



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

Roll Call: 7:08 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Broderick, Campbell, Dacey, Piercy, Shumer,
St. John

Absent: Commissioner Holland

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointee

Comments from the Public: None.

Announcements:

1. Commissioner Shumer noted items of interest on the agenda for the upcoming Council meeting.
2. The Commission's report on the sanitary sewer study is tentatively scheduled for the February 25, 2003 Council meeting.
3. The newly appointed Commissioner, Patricia Dacey, was welcomed to the Commission.
4. A farewell dinner for outgoing Commissioner, Linda Perry, is tentatively scheduled for either February 19 or February 24, 2003. Commissioners are requested to inform the Chair of their availability for either date.

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

To request meeting materials in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, real-time captioning or other accommodation for the meeting, call 981-6406 (voice) or 981-6903 (TDD) as soon as possible. Providing at least five (working) days' notice will help to ensure availability at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2003

Corrections were noted as follows: under Action Items, item (2) should be changed from “and the uphill end” to “at the uphill end” and in item (3) delete the words “the relationship of.” The amended minutes were thus approved (MSC St. John/Alward).

Action Items:

- 1. Discussion and possible action on CEAC recommendation on Dioxins:** The Commission adopted a motion (MSC Shumer/Dacey) to instruct the secretary to send a memorandum to the Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC) with the following statement: “The Public Works Commission does not have sufficient information to take timely action on the recommendations which, moreover, is on an issue which does not have as high a priority as other infrastructure issues. Therefore, we forward no recommendation.”
- 2. Recommendation to Council regarding construction of curb ramps completely within crosswalks:** The Commission approved the draft report as written (MSC Campbell/Alward), with the recommendation that the following alternatives also be considered when possible: (1) “Scramble intersections” (an all-walk phase) and (2) moving crosswalk lines, when feasible, to result in ramps being entirely within them.
- 3. Recommendation regarding possible revisions to Residential Street Sweeping Program:** This item will be carried over to the next meeting since the Ad Hoc Subcommittee does not yet have a report.
- 4. Discussion and possible action regarding new council report format and procedures:** The draft memorandum to the City Manager was approved (MSC St. John/Shumer) with the addition of two sentences under “Consent, Information and Action Items from Individual Commissions” (and minor other editing):
1st paragraph: “We assume this information, including the cost of future maintenance, is best provided by City staff.”
3rd paragraph: “We applaud the decision by the City Council to exclude commissions from having their items reviewed by the Rules Committee.”

Information Items:

- 1. Staff information regarding storm water reduction, treatment, and associated fees:** Lorin Jensen of the engineering staff will present an overview of the Clean Stormwater Program over the next three or so Commission meetings. Tonight he presented a history of the program and regulatory requirements, following an outline which was handed out to all Commissioners.

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2. Summary of the Public Works Department’s 2004-2005 budget submittal to the City Manager: Rene Cardinaux described the highlights of the Public Works Department’s budget request, as contained in the Commission packet. He described the justifications for each of the proposed budget reductions, as requested by the City Manager as part of reductions needed in the overall City budget. Regarding street sweeping, Commissioner Shumer pointed out that the Ad Hoc subcommittee has not finished its work yet and may have further recommendations by the next meeting.

Action Items concerning Commission Organization:

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Carlene St. John was nominated for Chair by Commissioner Shumer, and the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Alward. Commissioner St. John was unanimously elected as Chair. Sara Shumer was nominated for Vice Chair by Commissioner Alward, and the nomination was seconded by Commissioner St. John. John Piercy was nominated by Commissioner Broderick, but Commissioner Piercy declined. Commissioner Shumer was unanimously elected to Vice Chair.

2. Possible restructuring of the Commission’s subcommittees: The proposal contained in the packet was adopted as Commission policy (MSC Shumer/ Broderick). The Chair will proceed to talk to each Commissioner individually Regarding subcommittee assignments, which will be presented for approval at next month’s Commission meeting.

Subcommittee Reports:

There will be no subcommittee meetings this month pending the conclusion of the restructuring, except that the Ad Hoc Storm Drainage and Street Sweeping subcommittee will meet on February 20, 2003 at 10:00 in the Engineering conference room.

Items for Future Agenda:

1. Communication vehicle(s) for PWD projects underway (Action Item)
2. Commission Retreat
3. Commission Work Plan
4. Commission Binder

Adjournment: 9:25 p.m.