



Public Works Commission

Regular Meeting
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Action Minutes
Thursday, September 1, 2016
Corporation Yard, 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA
Willow Room

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

Present: Dominguez, Elgstrand, Freiberg, Henry, Kelley, Smith, Swift, Yep

Absent: Schueler

Staff: Tracy J. Clay (PWC Secretary), Martin Querin (Deputy Director, Department of Public Works)

PUBLIC COMMENT: A member of the public, Debra Richardson, reported that vegetation overgrowth on City sidewalks is a problem citywide and it impacts the accessibility of the sidewalk. She requested that the City take actions to address this issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Regular Meetings of July 2, 2016 were approved with the following amendments:

- Modify Action Item 1. Street Lighting Update to delete attribution of report by Commissioner Swift.
- Modify Information Item 1. to indicate that “An update on Utility Undergrounding planning efforts will be provided to the City Council later this year.” And to provide a summary of the paving subcommittee.

M/S/C (Dominguez /Elgstrand /8-0-0)

ACTION ITEMS: (Note Agenda Order Modified)

1. Street Lighting

- Presentation on Streetlight Installations* – Commissioner Swift gave a presentation on the existing street light request back log and the proposed street light locations.
- Public Comment* – 3 UC Berkeley Students made comments: Dwight and Piedmont are high traffic pedestrian areas and also have a high rate of crime including sexual assaults and armed robbery. Additional lighting in this area is important. Other locations that need more street lighting are Unit 2 and Peoples Park, Etna and Dwight.
- Vote on Approval on Streetlight Installations*

Motion: Approve the process used to select street light locations from backlog and recommend that staff move forward with street light installations and seek to identify additional locations. M/S/C (Elgstrand/ Smith/8,0,0)

Commissioners noted that City Staff should talk to the University about Unit 2 and Hearst and that there is a program by Phillips to provide utilities poles in exchange for a wireless location.

- d. *Presentation on Streetlight Policy* - Commissioner Freiberg gave a presentation on the Proposed Street Light Policy and the Application Process. Commission discussion ensued primarily regarding the responsibility of the City to provide safe lighted streets versus the rights of the property owners to control lighting that impacts their property.
 - e. Public Comment – no public comment was received.
 - f. Vote on Streetlight Policy – The commissioners agreed that the final policy would be proposed for approval at the Oct 6 PWC meeting.
2. **Infrastructure and Facilities Bond:** Staff informed the Public Works Commission that they have been asked to form a subcommittee to advise Council on the Infrastructure and Facilities Bond expenditure plan. This subcommittee will coordinate input from other commissions.

Motion 1: Request City Council for authorization to hold up to 12 special meetings. M/S/C (Smith/ Dominguez/8-0-0)

Motion 2: Form a subcommittee to oversee development of the Infrastructure and Facilities Bond expenditure planning process consisting of the following members Freiberg, Kelley, Henry, and Smith. M/S/C (Smith/ Freiberg /8-0-0)

Motion 3: Nominate member Yep for the chair of the Infrastructure and Facilities Bond Subcommittee. M/S/C (Henry/ Kelley/8-0-0)

3. Proposed path renaming - rename Bret Harte Lane in North Berkeley for poet Ina Coolbrith.

Motion: Approve the proposed language and placement of the plaque. M/S/C (Freiberg / Smith/8-0-0)

CHAIR REPORT: None.

STAFF REPORT: A brief status update was provided on active paving projects, both in design and under construction. Staff also reported that Jordan Klein, Economic Development Project Coordinator, Office of Economic Development, City of Berkeley Telegraph Public Realm Plan has requested to present at the October PWC meeting. The PWC discussed but concluded due to the amount of issues currently in their work plan that they do not have time to hear a presentation on this topic until early 2017 however, the PWC expressed an interest in obtaining written information on the City of Berkeley Telegraph Public Realm Plan.

PRESENTATION: None.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Standing Information Item: Subcommittee Reports: Subcommittee chairs gave brief reports from the following subcommittees:

Utility Underground: Commissioner Yep reported that the Utility Underground Subcommittee last met in July and the next meeting is scheduled for September 22nd. The Subcommittee is coordinating with Transportation and Disaster and Fire Safety commission representatives on Utility Undergrounding issues. The Utility Underground consultant Harris and Associates provided an updated report on July 22nd that was responsive to prior Subcommittee members' comments. The Subcommittee continues to work with the Goldman School to develop a scope for student intern work. Staff notified the PWC that no funding is available for Goldman School internships. The Harris report and the findings from the Goldman School will be combined in an overall report with recommendations late 2017.

FUTURE AGENDAS:

Street sweeping and garbage collection conflict, and
Strategic Plan Update.

ADJOURN: 10:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned (M/S/C, Freiberg/ Dominguez, 8,0,0)