

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
11TH DAY OF JULY, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1414 MISSION STREET**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Chair Glauz. Present were Commissioner Abelson, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Hughes and Commissioner Granath. Council Liaison Cacciotti arrived later. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director (DPWD) Rafael Casillas and Public Works Assistant (PWA) Leonna DeWitt.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Granath led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Meeting on June 11, 2018.

Minutes approved as amended. (Hughes, Abelson; 5-0)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comment.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Council Liaison Cacciotti thanked staff for assisting a resident on Garfield Avenue and Grevelia Street. He commented that the new Arroyo Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail looks wonderful.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

DPWD gave the Commission a brochure called "Utility Users Tax Fact Sheet" (UUT), which outlines the UUT. He stated additional information can be found at City Hall or on the City website. He informed the Commission that Kahono Oei has been appointed as Interim Public Works Director and DPW staff, including himself, are now repositioned to their regular assignments. DPWD stated that the City has additionally hired a part-time consultant to assist with the workload. DPWD reported that the city received a letter from the Marengo Elementary PTA regarding Oak Street traffic and staff is requesting proposals for a traffic engineering study.

7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Fisher expressed concern about the sharp turning radius at the northeast corner Fair Oaks Avenue and Grevelia Street. He suggested prior to the striping installation, that the turning radius be increased by eliminating one of the eastbound through lanes on Grevelia Street, however that was not pursued. His last suggestion was a 3ft southerly shift which would retain all lanes and allow an acceptable westbound turning radius. However, this was not done and Commissioner Fisher expressed disappointment that the suggested improvement was not made.

Commissioner Granath expressed concern about the increased need for water conservation. He shared information about steps other communities were taking on water conservation, including that in the State of Indiana, some cities provide a service to the residents to survey their property and provide recommendations on changing landscaping to use more drought tolerant plants. Commissioner Granath proposed the City consider providing a similar service to our residents. Commissioner Hughes informed the Commission that the City Water Conservation Analyst provides that service to our residents, but this position is currently vacant.

Commissioner Abelson questioned when the list of early action projects the City Council approved related to Metro funding would be made available. Commissioner Abelson mentioned he had contacted Margaret Lin and was told the City is still awaiting Metro's review and decision. This decision was expected to take place in December 2018. Commissioner Abelson also mentioned that Margaret Lin told him the City met with the Arroyo Verdugo Joint Powers Authority consultant for Measure M funds. Margaret Lin further told Commissioner Abelson that City staff is planning on scheduling a joint meeting of the Freeway and Transportation and Public Works Commissions. On another matter, Commissioner Abelson suggested that traffic striping on Monterey Road at Orange Grove Avenue be added in the area where the median had been removed on the east side of the intersection to provide a two-way left turn lane. Commissioner Abelson contacted DPWD to see if the median could be useable space and was told DPW staff would look into it.

Commissioner Abelson also commented on the positive appearance of the new Arroyo Seco Bicycle and Pedestrian sign and requested staff pursue renovating existing City signs to reinforce the City's image .

Commissioner Fisher agreed that the new signs are attractive and the City should look into making signs uniform, but to keep accident safety in mind to use wood posts or other break way designs as well as cement facades instead of concrete, to minimize accident injury potential.

Commissioner Hughes inquired about parking at Holy Family Church and asked if staff had received any complaints or other communication. DPWD responded that he hasn't received any comments related to parking in the Holy Family Church area. Commissioner Hughes inquired whether staff has received any complaints or other communication about Fletcher Avenue. DPWD responded that he hasn't received any new complaints or communication about Fletcher Avenue. Commissioner Hughes also inquired about the installation of red curb the Fire Department (FD) proposed in the hills to provide better vehicular access in the event of an emergency. DPWD responded that the FD has issued brush clearance notices and is working with the Parks Supervisor to identify other properties for clearing the roadway of overgrown shrubs. Commissioner Hughes also inquired about the General Plan and whether staff has generated any comments. DPWD stated staff has provided comments to the consultant. Commissioner Hughes expressed concern about the health of street trees and that the leaves of some Magnolia trees have been scorched by the heat. Commissioner Hughes suggested the City inspect street trees due to the hot weather conditions and provide treatment to keep these trees alive.

Commissioner Glauz expressed concern about traffic issues at the intersection of Monterey Road and Orange Grove Avenue that need to be evaluated. Commissioner Glauz commented that the new striping needs to be installed for the eastbound Monterey Road left turn pocket even if the new signal is delayed. Commissioner Glauz also commented that the new signal at Monterey Road and Orange Grove Avenue will increase the flow of traffic southbound on Orange Grove Avenue. This condition will result in traffic congestion and other safety issues requiring prioritization for repaving the roadway and addressing roadway width and parking issues between Monterey Road and El Centro Street. Concerning another location, Commissioner Glauz noted that the narrow curbside lane width on eastbound Mission Street to southbound Orange Grove Avenue makes the eastbound curb lane narrow, and cars making the turn are drifting into the northbound lane on Orange Grove Avenue.

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

A. Public Works Commission Update - Informational

DPWD stated staff is waiting for direction from the City Council before moving forward with any merger of the FTC and PWC or formation of any new Commission. DPWD stated staff previously was directed to review the overlap of projects between the Commissions and have both Commissions involved in the discussions.

General discussion ensued regarding the sunset clause, timing on a decision about a Joint Commission and other alternatives, such as eliminating the sunset clause of the existing ordinance and the need to have a permanent PWC.

B. Capital Improvement Project Update

DPWD gave a brief update on this item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn. (Hughes, Fisher 5-0)

Chair Glauz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:42p.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 September 12, 2018.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Gayle Glauz, Chair