CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REQUEST FOR ACTION

Item No. PWC 08-27

SUBMITTED TO: Chairman Rivera and Members of the Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Travis K. Hopkins, PE, Director of Public Works

DATE: July 16, 2008

SUBJECT: Memo to City Council Regarding Maintenance of Edinger Parkway Landscaping

Statement of Issue: The Public Works Commission expressed concern over the ongoing maintenance costs for the Edinger Avenue Parkway proposed landscape improvements. Upon approval by the Commission, a memo will be sent directly to the City Council. A draft memo is attached. (Attachment 1)

Funding Source: Funding is not required for this action. Annual maintenance costs are anticipated to be $28,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to authorize Chairman Rivera to sign a finalized memo to the City Council regarding maintenance costs for the Edinger Parkway Landscaping Improvements

Alternative Action(s): Do not send a memo to the City Council.

Analysis: At the June 18, 2008 meeting, the Public Works Commission reviewed and supported the Proposed Fiscal Year 2008/09 Capital Improvement Program. Ongoing maintenance for the Edinger Avenue Parkway Landscaping Improvements was discussed. The Commission inquired as to the role of the Sea Isle Garden Club in the maintenance of the new landscaping. It was suggested that the original intent was that the Garden Club would be responsible for maintenance, including water and irrigation system. The Commission agreed to compose and send a memo to the City Council stating their objection to the change in responsibility from the Garden Club to the City.

Attachments:

Draft memo to the City Council regarding maintenance of the Edinger Parkway Landscaping Improvements

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

TO: Honorable Mayor Cook and City Council Members

FROM: Public Works Commission

DATE: July 16, 2008

SUBJECT: Maintenance Costs for Edinger Parkway Landscaping

The Public Works Commission recently reviewed the proposed Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2008/09. One project of concern is the proposed landscaping on Edinger Avenue between Saybrook Lane and Countess Drive. The first phase of the project that included curb and gutter in the area was a necessary improvement. However, we are concerned the project now includes an irrigation system and plant material that will require maintenance by city forces. The Public Works Director assures that the landscaping will be low water use; however, there will be additional costs to the city.

Although we support the project in concept, it was the Commission's understanding that annual maintenance was to be provided by the Sea Isle Garden Club (SIGC). The original proposal for a reconnaissance study indicated the SIGC was willing to assume some maintenance responsibilities. Maintenance costs were discussed again in the project approval on September 12, 2005. When the project was approved with the OCTA Transportation Enhancement Grant, there was no further mention of maintenance supported by the SIGC.

The Public Works Commission urges the City Council to consider requesting the cost of annual maintenance for the Edinger Parkway Landscaping be all or partially funded by the Sea Isle Garden Club. We appreciate your support.

George Rivera, Chair