



Public Works Commission

Special Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Saturday, December 3, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: 9:07 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Edwards, Holland, Jackson, Prevo, Shumer, St. John

Absent: Commissioners Dacey, Ongerth

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF WORK PLAN:

Appropriate Roles for PWC: Our central role is to advise Council on policy issues. Issues may be initiated by the City Council, the Public Works Department, and by citizens. Two supporting roles are to provide an avenue for citizen concerns and questions for the Department and to support the Department.

Priorities and Values: Discussion raised both the importance of focusing on what was practical and doable in the short run and on a vision of what a program or policy might accomplish in the long run. Other criteria discussed were citywide impacts and meeting needs before luxuries.

* Noting that funding has not been available in recent years for general capital improvements to the storm drainage system, it was requested that the consultant study performed to create a recommended Capital Improvement Program in the early 1990's be included in the packet for the January 2006 meeting.

* Noting that an assessment update has just been prepared for the Pavement Management System, which reveals a considerable setback in the overall street pavement condition, it was requested that the consultant report be included in the packet for the January 2006 meeting.

Review of Current Plan: Progress on the 2005 Work Plan was discussed and noted.

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.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING

December 3, 2005

Priority Issues for Next Year:

Private sewer laterals:

* This will be placed on the January 2006 agenda for continued discussion on level of implementation and financing options. Priority should possibly be given to disconnection of roof downspouts and other drainage connections. Discussion also took place on an initial option for *voluntary* compliance during sewer main construction by the City. The importance of property owner education before Options 3 and 4 (during sewer main construction) are initiated was emphasized. A flyer and a town hall meeting 3 – 6 months before a main sewer section is rehabbed for all affected property owners was suggested.

* Staff should be invited from the Permit Service Center to attend the January 2006 meeting on specific details on implementation of the initial program and to discuss ways permits can be tracked for upper lateral repairs.

* The topic of impermeable surfaces on private property should be placed on a subsequent agenda, possibly March 2006.

Pedestrian Issues:

* A citywide process for developing and updating a pedestrian plan is in progress and a public workshop will take place in January 2006. This should be placed on a Commission agenda later in 2006. The topics of “landscaping standards” and “street lighting standards” will also be included..

* Scope and funding of pathway improvements vis-à-vis sidewalk repairs should be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Additional Topics:

* The Commission indicated an interest in the Department Disaster Response Preparedness. The Public Works Director will be asked to discuss current efforts to improve the department’s readiness at the January 2006 meeting.

* A report on the Creeks Task Force should be placed on every agenda until at least April 2006.

Organization:

Ad hoc subcommittees will be formed on an as-needed basis during discussions of individual topics at a regular meeting.

* EBMUD will be contacted to arrange another tour of their wastewater treatment facilities. A tour of the Corporation Yard will requested to take place in February 2006.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:35 a.m.

* Denotes items to be specifically scheduled as indicated.