

COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

CITY OF THE DALLES

AGENDA

COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Conducted in a Handicap Accessible Meeting Room

Tuesday, July 15, 2008 5:30pm City Hall Council Chambers 313 Court St. The Dalles, OR

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of Minutes of: April 15, 2008
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Discussion and recommendation on a potential Plan amendment
- VIII. Update on projects
- IX. Next Meeting Date: August 19, 2008
- X. Adjourn



COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

CITY OF THE DALLES

Joint Meeting Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Agency and Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Minutes

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

City Hall Council Chambers
313 Court Street
The Dalles, OR 97058
Conducted in a handicap accessible room.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ericksen called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Planning Tech. Denise Ball conducted roll call.

Present members: Jim Wilcox.

Jim Wilcox, Gary Grossman, Dick Elkins, Bill Dick, Carolyn Wood,

Nikki Lesich, Ken Farner, Dan Ericksen

Absent members:

Chris Zukin, Robb Van Cleave, Rob Kovacich

Staff present:

Nolan Young, City Manager, Dan Durow, Community Development

Director, Gene Parker, City Attorney, Dave Anderson, Public Works

Director, and Denise Ball, Planning Tech.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ericksen lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Councilman Wilcox moved to approve the agenda and Mr. Grossman seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Zukin, Van Cleave, and Kovacich absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Ericksen asked if there were any corrections or additions needed for the minutes of March 18, 2008. Mr. Grossman moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Mr. Farner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, Zukin, Van Cleave, and Kovacich absent.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

East Gateway/Brewery Grade Street Construction Project – Presented by Greg Jellison and Tom Beggs of Hopper Dennis Jellison P.L.L.C.

Director Durow presented the Staff Report. He updated the Councilors and Committee members on the project status and discussions with property owners James Martin and Curtis Baker in regards to access and parking for their respective properties on either side of the proposed new intersection. Director Durow said the alternatives have incorporated traffic counts into the Matrix (Exhibit 1) to arrive at a comparative cost and level of service for the alternatives. A public open house will be held soon to receive citizen feedback and help in moving toward a final design.

Mr. Beggs and Mr. Jellison began their presentation. Some of the key issues to be resolved in the final design are: getting large trucks up and down Brewery Grade, slowing traffic entering downtown The Dalles, provide access to the flour mill property, and create a low maintenance, sustainable traffic solution.

The new roundabout alternative addresses the majority of the issues, including a 24 foot wide east/west travel lane on the Sunshine Mill property to allow necessary traffic movement on that site. There is still some adjusting to be done to also accommodate the properties belonging to Curtis Baker on the south side of the proposed intersection.

Councilor Wilcox asked if the roundabout would have stop signs or yield signs. Mr. Beggs said the roundabout operates in a yield traffic flow pattern.

Councilor Wood asked if stop signs would be added later should there be increased traffic counts. Mr. Jellison said some of the older traffic circles, which are different than roundabouts, have added stop signs to improve their traffic function. However, this roundabout will not have stop signs.

Mr. Beggs said the roundabout will be able to handle 30% more traffic than a regular intersection. The Alternative Matrix (Exhibit 1) and a Level of Service description (Exhibit 2) were handed out and discussed. The project is now at the point to go forward with an Open House for public feedback. Staff and HDJ would then report back to the Agency and Advisory Committee.

Councilor Wilcox asked about pedestrian safety. Director Durow pointed out the safety islands for pedestrians and explained that, unlike a standard intersection, the pedestrian only has to look in one direction before crossing the travel lane in a roundabout.

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Chair Ericksen asked James Martin his opinion of the proposal. Mr. Martin said this has truly been a joint process and the roundabout is the best alternative. There was a brief discussion regarding the access points to Mr. Martin's site.

Councilor Wilcox asked Mr. Martin about the Silo engineering and Mr. Martin said that project in underway now.

Chair Ericksen asked City Manager Young about the projected cost comparisons. City Manager Young said the cost difference between the T-Intersection with signals and the Roundabout is small enough to make them both viable projects for funding possibilities.

Councilor Wilcox asked if the project had been presented to the Traffic Safety Commission. City Manager Young said he would make sure they were invited to the Open House.

Mr. Beggs pointed out that the project needs to continue to move forward so funding opportunities will not be lost. HDJ will be preparing the final document and needs direction from the Agency and Advisory Committee at this meeting.

Councilor Wood asked if the project would impact the recent improvements along upper Brewery Grade. Director Durow said this project only addresses the lower intersection portion of Brewery Grade. This project will allow for a sidewalk on the north side of Brewery Grade, which will create ADA access at the top of the grade.

Ms. Lesich said she is happy to see the proposal has not lost focus of Mr. Martin's development and that it is proceeding as a joint effort.

Councilor Wilcox reminded Staff again that he wants the Traffic Commission to be involved in the process and was assured by Staff that would happen.

The members of the Urban Renewal Agency and the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee directed Staff and HDJ Engineers to move forward with the project for the roundabout alternative.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next scheduled meeting is May 20, 2008 but there is no business scheduled at this time.

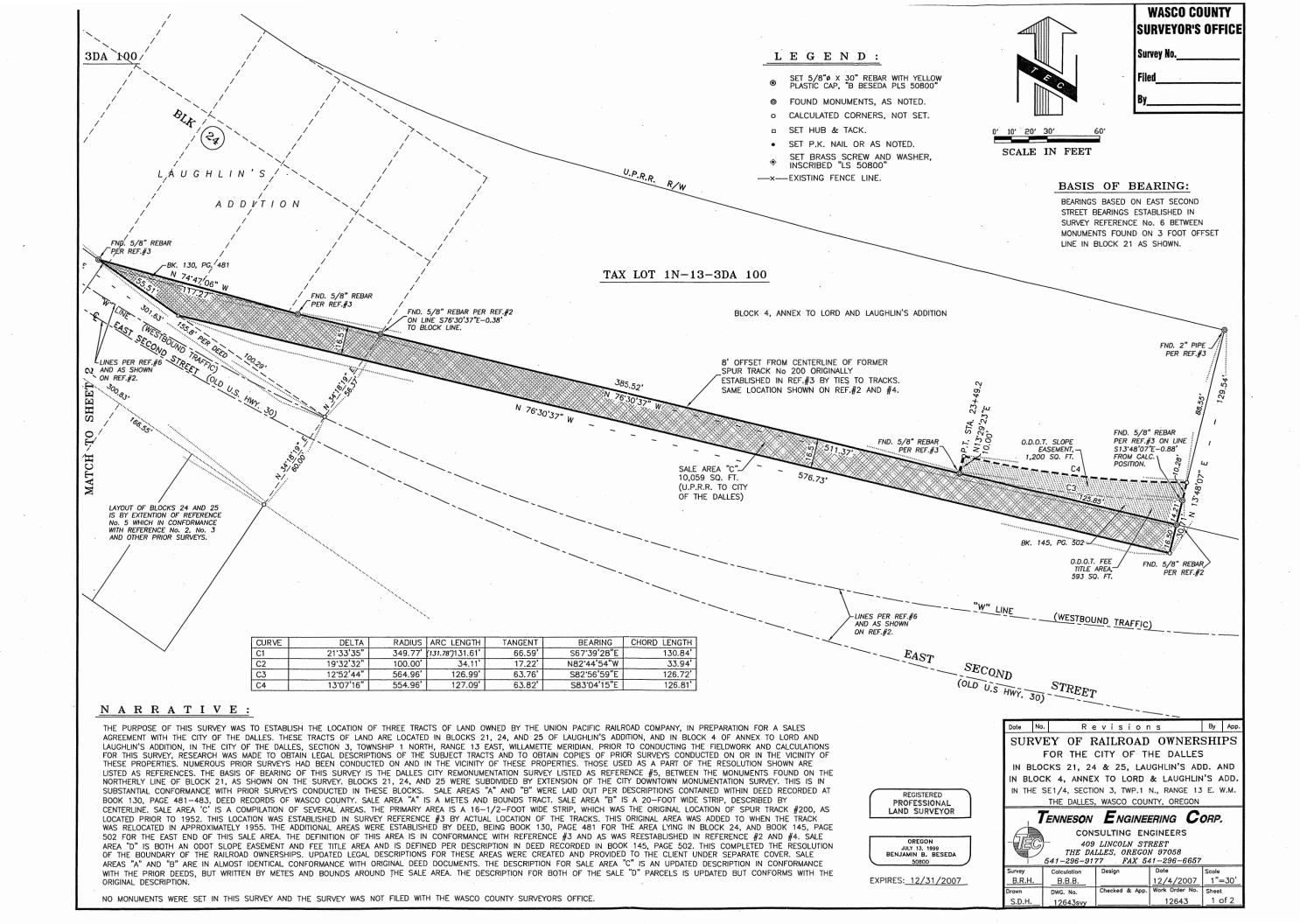
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Planning Tech.

Dan Ericksen, Chair

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APPENDIX A:

ARTERIAL ROADWAY AND INTERSECTION LEVEL OF SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

The concept of level of service (LOS) uses qualitative and quantitative measures to describe operational conditions within a traffic stream on a given roadway. The levels of service are much like an academic grading system whereby LOS "A" represents the best condition and LOS "F" represents the worst condition. The six levels of service (A-F) presented below describe conditions in terms of average travel speed, traffic volume compared to capacity, freedom to maneuver in traffic and stopped delay at signalized intersections. These descriptions represent typical county arterial units that are urban and are influenced by traffic signals to some degree. These are arterials with low to medium density development along their frontages, have limited pedestrian activity, move traffic at freeflow speeds approaching 40 mph, and may have one to five signals per mile.

LOS "A"

Represents a near free flow condition with an average travel speed of 35 miles per hour or higher. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is 37 percent or less. Vehicles are unimpeded within the traffic stream and can be maneuvered easily. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is 10 seconds or less with most vehicles arriving at the intersection on a green phase and not stopping.

LOS "B"

Represents a stable flow condition with an average travel speed of 28 to 34 miles per hour. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is 38 to 47 percent. Vehicles are relatively unimpeded within the traffic stream and can be maneuvered with minor restrictions. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is 11-20 seconds, with only some vehicles arriving at the intersections on a yellow-red phase and stopping.

LOS "C"

Represents a stable flow condition, but with a lower average travel speed of 22 to 27 miles per hour. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is 48 to 66 percent. Vehicles are significantly impeded within the traffic stream and may be somewhat difficult to maneuver, particularly when changing lanes at mid-block locations. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is 21-35 seconds, with a significant proportion of vehicles queuing at the intersections or arriving on a yellow-red phase and stopping.

LOS "D"

Represents an unstable flow condition where there can be significant delay, and a lower average travel speed of 14 to 17 miles per hour. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is 67 to 82 percent. Vehicles are increasingly impeded within the traffic stream and will be difficult to maneuver, particularly in changing lanes at mid-block locations. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is 36 - 55 seconds, with a large proportion of vehicles queuing at the intersections or arriving on a yellow-red phase and stopping. Some vehicles wait for two or more cycles before clearing intersections.

LOS "E"

Represents an unstable flow condition where there can be significant delay, and a lower average travel speed of 10 to 13 miles per hour. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is 83 to 100 percent. Vehicles are increasingly impeded within the traffic stream and will be very difficult to maneuver, particularly in changing lanes at mid-block locations. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is 56-80 seconds, with a large proportion of vehicles queuing at the intersections or arriving on a yellow-red phase and stopping. Many vehicles wait for two or more cycles before clearing intersections.

LOS "F"

Represents a forced flow condition where there can be considerable delay and very low travel speeds of less than 13 miles per hour. The volume of traffic compared to the practical capacity of the arterial is in excess of 100 percent. Vehicles are greatly impeded within the traffic stream and will be very difficult to maneuver when changing lanes at mid-block locations and at intersections. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is in excess of 80 seconds, with a large proportion of vehicles queuing at the intersections. Vehicular backups extend back from signalized intersections through unsignalized intersections with storage that is distributed throughout the arterial unit.

Adapted from: Transportation Research Board, 1997. <u>Special Report 209: Highway Capacity Manual Third Edition</u>, Washington D.C.

East Gateway Project, City of The Dalles Alternative Matrix

Criteria	Do Nothing	'T' w/Stop Signs	'T' w/Signals	Roundabout	Existing Pref. Alt.
Construction cost	\$0	\$2.95M	\$3.17M	\$3.37M	*\$3.67M
Level of Service, existing (non-peak)	С				
Level of Service, 5 years (non-peak)	С	C-F	B-C	Α	C-D
Level of Service, 10 years (non-peak)	D	C-F	B-C	Α	C-D
Level of Service, 20 years (non-peak)	F	E-F	С	A-B	D-E***
Level of Service, existing (peak)**	C-F				
Level of Service, 5 years (peak)**	D-F	C-F	C-D	А-В	D-E***
Level of Service, 10 years (peak)**	E-F	D-F	C-D	A-D	E-F***
Level of Service, 20 years (peak)**	F	F	C-F	B-F	F***
Truck Movement/Circulation	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Poor
Economic Development	Poor	Good	Good	Very Good	Good
Accident Rates/Severity	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very Good	Fair
Bicycle Safety	Fair	Good	Good	Very Good	Good
Bicycle Circulation	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good
Pedestrian Safety	Fair	Good	Good	Very Good	Good
Pedestrian Circulation	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good
Sustainability	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Fair
Gateway aesthetics	N/A	Fair	Fair	Very Good	Good
Service Life, Signals vs. Roundabouts	N/A	N/A	10 years	25 years	10 years
Additional Yearly Maintenance Costs	N/A	N/A	\$5000/yr.	\$0	\$5000/yr.
Add'l Maintenance Cost, over 25 year service life	N/A	N/A	\$125,000	\$0	\$125,000
Comparative cost over 25 yr. service life	\$0	\$2.95M	\$3.30M	\$3.37M	*\$3.80M

^{*} Includes \$500K for removal of silos

^{**} Based on estimated traffic/truck increases during harvest season received from City staff

^{***} Estimated, using LOS analysis for 'T' w/Signals and considering restricted truck turn movements

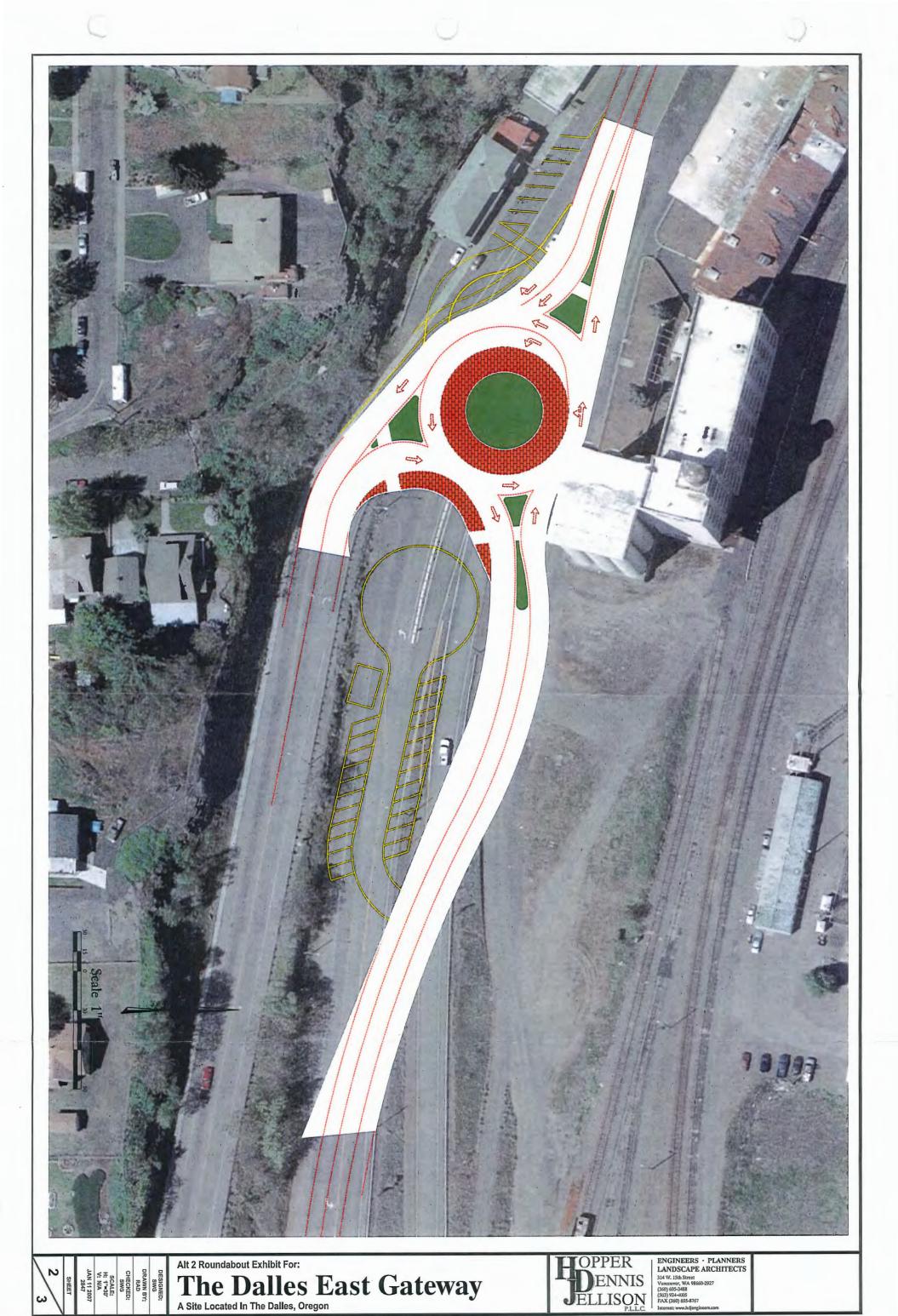


Exhibit 3



COLUMBIA GATEWAY URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

CITY OF THE DALLES

Agenda Staff Report

URBAN RENEWAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE JULY 15, 2008

TO:

Urban Renewal Advisory Committee

FROM:

Dan Durow, Urban Renewal Manager &

SUBJECT:

Potential Amendments to the Columbia Gateway/Downtown Urban Renewal

Plan

DATE:

July 15, 2008

The Urban Renewal Agency Board and the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (URAC) have discussed amending the Columbia Gateway/Downtown Urban Renewal Plan to allow for the funding of additional projects to support development in the urban renewal area. We previously had advised that the time limits for collection of tax increment revenues —ending by June 30, 2015 - would not allow the Agency to issue the remaining maximum indebtedness for the Plan (\$5.9 million). The Agency directed staff and the consultants to prepare an amendment that would extend the time for tax increment financing to address this issue.

We have reviewed the projections and find that it is likely the remaining borrowing capacity of the Agency could be issued and paid off without extending the tax increment financing beyond 2015. So the anticipated amendment is not necessary at this time.

However, the remaining \$5.9 million does not allow for the completion of the projects that may be essential for the vitality of the urban renewal area. In addition there are some projects that are important but are not located within the current urban renewal area boundary.

For FY 2008/2009, the Agency wishes to review and consider amending the Urban Renewal Plan to allow for critical projects to be accomplished. At the July 15 URAC meeting the committee will be asked to discuss the plan amendment process.

We see the following steps in the process:

1. Inform and involve the public in a discussion of how and why the urban renewal plan *may* need to be changed.

- 2. Work with the overlapping taxing districts, including the County and the Fire District to make sure their needs are considered carefully in any decision to change the urban renewal plan.
- 3. Review current and projected urban renewal financing capacity.
- 4. Review list of currently identified urban renewal projects in terms of importance, cost and location.
- 5. Prioritize urban renewal project needs in terms of cost and schedule.
- 6. Evaluate the financing impacts of funding priority projects in terms of the time period for tax increment financing and the revenues foregone by taxing districts
- 7. Recommend a package of urban renewal plan amendments that may include an increase in the maximum indebtedness, an extension of the time limits for tax increment financing and urban renewal area boundary changes.

This process could take six to eight months including the formal process for presenting and adopting the plan amendment. That adoption process will include presenting the plan amendments to the Planning Commission, working with overlapping taxing districts and holding a public hearing before the City Council.

At the URAC meeting on July 15, staff and the consultants will present more information about a possible urban renewal plan amendment and a preliminary list of projects and estimated costs.



MEMORANDUM

TO:

Dan Durow

FROM:

Jeff Tashman

SUBJECT:

Table for Alternatives for Extending Urban Renewal Plan

DATE:

19-Jun-08

Here's a table for our discussion tomorrow:

	Current	Maximum	Additional	Maximum	Total Maximum	
Alternative	Indebtedness	Remaining	Indebtedness		Indebtedness	Year Debt is Retired
Current		5,927,149		0	5,927,149	FY 2014/2015
Five Year Exention		5,927,149		8,795,287	14,722,435	FY 2022/2023
Ten Year Extention		5,927,149	1	6,035,247	21,962,395	FY 2026/2027