

**CITY OF BUCKEYE
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 7, 2014**

**City Council Chambers
530 E. Monroe Ave.
Buckeye, AZ 85326
4:45 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Meck called the meeting to order at 4:55 p.m.

Members Present: Councilmember Strauss, Councilmember Hess, Councilmember McAchran, Councilmember Heustis, Vice Mayor Orsborn, and Mayor Meck.

Members Absent: Councilmember Garza.

Departments Present: City Manager Stephen Cleveland, Assistant City Manager Roger Klingler, City Attorney Scott Ruby, City Clerk Lucinda Aja, Assistant to Council Carol Conley, Fire Chief Bob Costello, Finance Director Larry Price, Economic Development Director Len Becker, Community Services Director Cheryl Sedig, Public Works Director Scott Lowe, City Engineer Scott Zipprich, and IT Director Greg Platacz.

2. Update on the Design of Skyline Regional Park and the Planned Construction

**Staff Liaison: Robert Wisener, Community Services
District No. All**

Mr. Wisener presented an overview of the design of Skyline Regional Park including a history of the project; the process began in 2002 with application submittal to Bureau of Land Management. A map was displayed depicting the 8,675 acre park located North of I-10 with access from Watson Road. Road access to the park was discussed as well as the Watson Road Right-of-Way and purchase of State Land. The purchase is expected to be finalized in March, 2015. Phase I Improvements were presented and include the interior park road, trailhead/parking, picnic areas, camping sites, programming area, gatehouse, restroom and bridge. Park construction cost estimates were displayed as well as project funding costs. Information related to operations and maintenance of the park was provided. A project schedule was displayed; it is anticipated the park will open at the end of 2015. The paving project from Van Buren to McDowell Road will begin following the opening of the park. General discussion was held regarding the cost and funding of the projects. Mr. Lowe provided information related to the paving project; the road will be maintained as a dirt road until paving construction can begin. Mr. Wisener discussed the purchase of and need for a water truck for the park. Community involvement and authorized park activity was addressed.

3. Economic Development Department Update Part 2

**Staff Liaison: Len Becker, Economic Development Director
District No. All**

Mr. Becker presented an update of the Economic Development Department. Jobs per resident ratios were discussed and maps representing where City of Buckeye residents are commuting to work were displayed. 67% of workers live in Buckeye, but work outside of Buckeye. Targeted economic sectors include health care and health care technology, manufacturing, logistics and distribution, and retail. Fiscal Year 14-15 goals and objectives were discussed. Site selection decision factors were addressed and include availability of skilled labor, highway accessibility, labor costs, corporate tax rate, State and local incentives, and energy availability and costs. An industrial inventory scenario was listed and reviewed. Small and large pipeline prospect activity from 2011 through the present was provided.

Lists of new businesses and potential projects were presented. General discussion was held. Mayor Meck requested this item be placed on a workshop agenda in the near future for further discussion.

4. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember McAchrans and seconded by Councilmember Hess to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Jackie A. Meck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Council Workshop held on the 7th day of October, 2014. I further certify that a quorum was present.

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk