

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE  
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05p.m. by Chair Abelson. Present were Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Hughes, Commissioners Glauz and Commissioner Granath. Councilmember Robert Joe was present. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director (DPWD) Rafael Casillas, and Public Works Assistant Leonna DeWitt.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Hughes led the pledge of allegiance.

The Commission agreed to reorder the agenda to hear Item No. 4 (Public Comment) prior to Item No. 3 (Approval of Minutes).

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Helgeson – 1602 Camden Parkway and Chair of the Freeway and Transportation Commission. Mr. Helgeson reported on the 710 Tunnel Project and that the City is near victory in regards to a tunnel being "off the table" as a transportation option. He understood that a meeting took place, where Metro discussed the re-appropriation of funds to the cities that would have been impacted by the proposed tunnel and the current end of the 710 Freeway.

It was suggested to have a Joint meeting between the Freeway and Transportation Commission along with the Public Works Commission to discuss this issue further.

Councilmember Joe added that the meeting with Metro was with various Mayors and their staff to discuss how the monies will be divided among the cities and how the cities can work together. The City Manager and Public Works Director will develop a plan to be presented to the City Council.

Melissa Wilson – 844 Garfield Avenue. Ms. Wilson is concerned about the intersection of west bound Grevelia Street and Fair Oaks Avenue, which she believes to be very dangerous. Ms. Wilson suggested the following 1) paint clear pavement lines going northbound 2) signs above stating "Fair Oaks Avenue only" and "Freeway only" 3) longer light at Grevelia Street.

Commissioner Fisher voiced that "cat tracking" and signing might solve the problem.

Ron Rosen – 901 Wolford Lane. Mr. Rosen attended a General Plan meeting and learned about Vision Zero, which is aimed to reduce the amount of traffic accidents and injuries. He believes it's another way to raise the issue of forcing road diets.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Meeting on June 14, 2017.**

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

**5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS**

Councilmember Joe attended a breakfast meeting with Paul Toor, Public Works Director, Mark Pestrella, Los Angeles County Public Works Director and Gary Hildebrand, Assistant Public Works Director to discuss the issue of stormwater, a Fair Oaks Avenue signalization project and Fremont signalization. Councilmember Joe requested Mr. Toor to provide a written report to the Commission summarizing the discussion.

## **6. STAFF COMMENTS**

Public Works Assistant DeWitt informed the Commission that the Joint Report of the PWC and FTC will be presented to the City Council on July 19.

Councilmember Joe requested staff to coordinate with the FTC to have representation from both Commissions at the City Council meeting.

The Commissioners requested to receive a signed copy of the Joint Report.

## **7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Hughes informed the Commission of a very bad car accident that happened in front of her house on June 28. Her concern was the debris from the accident and who to contact in these situations. Commissioner Hughes suggested that there should be a policy in place with regards to the cleanup of debris during traffic accidents. She stated the Dog Park is a wonderful addition to the City.

Commissioner Granath commented on the information received at the last meeting from Chief Riddle on accessing the hillside area for fire protection. He suggested expanding the review to have an ambulance dispatched to the location in place of the fire truck. Would then then require the addition of new red curbs? He also is requesting again information about how much red curb we already have in the fire prone areas and how much more is being proposed for emergency access.

Commissioner Glauz commented that she was in an accident and that the debris was cleaned up but does not recall who did the clean-up. She commented about visiting the Dog Park and accessed from Arroyo Drive. There is not a sidewalk area.

Commissioner Fisher commented on getting the right consultant on board to develop a traffic plan that has knowledge about traffic operations and practical improvements.

Commissioner Abelson informed the Commission about an accident at the Pavilions driveway west of Fair Oaks Avenue turning left to go westbound onto Monterey Road. He requested staff to review the location and consider prohibiting left turns from the driveway. He also commented that that we need to make sure we are in the discussions about the Metro funding and solutions from the beginning of the process.

Councilmember Joe requested staff to review if a policy exists for traffic related incidents in regards to clean up and to bring the information back at the next meeting.

Public Works Assistant DeWitt responded that during regular business hours the Police Department (PD) contacts Public Works staff to clean up debris in the street and the same procedure is followed for after hours, unless the officer feels that the debris is not an issue for drivers.

Deputy Public Works Director (DPWD) Casillas added that in his experience any road hazard or condition in the street staff is contacted to clean up and in most cases tow truck drivers are required to clean up the area as well.

## **8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM**

### **A. Capital Improvement Project Update**

DPWD Casillas gave a brief update on this item.

Discussion ensued regarding Gold Line Crossing Traffic Signal Improvements. Chair Abelson requested adding Fremont Avenue and Grevelia intersection to the next report.

**B. Fletcher Avenue Regulatory Signs**

DPWD gave a brief presentation on this item. Staff recommends that the PWC authorize the installation of 25 MPH (R2-1) with Speed Enforced by Radar (R48-CA) regulatory signs northbound and southbound on Fletcher Avenue. There is normally 600-800 ft. between blocks but there is a section on Fletcher Ave. that is 2,000 ft. between the block, so speed reminder signing would be appropriate. A sign could be installed half-way down the block as a reminder of the speed limit.

Discussion ensued regarding the legal authority regarding the Enforced by Radar sign, PD enforcement and location of markings and posted signs. We need to check our engineering traffic study in regards to the traffic results and the issue of radar use.

Public Comment Period Open.

Peter Lam – 2032 Fletcher Avenue. Mr. Lam is concerned about speeding of traffic during morning rush hour on northbound Fletcher. He suggested installing 25 MPH markings on the street in place of posting signs due to parkway trees.

Public Comment Period Closed.

Discussion ensued regarding the legal authority regarding the Enforced by Radar sign, other calming alternatives, additional signage and existing street classification.

A motion was made that the City proceed with the installation of 25 MPH speed limit signs one mid-block in each direction on Fletcher Avenue between Huntington Dr. and Alhambra Rd., and the pavement markings be installed at the same time (25 MHP sign and SLOW), and staff will evaluate the feasibility of installing the Speed Enforce by Radar sign legality and report back for consideration at the next meeting. (Abelson, Hughes 5-0)

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Abelson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

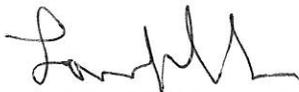
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Public Works Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on August 9, 2017.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Lawrence A. Abelson, Chair