



Public Works Commission

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

**Roll Call:** 7:04 p.m.

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

**Absent:** None

**Vacant:** Councilmember Shirek's appointee

**Comments from the Public:** None

**Announcements:**

- 1. Workshops on extension of Bay Trail/bicycle overcrossing:** It was noted that the dates and times of the upcoming workshop have not yet been announced.
- 2. Conference session on trenchless sewer lateral methods:** There will be a "Trade Show" on November 14, 2002 in San Francisco on the latest applications of trenchless pipe rehabilitation for private laterals/small diameter pipe.

**Approval of Minutes:** Corrections were noted as follows:

Action Item 1: Change "Adoption of Final Report..." to "Consideration of Final Report..."

Subcommittee Reports: 3. Utilities: change "...on consideration of reducing Undergrounding costs." to "...to explore ways in which joint planning may offer opportunities to stretch the

**ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST**

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING

November 7, 2002

City's Rule 20A Undergrounding dollars.”

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

**Presentation:** Staff presentation on completion of GASB 34 report

Bob Hicks of the Finance Department described the background and description of the new GASB rulemaking. He discussed different financial reporting methods, and then described how the infrastructure asset evaluation was performed. He then answered questions from a number of the Commissioners. He agreed to put the Public Works Commission on the mailing list for the City's Financial Statements.

**Information Items:**

**1. Results of communications with the Community Environmental Advisory Commission regarding “Release of Dioxins and Other Materials into San Francisco Bay” Council item.** The Chair of “CEAC” is to be contacted to request the specific reasons it was referred to the Public Works Commission and to point out that there are no practical means of measuring such quantities.

**2. Secretary's report on rules and guidelines for formatting and submittal of reports and recommendations to the City Council.** A session was held by the City Manager for all commission secretaries on October 31, 2002. The new format for Council reports, both by staff and by commissions, was presented. It was pointed out that, although the format may be very appropriate for staff reports, it may not necessarily always be appropriate for commission items. The Public Works Commission indicated that it should probably consider this new format when passing motions to report to the Council in the future. Submittal procedures have not been changed wherein commission reports are submitted directly to the City Clerk from the secretary. However, the secretary must also prepare a companion City Manager report, which must be processed through channels for staff reports, which has on occasion caused delays in commission submittals to Council. Further, the Public Works Commission would like the opportunity to see the City Manager's statements prior to the Council meeting. Also, there have been complications when reports on the same subject are coming from several commissions. The Commission requested that this be placed as an Action Item at its next meeting and that the Secretary prepare an appropriate recommendation.

**3. Status of past Commission reports/recommendations to Council.** The status report contained in the agenda packet was so noted.

**Action Items:**

**1. Discussion and possible action regarding role and staffing of subcommittees.** Commissioner Shumer indicated that the Facilities & Equipment Subcommittee has had little

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING

November 7, 2002

success coming up with significant Public Works projects or issues for Commission involvement. She is uncertain about how much effort she can request of staff to respond to subcommittee inquiries. If items of interest cannot be found in the purview of this subcommittee, she may recommend this it be disbanded. Others suggested that a new alternative would be to redistribute the business of the other subcommittees.

**2. Discussion and possible action regarding use of “blended” cements on City projects.** A proposal for increased usage of “blended” cements (pozzolan materials in lieu of virgin lime) was presented by Susan Ode, Chair, Energy Commission. The Public Works Commission suggested two changes: (1) add boldface language: “...technically **and practically** appropriate... and (2) replace “...roads and sidewalks...” with “...and other construction...” at various locations in the document. It was moved (MSC Holland/Shumer) to send a memorandum of support to the Energy Commission of its report to the Council.

**3. Adoption of Sanitary Sewer Program Study:** The final draft of this report was adopted (MSC St. John/Alward) with the proviso that the subcommittee make final grammatical/typographical changes as appropriate.

**Subcommittee Reports:** There were no subcommittee reports other than noted above under other agenda items.

**Adjournment:** 10:04 p.m.