

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
12th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2014 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 7:01p.m. by Vice Chair Granath. Present were Commissioner Abelson, Commissioner Pendo, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Glauz and Council Liaison Mahmud. Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director Shin Furukawa and Public Works Assistant Leaonna DeWitt.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Fisher led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting of October 8, 2014.

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Items not on the agenda

Pam Dong – 1205 Orange Grove Avenue. She stated she previously spoke before the Commission regarding the intersection of Orange Grove and Monterey Road and wanted to report another accident that happened last week at this intersection. This is the third accident this year and was caused by speeding on Monterey Road.

Deana Ng – 500 Fremont Avenue. She requested that the speed limit on Fremont north of the 110 Freeway be kept at 25mph. She is concerned for her family's safety as they enter and exit their property.

Vice Chair Granath closed public comments.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Council Liaison Mahmud reported that she met with the Director of Public Works concerning two issues 1) status of estimating costs for the elimination of the bulbouts, which estimate is needed for consideration by the public and City Council before the strategic planning session; 2) the status of the Monterey Road Diet traffic study, which he advised is on schedule and will be completed by the end of this month.

Commissioner Granath requested that the contract outlining the scope of work be provided to the Committee.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

No comments.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. 2014 Engineering & Traffic Survey (ETS)

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa presented the Engineering and Traffic Survey, illustrated by PowerPoint slides. The ETS is required by State law for setting speed limits on the collector and arterial streets within the City. The existing ETS expires November 2014. Based on the collected data, the ETS recommends no speed limit changes on 58 segments, recommends changes on six segments, and recommends five administrative additions, as follows:

1. Atlantic Avenue (Garfield Avenue to Pine Street) – no speed limit existing; recommend 35 mph.

A motion was made to adopt the recommendation for Atlantic Avenue to 35 mph. (Fisher, Abelson 5-0)

2. Fair Oaks Avenue (Monterey Road to Oak Street) – existing 35 mph; recommend a downgrade to 30 mph. Vice Chair Granath questioned the reason for the downgrade and asked if it was due to the middle school or pedestrian traffic. Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa explained the recommended changes in speed limits are based on the data shows and not on other factors.

Commissioner Fisher stated that segments of Fair Oaks Ave. having the same character (Monterey Road to Oak Street and Oak Street to Huntington Dr. and Monterey Road to Oak Street) are short distances and should have the same speed limit. Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa stated the segments are a little different due to the eateries on one segment and mainly apartment buildings on the other segment.

Discussion continued regarding the issues from an enforcement standpoint and from the driver perspective. Discussion ensued regarding the methodology used in obtaining the data.

A motion was made to have staff look at the entire segment on Fair Oaks between Monterey Road and Huntington Dr. to recommend a single speed limit for the entire segment, considering the uniform character of the road in conjunction with the 85 percentile speeds. (Fisher, Abelson 5-0)

3. Fremont Avenue (Columbia Street to 110 Freeway) - increase speed limit to 30 mph for consistency with the Municipal Code (currently posted at 25 mph.) Discussion ensued regarding the width of the street or physical conditions present on the street to warrant 25 mph. Comments were made regarding the curve on Fremont and the presence of the flashing sign. Discussion continued regarding safety concerns and enforcement issues as they relate to this segment on Fremont Avenue.

A motion was made to support the recommendation of 30 mph on Fremont Avenue so that it can be enforced by radar. (Fisher, Granath 5-0)

4. Grand Avenue (Columbia Street to Mission Street) – posted at 25 mph, but previous ETS recommended 30 mph; current ETS recommendation is 25 mph. Discussion included concerns regarding the accuracy of the speed data, adopting a speed limit lower than the 85th percentile speed on that segment and 10 miles per hour lower than that recommended for the segment of Arroyo Drive to the west, and creation of a speed trap. Commissioners Fisher and Abelson recused themselves from the voting on this particular segment due to residing nearby.

A motion was made to re-evaluate the segment and consider keeping at 30 mph rather than rounding down. (Granath, Pendo Glauz3-2 abstain Fisher, Abelson)

5. Marmion Way (west City limits to Pasadena Avenue) – currently no posted speed limit; ETS recommends 30 mph.

A motion was made to support the recommendation of 30 mph on Marmion Way. (Abelson, Fisher 5-0)

6. Monterey Road (Fair Oaks Avenue to Milan Avenue) – posted at 25 mph; existing speed limit 30 mph; ETS recommends 25 mph.

A motion was made to expand this segment to include the stretch between Fair Oaks and Garfield due to similar roadway characteristics throughout. (Abelson, Fisher 5-0)

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa stated the last five segments are currently not included in the 2007 ETS and need to be added to the current ETS:

7. Camino Lindo (Flores de Oro to Alpha Avenue) – existing 25 mph; ETS recommends 25 mph.
8. Flores de Oro (Via Del Rey to Camino Lindo) - existing 25 mph; ETS recommends 25 mph.
9. Oliver Street (Orange Grove Avenue to Meridian Avenue) - existing 25 mph; ETS recommends 25 mph.
10. Pasadena Avenue (west City limit to Monterey Road) - existing 35 mph; ETS recommends 35 mph.
11. Pasadena Avenue (Mission Street to Monterey Road) - existing 30 mph; ETS recommends 30 mph.

A motion was made to re-evaluate the entire length of Huntington Drive from Kendall Ave to Garfield Avenue for a uniform speed limit. (Fisher, Abelson 5-0) A motion was made to approve the remaining segments in the ETS by Minagar (Abelson, Fisher 5-0)

Note: All motions/recommendations were made at the end of the discussion of all segments. To avoid repetition the motions/recommendations for minute taking purposes are recorded after the discussion of the each segment

B. Discussion of the Annual Report

Vice Chair Granath presented the draft Annual Report, which was prepared by Vice Chair Granath and Commissioner Abelson. Commissioner Fisher inquired about the Caltrans freeway railing discussions and the current status. Deputy Public Works Furukawa explained there was written correspondence back and forth between the City and Caltrans and Caltrans would not commit to making any changes to the railing due to funding constraints and other higher priorities.

C. Reorganization of Commission

Deputy Public Works Furukawa briefly discussed this item and explained that the Municipal Code requires each Commission to reorganize in January. Staff was requested to revisit this task in January. Commission agreed to carry over reorganization until January 2015.

D. Capital Improvement Project Update

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa gave a brief update on the current Capital Improvement Projects.

Commissioner Abelson asked about lack of visible progress on San Pasqual Avenue. Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa responded that activity would pick up in December.

Council Liaison Diana Mahmud requested staff consider using permeable concrete for flatwork to allow water infiltration. Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa stated permeable concrete is environmentally beneficial, but as fines get into the voids in permeable concrete the effectiveness of the permeability is reduced.

Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa made a correction to the bid amount on Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement Project progress report to read \$3,147,209.

Commissioner Glauz noted that the curb on Orange Grove Avenue needs to be painted red adjacent to the new fire hydrant. She requested in the future the painting of red curb be included in the scope of work when a new fire hydrant is installed.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Abelson requested the following outstanding Monterey Road items be agendized for the next Commission meeting.

1. Monterey Road Diet expected in January 2015
2. Vice Chair Granath's request to provide the contract for the scope of work for the Monterey Road Diet study. Deputy Public Works Director suggested distributing the proposal via email.
3. Consider a study evaluating left hand turn restrictions at Diamond.
4. Consider lengthening Monterey Rd left turn pockets at Via Del Rey and Pasadena Avenue.

Commissioner Fisher stated he was glad the Commission was able to review the ETS because the study provided a wealth of resource data (street widths, number of lanes and traffic volumes), for use by staff and the Commission on the various projects that come before the Commission. Commissioner Fisher pointed out in figure 2 that the traffic volume on Monterey Road is 16,000 vehicles and on Fremont Avenue, which has one traffic lane each way, is 25, 000 vehicles. Commissioner Fisher observed another vehicle go over the curb at a short bulbout on Fair Oaks and stated the bulbouts are unsightly and a hazard to pedestrians.

Commissioner Pendo agreed with Commissioner Fisher with regards to the bulbouts on Fair Oaks.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Granath declared the meeting adjourned at 9:02p.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 December 10, 2014.

AYES: 5

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Clinton Granath, Vice Chair