

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
14TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2015 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 7:06p.m. by Chair Granath. Present were Commissioner Abelson, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Glauz and Council Liaison Dr. Schneider. Commissioner Pendo had an excused absence. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director Shin Furukawa and Public Works Assistant Leonna DeWitt.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Abelson led the pledge of allegiance. Dr. Schneider provided a brief history on the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting of September 9, 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 announced at the last City Council meeting that No Left Turn restriction signs have been installed at Mission Street and Meridian Avenue and at Orange Grove Avenue and Columbia Street. The signs seem to be working well, but some think are difficult to see. Commissioner Fisher suggested considering increasing the size of the words and using all capital letters and noted his understanding of the minimum height of letters and numbers on such signs. Ultimately, the signs were found to be functional.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa announced that: (i) on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, in the Council Chambers at 6 p.m., there would be a neighborhood meeting to discuss preliminary traffic calming concepts for Arroyo Drive; (ii) on Wednesday, October 21, 2015, the City Council would be discussing the donation of decommissioned street name signs to the South Pasadena Arts Council per a proposal through the City Manager's office; and (iii) on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, the City Council would have a public hearing to authorize the removal of the crosswalk at Lyndon Street and Fair Oaks Avenue.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. Development of Guidelines for Vehicle Speed Feedback Signs

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa provided background information on this item and presented proposed guidelines to be considered when deciding whether to install such signs. The signs provide feedback to drivers as to their current speed in relation to the posted speed limit.

Discussion ensued regarding the draft guidelines (including flexibility, being less restrictive, using lower thresholds and considering factors such as location, distance between intersections and safety concerns) and different types of signs. Also discussed was the number of requests received for such signs (approximately five over the past two years) and the potential for installing signs which gather vehicle speed and volume data.

Public Comment:

Mark Schmidt – 1569 Meridian Avenue. His concern is speeding on Meridian and asked if the City could implement some speed control measures.

A motion was made to have staff make revisions to the draft guidelines based on the comments of the Commission and to bring the revised version back to the Commission for consideration. (Abelson, Fisher 4-0)

B. Draft FY 2014-15 Annual Report

Chair Granath presented the Draft Annual Report. Commissioner Abelson distributed a redline of the draft reflecting his suggested additions and revisions which he had prepared and provided to each member for review. Commissioner Fisher had one minor correction. The draft annual report, as revised to include Commissioner Abelson’s and Commissioner Fisher’s comments, was approved. (Abelson, Fisher 4-0) Chair Granath stated he would present the report at the City Council meeting on November 4, 2015.

C. Capital Improvement Project Update

Deputy Public Works Furukawa gave a brief update on the current Capital Improvement Projects. Commissioner Abelson expressed concern that design of the Orange Grove/Monterey traffic signal was on hold.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Abelson inquired about the Grevelia Street and Fair Oaks Avenue no-right-turn-on-red issue.

Deputy Public Works Furukawa responded that work has started on the traffic study of the proposal to remove or modify the no-right-on-red at this intersection.

Commissioner Abelson presented to the Commission an article by David Zahniser entitled: “Lawsuit says new L.A. streets plan creates more air pollution, not less.” *Los Angeles Times* 9 Sept. 2015 and provided copies to each member, Council Liaison Schneider and staff. The article discusses a lawsuit filed against the City of Los Angeles challenging a plan to implement a road diet by reducing car lanes and increasing bike- and bus-only lanes on various streets throughout the City, claiming that it will lead to increased traffic congestion and gas emissions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Granath declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36p.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 November 3, 2015.

AYES: 4
NOES: 0
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

 11/3/15
Clinton Granath, Chair