

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, AT 4:00 P.M.
HELD VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Johnson (Chair); Council Member Martinez (Committee Member); City Manager Starr; Director of Economic Development and Housing Fuentes; Executive Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Avels; Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia; Director of Community Development Diaz; Engineering Consultant Hoerning

Absent: None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes to approve at this time. The minutes for the August 18, 2022 meeting will be submitted at a future meeting.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

A member of the community stopped by to express concern that a chain-link fence would be installed by **Monte Vista Elementary School**. His concerns were addressed. A chain-link fence will not be installed.

V. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UPDATES/ITEMS

A. OPERATIONS

1. MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

An Operations Activities Report for August 2022 was included with the agenda. There were no questions or issues with the report.

2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS — None

B. FACILITIES

1. MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

A Facilities Activities Report for August 2022 was included with the agenda. There were no questions or issues with the report.

2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS — None

C. ENGINEERING DIVISION

1. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program — Monte Vista Elementary School

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia reported that since the start of the school year, the City has received emails from concerned residents regarding traffic safety in and around **Monte Vista Elementary School**. Parents are crossing Orchard Street illegally, making unsafe u-turns, and parking in the middle of the painted median to drop off their children without regard to motorists on Orchard Street.

The City also received a request from **Ontario-Montclair School District** to install a mid-block crosswalk in front of the school. A mid-block crossing at this location will have other impacts and may create more safety issues.

The **Federal Highway Administration** compiled a crosswalk study in 2000. It states that marked crosswalks should not be installed in close proximity to traffic signals. Pedestrians should be encouraged to cross at the signal in those situations. The traffic signal at Monte Vista Avenue is located 300 feet to the west of the proposed crossing.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia continued to report that based on studies completed by the **Safe Routes to School Plan**, a mid-block crossing is not recommended, and is not a feasible resolution. It potentially poses more problems and endangers pedestrians by providing a false sense of security to pedestrians, particularly children. Wheelchair ramps, red curbs, and additional lighting would be needed. Parking would most likely be impacted as well.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia reported the Police Department placed a changeable message board advising the public to use the crosswalk, to not cross, and no u-turns. Public Works staff installed “No Pedestrian Crossing” signs on Orchard Street so the Police Department can enforce the illegal and unsafe crossing in the middle of Orchard Street.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia continued that staff is evaluating if the median should be painted to prevent parents from illegally parking in the middle of the street.

2. Highway Safety Improvement Program – Grant Applications

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia stated that the City submitted three applications totaling \$2 million in grant funding to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety in three areas of the City. A couple targeted areas are Orchard Street from Mills Avenue to Benson Avenue, and San Bernardino Street from Mills Avenue to Benson Avenue. The goal for these targeted areas is to upgrade stop signs to the flashing LED signs, along with high visibility cross walks, and conflict zones for bike lanes.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia continued that by obtaining this grant the City can continue to address more areas of concern near **Monte Vista Elementary, Montclair High School, Montera Elementary School**, and along Bandera Street.

Chair Johnson was pleased as she too has received concerns from residents along Bandera Street.

3. Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia reported that the consultant, **KTU&A**, has received a total of 160 surveys. They are planning the stakeholder meetings and a Council workshop is scheduled for September 26, 2022.

VI. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE/ITEMS — None

VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROJECT UPDATES/ITEMS — None

VIII. CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

A. LOCAL PROJECTS

1. Zone 5 & 6 Street Rehabilitation Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Heredia reported that paving continues for the next two months. The current objective is to complete the striping on Orchard Street.

B. REGIONAL PROJECTS

1. I-10 Corridor Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Heredia reported on the I-10 Corridor project on Monte Vista Avenue. The eastbound on-ramp on Palo Verde Street was opened in late August 2022.

The contractor is now working on the north side of the bridge and the underpass continues to be closed during nighttime hours.

2. Central Avenue Bridge Project

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Heredia stated that the City submitted an application in the amount of \$12 million through the Federal Bridge Investment Program to obtain funding for the construction short-fall to replace the bridge.

Chair Johnson inquired if **Congresswoman Torres** was able to secure funding. City Manager Starr replied she was unable to secure funding.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer continued that obtaining the **Bridge Investment Program (BIP)** funding seems promising as the City received letters of support from surrounding cities, the **San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)**, and the **California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)**.

IX. COMMITTEE AND CITY MANAGER ITEMS — None

X. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:20 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, October 20, 2022.

Submitted for Public Works Committee approval,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadia Paz", written over a horizontal line.

Nadia Paz
Transcribing Secretary