



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION NOVEMBER 17, 2010

**Call to Order/
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Siersema, who led Commissioners and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioners Absent: Rivera

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Herbel, Kirkorn, McGovern, O'Connell, Siersema, and Spencer were in attendance.

Others Present: Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works
Tony Olmos, City Engineer
Bob Stachelski, Transportation Manager
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

B. PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

C. MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Kirkorn to approve the minutes of October 20, 2010 as presented.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 6
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Rivera)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

E. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

E-1. December 15, 2010 Public Works Commission Meeting and Holiday Luncheon - Travis Hopkins informed the Public Works Commissioners at this time there are no known items to come before the Commission in December and it is

anticipated the December 15, 2010 meeting will be canceled. If a meeting is needed, it will be moved to earlier in the day followed by a holiday luncheon. Travis Hopkins provided details for the luncheon to the Commissioners.

Travis Hopkins informed the Commission the City Council heard an appeal to the proposed marked crosswalk removal at Garfield Avenue and Suva Lane at the November 15, 2010 meeting. The Public Works Commission recommendation was overruled by City Council. The marked crosswalk will remain and signage will be changed from School Crossing to Pedestrian Crossing.

Commissioner O'Connell inquired about enhancing the crossing. Bob Stachelski reported the approximate costs of either a flashing beacon or in-road lighting for crosswalks. Mr. Stachelski also informed the Commissioners no funding is available in the current budget for any enhancements.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

- F-1. Active Capital Project Report – Tony Olmos provided updates on various projects and then ask the Commissioners for questions.

Commissioner Kirkorn inquired on the Edison Park refurbishment having learned Community Services reported the grant received was lower than anticipated and the parking lot on Hamilton was eliminated. Commissioner Kirkorn expressed concern for pedestrians parking opposite Edison Park and crossing the street to get to the park.

Tony Olmos informed the Commissioners the park refurbishment will be built in phases. Staff recently met with the city lobbyist and noted this project is a priority for the city.

Commissioner McGovern inquired what the project at Indianapolis and Magnolia is as the slurry is patched and is spotty. Tony Olmos responded this could be a permit project as it is not a city project. He will investigate.

Commissioner Kirkorn inquired about the underground utilities on Beach Boulevard and when it will be completed. Tony Olmos responded SCE has completed its portion and the remaining work is to be completed by Verizon.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- G-1. Update of Speed Surveys and Speed Limits - Bob Stachelski provided background and overview of the process for setting speed limits. The city is guided by rules set by the state to avoid any unfair speed limits to create speed traps.

The survey included 90 street segments within the city. Of those 90, the recommendation includes reaffirming the current speed limits on 79 segments. A five mile-per-hour (mph) increase is recommended for eight segments and a ten MPH increase is recommended for one segment. Two segments that are not currently posted will have speed limit signs installed.

Bob Stachelski reviewed individually the nine segments recommended for speed limit increase and the basis for the recommendation. He then asked for questions.

Commissioner Kirkorn stated at the Atlanta Avenue First Street to Delaware segment, going west, there is a curve in the road and the signal is not visible until approximately 60-100 feet before the intersection and expressed concern of the proposed increase in speed limit.

Bob Stachelski responded staff has been working with the developer of Pacific City to remedy this issue. An additional signal head was recently installed.

Commissioner Kirkorn then spoke to the number of pedestrians using the sidewalk in the area and concern of a driver not navigating the curve. Bob Stachelski informed the Commissioners the presence of pedestrians itself does not meet criteria to reduce a speed limit. If the number of pedestrian crossings increases then it would become a consideration. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Herbel, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to request staff reevaluate the following roadway segments for the presence of conditions that may warrant a further 5 mph reduction of the recommended posted speed limit, and forwarding the final recommendation to City Council:

- o Atlanta Avenue – First Street to Delaware
- o Magnolia Street – Banning to PCH
- o Parkside Lane – Holt to Edinger

Recommend adoption of the remaining 87 recommended speed limits as presented, to the City Council.

VOTE: The motion carried.
AYES: 6
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1 (Rivera)
ABSTENTIONS: 0

H. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

I. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Herbel commended Chair Siersema on his efforts to pass Measure O in the recent election. Commissioner Herbel felt the opposition has more funding to defeat the measure, however, he feels confident it will come up again in a future election.

Chair Siersema thanked Commissioners Herbel and McGovern for all their work and participation in support of Measure O.

Chair Siersema recognized Commissioners Herbel, Kirkorn and Rivera for their work serving on the Public Works Commission. With the election of new City Council Members, the appointments of new Commissioners will be made shortly. The appointment of Commissioners Herbel, Kirkorn and Rivera will expire with the end of their appointing City Council Member term.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Michael Siersema
Chair



Joyce Greene
Administrative Assistant