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65 jobs coming to Duncan with DR2



CHARLENE BELEW/THE DUNCAN BANNER

DAEDF President Lyle Roggow presents council members with plans for DR2 during Tuesday night's council meeting. The proposition passed with a 4-1 vote.

BY CHARLENE BELEW
THE DUNCAN BANNER

A 4-1 vote from city council members led to the approval of committing sales tax dollars for the completion of a spec building which Duncan Recycling and Refining (DR2) will move into upon completion.

President for the Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation Lyle Roggow said as a result of DR2 locating to Duncan, the city will experience an increase of 65 jobs, roughly \$50,000 in payroll which is a little over \$3 million in new payroll to the community.

"With benefits included, it will be more like \$4.4 million," Roggow said, noting DR2's total investment with machinery and other items would be in excess of \$8 million.

The project, which was approved by DAEDF's board of directors on June 17 before Roggow submitted the pro-

posal to City Manager Jim Frieda, asked for \$3,968,220 from sales tax dollars.

Roggow said six contractors requested plans on the project which originated in 2012. Three of those contractors attended the pre-bidders' meeting and finally, DAEDF received two bids.

The first was from Jan-L Construction for \$3.6 million and 240 days to completion. The other, which was awarded the bid, was from WW Builders for a grand total of \$3,420,879.54 with 180 days to completion on the project.

DR2, once operational, will use their new building for specialized equipment to split catalytic converters open with a decanner, remove a ceramic looking product, mill it, smelt it and separate platinum group metals from the ceramic product.

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Because Roggow has been approached by community members asking for a variance in businesses around the area, he's pleased to announce that while this business does deal with energy, it isn't gas or oil related.

"This is a diversified situation for our community," he said. "It's a green type thing because you're recycling a

product, which is very, very nice. That's really what they're after is the platinum in this situation."

According to Roggow, DAEDF built a 28-foot tall shell building about a year ago, but didn't complete the project. Instead, the shell was designed to accommodate whatever potential business would soon make a home there. DR2, which will soon find its home in Duncan, approved the situation and mailed in a letter of intent in October 2014.

"The facility - when we're

done - will be the only one under one roof in the United States," Roggow said. "This is not just a warehouse. This is a pretty sophisticated type building."

In the front of the building will be 2,500 square-feet worth of front offices, showers and locker rooms and the facility will come complete with a security fence, a cooling tower, a backup generator, a concrete parking lot, loading docks and a specialized fire suppression system which emits not only water, but a gel component

because of a specialized piece of machinery that runs off of electricity and costs about \$1 million. Because water can damage the electrical machinery, gel was the other option.

"The piece of equipment that does the processing is coming from the UK," Roggow said. "It'll be here Dec. 1 is what I've been told, so that's kind of my drop dead date that I have to have the building complete enough where they can start to wire up the system."

That's just the first piece of

electrical machinery that will be included in the building. The second will arrive to the business about 18 months later when the business is well already.

Roggow said approximately \$342,087.69 is for contingencies and DAEDF will submit invoices to be paid and will return any funds not spend on this project.

Roggow expects the project to be 95 percent complete by Jan. 1, 2016, assuming permits are obtained in a timely manner.