



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, April 3, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

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

Absent: None

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointment

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Commission's report on the Sanitary Sewer Study was presented to the City Council on March 25, 2003.

A tour of the Corporation Yard was held on March 28, 2003 for Mayor Bates and Councilmember Wozniak. Commissioners St. John and Dacey attended.

Staff (Ted Zupan) held a curb ramp tour on March 31, 2003. Commissioners St. John, Holland, and Dacey attended. It was noted in the field that the haphazard locations of infrastructure elements, such as utility poles, culverts, traffic signals make the uniform placement of curb ramps difficult. It was also learned that new features are being developed to facilitate addressing these situations.

A Commissioners' budget workshop will be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 29, 2003, in the City Council chambers.

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.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 6, 2003

The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC Perry/Broderick).

STAFF PRESENTATION: Storm Water System Series, Part 3 (Jensen)

A newly developed GIS map of the City-wide storm drainage system was distributed. The map depicts both the natural and artificial drainage basins, which indicate the ultimate outfall destination for each location throughout the City. The map also depicts all open and historic creeks known in the City. The map further depicts the various stormwater pipelines, of various sizes and nature, throughout the City. It was finally noted that, although extensive progress made been made on the map, it is still a “work in progress” and does not, for example, include the Park Hills drainage system at this time.

Staff indicated that the City of Berkeley, along with other cities, cannot comply with new “C3 requirements” which are coming along. These would include filtering devices which could be used at creek outfalls, which, in Berkeley, primary candidates would be Strawberry and Codornices Creeks. Maintenance of such installations would be a significant consideration.

Budget and funding issues will be the focus of this series at the next regular Commission meeting. The Commission would like to know if any transportation funds can be used for storm drainage and is also interested in developer incentives.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. PW Commission Retreat and 2003 Work Plan:** A retreat is scheduled for May 2, 2003, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. It will be announced as a Special Meeting of the Commission and will be held in the 6th floor conference area (if available) of the Civic Center, 2180 Milvia.
- 2. PW Commissioner Binder:** Sections might include the infrastructure categories such as sewers, storm drains, streets, and could also include other topics such as General Plan, Street Lights, “Conditions, Trends and Issues,” and other factual and financial information. It could include previous Commission reports and have a separate section for “on-going topics.” All Commissioners have own copy, and backup might be located in a file cabinet in the Public Works Department office. (Perry/Broderick)
- 3. Subcommittee Terminology:** It was decided that the terminology should remain as a Commission “subcommittee” (MSC Perry/Broderick).

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INFORMATION ITEMS

1. March 2003 Survey Results – General Fund Percentage of Public Works Budgets:

The information provided by the Public Works Director was welcomed, as well as looking forward to his indication that similar data will continue to be provided.

2. Feedback from April 3, 2003 Budget Workshop (St. John): Discussion took place regarding the “3 to reduce/3 to maintain” work programs which the Council requested. The City Manager’s budget proposal is scheduled to be complete on May 13, 2003. A \$10,000,000 deficit was determined in January 2003, and the same deficit is projected into next year. The Council is planning two Public Hearings, which Commissioners are welcome to attend.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Right-of-Way: The subcommittee brought up agenda items for the rest of the year but is waiting for the retreat to finalize this. Specific topics for their next meeting are (1) a search for pavement treatments which serve as traffic calming devices and (2) a staff “primer” on the Pavement Management System.

2. Utilities: The subcommittee is discussing the effectiveness of incentive programs for replacing private sewer laterals. They are reviewing the completion of previously established Rule 20A districts and methods for establishing future districts.

3. Ad Hoc: Storm Drainage and Street Sweeping: For the next couple months, information will be gathered on additional streets which could be swept, including residential streets adjacent to commercial areas. They are also evaluating alternative sweeping equipment, and policies and implementation.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

1. Storm Water System Series
2. (Deleted) Review of City Manager's Proposed FY 2004 & FY 2005 Budget
3. Recommendation on Residential Street Sweeping Program (RSSP)
4. Recommendation on City of Berkeley Plan for future Rule 20A Funds for Undergrounding
5. Simplified PW Budget diagram(s)
6. Naming Policy Status (Perry & Shumer)
7. Mayor's Advisory Task Force on Permitting and Development

ADJOURNMENT: 8:58 p.m.