



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: 7:04 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Francis, Holland, Nelson, Prevo, Shumer, Wolfe
Absent: Commissioner St. John
Vacant: Councilmember Maio's appointee

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 1, 2007

The second-to-last sentence of Action Item 1 should be changed to: "Commissioner Prevo expressed concern that University Avenue should be moved up earlier in the plan." The minutes were approved as amended (MSC Alward/Shumer, with a vote of 7-0-0).

CHAIR REPORT: None.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. The City recently applied for a CalFed Grant from the State in the amount of \$350,000 for the development of a Watershed Management Plan. The prospects of receiving a grant are considered good.
2. Staff was recently invited to appear before an EBMUD "Blue Ribbon Panel," comprised of a cross section of stakeholders in the Infiltration/Inflow program, including EBMUD, the Water Board and EPA. Berkeley staff presented a summary of its accomplishments over the last twenty years. These accomplishments were commended, while indicating that the results of all cities have been disappointing in not fulfilling the estimated reductions in wet weather flows. The panel expressed considerable interest in Berkeley's recently initiated private lateral program and recommended that it be expanded, to help avoid the costly alternative of the expansion of regional wastewater treatment facilities.

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.

The Commission expressed a reminder that it is expecting a detailed status report on the initial experiences of the private sewer lateral program to be scheduled for June 2007.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: An Open House at the Corporation Yard is scheduled for the third week of May, which will commemorate National Public Works Week.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Tour Report: Commissioner Francis provided a map and a summary of the stormwater system attended by Commissioners Nelson, Wolfe and himself. An observation was noted on needed corrections of the drainage features at the new Hills Fire Station.

2. Subcommittee Reports:

a. Stormwater System: The subcommittee is arranging a meeting with the City’s consultant that performed the 1994 master planning.

b. Stormwater BMP’s: The packer report was presented and discussed.

c. Right of Way: Commissioner Nelson and Prevo indicated their interest in making a recommendation that University Avenue receive a higher priority on the paving schedule. Nelson presented a paper on University Avenue as attached. Prevo reported on a meeting of ACTAC (Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee), advisory to the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (CMA), that she attended.

3. Liaison Assignments: New assignments and adjustments were made according to the attached updated schedule. Commissioner Prevo indicated her interest in attending ACTAC meetings, even though they are intended for agency staff only.

4. Pedestrian Memo: The recommendation memo will be held over to the next meeting.

5. Undergrounding: The background material provided in the packet was acknowledged, and there was discussion on the rationale and criteria used in the past. This will be brought back further discussion at next month’s meeting.

6. Pavement Management Plan: After hearing from staff an explanation of the changes made since last time to address district inequities, the Commission voted to support the staff recommendation for the updated 5-Year Plan (Francis/Nelson, with a vote of 5-1-1, Wolfe abstaining, Prevo voting no).

NEXT MEETING AGENDA: Measure G (greenhouse emissions) will be discussed. The Commission did not express interest in hearing reports at this time on the budget or City fleet fuel alternatives.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 p.m.