



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, September 5, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

Roll Call: 7:05 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Campbell, Holland, Perry, Piercy, St. John

Absent: Commissioners Broderick, Shumer

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointee

Comments from the Public: None.

Announcements:

Commissioner Broderick recently underwent surgery which was successful.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of July 11, 2002 were approved as submitted (MSC Alward/Perry).

Presentation:

Staff Presentation on Rail Stop and Transit Plaza Project: Iris Starr, staff to the Redevelopment Agency's Project Area Committee (PAC), presented a description and drawings of the upgrade to the present Rail Stop location at Third Street under the University Avenue Overpass. The facility is currently functioning, but is in very poor condition. The budget is approximately \$1,600,000, of which \$1,000,000 is a state grant and the remainder is being funded by the Redevelopment Agency. The project consists of new pavement, ramps,

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lighting, seating and train access facilities. One of the major challenges has been to contend with the establishment of the “Shellmound” cultural site. A reasonable negotiation has finally been reached with the archeologist to allow excavation no more than two feet in depth. There also is the eventual possibility of acquiring the former train station building, but this is not included in the present project.

Action Items:

1. **Possible adoption of statement of support for Rail Stop and Transit Plaza Project:**
Commissioners made several suggestions regarding details of the preliminary design, which staff agreed to consider at the appropriate time. A motion was passed (MSC Campbell/Alward) to transmit a statement of support, referring to those suggestions, to the PAC.
2. **Review of staff comments and possible adoption of final report on “Sanitary Sewer Program Study”:** The staff comments will be distributed to all Commissioners, along with the proposed Commission responses and revisions to the Study. The Ad Hoc Sewer Program Subcommittee will consider input from all Commissioners and prepare a final report for submission to the next meeting of the full Commission in October.

Information Items:

1. **Report on Eastshore Park Briefing on August 21, 2002:** Commissioner Perry provided a report on attending this briefing and distributed the official City response to comments on the EIR describing the issues. A key issue for Public Works is the possibility of treating stormwater on the marshland, but this was not on the agenda of this session.
2. **Report on status of ferry service planning activities:** Commissioner Perry provided a brief summary of the regional campaign to significantly expand ferry service on San Francisco Bay in the next 20 years.
3. **Staff report on transfer of traffic maintenance functions to Office of Transportation:**
The City Manager has recently proposed to make a total of five organization changes within the City, which include consolidating parking collection and maintenance within the Office of Transportation (which would involve the transfer of four positions from Public Works), and transferring traffic striping and sign maintenance (which would involve the transfer of six positions from Public Works). Director Cardinaux indicated that the changes were still being evaluated. Commissioners recognized that there would be some loss of flexibility/backup in shifting staffing to other duties depending on weather and emergency conditions. However, since these changes are still under consideration, it was decided that it is premature to take any action at this time.

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Subcommittee Reports:

1. **Right of Way:** The subcommittee continues to develop its work program.
2. **Facilities and Equipment:** There was no meeting in August. There will be a demonstration of cargo bicycles on September 25 at 10:00A.M. at the Corporation Yard.
3. **Utilities:** A meeting is being arranged with PG&E on Rule 20A. The process for the first Rule 20B district in the Kentucky Avenue vicinity has been initiated by the residents by submitting a petition and payment for preliminary engineering. The subcommittee has also started working with staff on a public information brochure on private sewer lateral rehabilitation.
4. **Ad Hoc: Storm Drainage and Street Sweeping:** The first meeting of this new subcommittee is scheduled for September 19, 2002.

Items for Future Agenda

Adjournment: 9:00 p.m.