



Public Works Commission

**Regular Meeting**  
**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, September 4, 2008**  
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:06 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alward, Francis, Henry, Holland, Nelson, Schueler, Shumer, Wolfe

Absent: Commissioner Prevo

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting of July 10, 2008

Under the Public Comment by Barbara Allen, delete the second sentence. Under Action Item #1, change the second to last sentence to read "Interest was expressed to have further discussion of the undergrounding policy, and the Work Group was asked to consider further review." The amended minutes were adopted (MSC Nelson/Holland, with a vote of 6-0-2, Alward and Schueler abstaining).

**CHAIR REPORT:** None.

**STAFF REPORT:** The Secretary reported that the Commission's report to the City Council on Rule 20A has been delayed from 9/16/08 because the City Manager sent a message apparently indicating that he did not fully agree with the report. The Secretary was requested to inform the Chair as soon as he hears anything further such that it can be referred to the Work Group for further action.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Josh Bradt was introduced as the new Watershed Resources Specialist, and he shared observations about his background and his initial assignments on the job.

**This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location.**

**To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6346(V) or 981-7075 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date.**

**Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Comments on Street Repair Policy:** The Work Group reported that its primary focus has been on the permeable paver proposals discussed under Information Item #1 below. For further deliberations on the overall policy, the Work Group requested a staff report on experience regarding “planned vs. actual” for recent 5-Year Street Programs. The Work Group hopes to consider this at a meeting before the October Commission meeting.

**2. December Retreat:** The date of Saturday, December 6, 2008 was selected, and the Secretary was requested to ascertain the availability the “Green Room” at the Corporation Yard. The Chair will prepare a draft agenda to place in the October 2, 2008 packet. Commissioner Wolfe requested the Secretary to send her the latest summary of Commission actions. It was suggested that updating of the Commission binder also be a topic.

**3. Creek Permits for 41 Oakvale Avenue and 1250 Addison Street:** The nature of the work covered by the two permits was discussed. Since work in creeks cannot be performed between October 15 and April 15 of each year, commissioners were curious as to why the permits were not requested earlier in the year. The Secretary was requested to transmit relevant portions of the BMC to commissioners for review. It was moved (MSC Holland/Shumer, with a vote of 8-0-0) to request that the language “and affirmed” by the Commission be removed from these and all future permits. A second motion (MSC Shumer/Wolfe, with a vote of 8-0-0) was then made that the Commission has reviewed both of these permits.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**1. Status of Permeable Paver Proposals:** The Work Group handed out an informational packet summarizing the results of the proposal to date. This hand-out will be included in the next agenda packet. The contents of the report were discussed, and several suggestions were made for minor improvements. Overall, it was noted that it is a commendable effort. Specific trial locations have not been identified, although several have been considered (Redevelopment project on Addison, adjacent areas on Bancroft, etc). It was noted that, although residential streets are good candidates in many respects, they do not provide a test for carrying heavy traffic and vehicle loads.

The next step is an outreach campaign. It will be an action item on the next PWC agenda to gain full commission support. It may be worthwhile to collaborate with the Redevelopment Project Area Committee (PAC) – perhaps a joint subcommittee meeting. The support of the Transportation Commission should also be solicited. Although wide public acceptance of the concept should be sought, it was suggested that specific proposal and locations should be advanced at the same time. The Work Group has discussed its materials with the Mayor and has subsequent plans to meet with various stakeholders and other local officials.

Three members of the Work Group are Commissioners Henry, Nelson and Schueler. The fourth is Commissioner Alward, who had previously given up his spot in favor of Commissioner Prevo, but since she has not been active in the Work Group,

Commissioner Alward volunteered to re-join the Group.

**2. Update on Possible Additional Stormwater Funding:** The Secretary reported that staff work is continuing on the various options for prospective funding, and that the Council seems committed to a ballot measure of some sort in 2009. It is premature for a detailed report at this time, and the Commission will be kept informed in future meetings.

**FUTURE AGENDAS:**

**Oct:** Streets Work Group Reports, Draft Retreat Agenda

**Nov:** Update on Municipal Regional Permits and Street Sweeping Implications

**Dec:** Special Meeting (Retreat) – Annual Work Plan

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:18 p.m.