

JOHN R. MCNAMARA, P.E., L.S.  
County Surveyor  
SKY K. MEDORS, P.E.  
County Engineer  
WILLIAM S. SCHALLIOL, ESQ.  
Executive Dir. of Economic Development  
ABBY E. WILES, AICP  
Executive Dir. of Area Plan Commission



DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING & GROWTH

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ANDREW T. KOSTIELNEY  
District 1  
DEREK D. DIETER  
District 2  
DEBORAH A. FLEMING, D.M.D.  
District 3

**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 11, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**

**REDEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION**

Members Present (In person): Dennis Jordan, Jason Critchlow, Tyler Gillean  
Members Present (by Zoom): Brian Pawlowski, Thomas Gryp  
Members Not Present: Larry Beehler  
Staff Present: Bill Schalliol, Chris Brown, Phil Garrett, Shelley Marker

**MEMBERS**

**Dennis Jordan**  
President  
Board of Commissioners Appt.

**Thomas Gryp**  
Vice-President  
Board of Commissioners Appt.

**Jason Critchlow**  
Secretary  
Council Appointment

**Tyler Gillean**  
Member  
Board of Commissioners Appt.

**Brian Pawlowski**  
Member  
Council Appointment

**Larry Beehler**  
Advisory Member  
PHM School Corporation Appt.

**Phil Garrett, Esq.**  
Counsel

1. Meeting Called to Order by Dennis Jordan at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Tyler Gillean to the Redevelopment Commission board as a new member.

(Audio position: 0:00:29.8)

- a. Frank Fotia administered the Oath of Office to Redevelopment Commission board members, and they all recited the Oath of Office. The Oath of Office paperwork was handed out by Frank for all to sign and have it recorded with the Clerk's Office.

Upon a nomination by Jason Critchlow, being second by Brian Pawlowski and unanimously carried, Dennis Jordan was elected as President.

Upon a nomination by Dennis Jordan, being second by Jason Critchlow and unanimously carried, Thomas Gryp was elected as Vice-President.

Upon a nomination by Thomas Gryp, being second by Brian Pawlowski and unanimously carried, Jason Critchlow was elected as Secretary.

2. Approval of Minutes (Audio position: 0:03:55.7)

- a. December 14, 2021 – Meeting of the Redevelopment Commission

Jason Critchlow: I've received a couple of emails about the public portion of the RDC meetings. Asking why we do not include the public comments by speakers in the meeting minutes.

Bill Schalliol: Does the ABZA and APC do verbatim in their minutes?

Shelley Marker: If I am able to hear their name, address, and their comments I will include them in the minutes. I will ask others if I was unable to hear their conversation for their information. Otherwise, I will not include it to prevent writing wrong information down.

Jason Critchlow: I have received emails in the past about it. Even if it is just general that is fine. As long as we get them in the meeting minutes.

Bill Schalliol: In the past when we did minutes it was just their name, address and maybe topic with the comments. We are looking at getting all of our minutes standardized across all of the boards moving forward.

**Upon a motion by Jason Critchlow, being seconded by Brian Pawlowski and unanimously carried, the minutes from the December 14, 2021, meeting of the Redevelopment Commission were approved.**

Dennis Jordan: Since Brian Pawlowski has to leave the meeting early at some point today. We should cover the Resolution so he can be part of that discussion first.

Bill Schalliol: The Resolution on the agenda today is just for discussion only. We would like to move down to the two professional service agreements cover those first and then go back up. The core of today's meeting is the budget and to get us positioned for February.

3. Economic Development Area Updates
  - a. General Redevelopment Commission
    - i. Budget Information (December report)
      1. Wyatt EDA – Fund 4300
      2. New Carlisle EDA – Fund 4301 (AA #2)
      3. New Carlisle EDA – Fund 4302 (AA #1)
      4. New Carlisle EDA – Fund 4303 (Special Taxing District)
      5. AM General EDA – Fund 4401
      6. Northwest Cleveland Road EDA – Fund 4402
      7. General Redevelopment Commission – Fund 4403
      8. Double Track Bond – Fund 4404

(Audio position: 0:14:04.0)

Bill Schalliol: Chris will talk about the December budget report.

Brian Pawlowski left the meeting on Zoom at 9:14 a.m.

Chris Brown: Before you, you have the end of the year budget tables that were all calculated through invoices all the way through the end of December. Major expenses in the AM General were the \$415,000 payment for the Penn Fire Station interlocal agreement. We should be done with those payments for that. Other expenses were with the Abonmarche County Connections Plan just reimbursing Elkhart County. They were taking on 100% of it and we should have been sharing. They paid the 100% and we reimbursed them the 50% we were splitting. Those were the major projects. All of those numbers move into the draft budget for those total cash balances at the end of the year.

3. a. ii. 2022 Budget (for discussion only)
3. a. iii. **Resolution 2022-01**: 2022 Appropriation Resolution of the St. Joseph County Redevelopment Commission (for discussion only)

(Audio position: 0:15:40.5)

Bill Schalliol: In your packet are the next two items are the budget draft, narrative and a resolution 2022-01. Every year we are required to put together a budget and not set on a time when it needs to be approved. As we enter into contracts, we need to have the budget in place. Once the budget is approved then we need to approve a

resolution associated to the budget to appropriate the funds into the designated categories.

This year's budget we tried to look at all the different categories that the money goes into and to narrow those categories down to very define categories to have some consistency across funds. As we looked at last year's budget to work into this year's budget there wasn't the consistency we are looking for. I know Chris and Steve and Daniel Dalton have done a fantastic job with it.

Start with the narrative (the larger thicker document). We had five categories, Interest on Debt, Principle on Debt those were all the Debt service-related items. Consultant and Contractual Services that category are all of the legal fees, financial fees, real estate service fees, when we do appraisals and engineering services.

Economic Development category contains all of the projects. When we do projects, buy land, demolish, build something that will all fall under this category.

Other Expenditures is the category for contracts that serve multiple budgets. For example, the Comprehensive Plan, the County Engineering standards items like that, that cross multiple budget items fall into the Other Expenditures category. The categories are shown in the appropriation resolution and in the budget document itself.

This year through the winter distribution we received approximately \$2.6 million dollars. If we reflect that out over the December and June increment disbursements which is what the budget is based on with incoming funds. That equates to roughly \$5.2 million dollars of money for this coming year of new money. If you turn to page two of the narrative, you can see as we look at budgets over the last 10 years. We have grown through the actions that the Redevelopment Commission. We have grown the revenue from 2011 from \$2.1 million to \$5.7 million of new funds this year. New revenue coming into the area, and it is allocated to projects. You can see how the money has been spent across the different areas.

The bottom half of the table on page two shows the assessed valuation for the various taxing districts. The valuation in those taxing districts have grown considerably. A lot of the value in the New Carlisle area was the Energy Center that was a huge valuation but certainly as Electric Last Mile Solutions (ELMS) takes over the old AM General building that will add value into the AM General district, etc.

The next several pages in this narrative report brings out the history of the area. Talks about the expiration date of when the areas expire. Project information of what we would propose to use the projects for 2022, included the development area map as well. We don't talk much about the Wyatt area for example, but it is good to see where the Wyatt Economic Development area is. Same with the New Carlisle area we have an Economic Development area allocation one and two where are those and how do they overlay each other. We tried to provide all that information in here again with some core projects that we would anticipate from a need or staffing level standpoint to accomplish in each of the Development Areas.

Looking at the resolution, what we did was took those projects and break them into the categories the Appropriation Resolution (will ask for your approval at the next meeting) takes those total funds and shows that in the Consultants and Contractual Services for the Wyatt area we anticipate this much budget needed on that line items, etc. Chris, is there anything else you would like to add?

Chris Brown: When we were looking at it and compared it to last year with taking it over from Jessica. Two different logics on how to expend this money. What I ended up trying to do was in this budget was to make it very clear which category it was coming out of. Consultants and Contracts that was anything that was digital, desktop those types of things. Economic Development is a category that we are doing something to the land, we are building a road, buying property, etc. Just trying to really separate those out but also keep them separate from those special projects the other expenditures it may cross over those lines. Hopefully with this new budget it will be clearer as to which category which funds are going to come out of.

My only other question was as we look at this budget and compared with the information you received last year.

From a summary standpoint, that budget narrative that I write up which is a simple word document that shows the expenses are. Do we want to continue to do that? It has been worth while to break it down to those levels. But then also, how much summary information do you want? There is a summary page on last years budget that was very cumbersome to complete. There are a lot of spread sheets those numbers would fill in but then there was a lot of manual input as well and matching of numbers. It comes down from your point of view as to how much information do you want, how much information is too much? We can gauge how we do that more appropriately in 2022.

Dennis Jordan: Tom any thoughts?

Thomas Gryp: I would probably say that because we put this together and you are talking to the Commission and then open to the public. I think we need to make sure that as we put things in there, we error on the side of explaining in a simple summary form, so the reader understands what we are looking at. I don't know about all the detail I think you do fine with the detail. It is the summary so that if a passive or causal person takes a look at this, they don't have to be digging through 100 pages and asking what is this document all about?

Tells us what you are going to tell us and tell us what you told us. I know that takes a little extra work but when you consider taxpayers money, and this is an open document everybody should have the right to see it. And understand what it is saying.

Chris Brown: Okay. I will come up with a summary form then that will show all of these and budget it down on a monthly expense. And then I'll continue with that monthly narrative to hit the highlights of where the money is coming from.

Jason Critchlow: How much time does that take to complete?

Chris Brown: At the beginning of the year it took quite awhile because of figuring out where all the budgets are. Towards the end I could do it in a morning it takes about three to four hours to really drill down to make sure the numbers are matching what the financial system is showing. Couple of different spreadsheets to track where the expenses are coming from and then utilizing that to fill in the summary sheet. The first time it took about two days to figure out where everything was going and knock it out in a morning now of concentrated work.

Jason Critchlow: It is all tracked this is just more of a double check you are referring to?

Chris Brown: We track the expenses and I pay all the invoices out and track those expenses. With the new ERP system I don't know what the reporting capabilities will be with that. That could help with some of the transparency and ease of getting numbers from the financial system into a document like this. We are not going live with that until April. As we get more and more into that ERP and tracking invoices and expenses there maybe opportunities for efficiencies there.

Jason Critchlow: Would anticipate that we would vote on this resolution next meeting?

Bill Schalliol: That would be the anticipation, yes. Between now and then have some smaller meetings to tweak and answer any questions anyone would have.

Jason Critchlow: Our portion for paying for the Comprehensive Plan where did that come out of? Did we pay it already or is it an ongoing expense?

Chris Brown: It is as invoices come in. Basically, what we have done is split the cost with the County Council the Lit Fund 1112. When I get the invoices in 50% comes from that 1112 account and 50% comes from one of the P.O.'s we set up at one of our Funds. I will split it up 50/50 and then knock down the P.O.'s as they come in.

Jason Critchlow: That is budgeted under New Carlisle?

Bill Schalliol: It is budgeted over three. Wyatt, New Carlisle and AM General.

Chris Brown: New Carlisle has the largest expense just because of the size of it. I will start with one P.O. and knock it down until I clean that one out and then start on the next one.

Thomas Gryp: Bill let me ask you, at a broad level. As you look at 2022 verses 2021 what would you say are the top three projects that we are going to be addressing as far as Redevelopment concerned?

Bill Schalliol: The top three will be the Solar Farm project north of the New Carlisle Economic Development area. Expansion in growth at the Electric Last Mile Solutions (ELMS) and other projects in the New Carlisle Enterprise Center area. The next meeting we will have the Chambers report that talks about lead response. We have seen four major projects come through since the first of the year. All four of those would be New Carlisle compatible. This will be the year we land one of those projects or a couple of those. So from a staffing standpoint those three. The sub pieces related to that whether it is utilities extension, right a way improvement items like that.

3. a. ii. Professional Service Agreements
  1. TAI Ginsberg

(Audio position: 0:06:26.0)

Bill Schalliol: Item 3, a, iv, is a professional service agreement with TAI Ginsberg. They provide grants, consulting, and advocacy. They have been with us for a couple of years, 2018. Serving to be our grant liaison and coordinator at the D.C. level and at the regional level as we work on grants. They are working with Elkhart Western Railroad on the grant we are doing for the CRISI Grant for a couple of crossing upgrades.

The proposal before you today, had been a standard monthly retainer payment. Now what we are looking to do is switch those into an hourly base with a not to exceed amount. The not to exceed amount rate of \$60,000. We ask for your approval of this contract. The amount of Federal money and other money floating around right now. The ability to have somebody that is involved at the Federal level with these grants. Especially at a transportation side is imperative for where we believe we need to be going for several projects. As for your approval of this contract.

Thomas Gryp: Why did we change the nature of the contract from retainer to hourly?

Bill Schalliol: Over the last couple of years we are trying to be more responsive as far as getting monthly reports for the work being done. We thought it was a better way to handle this and other contracts and base them on hourly work. Instead of paying a lump sum per month felt it was better based on the work produced.

Thomas Gryp: Based on the activity from 2021, if we would have had this done last year. Which method would have cost the County more?

Bill Schalliol: I think this would of costs us less. I believe there is a potential with the standard monthly rate would of cost us more.

**Upon a motion by Brian Pawlowski, being seconded by Jason Critchlow and unanimously carried, the TAI Ginsberg, Professional Agreement was approved by Redevelopment Commission.**

3. b. New Carlisle Economic Development Area (NCEDA)
  - ii. Professional Service Agreements
    1. Tri-County Appraisal Services

(Audio position: 0:09:04.4)

Bill Schalliol: Next the New Carlisle Economic Development Area (NCEDA). Last several years we have worked with Steve Hora and Tri-County Appraisals to provide us with real estate and other real estate services out in the New Carlisle area as well as other parts of the County. That contract too, is set up as a quarterly payment we are looking to switch that to an hourly rate. Instead of \$5,000 payments every quarter with a max of \$25,000 we are splitting that up with initial payment engagement fee of \$2,500 and an hourly rate of \$80.00. Based on the work this will be better tracked as far as how much work is being produced over the course of the year. To Mr. Gryp's previous question, this will be more in line and a better rate than just an open contract.

Thomas Gryp: My question on this one, do we even need a contract like this? Are we envisioning that much activity in the acquisition and the appraisal part for 2022 that we would need to engage?

Bill Schalliol: There is a lot of work that Steve and his group provide just on relations, farmer relations and some of the coordination with some of the option agreements. I'm sure Phil can attest to this; the service has been invaluable as we look to put together property out in the New Carlisle area.

Thomas Gryp: You envision that being equally needed for this coming year?

Bill Schalliol: Yes, I do.

Jason Critchlow: Bill without this, every time you would be looking at a property you would have to bring before us a contract to engage with real-estate agent?

Bill Schalliol: That is correct. One of things in particular that Steve will be doing for us immediately is going out and obtaining a farm lease rates for us. We have three different fields that in the past we have leased out. We have to have two appraisals and Steve coordinates all of that.

Jason Critchlow: Is this coming out of the New Carlisle budget?

Bill Schalliol: Yes, it is.

Jason Critchlow: Although, in the contract he could do this anywhere in the County?

Bill Schalliol: Yes. What we would do is use one of those other lines to cover that. Because it is hourly it makes it a little easier to track those payments out of other funds.

Chris Brown: Typically when I am paying those bills it is done for the work in that area. For example, Thorne Grodnik, LLP does a lot of our Redevelopment work across multiple areas. When I get invoices from them it separated so that anything in New Carlisle comes from that New Carlisle fund. Anything from AM General comes from AM General, etc. Steve's would be in the same vein even though I think we primarily use him out in the New Carlisle area.

Jason Critchlow: Bill, is this service just then just to speed up that process so we don't have to go contract by contract?

Bill Schalliol: It is. There are a lot of cases where we have some properties we may be interested in, and Steve would go out since he is an appraiser. To help us get an understanding of value, fits within our budget structure or not. There are a lot of pre-services he does for us.

**Upon a motion by Brian Pawlowski, being seconded by Jason Critchlow and unanimously carried, the New Carlisle Economic Development Area (NCEDA), Professional Agreement was approved by Redevelopment Commission.**

3. c. St. Joseph County Economic Development Area No. 3 (AM General EDA)
  - i. Project Updates
    1. Electric Last Mile Solutions (ELMS)

(Audio position: 0:28:22.3)

Bill Schalliol: Electric Last Mile Solutions (ELMS) is actively working in the former SF Motors, former AM General building. Recently received their approval to build on road vehicles which will start later this month. They made some modifications to the body of the existing vehicle from a low-speed vehicle to on speed production vehicle. A secondary vehicle which is the front end a box end of an urban utility vehicle. They can put a flat end or a box end on the back of it and customize it in a variety of different ways. That product line will cause an expansion of the building. In negotiations to buy the building across the street from the plant for warehousing of product such as batteries and other parts.

Thomas Gryp: In that regard what would our roll be in that expansion? What are you envisioning?

Bill Schalliol: We own the land that they probably need to build on. Need to convert that lease to land sale which would be good for the Commission we would get out of the land ownership at that site. Maybe some other utility extensions that we may need to partner with them.

3. d. Wyatt Economic Development Area No. 1 (Wyatt EDA)
3. e. Northwest Cleveland Road Economic Development Area (NWCR EDA)
4. Additional Business
  - a. 2022 Redevelopment Commission Meeting Calendar - Revised (for approval)

(Audio position: 0:13:11.1)

Bill Schalliol: As we look at the calendar for 2022, we approved it at our last meeting. We did not realize that our November 08, 2022, meeting falls on Election Day. We asked that we move it to Wednesday, November 09, 2022, to match all the other day's that the public meetings have been moved to. Ask for approval for a revised calendar.

**Upon a motion by Dennis Jordan, being seconded by Jason Critchlow and unanimously carried, for a revised 2022 meeting calendar was approved by Redevelopment Commission.**

4. b. Professional Service Contract Discussion (for discussion only)

(Audio position: 0:30:11.5)

Bill Schalliol: In the packet there are two of the years of the contract logs we talked about at the last meeting. Trying to understand what some of the contracts are that we have had the past couple of years and the dollar amount associated with them. Two more years to get out to you by the end of the week and send it out in an excel spreadsheet format. Group the types can be group for example all the Engineering services can be grouped, and Real Estate services can be grouped. As you look at the numbers for the contact values over the last four or five years you can see how they breakout. A further conversation can take place about contract and dollar values and the spreadsheet will provide that breakdown for you.

Thomas Gryp: When I saw this and it was very helpful. But then I was looking at the last two professional service agreements, are they including?

Bill Schalliol: Yes, they are.

Thomas Gryp: The two we renewed today, are they on here somewhere? We have worked with them in the past maybe I just didn't see them in here.

Bill Schalliol: If you look at the 2021 list, TIA Ginsberg was approved in 2020 for 2021. If you go to the 2020 log it would have been number 24. The Real Estate Services for Tri-County Appraisal Services would have been number 29. We actually approved those in 2020 for 2021.

Thomas Gryp: Thank you. I was just looking in 2021.

Tyler Gillean: In the contract log, I am looking at some of these figures which are like \$638,000. Is there a way a breakdown can be sent (don't want to cause anymore work for you Chris) for example the Strawberry Inwood Culvert Project? Could a highlight of some of the larger line items be broken down so we can look at it?

Chris Brown: I can look at getting that, yes.

Jason Critchlow: Tyler, at our last meeting a question came up should we be adopting a policy on bidding on contracts. And if we were to do that, what would the dollar amount be? Part of this exercise was to see because it can be burdensome, right? To the staff, how long that takes, the process. Part of what they put together here was so that we can see if you were going to pick a dollar amount how many of those projects would fall under that amount. Right now we do not have a policy in place for certain amounts.

Tyler Gillean: Because of the workload that would be?

Jason Critchlow: Sort of like a give and take on being responsible, but not being efficient.

Phil Garrett: The idea is that under Indiana law for professional services which is general what these are. No requirement to have a policy but to help keep track of taxpayer's money the idea is to create our own policy. The issue becomes where do you want to cap that at or where do you want to begin bidding requirements.

Dennis Jordan: It also has to consider if someone would like to develop a certain parcel that is under our domain you have to be able to be fairly prompt in responding. There are a few things we can't do quickly. We will use Cender & Company over and over because Steve is here. They have the depth of knowledge but how do you meld that into the process?

Jason Critchlow: Even just glancing at this, my thoughts were. If we would pick \$50,000 as our limit, the vast majority of these are under \$50,000. Would that be appropriate or a burden?

Tyler Gillean: Thank you, first day questions.

Thomas Gryp: When I was looking at this, I was thinking the same thing. I am not talking about the average I am talking about the median. Do you guys to an exercise of that, where is the median of these different contracts where half is above, and half is below. Because it is not in an excel, I can't do that on my own. I think this is a good beginning.

Bill Schalliol: Tom, what we will do we will include a tab that will include all the real estate ones, the legal and so on. By narrowing the type size that allows us to do that exercise a little bit better.

5. Public Comment (3-minute limit)

(Audio position: 0:35:47.8)

Dan Caruso, 305 Compton Street, New Carlisle, IN: I heard a lot of talk of the big push to start the New Carlisle Economic Development areas. I heard especially on the Solar project, project Honeysuckle not sure if it is still called that or not. Seeing how there will be temporary jobs to put this in place about a year's worth. I would say

we should follow the lead of Jefferson Township in Cassopolis who tabled their solar discussions because there is too much uncertainty not much put in writing. And there is no comprehensive plan to say what is permissible, what kind of screening they are going to use.

The people that are running project Honeysuckle said there is only going to be one to three full time jobs once this is in place. All along, one of the goals of the development of bringing people in was to bring jobs in. There is going to be more than one to three agricultural jobs lost right up front and further downstream. From taking 1,900 acres of fertile farmland on that north side of New Carlisle which was just talked about here this morning. And putting solar panels on it. There is no comprehensive plan right now to say, what Mr. Schalliol said, that New Carlisle is a big focus this year. Going to get some major moves in there this year. How do we know we are going to get anything in there this year? We don't know what the new comprehensive plan is yet. There is a meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January to discuss the makeup of the new comprehensive plan but some how we know there is going to be a major move in New Carlisle. But the one thing we do know is that solar is not an answer to jobs. If you want to eliminate jobs sure because solar people admit themselves it is only one to three permanent jobs to maintain a 1,900 acres site of solar panels. Which I don't want to look out my back window and see a bunch of stuff reflecting back at me.

I know a lot of you over here it is not in your backyard. You need to talk to us, there needs to be conditions, screening this needs to be talked out thoroughly. Instead of coming in here this morning and hearing there is a major move in New Carlisle this year that is our big, main focus and what we are looking at. We have heard nothing, talk to us and I don't mean talk to our Town Council behind closed doors. They tell us we met but we can't tell you what we talked about. It is time to get it out in the open and include us in the conversation.

Debra Durall, 21677 Auten Road, South Bend, IN 46628: I came to the last meeting and spoke, and I noticed that my comments were not included in the minutes. I am just a little concerned about why the public comments are not included fully.

Jason Critchlow: Debra, we talked about that in the beginning of the meeting, and they are going to standardize the process so that is done the same way in all other Councils, and it will include topics as such. What I didn't offer before is if you want to email me or Bill the statement that you read at our December meeting. We can amend the meeting minutes. I make that motion now if you send that to us.

Debra Durall: Okay. I will send it to you through email then.

Jason Critchlow: Is it too late to make a motion to amend the December meeting minutes to include Debra Durall's statement under the public comment portion? Or since we passed that is it not possible?

Phil Garrett: I think you can make a motion to amend the December meeting minutes. Subject to her providing the comments to supplement.

Dennis Jordan: No other public comment.

Tyler Gillean: I do have a question regarding the solar farm project out in New Carlisle. Do we know how much electricity this is supposed to generate?

Chris Brown: It is a 150 megawatt.

**Upon a motion by Jason Critchlow, being second by Dennis Jordan motion carries 4-0 to amend the December 14, 2021, Redevelopment Commission meeting minutes to include Debra Durall's comments subject to her providing the comments.**

6. Adjournment

**Upon a motion by Jason Critchlow, being second by Tyler Gillean motion carries 4-0, for adjournment 9:45 a.m.**

Next Meeting Date: February 8, 2022, at 9:00 am

The Title VI Coordinator has made available at this meeting/hearing a voluntary Public Involvement Survey to collect demographic data to monitor and demonstrate St. Joseph County's compliance with its non-discrimination obligations under Title VI and Federal Regulation 23CFR 200.9(b)(4), and more importantly, ensure that affected communities and interested persons are provided equal access to public involvement. Compliance is voluntary. However, in order to demonstrate compliance with the federal regulation, the information requested must be documented when provided. It will not be used for any other purpose, except to show that those who are affected or have an interest in proceedings, or the proposed project have been given an opportunity to provide input throughout the process.