



Public Works Commission

REGULAR MEETING
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Thursday, March 1, 2001, 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street

MINUTES

Roll Call: 7:03 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Piercy, Perry, Gartner, St. John, Alward, Broderick, Holland, Shumer

Absent: None

Staff Present: Jeff Egeberg (Secretary), Rene Cardinaux, Lorin Jensen

Comments from the Public:

Tom Kelly spoke on the subject of Marine Pollution, and left the attached handout. He indicated that he has joined forces with Five Creeks in the campaign to reduce pollution in the creeks.

Richard Thomasson spoke on the subject of a joint meeting with the Transportation Commission and various topics for such a meeting.

Announcements:

Commissioner training is next Tuesday, 3/6/01 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The Special Meeting on Rule 20A Undergrounding on 2/28/01 was cancelled due to the uncertainty of the cost data.

Presentation:

Preliminary Ideas on Ridge-to-Bay Trail by Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks.

Actions and Discussion: *All actions are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.*

Approval of Minutes: Item A2: Wording should be changed from "Support" to "Recommend to Council that the Commission found no significant objections" to the project. Minutes approved with this change MSC (Alward/Perry)

Action Items:1. Special Meeting with Transportation Commission

It was decided to propose to the Transportation Commission that the joint meeting should be in a workshop format, have a neutral facilitator and fit within a 3-hour evening time frame. It was MSC (Gartner/Shumer) to have the joint meeting. The two Commission chairpersons will meet to put together the agenda and other arrangements. Rene Cardinaux noted that his budget proposal for a new 4-man maintenance crew with enhanced paving capabilities would give priority to bicycle needs, in lieu of obligating funds reserved for capital improvements.

2. Adoption of Recommended PWC Subcommittee Restructuring

It was MSC (Broderick/St. John) that this be deferred until the next Commission retreat, to be done with a facilitator.

3. Citywide Environmental Policy Statement

The following concerns were identified: (1) cost, (2) empowering every employee, (3) higher priority than other issues, (4) already doing this, (5) the proposal seems vacuous. However, the recommendation was endorsed: MSC (Shumer/Perry)

Information Items:1. Time-Certain Council Presentation on Sanitary Sewer Fund/Program

A handout was provided by Commissioner Perry on issues pertaining to the private portion of the sewer system.

2. Departmental Budget Submittal for 2001-2002

Rene Cardinaux described the Department's budget proposal as not much different from previous years. Highlights are: An increase of \$4M (\$1.2M of which is to absorb the Capital Project Unit) 18 new positions (mostly operations); Improvements to the Transfer Station; a streets engineer and/or analyst in Engineering; four (4) project positions for Paving Maintenance; a Yardmaster; reinstatement of the facility superintendent. He noted that the possible Transportation/Traffic consolidation is not in the budget request, but is being discussed, with the City Manager.

3. Status of Rule 20B Undergrounding Program

To develop more reliable estimates of probable costs, information is expected in the near future from two Rule 20B Districts underway in Piedmont and Tiburon.

Subcommittee Reports:**Items for Future Agenda:**

1. Record Retention
2. Agenda Formation

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.