



City of Choctaw, Oklahoma
Leadership Meeting
Goal Setting & Strategic Planning Session
October 1, 2019



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City of Choctaw Vision
*“Living in a Great City is not just a Right, it’s a
Responsibility”*

Introduction

City Council Members and the Mayor held a Leadership Meeting conducted by Eastern Oklahoma County Tech Center on October 1, 2019. In attendance and participating at this meeting were Mayor Randy Ross, Council Members, Chad Williams, Mike Birdsong, Roger Malone, Steve Krieske, Dale Gill, City Manager Ed Brown and City Attorney Ray Vincent.

The Leadership Meeting: Goal Setting and Strategic Planning Session assisted Council in identifying priorities and direction and establishing guidance to Staff in the accomplishment of those priorities. The process is beneficial in achieving Council effectiveness by assisting policy leaders in developing future focus, identifying issues and opportunities facing the community, setting strategic directions and determining priorities.

Values

The following were identified as values that help guide City Services, Policies, Finances and Operations:

- Quality of our Community and our Neighborhoods
 - Clean Air
 - Clean Water
 - Amenities offered that enhance the lifestyles and sense of well-being for Choctaw residents
- Safety in the Community
 - Adequate Public Safety
 - Secure and safe schools
- Creating a positive opportunity for progress in Choctaw
 - Thriving Educational Systems
 - Housing for graduates entering the work force and young families
 - Opportunity for growth and career advancement within Choctaw
- Maintaining a hometown feel
 - Pride in the community
- Good government stewardship
 - Financial stability
 - Transparency
- Effective group cooperation within the City Council and within the City of Choctaw as a whole
- Shared Vision

Goals, Trends and Opportunities

The following were identified as goals, trends and opportunities that may affect future City Services, Policies, Finances or Operations:

- Quality of Services
 - Completion of identified projects
 - Citizen involvement as a key to successful Quality of Services
 - Cohesion of Council on significant projects and directives
- Zoning
 - Review of lot size requirements within the City and within specified zones
 - Review of Subdivision regulations and restrictions
 - Identify a shared vision on future development based on the Comprehensive Master Plan
 - Potential for Sidewalks in Choctaw
 - Review drainage concerns and propose a future plan for possible resolution
 - Shared goals of the City Council and the Planning Commission
- Funding
 - Provide for prudent use of the budget
 - Possible referendum to fund priority road projects

Priority Projects, Programs, Policies and Initiatives

City Manager, Ed Brown, reviewed potential projects, programs, policies and initiatives for consideration:

- Roads
 - Mayor's Road Committee (MRC) was created to review and recommend options for road repairs and long term maintenance of the City's infrastructure
 - The MRC-Roads Subcommittee has identified and selected roads for repair and/or reconstruction
 - MRC-Finance Subcommittee has identified viable funding options including two referendums slated to be on a February 11, 2020 ballot: Authorization of \$13 million in General Obligation Bonds and a Permanent $\frac{3}{4}$ cent Sales Tax increase
 - MRC-Marketing Subcommittee has begun meeting to discuss marketing and education on the referendum options
- Density
 - Discussion density in the Commercial Business District
- Utilities
 - Consideration of impact fees with new construction
- Downtown Building Plan
 - Further explore Private-Public partnerships for the Downtown Building Plan

Organizational Effectiveness

The Mayor and City Council reviewed a variety of ideas relating to organizational effectiveness and ways to accomplish the selected goals and priorities. After review and discussion, the Mayor and City Council selected the following steps to improve organizational effectiveness:

- Continue to improve community unification
- Objectively listen, evaluate and respect the views of other council members and the community
- Promote the shared vision of the City
- Promote professional communication with the community

Final Comments

It is important to note that the prioritization of projects and initiatives is not “cast in stone.” They can be modified as new circumstances may occur.

It is recommended that this report be reviewed with the City Council and Mayor on a quarterly basis. The Council will conduct another session in January 2020.