HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting October 25, 2021

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:02pm. Present were Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Barron, Primmer, Spicerkuhn, and Duron. Councilors Davis and Myers were excused. Also in attendance was Judge Thomas Creasing, as well as City staff to include: City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Richard Tovey, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, Hermiston Energy Services (HES) General Manager Nate Rivera, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Parks and Recreation Interim Director Brandon Artz, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Eileen Laramore and Chris Powell from Friends of the Oxbow Property and Oregon Invasive Species Council, 945 W Ridgeway- spoke and presented handouts (attached) regarding invasive species infestation around Umatilla River and specifically the Oxbow Trail area. The invasive species are a problem for everyone not just the Bureau of Reclamation, Parks and Recreation, the City, etc. as when the wind blows, as it does to the west, the infestation will spread throughout Hermiston and take over the entire city, if not properly treated. Treating invasive species is a constant battle as seeds can stay dormmate for 10 years or so. Ms. Laramore and Powell would like the Council to consider adding preventative measures to the Oxbow Trail to prevent the spread as well as public outreach as shown in the handouts.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Duron seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A & B, to include:

A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
B. Minutes of the October 11th City Council Work Session and Regular Meeting

Motion carried unanimously.

September 2021 Financial Report

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Duron seconded to accept the September 2021 Financial Report as presented by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

American Rescue Plan Funds Discussion

City Manager Byron Smith presented information (handout attached) regarding possible uses of the ARPA funds available for the City to use as suggested by the City and community members who participated in the Flashvote Surveys Administered earlier this year. City Manager Smith asked that the Council include anything that was missed and/or give their opinions of priorities items/projects.

The Council commended City Manager Smith for gathering a great list with wonderful ideas as it compiles the community's views, ideas and suggestions letting the community know their voices are being heard and the City is working on their recommendations.

After the Council provided their priority topics, City Manager Smith stated he would start working on this information to present to the Council at the Goal Setting Session with preliminary costs.

Resolution No. 2200- Penney Avenue Grant Award

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan presented information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding Resolution No. 2200 which will authorize the acceptance of up to $596,600 from the Oregon Department of Transportation to develop and complete East Penney Avenue's connection between SE Kelli Boulevard and US Highway 395.

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After some discussion, Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Spicerkuhn seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2200 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2330- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 of the Hermiston Municipal Code, Entitled "Nuisances." City Manager Smith stated this ordinance is part of the on-going efforts to update the City Code and outlined the purposed changes and answered questions provided by the Council at the last meeting.

After some discussion, Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Richard Tovey read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. After City Attorney Richard Tovey read the ordinance by title only, Councilor Hardin moved and Councilor Spicerkuhn seconded that Ordinance No. 2330 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption by the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2329- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 70 General Provisions, Chapter 71 Traffic Rules, Chapter 72 Parking Regulations, and Chapter 73 Bicycle Operation of the Hermiston Municipal Code
City Manager Smith stated this ordinance is part of the on-going efforts to update the City Code and outlined the purposed changes and answered questions provided by Council at the last meeting.

There were additional discussions from Council and staff regarding defining downtown and other issues.

Public Comment
Jackie Linton, 111 W Beebe Ave- Asked if the Ordinance pertained to bicyclists of all ages riding in town.

City Manager Smith responded yes.

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to table Ordinance No. 2329 until the following meeting to allow the City to change the ordinance as addressed earlier in the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports
Public Safety Committee Meeting- Councilor Primmer and Chief Edmiston spoke regarding the 3rd Quarter Crime Report, gave personnel updates and gave information regarding the December 15th Christmas Express Work Party.

Mayor Drotzmann stated the Police Department is always under budget and suggested the City look into adding additional personnel to cover the police department shortages.

There were questions regarding homelessness and drug arrests statistics.

Chief Edmiston stated there has been a steady 20% homeless related activity; the decrease of drug arrests is due to the decriminalization of drugs.

Councilor Barron stated statistically 70% of people are high before, during, or after they are committing crimes.

Hispanic Advisory Committee- Councilor Barron stated the Committee hosted a Hermiston 2040 Focus Group where community members met and shared ideas, including Sara Madrigal from Amazon. The group

prioritized: brining in trades, STEAM, and STEM programs, adding additional bilingual staff, a Cultural/Welcome/Information Center, Hispanic Heritage Day/week Proclamation, adding housing and stimulating downtown by building up, ie: commercial properties located downstairs with residential apartments located upstairs.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Drotzmann stated he was Elected as the 2022 LOC Treasurer (applause from audience).

Council Reports

Councilor Spicerkuhn stated the kiosks located around the City are great and give good community information, and asked if there would be opportunities for other organizations to share information on the kiosk as well, and asked that the City look into the Oxbow Trail invasive species issue further.

City Manager Smith stated the City is creating policy but does plan to allow other organizations to place information on the kiosk as well as paid advertisement opportunities.

Manager's Report

City Manager Smith spoke regarding City Hall updates.

Adjournment

There was no other City business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:46pm.

SIGNED:

_____

Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder

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Wipe Your Feet!
Please brush your shoes before entering and leaving this area.

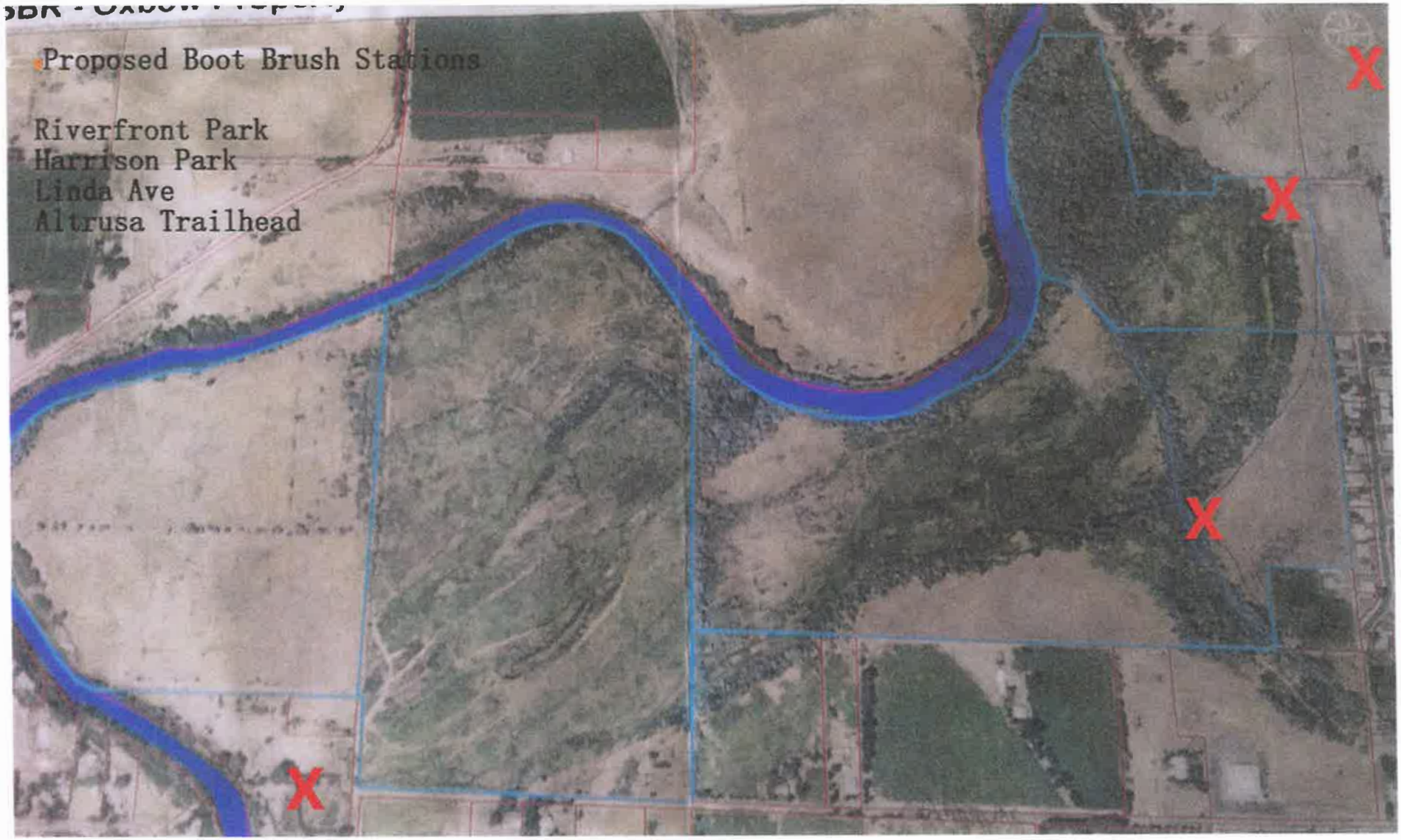











Proposed Boot Brush Stations
Riverfront Park
Harrison Park
Linda Ave
Altrusa Trailhead
X
X
X
X

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Suggested Guiding Principles

Where Life is Sweet

- ***Recognize the temporary nature of ARPA funds***. They are non-recurring so the use of these monies should be applied to non-recurring expenditures.
- ***Investment in critical infrastructure is well suited to ARPA funds this category of expenditures can be strategically targeted*** to developing long-term assets that provide a benefit over many years, even decades.
- ***Local jurisdictions should be cognizant of state-level ARPA efforts, especially infrastructure,*** potential enhancements of state funding resources and existing/new state law requirements.
- ***Consider regional initiatives and partnering with other ARPA recipients.***
- ***Use other dedicated grants and programs FIRST to save ARPA funds*** for priorities NOT eligible for other federal and/or state assistance programs.
- ***Whenever possible, expenditures related to ARPA funding should be spread over the qualifying period (through December 2024)*** to enhance budgetary and financial stability/prudence.

GFOA's summary statement:

"The funding provided under ARPA provides a unique opportunity for state and local governments to make *strategic investments in long-lived assets*, rebuild reserves to enhance financial stability, and *cover temporary operating shortfalls* until economic conditions and operations normalize."

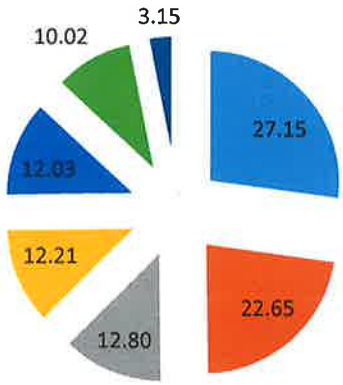
Timeline and Restrictions

- City Received $1.9 million in August 2021
- Anticipate $1.9 million in August 2022
- Funds must be obligated by December 2024
    - Expended by December 2026
- Have a good picture of restrictions on funds
    - Possibilities to substitute funds in certain projects

Flashvote Survey Administered May 5-7, 2021

5 questions (2 open ended)

Spend the Dollars Question



- Support local businesses (grants/loans for businesses affected by pandemic)
- Invest in infrastructure (roads/water/sewer maintenance/repair, broadband, West-County trail, south water tank)
- Economic development (roads/water/sewer to South Hermiston Industrial Park, light industrial building at airport)
- Help people who have had financial difficulties (start a utility assistance fund, coordinate with CAPECO and local churches)
- Stabilize the city budget (replace lost revenue)
- Develop city facilities (Library phase II, Harkenrider Center, parks)
- None of these

Freeform Responses

- Simple and inexpensive project?
- Any other community needs or priorities?
  - 25 Responses on Traffic/Streets
  - 18 on Sidewalks/Trails
  - 23 on Clean-up/Beautification
  - 8 on benches/tables
  - 45 Parks and Recreation
    - Included a handful on an indoor aquatics facility
  - 5 on animal control

Possible Uses for ARPA Funds

Where Life is Sweet

General

- General Fund stabilization based on lost revenue – $1.2 million per GFOA calculator
- Seeding a water/sewer/garbage assistance fund in cooperation with CAPECO and local churches. – Working on this anticipating $50,000 contribution
- Target assistance to businesses negatively impacted by the COVID pandemic particularly restaurants. – $55,000 with Greater Hermiston Chamber

Infrastructure projects:

- West-county Trail project
- Riverfront Park sewer line
- South Water Tank project
- East side roadway improvements
  - Gettman Road and GRATE phases
- City Facility Broadband Connections
- Community Enhancement Fund Projects
  - Theater Park Ditch
  - Cimmaron Terrace Park Enhancements

Economic Development

- SHIP phase II – Up to $596,600 (on agenda later)
- Light Industrial Shell Building at the Airport

Facility Development

- Police Department Renovation
- Library Phase II
- Harkenrider Buildout
- Park Development Projects
  - Teen Adventure Park
- Food Pod Development
- EOTEC Projects
  - Field Development
  - RV Park Development
  - Water Rights Development
- COVID Induced Cost Increases on City Hall
- Homeless Shelter Contribution (Includes Warming Station) – Verbally committed to some contribution

Misc. Projects

- Cybersecurity/Network Improvements – Started process of network separation
- Wayfinding Signage Implementation
- Rent Relief
- Food Bank
- Hermiston Foundation







PENNEY AVE. EXTENSION

City Council 10/25/2021







HERMISTON
OREGON
™

Action Requested

- Approve Resolution 2200
- Pave Penney Ave. from Kelli to US395
- Accept up to $596,600 from ODOT
- Match at 1:1 ratio with ARPA funds



South Hermiston Industrial Park- 1994



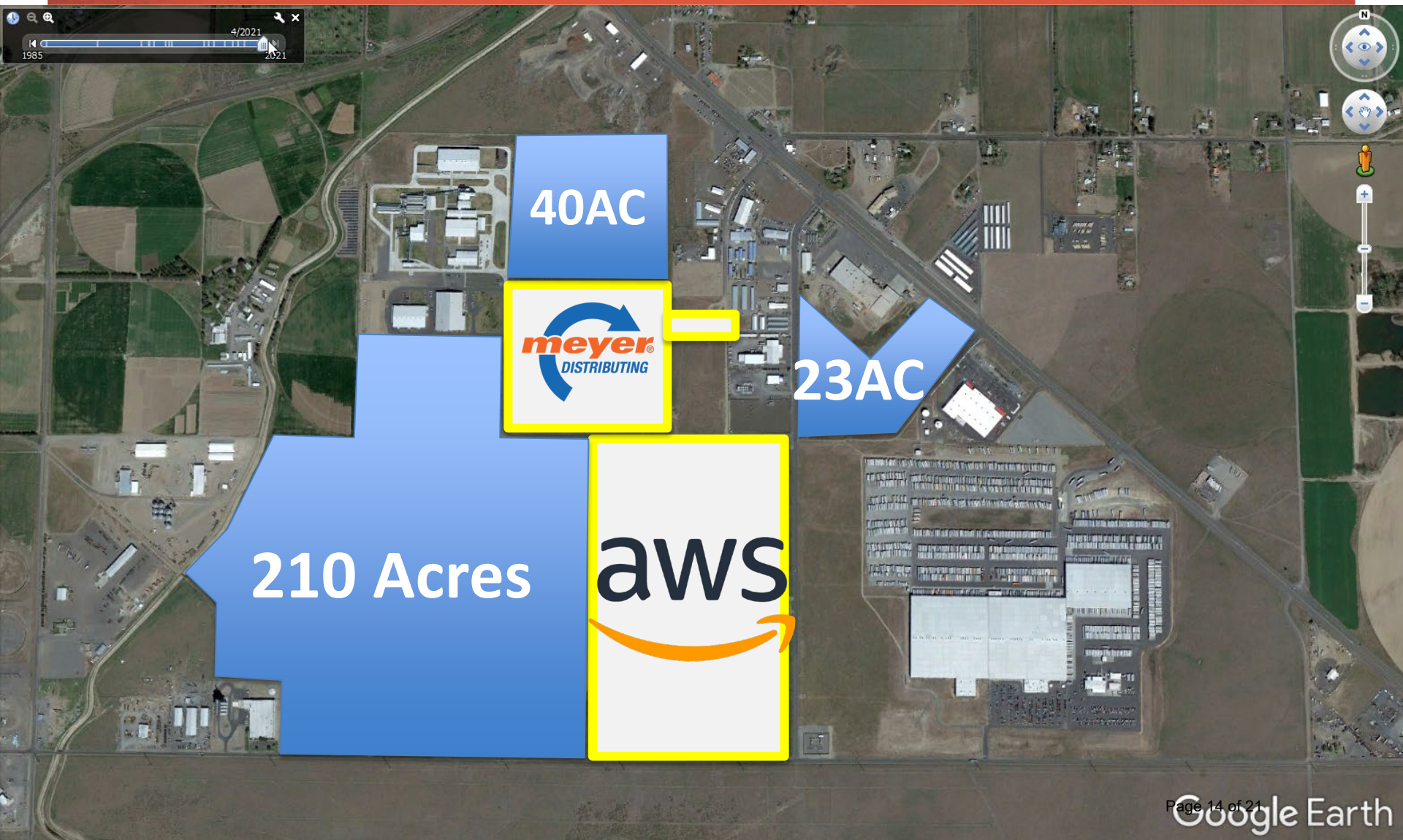
South Hermiston Industrial Park- 2021



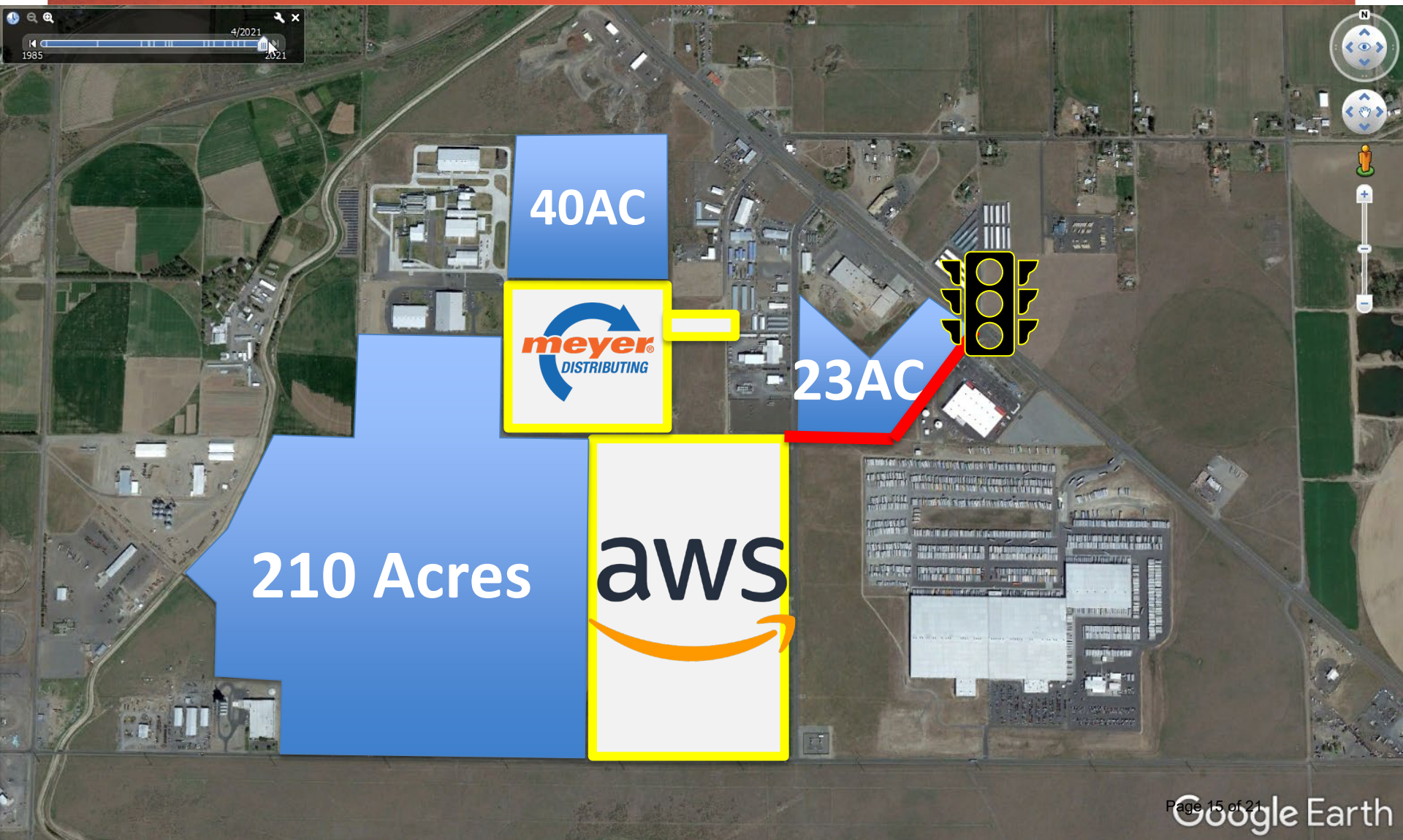
South Hermiston Industrial Park- Future (2021-2025)



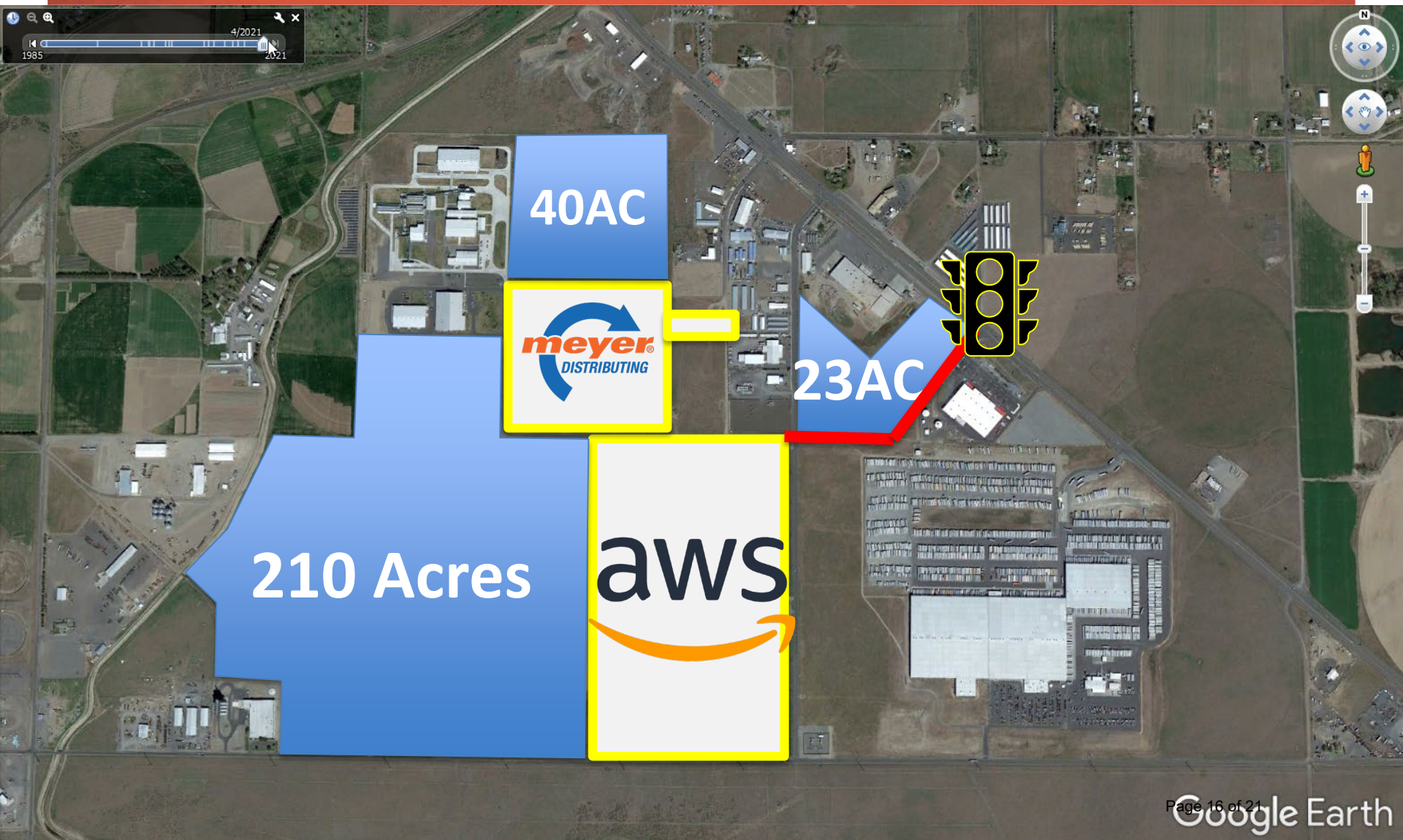
South Hermiston Industrial Park- Future Available Sites



Transportation System Plan



Local Input


4/2021
1985
2021
40AC
meyer DISTRIBUTING
23AC
210 Acres
aws
Google Earth

Immediate Opportunity Fund

- Job Creation
- ODOT Facilities
- 50% Local Match



Immediate Opportunity Fund

- Meyer Distributing Warehouse
  - Phase 1 = 70+ Jobs
  - Full Build-out = 200 Jobs
- ODOT supplied IOF Agreement Oct. 14
- Meyer Nearly Complete with $10M Phase 1



Next Steps

- Design (Nov – Dec., 2021)
- Advertise (Jan. – Feb. 2022)
- Open Bids (March, 2022)
- Construction (Summer/Fall, 2022)



Fiscal Information

- Federal ARPA Awarded: $3.8M
- Council Direction to leverage extra funds
- Leveraging $600K against IOF takes “outside” funding to $4.4M



Requested Action

- Approve Resolution 2200

