



WILDWOOD

September 21, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Format of Project Reporting (Wards - All)**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Administration and Public Works Committee Members
Economic Development Committee Members
Steve Cross, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Travis Newberry, Senior Planner

BACKGROUND >>> Maybe at no time before in history has information been so plentiful in terms of outlets for it and manners to disseminate it. The availability of the internet, and now tools to harness its immense power, such as laptops and smartphones, information is everywhere. This situation is positive, since an informed group of people are better able to make appropriate decisions, than not. However, all of this information can be hard to manage, understand, or access, given so many options, while prioritizing what is important to a person, group, organization, or others can be challenging too.

The City of Wildwood has always implemented approaches to improve the availability of needed information and how best to present it to all for its use in the City's decision-making processes and other actions. These approaches include social media to traditional paper. None are perfect, nor can any one of them meet all needs.

The Department of Planning and Parks processes a great deal of information and provides it onto many boards, committees, commissions, and task forces, including the Planning and Parks Committee and City Council. This information helps to understand the goals, issues, problems, needs, and opportunities avail to or facing the City at any given time. Therefore, it is critical that decision makers are receiving the information in a timely manner, and what they need for their consideration and efforts.

REQUESTED DISCUSSION >>> With the increase in projects, small to large, in the City of recent times, the Department is seeking input from the Committee Members if they have a preferred manner to receive important land use, zoning, park, and recreation information each month, thereby being able to respond to questions of constituents and be informed in this regard. This manner, or manners, of this dissemination can and will be addressed by the Department to ensure a satisfactory process is available to all City decision makers for the future. Therefore, the Department is respectfully requesting any input on this matter from the Committee Members. It is important to note the Mayor and the City Administrator are working on better communication processes between all City-related entities, whereas the Department's current request described herein would be intended to provide updates to Planning and Parks Committee Members for discussion and use relative to items of interest and could be more of a status sheet type approach. Again, the Department is seeking direction on how it can better inform this Committee of items that are impacting their wards.

CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any of the Committee Members have questions or comments regarding this process, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. A presentation on this matter is planned at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your review of this information and the requested direction the Department is seeking on this matter.