



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL

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TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo
RE: Administrative Report
DATE: February 24, 2014

Meetings:

There will be a meeting in Council Chambers of the Planning Board at 7pm on Tuesday, February 25, 2014.

On Wednesday, February 26th there will be a meeting of the Historic District Subcommittee at 5:30pm in Conference Room A.

The REX Committee will meet at 5pm on Thursday, February 27, 2014 in Conference Room A.

There will be an Informational Meeting of the City Council on Thursday, February 27th beginning at 6:30pm in Council Chambers. Following the Informational Meeting a Special Business Meeting will take place for the sole purpose of discussing labor negotiations. Agendas are included in council packets.

Other Items:

The first item on Thursday's informational meeting agenda is a presentation from the Friends of Lithgow Library regarding the proposed restoration and expansion of the library. Late last week, the City received the revised cost estimates from our architect, Stu Roberts. Mayor Stokes, Ralph St. Pierre and I joined fund-raising Chair Wick Johnson and Librarian Betsy Pohl and Mr. Roberts to review that information. A copy of the report is enclosed as is a copy of a request from the Friends to meet with you this Thursday and a copy of a press release that the friends will be issuing. The updated cost information is an increase from the estimated project cost from six years ago and the Friends recognize that. They assure the Mayor and me that they remain committed to their fund-raising efforts so as to offset as much of the new estimated cost as possible. I have asked Ralph to work with me on analyzing the potential fiscal impacts of this project and the various options that Council might have as it deliberates on how best to proceed. I suggest a follow-up conversation on that within the next few weeks but I'm reluctant to rush that for Thursday. (It's clear that doing nothing as it relates to the condition of our library is not an option so I will be putting great care into crafting financing recommendations that address this matter.)

C: Department and Bureau Directors
 Augusta Legislative Delegation