



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, October 3, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

Roll Call: 7:04 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner Campbell

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointee

Comments from the Public: None.

Announcements:

1. With respect to an item later on the agenda for this meeting, the secretary read a recent opinion from the City Attorney regarding Commission actions and activities toward ballot measures once they are placed on the ballot. The Commission requested that the secretary obtain clarification regarding an apparent miswording (possibly an inadvertent "double negative") and whether the rules apply to the City Council.
2. The chair welcomed back Commissioner Broderick.
3. The chair announced that he will be absent during March 2003 and proposed, with no objections heard, that Commission elections be held in February 2003.

Approval of Minutes:

Corrections of the minutes of September 5, 2002 were as follows:

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

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Information Item #1: The report was made by Commissioner Perry, not St. John. Also, change “a summary document” to “the official City response to comments on the EIR.”

Information Item #3: In the last sentence, delete “and since the Commission is already on record opposing any transfers to the Office of Transportation.”

The minutes were approved as amended (MSC Perry/Shumer).

Action Items:

- 1. Consideration of final report on “Sanitary Sewer Program Study:”** Discussion took place pertaining to the wording of certain conclusions and recommendations. It was moved (MSC Alward/Shumer) to send the report back to the Subcommittee for final editing and be place on the agenda for adoption at the November 7, 2002 meeting of the Commission.
- 2. Possible further action regarding Pedestrian Safety:** Transportation Commissioner Alfsen presented a handout describing a recent motion by the Transportation Commission to request that Council fully fund the recommendations contained in the “BAPS” report. It was moved (MSC Shumer/St. John) to transmit an endorsement of the motion by the Transportation Commission to the Council.

A separate motion (MSC St. John/Alward) was made to remove the wording “upcoming ballot measure on” from the title of this action item.

The secretary brought to the Commission’s attention that delays had been encountered in transmitting certain recent Commission items to the Council. The Commission noted that the Commissioner’s Manual states that their reports are to be sent by the secretary directly to the City Clerk and should be immediately placed on the next available Council agenda. The secretary was requested to confirm this with the City Manager’s office and report back at the next meeting. The secretary also indicated that when items are referred to more than one commission, there can be further confusion. It was noted in the Commissioner’s Manual that a definite procedure is quoted to designate a lead commission, who obtains the recommendations from other commissions and then consolidates into one report to the Council. The secretary was also asked to confirm present practice and report back.

The secretary was requested to place a regular item on future Commission agendas to indicate the status of past Commission actions (date passed, date submitted, Council agenda date, and effect of other commissions’ actions).

Information Items:

- 1. Review “Release of Dioxins and Other Materials into San Francisco Bay” Council**

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item. Item was assigned to Planning, Toxics Division for follow-up by January 23, 2003: Discussion revolved around uncertainty of whether there is a role for the Public Works Commission. Commissioner Alward was requested to contact the chair of “CEAC” and inquire as to how this commission can contribute, and report back at the next meeting.

2. **Captioning of City Council Meetings and Posting of Council Agenda Reports on the Web:** The item contained in the packet was so noted by the Commission.

Subcommittee Reports:

1. **Right of Way:** At the last meeting the subcommittee learned of the right-of-way status and the level of improvement of Second Street. Staff also presented the situation surrounding the abandonment of an alley near the north City limits between Ninth and Tenth Streets.
2. **Facilities and Equipment:** The subcommittee has continued to work on setting priorities. Development of building maintenance costs by facility and department is also continuing. Discussion of alternative power generation for the Corporation Yard and of 100% biodiesel fleet fuel was also discussed. A demonstration of cargo bicycles also took place last month.
3. **Utilities:** A meeting was held with PG&E to explore ways in which joint planning may offer opportunities to stretch the City’s Rule 20A Undergrounding dollars. Also, a brochure for public education on upper sewer laterals is almost ready to publish.
4. **Ad Hoc: Storm Drainage and Street Sweeping:** The subcommittee reviewed GIS mapping which documented the location of parking tickets for street sweeping, for analytical purposes. The subcommittee continues to evaluate recommendations on the street sweeping program.

Items for Future Agenda

Adjournment: 9:28 p.m.