

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
13TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2016 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 7:00p.m. by Chair Granath. Present were Commissioner Abelson, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Glauz and Council Liaison Dr. Schneider. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director Shin Furukawa and Public Works Assistant Leaonna DeWitt.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Abelson led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting of November 3, 2015.

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Items not on the agenda

No public comment.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Council Liaison Schneider informed the Commission that the Mayor will make reappointments to the Commission on Wednesday, January 20. He thanked everyone and stated he enjoyed his time on this Commission. He inquired about the installation of a street name sign for Hermosa Street at the northeast corner of Arroyo Drive.

Deputy Public Works Furukawa responded there are two separate issues 1) relocating the sign post from the northeast corner to the southeast corner for better visibility; and 2) an order has been placed for the newer reflective street name sign and it will be installed once received.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa announced the Mayor is reviewing applications to fill the vacancy on the Commission. The reorganization will take place after the vacancy is filled.

The School District's Mission Place Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is out for public comment and can be viewed on the School District website.

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa informed the Commission that Kristine Courdy, Public Works Operation Manager, will be starting on January 20, 2016. He reported on the request from Commissioner Abelson regarding the removal of the "No U Turn" sign on Mission Street at Mound Avenue. He stated that, after speaking with the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Public Works staff, each department indicated no support for removing the "No U Turn" signs, due to emergency vehicles.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consideration to Impose Discretionary Offsite Improvements on Private Development Projects

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief introduction to this item. This item is to consider amending or enacting certain ordinances to allow the Public Works Department to impose discretionary offsite improvements on private development projects. Currently, certain offsite improvements are imposed, such as cleaning of sewer laterals, repair of broken curbs, sidewalks and driveways, and repaving of the street adjacent to the property. The municipal code

currently specifically mentions only requirements for sidewalk and driveway improvements and planting of trees in the parkway.

Public Comment period opened.

Tony George – 1000 Fremont Avenue. He is an architect, former Planning Commissioner, and former Chair of the Design Review Board. He wanted to make the Commission aware of a slight technicality regarding the agenda not having been posted on the City's website and a possible Brown Act violation. He suggested that this item be continued, so that everyone is properly made aware. He expressed concern over the inclusion in the staff report of analogous ordinances enacted by the Cities of Banning and Alhambra, stated that a nexus study is needed, and objected to piecemeal improvement of public facilities.

Jane Schirmeister – 816 Orange Grove Place, South Pasadena. She is a homeowner, and across the street from her is a current development project which includes proposed alley improvements. She is grateful that the project went to Public Works for review. She indicated support of this proposed ordinance.

Mike Shimpock – 625 Milan Avenue, South Pasadena. He's concerned about this item, specifically with the Brown Act and proper notification. He suggested continuing the item, so that there can be more discussion. He indicated opposition to this proposed ordinance and that he had a problem with burdening property owners improving their properties with having to fund public works improvements.

Duncan McIntosh – 6321 Church Street, Los Angeles. He is not a resident, but does residential work in the City. He indicated opposition to the proposed ordinance, particularly the requirement of repaving a street or alley adjacent to a project, but did not object to sidewalk, curb or gutter improvement requirements.

Public Comment Period Closed.

Public Works Assistant DeWitt acknowledged that the agenda was not uploaded to the City's website, but was properly posted in the kiosk outside of City Hall.

Public Works Director Toor suggested continuing this item for the next meeting. He stated that staff is asking for direction and not a decision. He stated that there is no Brown Act violation, because it is just discussion. He provided a brief background on this item. The current process is that any project presented to the Planning Commission for approval is routed to the Engineering Division for review and conditions. This item is only for discussion, and it is not time sensitive.

Council Liaison Schneider suggested continuing this item to another meeting. He mentioned the fiscal needs of the City, including an Enhanced Water Management Plan which is an obligation for up to \$35 million regarding lawsuits related to clean water.

A motion was made to postpone this item to a subsequent meeting to be scheduled as soon as we can legally and logistically as possible. (Granath, Abelson 4-0)

Commissioner Abelson confirmed with Mr. Toor that the requirements currently being imposed on projects which were the subject of the concerns raised during Public Comment, specifically the repaving of public streets or alleys adjacent to a project, would not be implemented while this matter is under consideration by the Public Works Commission.

B. Consideration to Install Vehicle Speed Feedback Sign on Hill Drive

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief presentation on this item. Staff is requesting approval for the installation of a vehicle speed feedback sign for southbound Hill Drive as part of the current capital improvement project.

Discussion ensued regarding traffic speeds, road and geometric conditions. Commissioner Abelson noted similarities between the conditions present on Hill Drive and those on southbound San Pasqual Avenue between Arroyo Drive and the stables at the bottom of the hill and suggested that speed feedback signs for both locations be considered at the same meeting.

A motion was made to continue the item and to also include for consideration a vehicle speed feedback sign on southbound San Pasqual Avenue south of Arroyo Drive. Each street segment will be considered separately, but simultaneously. (Abelson, Fisher 4-0)

C. Consideration to Modify Right Turn on Red Restriction for Westbound Grevelia Street at Fair Oaks Avenue

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief presentation on this item. Staff is recommending the City's consulting traffic engineer's recommendation to modify the no right turn on red (NRTOR) restriction from westbound Grevelia Street to northbound Fair Oaks Avenue to between the hours of 7AM to 7PM Monday through Friday.

Discussion ensued regarding the revised traffic study, traffic congestion, and roadway safety.

A motion was made to remove the NRTOR restriction for westbound Grevelia Street onto northbound Fair Oaks Avenue in its entirety and install signs warning oncoming vehicles to yield to pedestrians, as described in the traffic study. (Abelson, motion failed)

A motion was made to request Minagar & Associates to amend the traffic study to consider the feasibility of an electronic symbolic no right turn sign that would be dark when State Street has a green light. (Fisher, Glauz 3-1)

D. Capital Improvement Project Update

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief update on the current Capital Improvement Projects. The City received an award from California Water Environment Association for the Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement Project Phase I.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Granath would like to revisit the comments and/ or issues on Fair Oaks Avenue specifically the bulbouts and traffic congestion.


Commissioner Abelson echoed Commissioner Granath's concern over the lack of progress on the Fair Oaks Avenue bulbout modification recommendations and made an announcement regarding a hearing on the Draft EIR for the Mission Place project located at the School District site, which took place on Tuesday, January 12.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Granath declared the meeting adjourned at 9:11p.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 February 10, 2016.

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:



Clinton Granath, Chair