



Public Works Commission

**Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Minutes
Thursday, February 5, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Allen, Alward, Henry, Holland, Kojan, Nelson, Prevo, Schueler, Soto-Vigil

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of January 8, 2009

In Public Comment: under Trudy Washburn, change “Spruce” to “Spruce/Euclid,” and under Barbara Allen: add “including evacuation routes.” In the 2009 Work Plan, delete items D and E, and add Commissioners Soto-Vigil and Allen to the Utility Undergrounding issue. The minutes were approved as amended (MSC Nelson/Schueler, with a vote of 9-0-0).

CHAIR REPORT: Commissioners Barbara Allen and David Kojan were introduced and welcomed.

STAFF REPORT: The Secretary announced that the re-accreditation by the American Public Works Association was extremely successful and acknowledged the attendance of Public Works Commissioners at the welcome reception for the APWA Evaluation Team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

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. Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** Commissioner Henry was elected Chair and Commissioner Schueler Vice Chair (MSC Nelson/Soto-Vigil, with a vote of 9-0-0).
- 2. Street Repair Policy Proposal:** Commissioner Schueler summarized the revisions made since the last meeting. The present version was approved (MSC Holland/Nelson, with a vote of 9-0-0) as written and to allow the Work Group to make further revisions as it sees fit, to add emphasis on (1) Berkeley being a leader in environmental protection and new technologies, (2) pedestrian safety, (3) expanding the definition of transit (public and private), and (4) increasing the share for street improvements to be paid by private developers (including UC) from 50% to 75%. By the same motion, the Work Group is further instructed to maintain a list of potential revisions to be made in the future, during the annual review, to the Street Repair Policy. Lastly, the Secretary confirmed that the update to the 5-Year Plan is scheduled to be presented at the March 2009 meeting.
- 3. Rule 20A Undergrounding:** By way of background, the Secretary reiterated that, at the last meeting, the matter was referred to the Transportation Commission, whose action was received today and is being distributed at this meeting. It was also referred to the Disaster & Fire Safety Commission, but for some reason, the item was not placed on their last agenda and is expected on the next. Due to communications received since the last meeting, it has also been referred to the Commission on Disability, who has responded that it is not interested in considering the issue, and the Commission on Aging, who has not yet responded.

The Transportation Commission's recommendations were discussed, particularly Paragraph 2c regarding piecemeal segments to be undergrounded and the effect of the presence of a fire station in the particular area.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 1. Council Work Session:** – February 17, 2009
 - a. Watershed Management:** The Secretary indicated that the presentation is still on schedule, but final approval from the City Manager will not be received until next week. Therefore, the content of the presentation cannot yet be made available to the Commission.
 - b. Permeable Pavers:** The Commission's proposed slide presentation was handed out and discussed. Suggestions were made to mention that it would also reduce the usage of petroleum products and would enhance the aesthetics and character of the entire city. Otherwise, the presentation was considered to be complete.

FUTURE AGENDAS: The next agenda is to include the Street Repair Policy update and a staff presentation on street lighting.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:53 p.m.