

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Comprehensive Plan**  
**City Council of the City of Calumet City**  
**Cook County, Illinois**

**JUNE 25, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The City of Calumet City met for a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. called to order by Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush.

Read Call

Alderman Schneider moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to read the call for the public hearing.

MOTION CARRIED

(see attached page 1A for public hearing notice)

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 5  
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Schneider, Wosczynski, Williams, Munda, Manousopoulos  
ALDERMAN: Jones, Collins

Also present were Economic Development Coordinator Swanson, Fair Housing Administrator Gigliotti, City Clerk Figgs (8:20) and Deputy Clerk Bonato.

There being a quorum, the public hearing was called to order.

Discussion Comprehensive Plan

At this time in the meeting, Mike Hoffman from Teska gave a presentation regarding the Calumet City Comprehensive Plan.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF CALUMET CITY  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Calumet City will conduct an open house and public hearing for the purpose of adopting a new Comprehensive Plan on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at City Hall, 204 Pulaski Road in Calumet City. The Comprehensive Plan is a guide to future growth and development, setting forth the community's vision. The public hearing will be at 7:30pm. The public hearing will include a presentation of the plan and an opportunity for residents to comment and ask questions. The Draft Comprehensive Plan is available for public inspection at City Hall and the Calumet City Public Library during normal business hours, and is available online at <http://calumetcity2013.wordpress.com/> under the documents tab. If you are unable to attend, feel free to leave a comment on the project web site. Teska Associates, Inc., the City's planning consultant, will be available for questions at an open house prior to the hearing. The open house will start at 6:30pm. For questions, please call Jim Gigliotti, Fair Housing Administrator, at 708.891.8141 or via e-mail at [JGigliotti@calumetcity.org](mailto:JGigliotti@calumetcity.org).

Economic Development Discussion

There was discussion regarding Economic Development Discussion regarding areas in Calumet City regarding retail and business including:

River Oaks/River Oaks West & Torrence Avenue, south of 159<sup>th</sup> Street  
Torrence Avenue north of Michigan Cit Road  
Wentworth Woods/River Oaks Drive east  
Burnham Avenue Corridor  
Town Center  
Sibley Boulevard  
State Street

Participants were asked to explain what the problems were in each region and what they would like to develop in the future. Participants indicated that the City should be more pro-active about business retention issues, particularly for local employers.

Ald. Manousopoulos left meeting

Alderman Manousopoulos left the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Discussion Housing Community Engagement

At this time in the meeting, LeRoy D. Barron discussed the Housing Community Engagement relative to the Comprehensive Plan to understand how people perceive the housing market within the City and if they have experienced flooding.

The results were a majority of citizens believe there is a sufficient amount of moderately priced housing and a deficiency in housing for recent college grads and young professionals.

Many people described the type of damage done to their home, mostly basements were flooded during heavy rains or when streets would flood. Other concerns were sewer backups into their homes.

The things people feel is needed the most are programs to encourage property maintenance, well lit streets, active neighborhood associations, and well-kept landscaping appearances.

Residents also wrote that they would like to see more grocery stores, dog parks, and improved alley maintenance in their neighborhoods.

Discussion Transportation

At this time in the meeting Jason Engberg discussed Transportation relative to the Comprehensive Plan to understand how people utilize public transit to travel in to, out of, and around the City and to see what streets have congestion and speeding issues.

The majority of people who completed the survey never use any of the transportation options.

Those who do use these public transportation options tend to use the Metra Electric Line and the South Shore Line the most, both of which are outside the Calumet City boundaries.

If people do choose to use bus services, Bus Route 350 is used the most. This is inconsistent with ridership in the region as Route 350 is the third most used route that travels through Calumet City, behind Routes 353 and 364.

A large majority of people who do not use the Burnham Greenway and on many surveys people wrote down that they did not know what it is.

Comprehensive Plan

Mike Hoffman, Teska encourages the City to keep the Comprehensive Plan updated every five years and review the zoning ordinance and codes.

Thank Teska and Steering

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush thanked all the members of the Steering Committee, Housing Director Jim Gigliotti, Jack Pflingston, CMAP, City Clerk Nyota Figgs, Bob Wicz, Doreens Pizza, George St. Marie, BMO Harris, Dr. Craig Williams, District #215, Janice Minton-Kutz, Coldwell Banker, Ernest Roberts and Val Williams, Robinson Engineering, Dave Tomzik and Jennifer Mitchell, Pace, Mike Hoffman/Jason Engberg (Teska) Terry Jenkins/Diane Williams (BDI) and L.D. Barron (BCI) for all their hard work.

At this time in the meeting, Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush asked if any residents had questions relative the Comprehensive Plan.

Resident spoke regarding Torrence Avenue Corridor relative to lighting issues and attract new businesses in the community.

Residents spoke regarding strip malls ownership and lighting to attract businesses.

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush advised that surveys were sent out to every household which started the whole process. The Comprehensive Plan is a vision and framework for moving forward. The city received a grant and he City will adopt the Comprehensive Plan at a future meeting.

The public hearing adjourned at 9:04 p.m.