



Additional Documents List Regular City Council Meeting September 15, 2021

| Item No. | Agenda Item Description | Distributor | Document |
|----------|---|--|---|
| 16 | Authorize The City Manager To 1) Execute an Award of Contract to Iteris, Inc., for a Traffic Study of Mission Street and Meridian Avenue in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$64,985; 2) Execute an Award of Contract to Alta Planning + Design, Inc., for Slow Street Program in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$167,812; And 3) Appropriate \$232,797 of the \$420,000 Repurposed Metro Cycle 3 Open Streets Grant Funds | Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works | Memo provides the revised correction to the Fiscal Impact table of project costs. Memo provides additional Staff recommendations to Council. |
| 2 | Public Comment Nos. 2 , 15, 16 | Lucie Colombo, City Clerk | Emailed Public Comment |



City of South Pasadena Public Works Department

Memo

Date: August 31, 2021

To: The Honorable City Council

Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

From: Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director

Re: September 1, 2021, City Council Meeting Item No. 16 Additional Document – Authorize The City Manager To 1) Execute an Award of Contract to Iteris, Inc., for a Traffic Study of Mission Street and Meridian Avenue in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$64,985; 2) Execute an Award of Contract to Alta Planning + Design, Inc., for Slow Street Program in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$167,812; And 3) Appropriate \$232,797 of the \$420,000 Repurposed Metro Cycle 3 Open Streets Grant Funds

Attached is an additional document which provides a correction to the Fiscal Impact table of project costs, adding in the cost of implementing demonstration projects from the Slow Streets Program;

| Task | Grant Funds |
|--|--------------------|
| Slow Streets Pre-Design Outreach | \$25,000 |
| Slow Streets Program | \$167,812 |
| Traffic Studies for Mission Street and Meridian Avenue | \$64,985 |
| <u>Slow Streets Program - Implementation</u> | <u>\$48,000</u> |
| TOTAL PROJECT COSTS | \$305,797 |
| TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS | \$420,000 |
| REMAINING FUNDS AVAILABLE | \$114,203 |



City of South Pasadena Public Works Department

Memo

Date: September 1, 2021

To: The Honorable City Council

Via: Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager

From: Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director

Re: September 1, 2021, City Council Meeting Item No. 16 Additional Document 2– Authorize The City Manager To 1) Execute an Award of Contract to Iteris, Inc., for a Traffic Study of Mission Street and Meridian Avenue in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$64,985; 2) Execute an Award of Contract to Alta Planning + Design, Inc., for Slow Street Program in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$167,812; And 3) Appropriate \$232,797 of the \$420,000 Repurposed Metro Cycle 3 Open Streets Grant Funds

To spend the leftover funds (\$114,203) in a timely manner and avoid the risk of losing them staff recommends that:

1. City Council direct the staff to negotiate a contract amendment with the Alta Planning + Design, Inc. (consultant) to include all or some of the selected streets in the slow streets program that can only be covered with remaining leftover funds:
 - a. Network of Class III routes streets identified in the City’s adopted 2011 Bicycle Master Plan; Diamond Avenue (Pine Street to El Centro Street), Oak Street (Meridian Avenue to Garfield Avenue), El Centro Street (Orange Grove to Brent Avenue), Brent Avenue (El Centro Street to Oxley Street), Oxley Street (Brent Avenue to Garfield Avenue), Arroyo Parkway (Pasadena Avenue to Columbia Avenue), Rollin Street (Diamond Avenue to Fair Oaks Avenue), and Grand Avenue (Mission Street to Hermosa Street), Meridan Avenue, and Garfield Avenue.
 - b. Authorize City Manager to execute a contract amendment with the Alta Planning + Design, Inc. for an amount not to exceed the remaining leftover fund balance of \$114,203.

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 2

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

From: [Jennifer Trotoux](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Cc: [ICE Husband - Marc Trotoux](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 19 - Support for Zero Emission Yard Equipment
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 12:45:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear South Pasadena Council Members,

As a local constituent who cares about air pollution, public health, and climate action, I strongly encourage you to adopt an ordinance to phase out the use of two-stroke gas blowers in the City.

While we were working at home in South Pasadena for over a year, the noise and dust generated by these blowers became apparent--sure, we love coming home to a neat and tidy neighborhood, but what is the environmental and health cost of that approach to yard maintenance? It strips beneficial insects and mulch from the plantings, which people should be more aware of. I have sympathy for the workers, too--while it only affected us for a half hour at a time (though repeatedly, multiple times per day and week!), they have to breathe and hear that stuff for their entire work day! Surely there is support out there, such as that noted below from the SCAQMD, that would facilitate the conversion. More people need to be connected with this information and encouraged to take advantage of it.

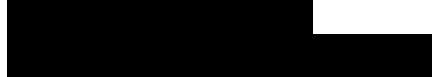
We are proud to maintain a gas-free yard and we have the sign out front to tout it!

- 1) Yard maintenance workers are most affected by the emissions from the gas-powered blowers. They experience the highest noise level all day long, day after day, for years. They also breathe the toxic and smog forming exhaust fumes. Transitioning away from this equipment will have immediate occupational and environmental health benefits.
- 2) Gas-powered leaf blowers are major emitters of air pollution, emitting as much volatile organic compound pollution **in one hour** as a 2017 Toyota Camry emits driving from South Pasadena to Denver.
- 3) Gas-powered leaf blowers emit carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, and we are in a time of climate emergency. Restricting gas powered lawn and garden equipment is called for in South Pasadena's 2020 climate action plan.
- 4) Electric alternatives are now widely available and affordable. The city has been using electric equipment to maintain parks, fields, and the golf course successfully for years.
- 5) The South Coast Air Quality Management District offers a 75 percent rebate for new leaf blowers and the city will help gardeners access this money.
- 6) Noise and pollution in our neighborhoods will be greatly reduced under this ordinance.

In short, now is the time to adopt this ordinance.

Thank you!

JENNIFER TROTOUX



I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate, restate and reinforce the South Pasadena Preservation Foundation's support for the work of the Non-Legislative Ad Hoc Subcommittee. A window of opportunity now exists to make historic headway on the issue of the surplus properties by holding direct talks with Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission, but the window narrows with each passing day. Only 53 days remain on the legislative calendar before the Governor must sign or veto bills.

SPPF greatly appreciates the efforts thus far by Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti and Council member Primuth to arrange a tour of properties in the corridor for staff from the city, Caltrans, and CTC commissioners, but we would urge you to act with all due haste to make this tour a reality. It was mentioned by CTC Chair Hilary Norton at their meeting this morning that a meeting has taken place between CTC, Senator Portantino's office and the City of South Pasadena. This development is welcomed and encouraging, however, letting members of the CTC see for themselves the deplorable conditions of some of the homes under Caltrans ownership will speak volumes and drive home in dramatic fashion the reasons why the sales program should be transferred to local control.

Let's use the leverage afforded by the progress of SB 381 to get Caltrans to the table and resolve the acquisition and disposition of the surplus properties through a negotiated solution. Recall that this approach was, and still is, heavily favored by residents in the affected neighborhoods when SPPF held a public forum on this issue in March of this year. While the Non-Legislative Ad Hoc Subcommittee has been challenged in the past by the lack of a clear consensus among the various stakeholders with whom it has been working, I believe SPPF can be of assistance in helping to craft a simple easily understood plan that conveys clearly what is sought through a negotiated solution. We would be happy to explore this further with the Subcommittee once a tour with the CTC and others has been confirmed.

In closing, I want to encourage the Non-Legislative Ad Hoc Subcommittee to redouble their efforts to produce a negotiated solution with Caltrans. Staff from the local District 7 office of Caltrans have already stated a willingness to dialogue with the community and its representatives, as have members of the CTC. Such constructive conversations, leveraged by the possibility of pending legislation imposing new requirements on Caltrans, are the best way forward to achieving an integrated solution that prioritizes a pathway to affordable homeownership, the protection and preservation of historic resources and an end to the hegemony of government ownership of dozens of homes in our neighborhoods.

Mark Gallatin

From: [Sheila Swift](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 19 - Support for Zero Emission Yard Equipment
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 6:02:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear South Pasadena Council Members,

As a local constituent who cares about air pollution, public health, and climate action, I strongly encourage you to adopt an ordinance to phase out the use of two-stroke gas blowers in the City.

1) Gardeners are most affected by the emissions from the gas-powered blowers. They experience the highest noise level all day long, day after day, for years. They also breathe the toxic and smog forming exhaust fumes. Transitioning away from this equipment will have immediate occupational and environmental health benefits.

2) Gas-powered leaf blowers are major emitters of air pollution, emitting as much volatile organic compound pollution in one hour as a 2017 Toyota Camry emits driving from South Pasadena to Denver.

3) Gas-powered leaf blowers emit carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, and we are in a time of climate emergency. Restricting gas powered lawn and garden equipment is called for in South Pasadena's 2020 climate action plan.

4) Electric alternatives are now widely available and affordable. The city has been using electric equipment to maintain parks, fields, and the golf course successfully for years.

5) The South Coast Air Quality Management District offers a 75 percent rebate for new leaf blowers and the city will help gardeners access this money.

6) Noise and pollution in our neighborhoods will be greatly reduced under this ordinance.

In short, now is the time to adopt this ordinance.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ella Hushagen](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: General public comment
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 12:35:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Please include this general comment in the agenda packet for tonight's meeting.

I want to thank Katrina and Ruben in the South Pasadena Parks Department for their prompt response to a downed branch in front of my house on August 12. They were very kind and helpful. Katrina discussed with me how to prevent future sudden branch loss on the street trees by thinning the canopy.

The suspected cause of the downed branch, sudden branch loss (also known as summer branch loss), is bound to become more common with heat waves brought on by climate change. Fortunately, no one was injured by the branch falling in front of my house. But regular tree maintenance is a critical safety concern for the city. I understand that Katrina and Ruben are the only two city employees responsible for tree emergencies right now. I urge you to take steps to ensure the Parks Department has adequate resources for regular tree maintenance and to address tree emergencies.

Thanks.

Ella Hushagen

From: [Virkenmontura](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Open Session, Agenda Item 19, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 1:26:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I support an ordinance that would prohibit gas blowers in South Pasadena. Many cities have adopted such ordinances because gas blowers emit toxic fumes, and disturb our sense of peace with sound levels that are not tolerable. I live on Windsor Place and I have seen these loud blowers making noise while hanging from the sides of landscape workers who are not even using them but simply walking. I have seen them used on bare soil creating clouds of dirt and gas fumes. There have been days when three or four gardening crews on the street or neighboring streets have their blowers going for hours. It's intolerable. Other cities have license requirements for landscape crews. This could be a way to ensure compliance. I pay my yard workers extra for using rakes and brooms and that is an incentive that I wish others would consider. If that's not possible, we can at least make electric blowers a requirement for employers and workers.

Thank you for trying to pass this ordinance!

Virginia Montecino

From: [Ed Donnelly](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment - 8/18/ Closed Session Agenda Item C
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 5:04:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor and Council Members,

In regards to the performance review of Colantuano, Highsmith and Whatley, I would like to voice my opinion that it is time for a change.

Let's give our new city manager a chance to work with a clean slate and prudent legal guidance that has been lacking for the past few years.

Please terminate the current contract with Colantuano, Highsmith and Whatley as soon as is prudent and retain new legal representation.

The residents of South Pasadena deserve the best. Now that we have strong new leadership in City Hall and at The SPPD, let's continue the trend with a new City Attorney as well.

Best regards,

Ed Donnelly



From: [Ella Hushagen](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Re: Agenda Item 19
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 12:26:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Please include my comment in the agenda packet regarding agenda item 19.

I support the proposed ordinance to ban gas-powered leaf blowers in South Pasadena. We are in the midst of a climate crisis, and the city should do everything within its authority to minimize emissions. Gas-powered leaf blowers are a major source of air pollution. It is critical that the city focus on educating homeowners, property managers, and gardeners, rather than pursuing punitive measures that may be coercive to gardeners at work here.

Thank you for taking action to combat climate change tonight.

Ella Hushagen

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 15

From: [Chris Bray](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Item #15, open session, Sept. 1
Date: Monday, August 30, 2021 9:20:14 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Councilmembers,

I object to the placement of Item 15, "the Third Amendment to the contract with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC, (CHW) for legal services," on the consent calendar. Consent calendar items are supposed to be routine and uncontroversial, but your automatic and underexamined decision to continue to buy legal services from CHW is controversial, inappropriate, and spectacularly unwise. I ask that you remove this item from the consent calendar for a full discussion, and I suggest that you consider the following choices:

- 1.) Release an RFP for legal services, and hear from other law firms, or
- 2.) At the very least, renegotiate the underlying contract, and submit it for third party review, rather than having Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley prepare and review your contract with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley.

CHW has provided grossly inept and unprofessional service to the City of South Pasadena, the details of which we've all rehashed a thousand times. Teresa Highsmith has been a terrible city attorney. Choosing an attorney from Teresa Highsmith's firm to replace Teresa Highsmith is a meaningless change. If you make Andrew Jared your city attorney with no discussion, you start him in a losing position, with no trust or respect from a community that hasn't been sold on the choice.

Chris Bray
South Pasadena resident

Regular Session City Council Meeting

E-mail Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM # 16

From: [Tamara Binns](#)
To: [City Council Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT - Agenda Item #16
Date: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 2:17:30 PM

From: Shelley Stephens [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021, 2:14 PM
Cc: cmooffice@southpasadena.gov; Tamara Binns
Subject: URGENT - Agenda Item #16

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of South Pasadena. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Council Members:

Re: Agenda Item #16, September 1, 2021 Meeting

BACKGROUND: In Fall, 2018, the City of South Pasadena received a grant award to stage the "Open Streets Event - 626 Streets ArroyoFest" - in partnership with local non-profit, Active San Gabriel Valley.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, in Summer of 2020, Metro authorized grantees to repurpose existing grant awards to support temporary COVID-Response/Recovery measures in the public right of way, specifically:

- **Street Safety Projects:** safer street crossings, traffic calming, walkability.
- **Outdoor Business Installations:** expanded outdoor seating and display space.

OPPORTUNITY: In March, 2021, the City of South Pasadena was approved to repurpose its grant funding to support small businesses and improve the pedestrian-friendliness of Mission Street,

a historic business district listed on the National Register, as well as being a segment of the iconic Route 66. The project must be completed by **December 31, 2021**. The grant funding will allow the community to identify and evaluate improvements to Mission Street between Fair Oaks and Orange Grove Avenues. We ask the following:

- **Implement the project in a timely manner to support economic recovery**
- **Engage Mission District businesses early and throughout the design process**
- **Evaluate the project via business and public input surveys**

REQUEST: As stakeholders and high-profile members of the South Pasadena business community, we urge the Council to act on this issue. No grant money should be left on the table. It would be unacceptable if we did not put this money to the best possible use, especially as businesses deal with the vagaries of the ongoing Covid pandemic and as we move into the

holiday season (4th quarter).

We feel strongly that these re-purposed funds could play a critical and important role in the downtown economic revitalization of our city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The many Businesses of Mission Street East and West:

Ellen & Joe Daigle, **Ellen's Silkscreening**

Camille de Pedrini, **Camille**

Tiger Wang, **Teamorrow**

David Plenn, **The Dinosaur Farm**

Kelly Kidd, **Kidd's Jewelry Heist**

Ryan Ramirez, **Two Kids Coffee**

Diane Staples, **Retreat**

Mimo B., **Rue de Mimo**

Sue Stranger, **Adobe Design**

Azette Santa Ana, **The Maya Salon**

Larry Raether, **Auto Repair**

Paris Kohli, **Jasleen's**

Karan Raiwa, **Aro & Radhika Restaurants**

Marie Wright, **Videoteque**

Tom Knott, **Knott & Associates**