

HUNTINGTON BEACH
SOUTHEAST AREA COMMITTEE
JUNE 17, 2003

Attendance: Cathy Green, Mayor Pro Tem; Dave Sullivan, Councilmember; and Jill Hardy, Councilmember

City Staff: David Biggs, Dave Webb, Todd Broussard, Dave Dominguez, Rose Mary Medel, Gus Duran, and Carol Runzel

Cathy Green called the meeting to order at 3:37 pm.

Public Comments: none.

David Biggs, Director of Economic Development, noted that representatives from CalTrans were present to respond to questions raised at the last committee meeting.

Dave Webb, City Engineer, introduced Ms. Nooshin Yoosefi, Project Manager, and Ms. Liz Anderson, Superintendent Contract Manager, both from CalTrans District 12. They provided information about their resources and processes for public improvements and the Adopt-A-Highway program. In brief, local landscaping projects and improvements are funded by local agencies and CalTrans only provides street lighting at on/off ramps. They encouraged city staff to have CalTrans review conceptual plans before applying for encroachment permits.

Jill Hardy mentioned the interest in the maintenance of the sand dune area owned by CalTrans. CalTrans has had some preliminary discussions with the HB Wetlands Conservancy to transfer ownership.

CalTrans is looking for additional sponsorships for the Adopt-A-Highway program for that stretch of PCH. A map detailing where current sponsorships are located will be provided. Ms. Anderson reported that there are three companies that contract with businesses for the Adopt-A-Highway program. These companies negotiate the costs per mile in the contracts with the businesses. Volunteer groups may participate in the program but would need to provide the required insurance. CalTrans would provide the pick-up materials. For PCH maintenance, currently two CalTrans sweepers operate every other Friday.

Mr. Jerry Dominguez, Southern California Edison, reported about the proposed utility undergrounding projects. The 66,000 volt transmission lines would not be undergrounded, but the 12,000 volt lines would be. This would remove the wooden poles in the area, but not remove the metal structures. He mentioned a cost saving alternative to undergrounding on PCH by boring under PCH to deliver electrical service to the traffic signals. Biggs mentioned that if a logical stopping point in an undergrounding project extends beyond the redevelopment project area, but is integral to the project, then redevelopment could pay for that portion of the project.

Dave Sullivan moved and Jill Hardy seconded that a draft agreement between the Agency and SCE be initiated for the proposed undergrounding projects. APPROVED. In effect, when approved, the agreement would create Agency debt and provide a controlled process for paying for the undergrounding of utilities on a project by project basis over time.

David Biggs reported that Orange County Assessor's office is waiting for the State Board of Equalization to finalize their assessment of the power plant. This will probably not occur until after June 30th. Escrow closed on the Ascon site on May 30. Staff will inquire about the sales price. At the July 7th meeting, the Redevelopment Agency/City Council will receive and file the Five Year Conceptual Capital Projects report.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Notes prepared by Carol Runzel, Assistant Project Manager