

Mayor's Statement on Nov. 21 Planning Comm. Hearing

I am aware that the City of Holladay Council Chambers was not able to support the number of residents that showed up for the Planning Commission Public Hearing last night. Though we did all we could to expand the facility, we obviously underestimated, and for that I apologize. Approximately 400+ residents came to City Hall for this event. For comparison, the highest attended Planning Commission public hearing on record in the City for prior issues only had about 100 people turnout. As was stated by Community Development Director Paul Allred, we will make every effort to secure a larger venue for the follow on hearing on December 13th.

I have been accused by some residents of being conspicuously absent at the hearing. We have a process we follow in our City regarding these applications. The Planning Commission has specific responsibilities, and having the City Council show up at the hearings may be viewed as inappropriate. For this reason our Legal Counsel has advised us not to attend, to let the Planning Commission complete their review of the application and at the appropriate time forward their recommendation to the City Council. We can then proceed, objectively, to fulfill our responsibilities as the legislative body of the city.

Finally, I did listen to much of the proceedings via the Internet. I thought for the most part, as is expected, that our residents were thoughtful, respectful and dignified as they addressed The Commission. I have every confidence that it will continue to be so as the application makes its way through the public process.

Mayor Robert M. Dahle