



RECORD OF PROCEEDING

MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE CHESTERFIELD CITY HALL 690 CHESTERFIELD PARKWAY WEST CONFERENCE ROOM 101

August 7, 2025

Chairperson Hansen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Dan Hurt – arrived at 6:17pm
Chairperson Merrell Hansen, Ward IV
Council Committee Member Mary Monachella, Ward I
Council Committee Member Mary Ann Mastorakos, Ward II
Councilmember Michael Moore, Ward III – proxy for Councilmember Koch
James Eckrich, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Theresa Barnicle, Executive Assistant

ABSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Mastorakos made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monachella, to approve the July 10, 2025 Planning and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes. A vote was taken with a unanimous affirmative result (4-0), and the motion was declared passed.

Annual Pavement Condition Report

Director of Public Works/City Engineer James Eckrich presented the annual pavement condition report to the Committee. Mr. Eckrich explained the City's composition of streets (92% concrete), the age of the streets, the overall condition of our streets (7.91 PCI – good) and the quadrinomial prediction rating curve. There was substantial discussion on the state of the City's concrete streets and planning. Chair Hansen and Councilmember Monachella noted the largest age category (25-29 years) and that our pavement is expected to last 36 years. Mr. Eckrich agreed that our pavement age is a threat and

something we need to watch closely. That is the reason planned pavement expenditures increase to over \$5 million 2029. Mr. Eckrich explained that the City has been very successful recently in acquiring grants for projects such as Wilson Avenue, Schoettler Road Sidewalk, Pathway on the Parkway, Highcroft Drive, and Ladue Farm Road Bridge. While those are important projects, the City's required financial match takes away from funding to replace our local roads. That is the reason only \$4 million can be allocated to concrete replacement in 2026-2028.

Councilmember Mastorakos asked whether Mr. Eckrich is concerned about capital funding being used for other purposes. He stated that he is concerned, but the City of Chesterfield has done an excellent job prioritizing infrastructure and funding its maintenance and replacement. This is reflected in the 7.91 PCI and demonstrated in the upkeep of City facilities.

Additional discussion was held regarding capital planning and asphalt repair on concrete streets. Mr. Eckrich informed the Committee that we have recently found a product we like to make the asphalt used in repairs look more like concrete after thirty days. The Committee was receptive to this and requested that Mr. Eckrich provide additional information on this product in the future so that Council and City residents can be educated on it.

This report was received and filed by the Planning and Public Works Committee. No vote was taken, but the Committee requested that Mr. Eckrich give a brief presentation on this topic during budget deliberations.

Chesterfield Commons East Stop Sign

Mr. Eckrich presented a recommendation for the installation of a stop sign for westbound traffic entering Chesterfield Commons East Drive from Clock Tower Plaza. This intersection already contains a stop sign for eastbound traffic, however, there is currently no stop sign and no requirement for traffic exiting the Clock Tower Plaza to stop.

Mr. Eckrich explained that Engineering Staff have recently performed a full analysis of the Chesterfield Commons area to check street signage. This review included a traffic analysis, sight distance review, and accident history. The Engineering Staff found that existing signage is appropriate, with only minor modifications needed. One such modification is the recommended stop sign, which requires an ordinance authorized by City Council.

Chair Hansen questioned whether the intersection should include a four-way stop requirement, similar to RHL Drive and Chesterfield Commons Drive. Mr. Eckrich stated that a four-way stop is not warranted there, but could always be added later if authorized by Council. He indicated that there was no accident history at this intersection. Councilmember Mastorakos stated that there have been problems associated with overgrown vegetation in the past, restricting sight distance. Mr. Eckrich stated that Staff regularly addresses issues like this with the property owner.

Councilmember Moore made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, to recommend approval of an ordinance authorizing a stop sign at the intersection of Chesterfield Commons East Drive and Clock Tower Plaza. A voice vote was taken with a unanimous affirmative result (4-0). The motion was declared passed and the matter will move forward to the full City Council.

Solid Waste Contract

Mr. Eckrich gave a brief history of solid waste service in the City of Chesterfield, and the most recent contract with Republic Services. The existing contract was approved on March 1, 2021 and will expire on July 31, 2026. The contract allows for one two-year extension if agreeable by both parties. Republic Services will NOT agree to an extension at the existing rate. Mr. Eckrich explained that solid waste service affects every resident, and that poor solid waste service can be very negatively impactful to communities. The City of Chesterfield has had excellent solid waste service, which has been provided by Republic Services since 1990.

Mr. Eckrich stated that there are two ways to implement a new contract. One option is to publicly bid the contract, the other is to negotiate with the existing hauler. Mr. Eckrich explained the positives and negatives associated with each option, as delineated in his Staff Memo. Mr. Eckrich stated that because the costs for solid waste service are public record and because of Republic's excellent service, his recommendation is to proceed with negotiation. Accordingly, he is requesting that the City Council authorize him to commence negotiations with Republic Services on a new contract.

There was substantial debate on how the City should proceed. Questions were asked about our existing rates, the rates of neighboring cities, what type of rate increase can be expected, and service levels. Mr. Eckrich addressed these questions to the satisfaction of the Committee. Councilmember Monachella stated that there is an area in her Ward where there have been problems with Friday yard waste. Mr. Eckrich stated that he is aware that Friday yard waste often gets delayed during times of high volume and he explained why. He recommended that Councilmember Monachella notify him of any specific problems so they can be addressed by our Municipal Account Manager.

Chair Hansen, Councilmember Moore, and Councilmember Mastorakos each spoke positively regarding the service Republic provides. Councilmember Moore stated that he favors continuing with Republic Services due to the impact a change would have on residents who are generally happy with their existing service. Chair Hansen stated that the City of Wildwood recently had a very large increase, and she fears such an increase would not be well received by City residents, especially if the contract is not bid. Mr. Eckrich acknowledged this concern, but countered that if the City desires to continue with Republic Services, it would also be difficult to justify selecting a bid from Republic which may be higher than other providers who attempt to undercut a reasonable cost to secure the City's contract.

Mayor Hurt stated that he has always favored bidding the contract in hopes that Republic would be the low bidder. However, he acknowledged that a change would not be well received by many residents. He stated that this is a difficult decision for City Council, but he generally favors bidding the contract.

Additional discussion was held. Mr. Eckrich stated that if the Committee chooses to negotiate the contract, he will commit to negotiate the best price he can, show City Council the comparative costs of other cities, and provide data on Republic's service. He stated that City Council has the ultimate authority to approve a contract, deny a contract, or direct further negotiations. If the City and Republic services cannot come to terms, City Council always could direct that the contract be publicly bid.

The Committee discussed how this matter should move forward. The consensus of the Committee was that negotiation should be the first step. Mr. Eckrich stated that if the Committee directed him to negotiate a contract, the parameters of such a contract could be presented to City Council in a Closed Session. However, any contract approval would need to occur in Open Session. The Committee favored this course of action. The Committee and Mayor Hurt agreed that while any contract with Republic or another solid waste provider must be approved by the full City Council, the direction to commence negotiation could come from the Planning and Public Works Committee.

Councilmember Monachella made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Moore, to direct the Public Works Director/City Engineer to commence negotiations with Republic Services on a new solid waste contract. The parameters of the negotiated contract should then be presented to the full City Council at a date in the future. A voice vote was taken with a unanimous affirmative result (4-0), and the motion was declared passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Jim Eckrich
Director of Public Works


Theresa Barnicle
Executive Assistant

Approved: 08/21/2025