



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Minutes

Thursday, November 4, 2004

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Dacey, Edwards, Holland, Perry, Prevo, St. John

Absent: Commissioners Broderick, Ongerth, Shumer

Vacancies: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Ringewald, Public Works Streets Division employee, spoke on laying off and contracting out versus money spent on capital improvements. He pointed out that the Public Works Department achieved nation accreditation and has established high standards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Commissioner Perry's appointment date has been corrected to be February 11, 2003, in accordance with direction received from the City Clerk's office. However, Commissioner Perry indicated that she shall honor the intent of the term limit and consider that this is her last meeting, after serving on the Commission for eight full years.
2. Commissioner St. John announced the next neighborhood meeting of the Corporation Yard will be held on November 19, 2004.
3. Commissioner Prevo intends to continue her work as a community relations liaison with the University of California.

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:

September 29, 2004 Special Meeting: The minutes were approved as submitted (MSC Perry/Dacey).

October 7, 2004 Regular Meeting: The minutes were amended to delete the last sentence of the first paragraph under Information Item #1. The minutes were approved as amended (MSC Dacey/Perry).

PRESENTATION: Priorities of Facilities Division, Henry DeGraca

By way of introduction, Mr. DeGraca described his professional background, which involves federal experience with the Navy, Corps of Engineers, and most recently, the Department of Energy. He has a BS from San Jose State and an MS from U.C. Berkeley. As Facilities Division Manager, his initial priority projects are the Hills Fire Station, which is a "green project," Corporation Yard relocation involving temporary trailers, and energy projects, such as solar panels at the Corporation Yard and cooling system for the computer center, which are near completion. He noted that most of the projects in his division are financed by special funds.

ACTION ITEM:

Proposed Ordinance to BMC for Upper Sewer Laterals and Nonconforming Storm Drain Connections: The proposed draft ordinance was passed by a unanimous motion (MSC Perry/Prevo). This version will be sent for review by the City Attorney and then back to the Commission before further distribution. With respect to the legal use of the existing sanitary sewer fund, it was noted that although the efforts are on private property, it is a program for the public good and which eliminates public hazards. Finally, Secretary Egeberg reported on his recent testimony, on behalf of the Public Works Director, in front of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Since the purpose of the testimony was to argue against costly treatment of EBMUD's overflow facilities, he described Berkeley's proposed private lateral program as a new measure to significantly reduce infiltration/inflow. Berkeley's proposed program was very well received.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Status on Creeks Ordinance: It was noted that the latest Creeks Ordinance proposal includes one representative from the Public Works Commission out of the thirteen members of the Planning Commission Task Force. The Council will consider the proposal at its November 9, 2004 meeting.

2. University Avenue Pedestrian Improvement Plan: Current issues regarding developments along University Avenue include areas where the six-foot-width BMC

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requirement is not met and of the general trend of increasing density (due to taller buildings) but not assuring adequate sidewalk widths. A subcommittee was formed, consisting of Commissioners Holland and St. John, to review developments and provide recommendations back to the full Commission.

3. Phase 2: 2005 Workplan Development: This item was held over to a future meeting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

1. Liaison work between UC and City of Berkeley* (Commissioner Prevo)
2. Status of Public Works Capital Streets Budget (Director Rene Cardinaux)
3. Staff Presentations
 - a. Storm Drain System
 - b. Sanitary Sewer System
 - c. Pavement Management System (PMS) and Five Year Plan
 - d. Environmental Issues
4. Litter Issue (Commissioners Dacey & St. John)
5. Transportation Impacts of Construction Projects, Joint Subcommittee with Transportation Commission (Commissioners Dacey, Holland and Prevo)
6. Street Lighting Standards (including maintenance)
7. Recommendation of Street Cleaning Program
8. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds
9. Ad hoc subcommittee & liaison assignments (Quarterly)

ADJOURNMENT: 9:20 p.m.