



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION JANUARY 20, 2010

**Call to Order/
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Vice Chairman Siersema, who led Commissioners and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioners Absent: Commissioners McGovern, Rivera, Spencer

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Herbel, Kirkorn, O'Connell, and Siersema were in attendance.

Others Present: Larry Honeybourne, Orange County Health Care Agency
Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works
Tony Olmos, City Engineer
Bob Stachelski, Transportation Manager
Jerry Thompson, General Services Manager
Terri Elliott, Principal Civil Engineer
Darren Sam, Senior Traffic Engineer
Linda Daily, Project Manager
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

MINUTES

A quorum of attendees at the December 16, 2009 meeting were not in attendance, therefore, the minutes will be carried over to the February meeting.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

E-1. Commission Business – The February meeting will include the election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Public Works Commission.

C-2'

INFORMATION ITEMS

- F-1. Active Capital Projects Report – Tony Olmos presented updates on 14 projects and then answered questions of the Commissioners on any item on the report.

Commissioner Kirkorn inquired about the flooding on the west side of Newland where the road had been raised during the recent construction. Tony Olmos responded a pump had been placed to drain the water. The contractor did not install the pipe per the plan. The issue will be mitigated.

- F-2. Upcoming City Council Study Sessions – A special Study Session will be held January 29, 2010, the Strategic Planning Retreat. The meeting is open to the public.

- F-3. Water Quality Report Update – Travis Hopkins introduced Terri Elliott, Principal Civil Engineer. Terri Elliott then introduced Larry Honeybourne from Orange County Health Care Agency who presented a PowerPoint presentation and update on water quality.

Mr. Honeybourne first presented some background information and then presented current information including water quality test results. Sewer spills have declined since 2001/02 when waste discharge requirements were put in place.

Mr. Honeybourne then reviewed AB 411 requirements. Water quality standards were presented. Water quality samples are taken regularly from April through October and results become available in 24-hours. Huntington City Beach has very, very good water quality along its shores. Huntington Harbour has 14 locations where water samples are collected and tested.

With the Governor cutting funding for testing, the State Water Resources Board provided temporarily funding. Mr. Honeybourne is now working with stakeholders to develop a program for water quality monitoring.

The recommendation is to stay out of the ocean waters for 72-hours post rainfall as bacterial counts rise when upstream runoff through the flood control channels reaches the ocean. Lost beach days are also tracked.

Commissioner O'Connell asked about costs to test locations in Huntington Harbour as so many children use those beach areas. Mr. Honeybourne did not have cost data readily available but will provide to the city. Discussion ensued.

C-2²

Commissioner Herbel inquired if there was any spike in bacteria levels with the channel opening to the Bolsa Chica Wetlands. Mr. Honeybourne responded two additional sampling stations were placed by the opening but they did not see significant increase from the outlet.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Bushard/Yellowstone In-Roadway Lighted Crosswalk Follow-up Evaluation – Bob Stachelski presented the evaluation. The purpose of the program was to look at the effectiveness of the crosswalk since the installation. This was a pilot program approved by City Council in response to concerns raised by area residents.

A key point was to see if the installation encouraged crossing at this particular location with the improvements made. Unfortunately, a large increase of pedestrians using the location was not seen. Fewer than 20 pedestrians per day appear to use the crosswalk. Conclusions from the pilot program are the in-roadway lighted crosswalk will be recommended under certain conditions in future treatments.

Motion by Commissioner Herbel, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to recommend to the City Council, to consider in-road flashing crosswalk installations as a potential treatment for uncontrolled pedestrian crossing locations following the guidelines recommended in the report.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 3 (McGovern, Rivera, Spencer)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

- G-2. Murdy Community Center Cool Roof, MSC 472 – Travis Hopkins introduced Jerry Thompson, General Services Manager, who presented the report. The existing roof is the original with construction dating back to 1970. The proposed roof is an energy efficient cool roof. Funding is available through CDBG-R funds.

Motion by Commissioner O’Connell, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to recommend MSC 472, Murdy Community Center Cool Roof, to the City Council.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 3 (McGovern, Rivera, Spencer)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

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G-3. Proposed Modifications to the City Charter – Travis Hopkins reviewed the forming of a sub-committee at the direction of the Public Works Commission at its December meeting. Members were Chair McGovern, Vice Chair Siersema and Commissioner O'Connell. The purpose of the sub-committee was to recommended language modifications to the City Charter Section 617 Infrastructure Fund.

During the meeting of the sub-committee, recommendations also were made for minimal language changes to Section 614 Contracts on Public Works, regarding an increase in the dollar amount that is required to go to City Council for approval.

Commissioner Siersema discussed the intent of debt service included in the calculation and compromised on the amount not to exceed 3% of general fund revenue as determined for infrastructure expenditures.

Motion by Commissioner Herbel, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to recommend the memo to the Charter Review Commission titled: Proposed Modifications to City Charter Section 614 Contracts on Public Works, and Section 617 Infrastructure Fund.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 3 (McGovern, Rivera, Spencer)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Travis Hopkins reported one of the Commissioners provided a news release from the Orange County Water District announcing the vacancy on the Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board Division 6. The District was accepting applications to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term in place of calling for a special election.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Herbel asked if there was any information from Sacramento regarding gas tax monies that have been withheld. Travis Hopkins responded that has been no official word yet on when gas tax funds will be released. The State will hold the funds for six months to gain interest and it is anticipated the fund will then be released for distribution minus the interest.

ADJOURNMENT

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The Public Works Commission adjourned to the meeting date of Wednesday, February 17, 2010, 5:00 p.m., City Council Chambers. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Michael Siersema
Vice-Chair



Joyce A. Greene
Administrative Assistant

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