



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Action Minutes
Thursday, March 7, 2019

Willow Room, Corporation Yard, 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

Present: Ray Yep, Nic Dominguez, Jim McGrath, Shane Krpata, Matt Freiberg, Sachu Constantine, Margo Schueler, John Hitchen, and Jackie Erbe

Absent: None

Staff: Nisha Patel and Beth Thomas

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. David Thill

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for the February 7, 2019 meeting were reviewed and no comments were made.

The minutes were approved (Krpata/Erbe 7/0/2 abstain: Hitchen, Schueler).

CHAIR REPORT:

Margo Schueler was announced as the new commissioner appointed by Mayor Jesse Arrequin. Ray went to the FITES (Facilities Infrastructure Transportation Environment and Sustainability) Committee, one of the standing committees that the Council created. Ray reported that they discussed the CEAC report that recommended green stormwater infrastructure in new and existing re-developments and a potential new ordinance prohibiting natural gas infrastructure in new buildings.

STAFF REPORT:

No report.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Presentation on Vision Zero Policy and Action Plan – Beth Thomas, Principal Planner in the Transportation Division of the Public Works Department, presented the following information:
 - The key elements of the City's Vision Zero Policy, adopted March 27, 2017
 - Goal of eliminating traffic deaths and severe injuries by 2028
 - Formation of a multidisciplinary Vision Zero task Force
 - Researching 5 years of data on fatal and severe crashes and engage community in developing an Action Plan
 - Developing assurances against racial profiling
 - The core principles of Vision Zero
 - How Vision Zero differs from the traditional approach to traffic safety
 - The history of Vision Zero
 - How the U.S. compares to other developed countries in its number of traffic deaths per capita

- The spread of Vision Zero in the U.S.
 - The relationship between impact speed and crash severity
 - Demographic differences in crash outcomes
 - The key elements of Vision Zero: engineering, enforcement, education
 - Existing City efforts related to Vision Zero
 - Potential tradeoffs to be addressed
 - Considerations for effective implementation of Vision Zero
 - Completed actions and next steps
 - Vision Zero Task Force formed
 - Formation of Vision Zero Advisory Committee
 - Action Plan adoption by City Council in Fall 2019
2. Green Infrastructure Letter – Nic Dominguez and Jim McGrath prepared a letter of support on the GI Plan. They relayed that they like many aspects of the Plan. The plan includes an estimate of 119 acres of impervious surface to be treated by green infrastructure by 2040. Using newly developed mapping tools, City staff and their consultants have identified projects that would provide water quality, flood control, and infiltration benefits. The City can choose elements of these projects over the next decade and bring the City into compliance with the stormwater permit. Jim relayed some of the Commission’s recommendations for inclusion in the plan to include:
- Staff should develop metrics about the economic benefits of the plan in reducing flooding and increasing water supply by infiltrating runoff
 - City staff meet with Regional Board staff to be sure that the plan will be acceptable
 - Look for GI options in wide streets like Sacramento St.

The letter was approved by the Commission (McGrath/Constantine 8/0/1).

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Final work plan and subcommittees for 2019 – Changes were made to add Margo Schueler as an alternate to the T1 subcommittee, and a member of the Watershed and Sanitary Sewer Subcommittee.
2. Standing Information Item: Subcommittee Reports
 - a) Street paving – Nisha Patel provided an update on the items staff is working on related to the work plan drafted by Ray Yep
 - b) T1 implementation – Jim McGrath provided an update on the additional funding request for T1 projects.
 - c) Utility Undergrounding – Ray Yep went over the meetings he had regarding the Undergrounding Phase 3 Plan.
 - d) Watershed management and sanitary sewers – discussed above.

FUTURE AGENDAS: Items for the April commission meeting.

1. None discussed.

Motion to ADJOURN - (Mcgrath/ Erbe 8/0/1 abstain Schueler) 10:02 pm.

Commission Secretary:

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