



Public Works Commission

**Regular Meeting  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
Minutes**

**Thursday, November 2, 2006**

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:01 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Francis, Holland, Nelson, Prevo, Shumer, St. John

Absent: Commissioners Jackson, Wolfe

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Robert Chen represents RJC Consolidated Inc. which is a firm that markets a fuel additive product, and he claims that the use of it in City vehicles will reduce pollution and increase mileage performance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the October 5, 2006 regular meeting were approved as submitted (MSC St. John/Nelson, with a vote of 7-0-0).

**CHAIR REPORT:** None.

**STAFF REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:**

- 1. December 2005 flood damage, recovery and claims:** Held over.
- 2. Update on Ellis Street area short-term flood relief:** Staff provided a description of the temporary repairs and improvements to the storm drainage system in the vicinity of Malcolm X School. Staff is attempting to have these completed before any heavy rains this winter. The work is scheduled to begin in November.
- 3. Outsourcing storm drain maintenance: status and issues:** A small number of on-

**ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST**

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call contracts for hand and machine cleaning of storm drains are being sought to provide backup to City maintenance staff when they may be overloaded during heavy rains this winter.

**4. Storm Water Management Codes, Regulations and Standards:** Held over.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

**PRESENTATION:**

Claudette Ford, Public Works Director, spoke to the Commission on department priorities and challenges. She handed out presentation notes that summarized the top three priorities for each division in the department. She mentioned that a major accomplishment is currently taking place with the opening of the new Hills Fire Station.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1. Work Plan Retreat/Workshop Planning:** This special meeting will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2006, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Secretary will attempt to reserve a suitable space. The outline for discussion will be as follows:
  - A. Background/history (Nelson – ½ hour)
  - B. Roles & missions
  - C. Work Plan (The Chair will compile the survey responses for the retreat packet.)

The Chair will arrange for a facilitator.

- 2. Pedestrian Plan Proposals:** The draft proposal in the packet was reviewed and discussed. It was noted that it is a three-tiered process and that the Commission's initial recommendations should be as specific as possible, indicating that "based on our review to date, these are our concerns." Commissioner Holland will rewrite the proposal in this manner.

- 3. Review of Creek Permit # 06-003:** The Commission reviewed and concurred with the issuance of this permit by staff (MSC Shumer/Francis, with a vote of 7-0-0).

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- 1. Budget:** It was noted that only 1% of the General Fund goes to the Public Works Department and confirmed that this topic will be considered in the future.

The following remaining items in the packet were received and acknowledged:

- 2. Staff Report to Council on September 26, 2006 on Storm Drainage**
- 3. News Article on PWC and Flooding dated October 4, 2006**

**4. Council Summary of September 19, 2006 on Street Sweeping**

**5. Private Sewer Lateral Program Brochures**

**6. PWC Report to Council dated November 14, 2006 on Creeks Task Force**

**SUBCOMMITTEE, LIASON, REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- 1. Communication from Commissioner Prevo dated October 10, 2006:** Further information will be submitted for the January 2007 packet.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** The status of the U.C. Foothill Bridge will be placed on the January 2007 agenda. Other agenda items for 2007 will be determined after the Work Plan Retreat. Materials are due to the Secretary for the packet by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:39 p.m.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Jennifer Pearson concerning scheduling of flooding reports
2. Vonnie Gurgin concerning creeks
3. Jennifer Pearson concerning (1) zoning amendments and (2) creeks

**ATTACHMENTS (from last meeting):**

1. Creeks Handout (Cosin)
2. Pedestrian Plan (Hondorp)
3. Water Management Plan (Francis)