

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
8th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:01p.m. by Vice Chair Granath. Present were Commissioner Abelson, Commissioner Pendo, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Glauz and Council Liaison Mahmud. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director Shin Furukawa and Public Works Assistant Leonna DeWitt. Commissioner Glauz gave a brief introduction.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Abelson led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting of August 8, 2014.

Minutes approved as amended. (Abelson, Fisher 4-0)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Items not on the agenda

Dudley Myer – 1304 Oak Hill Place. Mr. Myer had comments about Monterey Road, specifically the traffic signals at Diamond and Meridian. These signals are not synchronized and therefore don't promote flow-through traffic on Monterey Road. Mr. Meyer's second issue is where Monterey turns to the left at Foremost Liquor. There is a fairly narrow median that widens out and blocks access to the left turn lane. With multiple commuter trains and associated long delays, autos back up and can't access the left turn lane to continue down Monterey Road to the west. Mr. Myer suggested taking out some of the median where it's wider and lengthening the left turn pocket to relieve some of the problems by allowing more vehicles to continue going west on Pasadena Avenue.

Vice Chair Granath closed public comments.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Council Liaison Mahmud reported that after speaking with Paul Toor, Director of Public Works, the Monterey Road traffic study should be completed by the end of next month. She anticipates that Council will be asked to consider a road design for Monterey Road at the beginning of the year. She also suggested the Commission vote for a new Chair at the next Commission meeting.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa provided a brief statement on the citywide engineering & traffic survey, a study that reviews citywide speed limits and advised that it has been completed. This study will be submitted to City Council in November 2014. He also mentioned that the Pavement Management System proposals are due tomorrow and staff will make a recommendation to City Council at the second meeting in November. He also acknowledged the recent article about Commissioner Fisher in the LA Times. Finally, he welcomed Commissioner Gayle Glauz to the Commission.

Public Works Assistant DeWitt reminded the Commission about the upcoming Dumpster Day on Saturday, October 11 at Arroyo Dr. and Mission Street between the hours of 7:00am – 2:00pm. She also requested the Commissioners to get connected to South Pas Connect, which is an emergency notification system that allows City officials to stay connected to residents in the event of an emergency.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consideration of Left Turn Restriction at Mission St. and Meridian Ave.

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa provided a brief history of this intersection and resident concerns regarding traffic backups on Mission St. caused by the absence of no left turn lanes. Mr. Furukawa summarized the findings of a 2012 traffic study concerning this intersection that recommended restricting left turns from Mission Street onto Meridian Ave. during peak PM hours on weekdays.

Commissioners discussed the traffic study conducted for the intersection of Mission and Meridian. Commissioner Fisher stated that the study was flawed since the simulation model did not take into consideration the Gold Line crossings. Commissioner Abelson expressed concern about shifting the problem to other intersections and onto local residential streets and suggested that no right turn restrictions from eastbound Mission onto southbound Meridian should also be considered and that only westbound left turn restrictions maybe necessary.

A motion was made to recommend the City contract with Minagar & Associates to prepare a new report analyzing the possible use of left turn restrictions on Mission at this intersection from 7am - 10am and 4pm – 7pm peak traffic hours and studying the possibility of restricting eastbound Mission right turns onto southbound Meridian during the same peak traffic hours, including the measurement of delays due to the Gold Line would have to be manually recorded and confirmed. (Abelson, Fisher 5-0)

B. Preparation of Annual Commission Report

Public Works Assistant DeWitt gave a brief reminder of the preparation of the annual report that will be transmitted to the City Manager's Office November 20 and presented to City Council December 3.

It was decided that Vice Chair Granath and Commissioner Abelson will prepare a draft and submit it to the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

C. Capital Improvement Project Update

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief update on the current Capital Improvement Projects.

Council Liaison Mahmud requested to have the construction sign identifying the project and the funds used to be placed at other locations of construction sites to let residents know where their UUT dollars are being spent.

Commissioner Fisher requested a tour of Wilson Reservoir at the beginning of the year when the project is completed.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Pendo commented he has received a number of calls from residents about the street projects. He also mentioned a resident who wrote a letter to the City and never receive a response. He stated the City has an obligation and a courtesy to respond to residents.

Commissioner Abelson reviewed the projects from the status report:

1. Single Warrant Traffic Study Monterey Road & Orange Grove - Traffic signal is warranted and staff is continuing the process. Commissioner Abelson also requested a copy of the traffic study be distributed to the Commission.
2. Left turn prohibitions on Diamond – Commissioner Abelson requested to agendaize for the next meeting an item to discuss whether a traffic study should be conducted to analyze implementation of left turn restrictions at Diamond.

Council Liaison Mahmud suggested that due to limited funds, the Commission should consider all of the potential traffic studies they would like to have conducted, so that staff can include the additional costs in the next fiscal year budget.

Vice Chair Granath requested to include in the agenda packet for the next meeting the Monterey Road Traffic Study contract with the consultant to view the contract tasks and deliverables.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Granath declared the meeting adjourned at 9:48p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Public Works Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on October 8, 2014.

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:



Clinton Granath, Vice Chair

12/10/14