipal government to county, state, and national governments as well as agencies providing such services as utilities or communications. The City government will provide excellent municipal services to residents and businesses and work on their behalf with other governments and agencies.*

*Council also suggested the following new goal and narrative be included.*

9. *Improve & Maintain Infrastructure*

*The city's infrastructure, including roads, sidewalks, pathways, buildings, technology, parks, playgrounds and more, are maintained at a high standard of quality to meet the needs of residents, businesses, employees and visitors.*

*Informational Items*

*Mr. McLaughlin provided an update on the interest expressed by highly regarded executive search firms specializing in assisting local governments recruit a new City Manager. Council requested the scheduling of executive sessions for Council interviews of these firms be included on the agenda of the next meeting.*

*Mr. Orleans asked and was provided answers regarding the use of an executive search firm.*

*Several other informational items were discussed.*

*Executive Session*

*Ms. Davis moved that Council conduct an Executive Session in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter. Ms. Mach seconded.*

*ROLL CALL:*

<i>Ms. Davis</i>	-	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Herling</i>	-	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Mach</i>	-	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Pope</i>	-	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mr. Putens</i>	-	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Roberts</i>	-	<i>No</i>
<i>Mayor Jordan</i>	-	<i>Yes</i>

*Ms. Davis noted that Council would not return to open session following the executive session.*

*Council entered executive session at 9:40 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cindy Murray  
City Clerk*