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CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2016

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS MOVING PLANS FORWARD FOR BEAVERTON PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The City of Beaverton’s Public Safety Center Advisory Committee (PSCAC) voted at its meeting last night to ask the Beaverton City Council for a new police and emergency management facility. The \$35 million facility is to be built on city-owned property in Beaverton.

“The citizen committee feels strongly after five years of study that we’ve got a good proposal and we are ready move forward,” said PSCAC chair Jim McCreight. “Beaverton needs a public safety center we can count on, especially in times of crisis.”

The committee’s recommendation calls for a 90,000 square foot building at the corner of SW Hall Blvd and SW Allen Blvd. The site would house the city’s police department as well as the emergency operations center. The building would be built to critical facility standards to ensure the city’s emergency response functions were intact in case of natural disasters.

The committee recommended a public vote be held to ask voters to fund the facility at the same rate they are currently paying for the city’s library bonds, which will be retired next year. As a result, taxpayers would pay essentially the same rate they do today for the library but extend the timeframe to cover the costs of the public safety building construction.

“This concept makes sense,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “It directs our resources wisely without raising our property tax rate beyond what we pay today. The committee did a great job with their recommendation.”

The committee also recommended that the city consider bringing the issue to voters on the November 2016 ballot.

The committee is expected to present their recommendations at the next Beaverton City Council meeting on June 7.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton is a welcoming and responsible city that enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. In 2015, Beaverton was recognized as one of the **safest cities** in the Pacific Northwest (according to CQ Press with cities more than 75,000). Recently, the city’s award-winning finance department received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation**

Award as well as the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine. The city was named **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com* and **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine. The city also received the **Recycler of the Year** award from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, named a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, received a **Silver Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists, and recognized as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Lastly, the city's nationally acclaimed visioning program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter and also received the prestigious **3CMA Award of Excellence**.

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