

January 12, 2007



## Information Items

### 1. Portage County Court Ruling in City Favor



Jim Silver has provided a copy of the final decision of the Portage County Common Pleas Court regarding the case in which the Portage County Regional Planning Commission sued on the grounds that the City of Kent did not have the right to remove itself from the planning commission, and therefore owed back dues to the organization. Jim notes that after 4 ½ years of hearings and arguments, the Court has ruled in the City's favor. (attachment)

### 2. City Employee No Smoking Policy



With the passage of Issue 5 on the November 2006 ballot, indoor smoking became prohibited in "public places" and "places of employment." Working with the department staff, I have prepared a No Smoking Policy that provides guidance to City employees to ensure compliance with the new requirements. This item is provided to Council for information purposes only. (attachment)



### 3. Traffic Engineering Committee Report

Please find attached the summary report of the Traffic Engineering Committee from the January 4, 2007 meeting. The items under review included an AKRO Plastics parking request, N. Mantua traffic speed counts, directional signage to St. Patrick's, E. Summit Street lighting request, and a few miscellaneous items. (attachment)

### 4. Staff Report for the Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting on 1/22/07

Heather Phile has forwarded a copy of the staff report for cases scheduled to appear on the 1/22/07 agenda. There are 2 variance requests to be considered, located at 1519 Enterprise Parkway and 1139 Lake Street. Staff is recommending approval in both instances. (attachment)

### 5. City Services Survey Report

I have enclosed a summary report of the results of the City Services survey that we included in the Tree City Bulletin this Fall. Based on the citizen feedback, I was able to outline the top priorities, funding preferences and satisfaction ratings for City services. I found the results very interesting, and I hope we can use this information to get us started with our planning for 2007.



## Unauthorized Items

### 1. State Route 43 Paving Resolution

As previously presented to Council, ODOT is scheduled to resurface SR 43 from SR 261 to SR 59, as well as River Street from SR 59 to West Main Street, this year. In order to move the project forward, the City needs to pass a final resolution in support of the project. (attachment)



#### *Administration Recommendation*

Because Council already passed a resolution of participation in the project, we did not schedule any more Committee time to review this item further, so it appears on the agenda as unauthorized. I support the staff recommendation to approve the final resolution.

#### *Council Action*

**Approve the final resolution required for the ODOT resurfacing project.**

### 2. Contract Renewal with Portage County Public Defender's Office

It is time for the City to renew our contract with the Portage County Public Defender's Office for the provision of legal counsel to indigent persons for the period of January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. (attachment)



#### *Administration Recommendation*

I support the staff recommendation to renew the contract with Portage County for these services.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Portage County Public Defender's Office.**

### 3. Summit Street Incubator Lease Adjustments

Mike Weddle and Jim Silver have developed a new, standardized methodology to calculate lease rates for tenants of the City's Summit Street incubator. The staff is seeking Council's approval to put into effect the proposed lease rate changes. (attachment)



City of Kent Small Business Incubator	
201 Liquid Learning	203 Christian Edwards' HAIR SALON
205 Carl Orris, LLC Professional Critical Care	207
209 NEW AGE HomeCare	215-217 City of Kent

#### *Administration Recommendation*

Staff has done a good job of simplifying the lease rate process and I support the changes to the lease rates as proposed. The changes effect the Christian Edwards Hair Salon, , Cari Orris, LLC, and Biosyn Technologies, LTD.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to execute the proposed lease amendments.**

### 4. Homeland Security Grant Application

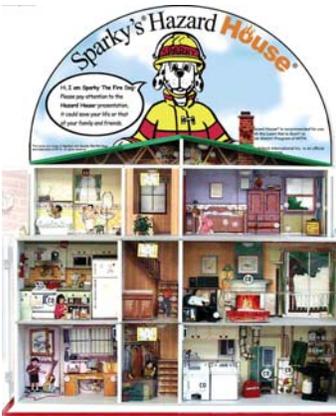
I included a summary of this item in my communication dated January 5, 2007.

#### *Administration Recommendation*

With the postponement of the January 10 Committee meetings, this item appears on your agenda as unauthorized. I am in support of the grant application.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to proceed with the grant application.**



## Unscheduled Items



### 5. Parking Changes on N. Willow Street

In October 2006 staff reviewed a number of neighborhood issues, including possible changes to parking restrictions on N. Willow Street. At Council's request, staff has proposed a change to the terms of the parking restrictions.

#### *Administration Recommendation*

You may recall that there was some concern about changing the parking restrictions in a way that could result in the encroachment of student parking on neighborhoods adjacent to North Willow Street. The staff has amended the parking restriction to respond to that concern. I support the proposed change.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the proposed changes to the codified ordinances concerning parking on N. Willow Street.**

### 6. Code Change to Clarify Hunting Prohibitions

In my communication on January 5, 2007, I advised Council that Bill Lillich had discovered some loopholes in the City Code concerning hunting in the City that staff recommends correcting. The recommended changes are proposed for Council's approval.

#### *Administration Recommendation*

With the postponement of the January 10 Committee meetings, this item appears on your agenda as unauthorized. I am in support of the proposed text changes.

#### *Council Action*

**Approve the proposed amendment to Section 353.02 of the City's Codified Ordinances.**