

ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING: April 14, 2015		DATE SUBMITTED: March 27, 2015	
DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Economic Development		SUBMITTED BY: Lindsey Guindi	
MEETING TYPE:	CLASSIFICATION:	ORDINANCE:	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING	<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST READING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SAFETY
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND READING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERVICE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMIC DEVELOP.
<input type="checkbox"/> WORKSHOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFRASTRUCTURE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUALITY OF LIFE
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consideration of a resolution adopting the Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan.			
<p>SUMMARY STATEMENT: In December 2013, the City of Bryan, in partnership with St. Joseph Health System, announced its intentions to engage in an area-wide planning process to develop a clear, concise vision and associated goals for the area around St. Joseph Regional Health Center and a Health and Wellness Area Plan that would assist in implementation of the vision and associated goals by setting priorities through 2025. In spring 2014, the City of Bryan entered into a contract with a planning team led by Memphis, TN-based Looney Ricks Kiss to create the Bryan, TX Health and Wellness Area Plan. The team focused on creating opportunities to integrate planning and design of a growing health and wellness district with community design concepts promoting healthy, active lifestyles in order to create an innovative Health and Wellness Area Plan whose character resonates with and supports world-class employers and employees.</p> <p>Over the past two decades, health and wellness districts have emerged as key elements of sustainable economic growth and vibrant community development for cities. Healthcare providers, such as hospitals and healthcare related entities like research centers, can serve as larger-scale employment centers and stimulate demand for ancillary retail services. Neighborhoods and communities can benefit from the anchoring characteristics of these institutions and the economic activity they generate. Through innovative and creative planning processes, forward-thinking municipalities are harnessing the growth potential of these health and wellness districts to revitalize surrounding neighborhoods and build upon the economic development opportunities offered by attracting and retaining human capital.</p> <p>More recently, urban planning and public health professionals have begun to better understand the incredibly rich relationship that exists between the places where we live, work, and play, and our physical and mental well-being. The design of our built environment offers us opportunities to improve health outcomes and increase active living for existing residents, as well as to create healthy places that attract people of all ages and appeal to a skilled workforce and innovative, growth-oriented companies.</p> <p>As part of the City of Bryan Health and Wellness Area planning process, existing resources and opportunities were identified and strategies for capitalizing upon these strengths developed. Specific strategies to address constraints currently inhibiting economic development in the area and preferred alternative(s) for development are included in the plan. The planning effort also considered land use, transportation, and district appearance and identity. The land use plan makes recommendations that support valid economic development strategies for the area, as well as support development of a distinctive health and wellness district where people want to live, work, and play. Below are a few of the key elements addressed in the Plan:</p>			

1. Create a Great Lawn – create an attractive new public face for the hospital, activated with community-facing healthy activities and uses.
2. Emphasize Osler Blvd. – improve the hospital's front door (Osler Boulevard) by lining it with friendly buildings and landscaping the environment.
3. Improve Major Streets – improve East Villa Maria, East 29th. Street and Briarcrest Drive with medians, landscaping, wide setbacks, wide multiuse paths, lighting, signage, and public art.
4. Enhance Pedestrian Access – provide enhanced pedestrian crosswalks at all signalized intersections (push-button activations, ADA-compliant ramps and "zebra" striping) and add crossings (HAWK signals) where pedestrians unsafely cross today.
5. Improve Emergency Access – provide better turning movements and signage for emergency vehicles going to the new Emergency Care Center.
6. Promote Senior Living – incorporate additional senior-living facilities with easy access to area amenities and retail.
7. Create Neighborhood Park Spaces and an Enhanced Creek – expose and improve the Burton Creek Tributary, creating a neighborhood crossroads green space that is themed/designed for nearby residents (gatherings, dog park, exercise, etc.), and enter into a Joint-Use Agreement for recreation space next to Bryan Collegiate High School.
8. Create a Community Health and Wellness Center – create a public and welcoming community destination with a health and wellness focus in the form of a fitness/clinical care facility next to the hospital alongside retail and other uses with active outdoor space.
9. Address Traffic Concerns – institute “game day” protocols at problem intersections during the first two weeks of the Fall semesters and the first week of the Spring semesters when Blinn College students are learning how to navigate the area.

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION: Adopting the Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan will enable to City of Bryan to look to the Plan for official guidance on making decisions about development policy, public investments and set priorities for supporting and transforming a vital and important part of the City. Adoption permits the City of Bryan, stakeholders and owners in the area (such as St. Joseph Regional Health Center, Blinn College, Bryan ISD and others), as well as developers and real estate investors, to understand and implement the community’s vision for the area. St. Joseph Regional Health Center and several property owners are already using the plan to guide their investment and development decisions, and so it makes sense for the City to do the same thereby ensuring public and private interests are aligned in supporting and growing this critical economic anchor in the Bryan community. On March 2, 2015, the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended adopting the Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan.

OPTIONS (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):

1. approve the resolution adopting the area plan
2. modify the resolution adopting the area plan, which may require consideration at a future City Council meeting
3. direct staff to modify the area plan and take action on the resolution in the future

ATTACHMENTS:

1. resolution
2. map of study area
3. Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan (separate pdf)

FUNDING SOURCE:

APPROVALS: Joey Dunn, 3-30-15; Hugh R. Walker, 03/30/2015

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY MANAGER Kean Register, 04-06-2015

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY ATTORNEY Janis K. Hampton, 04-06-2015

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BRYAN HEALTH AND WELLNESS AREA PLAN; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Bryan, Texas has engaged in the process of developing the Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan for official guidance on making decisions about development policy, public investments and set priorities for supporting and transforming the area around St. Joseph Regional Health Center; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Plan permits the City of Bryan, stakeholders and owners in the area (such as St. Joseph Regional Health Center, Blinn College, Bryan ISD and others), as well as developers and real estate investors, to understand and implement the community's vision for the area; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Plan ensures that public and private interests are aligned in supporting and growing this critical economic anchor in the Bryan community; and

WHEREAS, a series of stakeholder meetings, open house meetings, and public meetings were conducted to provide insight into the issues, opportunities, needs and strategies that affect future growth and development in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Commission at the regular meeting on March 5, 2015 and recommended approval of the area plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRYAN, TEXAS:

1.

That the City of Bryan hereby adopts the Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan, said document being attached hereto and labeled as Exhibit "A".

2.

That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 14th day of April, 2015.

ATTEST:

CITY OF BRYAN, TEXAS

Mary Lynne Stratta, City Secretary

Jason P. Bienski, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Janis K. Hampton, City Attorney

