

# City of Lawton City Council Agenda

Lawton City Hall 212 SW 9th Street Lawton, Oklahoma 73501-3944

Monday, April 22, 2024

6:00 PM

Lawton City Hall Council Chambers/Auditorium

## MEETING CALLED TO ORDER WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"Official action can be taken only on items which appear on the agenda. The Council may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, or continue any agenda item. The Council may also propose and enact floor amendments to any matter presented before them. When more information is needed to act on an item, the Council may refer the matter to the City Manager or the City Attorney. The Council may also refer items to standing committees of the Council or a board, commission, or authority for additional study. Under certain circumstances, items are deferred to a specific later date or stricken from the agenda entirely."

#### **ROLL CALL**

## **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- 1. Receive a presentation from the Lawton Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) and the Lawton Economic Development Authority (LEDA) regarding the Westwin Elements Pilot Facility Project being developed at the corner of SW 112th Street and SW Bishop Rd to include a presentation from Blackshare Environmental, as a third-party review of the Air Quality permit application submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for the Pilot Facility emissions.
- 2. Discuss the need for an extension of the PROPEL CIP and take action as deemed necessary.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Lawton encourages participation from all of its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, notification to the City Clerk at (580) 581-3305 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if interpreters for the deaf (signing) is not the necessary accommodation."



# City of Lawton

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## Commentary

File #: 24-1477 Agenda Date: 4/22/2024 Agenda No: 1.

#### **ITEM TITLE:**

Receive a presentation from the Lawton Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) and the Lawton Economic Development Authority (LEDA) regarding the Westwin Elements Pilot Facility Project being developed at the corner of SW 112th Street and SW Bishop Rd to include a presentation from Blackshare Environmental, as a third-party review of the Air Quality permit application submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for the Pilot Facility emissions.

**INITIATOR:** Mayor Stan Booker

STAFF INFORMATION SOURCE: Mayor Stan Booker

BACKGROUND: On December 12th, 2023, the Lawton City Council, along with CCIDA, LEDA, and the LEDC approved an Amended and Restated Redevelopment Agreement with Westwin Elements, Inc. that included the development of a Pilot Facility for the refining of nickel, on a 40-acre parcel located on the NW corner of SW 112th Street and SW Bishop Rd. This Pilot Facility would be developed as a precursor to a large-scale commercial facility also contemplated by the Redevelopment Agreement. Construction on the facility began on November 20th, 2023, and is reportedly on schedule to be completed this summer. There has been a considerable amount of concern regarding the environmental impact of the project on the Lawton area. Two townhall meetings were held within the Lawton community to address these concerns. In concert with that effort, the LEDC retained Blackshare Environmental, a firm with over 35 years of environmental engineering experience, who has provided environmental compliance and permitting for over 300 industrial facilities in Oklahoma. As part of the permitting process for the Pilot Facility, Westwin submitted an Applicability Determination to ODEQ, and, subsequently, an Air Permit for the operation of the Pilot Facility. Derek Blackshare has reviewed the documents associated with this permit and will provide his report to the City Council.

**EXHIBIT:** None.

**KEY ISSUES:** N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE: N/A** 

STAFF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION: Presentation Only.



## City of Lawton

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## Commentary

File #: 24-1467 Agenda Date: 4/22/2024 Agenda No: 2.

**ITEM TITLE:** 

Discuss the need for an extension of the PROPEL CIP and take action as deemed necessary.

**INITIATOR:** Mayor Stan Booker

STAFF INFORMATION SOURCE: Mayor Stan Booker

**BACKGROUND:** Five years ago this summer, the PROPEL CIP planning kicked off, sparking a series of significant changes in our community. This initiative has played a crucial role in driving forward various aspects of community development, from upgrading infrastructure to enriching our cultural offerings.

Under the PROPEL CIP, we've seen notable improvements in vital areas like water and sewer infrastructure, major roadways, such as Lee Blvd, Goodyear Blvd, Gore Blvd, from 67th Street, to 82nd Street, and plans for exciting projects, such as the Elmer Thomas Park water park, and amphitheater. Additionally, investments have poured into enhancing our parks, engaging youth through programs like summer STEM camps and Arts for All Camp and accelerating the City's D&D program. Additionally, the PROPEL CIP has been used to attract industrial development, as seen with the successful FISTA project, which is now paying dividends to the local economy in greater proportion than the costs, and has brought \$30 million to the community in state and federal investments.

The sole purpose of the PROPEL CIP is clear: to establish a community of choice where families thrive. 2019 PROPEL has been the foundation of getting the community headed towards success, but more is needed, and the question remains: how do we achieve this vision? The answer lies in studying successful communities, adapting their strategies to suit our unique context, and implementing adjustments tailored to our community's needs.

As we look back on the accomplishments of the PROPEL CIP, it's clear that extending this initiative is imperative. While we celebrate past successes, it's crucial to address ongoing challenges, including the lack of funding for essential institutions like the animal shelter, museum, armory, Lawton Community Theatre, and Carnegie Library. These areas require attention, underscoring the need for continued planning and investment.

However, amidst these challenges lie opportunities. Extending the PROPEL CIP can provide funding for redevelopment projects aimed at rejuvenating our community. Additionally, it can support efforts to enhance park amenities, fostering a greater sense of community engagement and well-being. Furthermore, extending the CIP will enable us to persist in the ongoing task of street improvements, vital for enhancing transportation efficiency and neighborhood appeal. By extending the PROPEL CIP, we can build upon past achievements, address current challenges, and seize opportunities to propel our community toward a brighter future.

Extending the PROPEL CIP means committing to a brighter, more inclusive future and building a community where families thrive. Without extending PROPEL we will continue to wring our hands on important community needs, but we can roll up our sleeves by advancing this important initiative now.

File #: 24-1467 Agenda Date: 4/22/2024 Agenda No: 2.

**EXHIBIT:** None.

**KEY ISSUES:** N/A

**FUNDING SOURCE: N/A** 

STAFF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION: Discuss the need for an extension of the PROPEL CIP

and take action as deemed necessary.