



Public Works Commission

**Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, July 6, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner Prevo

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the June 6, 2006 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved as submitted (MSC Nelson/Wolfe with a vote of 8,0,0), with the understanding that staff will clarify Paragraph 2 of Page 2.

CHAIR REPORT: None.

STAFF REPORT: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The new enforcement date for the Private Lateral Program is October 1, 2006. Updates will be communicated as necessary.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Public Information on Retention and Treatment of Stormwater on Private Property and Parking Strips: Upon completion of review of the reference material in the Commission packet (NPDES presentation by staff, photos of a parking lot installation at 1800 University Avenue, and a COB Permit Service Center handout), the Commission discussed approaches to begin educating and encouraging property owners to retain more rain water and for less rain water to gush into the public right-of-way, especially during downpours. A motion was made for

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

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Commissioners Wolfe and Alward to prepare a letter to be submitted to the City Manager, by the September 7, 2006 PWC meeting, on stormwater runoff quantity and water quality, possible peak runoff alternatives, and use of pervious surfaces to delay runoff, to encourage absorption and to reduce pollution. The letter would also include appropriate website links to state and county information. The letter would be used in City outreach efforts such as a press release. Staff will also work on information to be included in the City's next annual letter. The motion was unanimously adopted (MSC St. John/Alward, with a vote of 8,0,0).

The following proposals were held over to the September 7, 2006 meeting for further consideration.

(1) Recommend that the Council request the City Manager to direct staff to encourage best stormwater practices in public right-of-way areas adjacent to residential properties and discourage impervious surfaces in the areas around sidewalk. The City should identify residential properties with impervious parking strip areas and inform the owners of preferable treatments. Staff is requested to find out if a permit is required to do impervious surface work (concrete) in the planting strip.

(2) Form a subcommittee to work with staff in exploring further opportunities and tools to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater runoff from private property with special focus on reducing discharge/runoff to the public right-of-way during heavy rainfall.

2. Final Report: Recommendation on Street Sweeping Program: The Commission reviewed the revised proposal and had considerable discussion of the timing of sending the item to Council. A motion was made (Wolfe/Alward) to adopt the proposal and send it to Council. An amendment was proposed to pass it now but send it in the Fall, but this amendment was not accepted. Then a substitute motion was made (Nelson/St. John) to adopt it now and delay sending it to Council. The motions concluded as follows:

A. The substitute motion failed (4 - 4; Nelson, St. John, Alward, Holland in favor; Shumer, Jackson, Edwards, Wolfe opposed; Prevo absent).

B. The main motion was then passed to send the Commission's report with attachments in the July 6, 2006 packet to the Council (MSC Wolfe/Alward with a vote of 5- 1 - 2; Nelson voting no [wrong timing]; St John [some streets controversial] and Shumer [not strong enough] abstaining).

Also, Commissioner Alward was added to the Street Sweeping Subcommittee.

3. Subcommittee Report on Private Sewer Lateral Repairs: The Commission reviewed how to summarize the item. The subcommittee was charged with presenting a single recommendation to the Commission by Fall. Commissioner St. John will join the subcommittee.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Various Funding Proposals for Storm Drainage Facilities: There was a cursory review of current increased budget funding and the decision not to have a ballot measure, both by Council.

2. Review and Status of 2006 Work Plan: The Work Plan was noted and carried over to a future meeting, possibly a year-end retreat.

3. Revisions to Creek Ordinance: The PWC will review and comment on the revised ordinance language before it is submitted to Council. The tentative schedule is between September 19 and November 28, 2006.

The PWC expressed interest in the proposal for a watershed coordinator position, if it is located in Public Works. Staff is requested to check the budget for FY 2007 to verify whether the position has been funded and where the position is to be located and report back in September 2006.

4. Santa Fe Right-of-Way: (Held over to September 7, 2006 Meeting)

5. Downtown BART Plaza Redesign: Staff is requested to inform the Commission at the next meeting if there are any short-term proposals offered for consideration.

SUBCOMMITTEE, LIAISON AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (As time permits):
There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS: The letter dated June 1, 2006 from Concerned Neighbors – Daley Scenic Park was noted and determined to have more relevance to the work of other Commissions.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Future Meetings:

1. Pedestrian Plan
2. Presentation by Gil Dong, Fire Department Emergency Coordinator
3. Report on 2005 Legal Claims for Flood Losses
4. Staff Presentations or deferred issues
 - a. Environmental Issues
 - b. Street Lighting Standards (including maintenance)
 - c. Citywide Plan for future Rule 20A Undergrounding Funds

ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 pm