

Meeting Notes from MAG teleconference January 6, 2005

Mayor Steve Thompson stated that he thought it was a good idea for the group to continue to meet telephonically on a regular basis in order to keep apprised of ongoing events, most notably the status of negotiations between the state and the two applicants.

Steve Porter stated that negotiations were continuing; he thought the chances were 50/50 that a contract comes before the legislature during the regular session. Steve said that it was more important to be careful and thoughtful during negotiations than to hurry the process in order to meet a session deadline. There is always the possibility of a special session if circumstances warrant it.

Lori Backus asked if the state was going to respond to Mayor Whitaker's 2004 letter requesting the economic justification for a changed tax structure. Steve Porter responded that he was hoping to place a significant amount of information on the state's website that would provide that answer, once the contract became public (when it was transmitted to the legislature).

Steve also stated that the 30 day time frame for legislative and public review of a contract was not cast in stone and that it was possible to extend that.

The MAG group agreed that it was important to keep meeting on a monthly basis. Steve Porter said that if something significant happened during the month between teleconferences he would not hesitate to contact the MAG group. He also let the group know he extended the Information Insights contract to take this into account.

Steve Thompson suggested, and the other participants concurred, that the next teleconference would be held Thursday, February 3rd at 2:00PM. The number for call-in is Information Insights bridge (474-info).