

April 29, 2014

To: Columbia City Council

From: Brent Gardner, Chair, Downtown Leadership Council

Thank you for trusting the Downtown Leadership Council to work on our city's infrastructure issues. I thought I would give you a progress report.

The DLC Infrastructure Subcommittee has met 5 times to discuss the infrastructure issue. We are proceeding first by defining infrastructure. Then we have been gathering data and information so that we can try and understand sewer, water, electric, storm water, etc... There is much to know. We brought John Glascock and Tad Johnson into a meeting. We had Mayor McDavid at another meeting. We have talked with Bill Weitkemper. We have spoken to several developers. We have invited the CID to our meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 30. We hope to have Barbara Buffaloe talk to us about sustainability in the near future.

At the April DLC meeting, we voted to ask Council to allow the DLC to hire an independent infrastructure analyst. Nick Peckham and I are working on the specific wording of this request, and hope to have it you shortly. Infrastructure is a complex issue, and we owe it to ourselves as a city to have it analyzed and defined properly before we can proceed with making recommendations as to how to fund it.

The DLC also set two infrastructure town hall meetings. They will both be in council chambers and will be televised. The first will be May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The second will be Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. We hope to have as many council members there as possible. We have invited Mike Matthes, as well as other department heads to field questions. We hope this is the start of open dialog between citizens, council and our city staff.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Nick Peckham.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner  
Chair, Downtown Leadership Council