

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS  
COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2020, AT 4:00 P.M.  
HELD VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Member Johnson (Chair); Council Member Lopez (Committee Member); City Manager Starr; Senior Management Analyst Fuentes; Executive Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Avels; Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo; Director of Community Development Diaz; Deputy Director of Economic and Community Development Caldwell; and PW Superintendent Jim Diaz

Absent: None

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee approved the minutes from the September 17, 2020 and February 18, 2021 meetings.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**V. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UPDATES/ITEMS**

**A. OPERATIONS**

**1. MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

An Operations Activities Report for the past month was included with the agenda.

Committee Member Lopez reported there is a pothole needing repair at the alley south of San Bernardino, between Monte Vista and Helena.

Committee Member Lopez noted a substantial graffiti influx and requested an update on efforts to address the graffiti issue. The intent is to have a report for committee members at the next Committee meeting.

Committee Member Lopez requested information on the process for large item pick-up. Staff provided an overview of the process, with Management Analyst Fuentes noting services have been affected by COVID-19, and large item pick-up has been halted due to reduced Burrtec staffing levels.

Committee Member Lopez asked why City staff performs maintenance at the Paseos Park. Staff responded the park is a public park and therefore a facility under the maintenance of the City.

**2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS — None**

## B. FACILITIES

### 1. MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

A Facilities Report for the past month was included with the agenda. There were no questions or issues with the report.

### 2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS — None

## C. ENGINEERING DIVISION ITEMS

### 1. Review of Commercial Truck Parking Permit Program on Palo Verde Street and Brooks Street

Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo introduced the item and provided the historical background. The item was presented to City Council with the recommendation to remove the parking program. Council directed the item be brought back to Committee for further review. Staff continues to recommend removal of truck parking on both streets due to numerous matters, including, various complaints, safety concerns, and limited resources to administer a parking program that serves a small group in the City. The program has been a luxury for the few permittees and utilizes valuable City resources that can be used to a greater advantage for the larger community. The intention is to remove all street parking of commercial trucks.

Executive Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Avels provided additional information on available truck parking in the surrounding area. Six viable parking location options were noted, with four of them being within the City of Montclair.

**Mr. Thomas Squyres**, resident and current permittee, spoke about his personal need for the parking. He believes the issues with the parking program on Palo Verde Street is due to the lack of appropriate/effective signage and enforcement.

Committee Member Lopez asked follow-up questions to better understand **Mr. Squyres'** predicament if the parking permit program is removed from Palo Verde Street.

City Manager Starr pointed out that currently the City is allowing heavy trucks to park on a residential street. The street is mostly residential, and the parking of heavy trucks is not an appropriate use of that area, and the parking program needs to be reconsidered.

Chair Johnson asked Chief Avels if the available truck parking in Montclair is logistically possible for **Mr. Squyres'** situation. Chief Avels responded that he believes the trucking locations should be able to work out an agreement with **Mr. Squyres**.

Ultimately, staff's recommendation for removal of the parking on both streets was taken under consideration. Chair Johnson made a motion and the Committee voted. The recommendation to remove the parking program on both streets was approved. The item will be returned to Council at a future meeting.

**2. 9015 Helena Avenue — Deed over parkway area**

The item was approved at the March 15 City Council meeting.

**3. 9614 Benson Avenue — Deed over access to Sunrise Park**

Nothing to report; the item is ongoing and may move forward in the future.

**4. Submitted application for Montclair SRTS Implementation Project**

Staff is waiting to hear if the grant was awarded. If not successful, staff will seek other grants to move improvements forward.

**5. Submitted application for HSIP Grant for Ramona at Howard Roundabout Review of Ramona at Howard**

Staff is waiting to hear if the grant was awarded. It was reported the City received a \$40,000 grant to prepare a Local Roads Safety Plan that will assist with additional applications for safety grants for street improvements.

**VI. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE/ITEMS — None**

**VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROJECT UPDATES/ITEMS**

Director of Community Development Diaz reported staff is working on an Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance to meet new laws and regulations. Additionally, a wireless telecommunications facilities code section needs updating to meet new federal requirements.

**VIII. CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo reported the status of the following capital improvement projects:

**A. LOCAL PROJECTS**

**1. CENTRAL AVENUE UTILITY UNDERGROUND PROJECT**

Permits were pulled to complete the undergrounding of utilities work. The project is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks.

**2. HOLT BOULEVARD REHABILITATION PROJECT**

The project consists of paving from Mills Avenue to Ramona Avenue as well as installing a dedicated left turn signal phase at the intersection of Amherst Avenue. The project will be completed in a couple of weeks

**3. STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON ARROW HIGHWAY AND FREMONT AVENUE**

The design plans are now complete. The complete street improvements will make the streets pedestrian-friendly and improve the aesthetic appeal of the area. The project is on hold until the impacts of development projects not moving forward are assessed.

**4. REEDER RANCH PARK — START OF DESIGN PHASE**

The City received a \$5 million grant to design and construct a new park. The design phase has entered into the final stage. Construction funds have been allocated.

## **5. SAN ANTONIO CREEK CHANNEL STUDY**

The Channel Study will assess the feasibility of the channel becoming a new linear park. This trail presents a tremendous opportunity for Montclair to dramatically expand its recreational amenities, enhance safety, and better connect its parks, schools, and neighborhoods to one another and to regional assets like the Pacific Electric Trail.

## **B. REGIONAL PROJECTS**

### **1. I-10 CORRIDOR PROJECT**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo stated the project continues to move forward. The project is a long-duration project and will be under some kind of construction for three to four years. Specifically at Monte Vista Avenue, the on-ramp off Palo Verde Street for eastbound traffic will be closed for most of the duration of the project.

### **2. CHINO BASIN PROGRAM – INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY (IEUA)**

The program meetings will reconvene soon. Many of the cities have questions and concerns about the project and its \$600 million price tag and its financial value. IEUA staff is planning to look at other options. Further information and direction will be coming soon.

### **3. CENTRAL AVENUE BRIDGE**

The design phase continues to move forward. The Scope Change Request and accompanying Scoping Study Report were submitted to Caltrans Local Assistance. The package states our case to Caltrans that it makes more sense to replace the bridge instead of rehabilitating it. The Caltrans local office did not object to the approach, and the recommendation to replace the bridge was submitted to Caltrans headquarters in September. Caltrans has not started reviewing the package. We are working with our Caltrans Local Office Ambassador to try to push the project forward. Once Caltrans agrees, the project can move into final design. Staff will be seeking \$15-20 million to fully fund construction of the project

### **4. FOOTHILL GOLD LINE EXTENSION**

City Manager Starr provided an update on various items concerning the project. Staff continues to work with the City's federal legislative advocate to secure federal funds for the project. Staff had a meeting with CEO of the Construction Authority, who indicated he could not support efforts to federalize the Pomona to Montclair segment of the project until Metro is willing to allow Construction Authority to seek federal funds. Construction Authority is prohibited from competing for limited federal funds due to a funding agreement with Metro. City staff has been meeting with patterning agencies to press Metro to relieve the Construction Authority from the restriction. Due to COVID-19, SB 1 funds are limited and most projects will need to seek federal funds to fund various projects throughout the state. Staff will continue to work on finding the funding source for the Montclair extension. Completion of the extension may be accomplished as soon as 2024. After testing of the system, operations may commence in 2025.

**IX. COMMITTEE AND CITY MANAGER ITEMS**

City Manager Starr reported staff will work with the Office of Congresswoman Norma Torres to submit projects for consideration for the earmark process. Project funding levels under the earmark process are limited to \$500,000 to \$2 million. Staff will need to be selective since the earmark is a competitive process and each house member can only submit ten projects for their district. Staff does not expect to get significant numbers for projects funded through the earmark process. Staff will also submit projects through the Fast Act Reauthorization process. The Fast Act Reauthorization process will have substantially higher funding levels and the City will seek to fund the Central Avenue Bridge project through that process.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:06 p.m., Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting of the Public Works Committee. The next meeting of the Public Works Committee is scheduled to be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2020.

Submitted for Public Works Committee approval,



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Noel Castillo  
Transcribing Secretary