



Public WorksError! Bookmark not defined. Commission

**Regular Meeting**  
**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 1, 2004**  
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:03 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner Dacey

Vacant: Councilmember Shirek's appointment

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The City Manager's Council Report on the status of commissions was distributed. The possibility of combining the Public Works Commission with the Solid Waste Commission was noted.

The Secretary pointed out a "typo" in the new Commission Roster included in the packet. The appointment date for Commissioner Perry should be 12/12/96, not 02/11/03.

It was noted that the regular meeting on May 6, 2004 will be Commissioner Piercy's last meeting due to his term limit.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 4, 2004

Under Action Item #6, "potentially affected property owners when matters relating to..." was changed to "potentially affected property owners on matters relating to..."

The amended minutes were approved MSC (Perry/Holland).

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

### **1. Recommendation on Upper Sewer Laterals and Nonconforming Storm Drain Systems:** The following three changes were proposed:

Section IIA1b: The figure of \$50,000 was considered as to whether it is a high enough percentage to require the sewer lateral work. Consideration was also given to exempting the amount of a building permit that would go to purely maintenance and repair work.

Section IIA2: It should be emphasized that this portion of the program would be phased in only after the program outlined in Sections IIA1a - c is in operation.

Section IVA: It should be clarified that the inspection deposit will be returned only if the property owner has been cooperative with the terms of the program and has granted access.

The possibility of grants or homeowner's insurance paying for repairs was raised. There was also interest in low-income assistance, including a recommendation that the City establish a program to facilitate loans or other assistance by forming assessment districts or other means. Another idea was to place the amount on property tax bills in a number of installments, possibly 5.

The item will be continued for further revision and discussion at the next meeting.

**2. Proposed Street Lighting Study:** It was decided to keep this as a regularly returning agenda topic on a quarterly basis, with the possibility of forming an ad hoc committee at the time it is brought back.

**3. Sidewalk Integrity Issue:** This will be continued to the next meeting, with the request that the responsible staff engineer be present to discuss the provisions of the Municipal Code and the General Plan, as quoted on the attachment in this agenda packet. Consideration may be given to allowing fewer exceptions for non-conforming driveway approaches or possibly requiring public review of major variations.

**4. Possible Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Litter:** Commissioners Dacey and St. John volunteered to meet with Solid Waste Division staff and report back at the next meeting.

**5. Recommendation regarding U.C. Hotel Task Force:** Commissioner Shumer described recent activities of the Task Force, noting that U.C. has apparently agreed to pay all usual City taxes on operating the hotel business. The proposed motions contained in the agenda packet were reviewed, and the "green credit" procedure was explained. The first motion was amended to add the description "U.S. Green Building Council." Also, the wording "already overstressed" was added before "storm drain system and the sewer collection system."

Commissioner Perry noted that she felt that any action was premature when an architect has not yet even been hired for the project.

The first motion was passed, MSC (Piercy/Holland, with Perry opposing) and the second was passed, MSC (Piercy/Prevo, with Perry opposing).

**6. Recommendation on State Legislation affecting Stormwater Fees:**

Discussion was held regarding sending a recommendation to the City Council calling for its support of State Legislation ACA 10, a constitutional amendment that would exclude fees and charges for storm water and urban runoff from voter approval requirements. Commissioner Holland suggested that this is not the correct solution since 60% of property owners already pay for such services to 100% of the properties. The motion was passed, MSC (Broderick/Piercy, with Holland and Prevo opposing).

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. U.C. Foothill Bridge Proposal:** The Public Works Commission's Public Hearing has been scheduled for April 29, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. A consensus of the Commission suggested that the Secretary obtain direction from the City Attorney as to how the incomplete nature both of the encroachment permit application and the EIR amendment affects the public process. Commissioner Prevo also expressed an opinion that the presence of the pedestrian bridge would be more acceptable if it were relocated downhill to the corner of La Loma Avenue.

**2. Southside Streetscape Design Manual:** This item was carried over to the next meeting.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

1. Brown & Caldwell study on rate extensions for sanitary sewer service and stormwater fees\* (Secretary Egeberg)
2. Commissioner Binder (June – Broderick & Perry)
3. Recommendation of Street Cleaning Program
4. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
5. Public Works Commission Work Plan
6. Foothill Bridge Proposal from UC
7. Ad hoc subcommittee & liaison assignments (Jun, Sep & Dec)
8. Liaison reports (Jun, Sep & Dec)

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:15 p.m.