

**CITIZENS’ ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE (CABC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: February 1, 2022

Time: 6:30PM

Location: WebEx (Video-conference platform)

Next Meeting: March 8, 2022

Time: 6:30PM

Location: TBD

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *The mission of the Citizens’ Advisory Budget Committee (CABC) is to study all phases of the budget of the City of Aurora and to make recommendations to City Council in regard to any and all budget matters.*

*The CABC accomplishes the mission by examining and evaluating needs and priorities as they relate to the budget and by making recommendations for action to the City Council.*

**ATTENDANCE**

Name		Name		Name		Name
Mustafa Abdullah	A	Max Gimelshteyn	P	Michael Senich	P	<b>COA Staff</b>
Candice Bailey	A	Debra Johnson	P	JulieMarie Shepherd Macklin	P	Gregg Hays
Sunny Banka	P	Danielle Lammon	P	Chesca Smotherman	A	
Tikneshia L. Beauford	E	Jim Mattson	P	Katrice Traylor	E	<b>Guests</b>
Andris Berzins	P	Omar Montgomery	A	Michael Westerberg	P	City Manager Twombly
Marsha Berzins	P	George Peck	P			
Reno Carollo	P	David Rich	P			
Gretchen Dirks	P	Jonathan Scott	P			

Key: P=Present; E=Excused; A=Absent; R=Resigned; \*New Member

**HANDOUTS**

**(Emailed to committee)**

January Meeting Minutes <i>(Sent January 20, 2022, via email)</i>
February Meeting Agenda <i>(Sent January 20, 2022 via email)</i>
Due-Outs and Action Items from the February Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All CABC Members: connect with appointing CM to discuss budget priorities – be prepared to bring this back for discussion at the March meeting. This will inform CABC subcommittee formation.</li> <li>CABC Exec Team: continue to work with Greg and plan upcoming meeting schedule (format/location and guest speakers)</li> </ul>

## MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order	Chair Jono Scott called the meeting to order at 6:34pm	
2. Roll Call/ Establishment of Quorum	Roll call was taken by Secretary JulieMarie Shepherd Macklin and a quorum was established.	
3. Approval of February Agenda	<p>Chair Scott entertained a motion to approve the February agenda as presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George Peck moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion Carried Yes: 15 No: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
4. City Manager Update	<p>Chair Scott extended a welcome to City Manager Twombly and invited him to share his remarks with CABC members.</p> <p>City Manager Twombly provided an overview of the major budget updates from the recent winter Council Budget Workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$65m in ARPA funds came into the city (this is different from CARES funding in March 2020 – COVID related) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Remainder of these funds (\$45m) were allocated at workshop</li> <li>○ \$7m in grants for small business, restaurants, etc.</li> <li>○ \$5m to match state efforts for Homeless services campus</li> <li>○ \$7m for mental health center located near Anschutz campus</li> <li>○ Investment in Ridgeview Academy</li> <li>○ \$7.5m toward fire station updates/renovations, animal shelter updates</li> <li>○ \$4.5m toward parks/playgrounds</li> <li>○ \$5.3m held in reserve since the dollars don't have to be spent down until 2024.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Two tiers of capital needs – combined \$500m. Working with Council to determine direction/priorities</li> <li>• Underfunding of road maintenance was also discussed. Working with Council, Budget Office, and Public Works to determine how to close this gap. CM Zvonek has put forward a three-year plan that includes reevaluating the auto-use tax.</li> </ul>	

Other notes:

- Significant development – both commercial and residential (single family homes and multi-family housing) is occurring in the city which is positive for revenues and generating housing supply.
- Infrastructure Relief Bill will also be sending dollars into states and localities for infrastructure

Questions from the floor for City Manager Twombly:

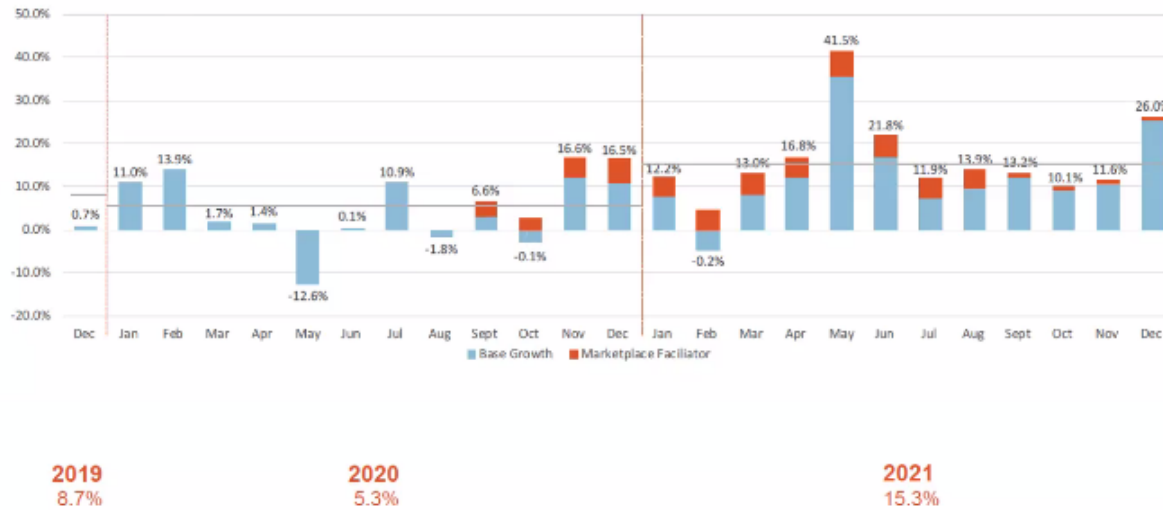
- How can the incoming federal infrastructure dollars be spent?
  - To date, very little guidance is available. Also, unsure on the timing of when these dollars will be released. It is likely that some will be competitive grants, some will be pass-throughs from CDOT, and some dollars are already earmarked for CDOT projects. Peoria bridge over Sand Creek would be an ideal type of project for these dollars.
- What does the multi-family housing development look like?
  - Primarily apartments for rent (as opposed to condos)
- How are mental health responsibilities divided between city and county?
  - The city's dollars are primarily for capital efforts. These dollars are a one-time contribution, not an on-going operating expense the City will have to fund.
  - The total Aurora Mental Health project is \$30m: \$12m will be legislated from state ARPA funds, \$7m from Council and both counties will also contribute.
- Observation: while new development brings in revenue, there are also real costs to this as the city grows. This is something to keep in mind in the coming years as it relates to the city's budget
- Is there an update on an event and cultural center that would be a potential to bring revenues into the city?
  - Signature Park (city owned land at Buckley and Alameda) – this proposal would likely include an outdoor event venue.
- What would be a helpful area(s) of study for CABC to focus on?
  - How can we best diversify revenue given how reliant the city is on sales tax and economic activity?
  - One challenge around human capital – the city has not been immune to the great resignation trends. Also the city has been asked to do much more (or different service) than it has historically.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What other suggestions from the CABC memo in 2019 beyond the auto-use tax are actively being considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Several were taken to Council that Spring but they did not get much traction at the time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Through the example of parks: How are priorities determined? Rehab vs replacement? Ward-specific? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All revenues typically go into the general fund</li> <li>○ City staff then work with Council to determine areas of focus and timelines</li> <li>○ Goal is to focus on the full city equitably, so all residents have access to parks.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Given the length of the discussion at this point in the meeting, David Rich moved to rearrange agenda items 6 and 7 after housekeeping (agenda item 10). The motion carried unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion Carried Yes: 15 No: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
<p>5. Approval of January Minutes</p>	<p>Chair Scott introduced the January minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With no changes brought forward from the floor, the January minutes stand approved as presented.</li> </ul>	
<p>8. Council Member Check-Ins</p>	<p>Chair Scott invited CABC members who had been able to connect with their appointing CM to share-out initial budget priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Bergan’s appointees Jim Mattson and Max Gimelshteyn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Department reviews</li> <li>○ Public works</li> <li>○ Snow removal – likely part of the larger roads conversation</li> <li>○ Gun Club Road expansion, given all of the development on the east side of town (Murphy Creek etc.) and will require coordination between municipal, county, state and likely federal government</li> <li>○ Parks and Rec – unfinished projects in Ward VI</li> <li>○ New Sports Park in SE Aurora – a potential to bring in revenue</li> <li>○ Retail development. There was 1 or 2 FTE allocated to focus on this – has the position been filled?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CM Zvonek’s appointees Dave Rich and Mike Senich:</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Road maintenance and non-road capital projects</li> <li>○ How ARPA money will be used</li> <li>○ Look at an updated fire department review since the last report CABC did in 2018</li> <li>● CM Jurinsky’s appointee Andris Berzins: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Public safety – police training</li> <li>○ Police and fire response – dispatch</li> </ul> </li> <li>● CM Medina’s appointee Debra Johnson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Public safety – specifically community policing</li> <li>○ Efficiencies in each department – what metrics are being used to gauge this</li> <li>○ Affordable housing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
9. Subcommittee Initial Discussion	All of the budget priorities that CABC members bring forward from their appointing CMs will be used to inform a longer conversation at the March meeting.	
10. Housekeeping	<p>Chair Scott brought forward a potential conflict with the March meeting date: March 1<sup>st</sup> may be a scheduling conflict for some with political party caucus events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jim Mattson moved to change the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to March 8<sup>th</sup> and the motion carried unanimously.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion Carried  Yes: 15  No: 0  Abstain: 0</p>
7. Budget 101 and 6. Revenue and Budget Updates	<p>Greg provided a budget 101 overview. This update will be provided as an attachment with the minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As part of the budget 101, Greg Hays gave the monthly budget update</li> </ul>	

# December 2021 Sales Tax Performance

Percent Change from Prior Year By Month



11. Meeting Adjourned

Chair Scott asked for any further questions or comments - seeing none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Jonathan Scott, Chair

JulieMarie Shepherd Macklin, Secretary

February 1, 2022

Date of Approval