



COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Hayward City Hall – Conference Room 2A
777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541-5007

May 29, 2019 – Special Meeting
4:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM by Chair Elisa Márquez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chair Elisa Márquez

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

- Elisa Márquez, Chair
- Al Mendall, City Council Member
- Mark Salinas, City Council Member (Absent at roll call)

Staff Present:

- Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works
- Kathy Garcia, Deputy Director of Public Works
- Fred Kelley, Transportation Manager
- Kevin Briggs, Senior Civil Engineer
- Erik Pearson, Environmental Services Manager
- Charmine Solla, Senior Transportation Engineer
- Vasavi Pannala, Senior Transportation Engineer
- Liliana Ventura, Associate Transportation Engineer
- Ayeh Khajouei, Associate Transportation Planner
- Saeed Saebi, Associate Civil Engineer
- Noriel Panganiban, Traffic Signal Technician
- Carol Lee, Management Analyst II
- Angel Groves Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Chair Márquez acknowledged staff's significant improvements with preparation of the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget and thanked staff for their work.

Director Ameri took the opportunity to introduce the Transportation Team to the Committee. Each staff member introduced themselves and provided a brief summary of their experience.

Special recognition was given to Traffic Signal Technician, Noriel Panganiban, for his extraordinary contribution in maintaining all citywide traffic lights and signals working properly.

1. Hayward Boulevard Safety Improvements Feasibility Study:

Fred Kelley, Transportation Manager, introduced the report and provided background information. Mr. Kelley confirmed that this item was going for Council consideration on the June 4, 2019 City Council agenda and that direction was being requested from the Committee at this time.

Public Comments/Discussion

Council Member Mendall asked why this corridor was selected and was it a technical reason or other. Mr. Kelley advised that a number of factors were taken into consideration but most importantly, the community feedback and their need for safety measures in this highly traveled area to be addressed. Residents and community leaders alike, offered countless examples to support the need for action in that area. Senior Transportation Engineer, Charmine Solla, explained that this area consists of various streets with varying street slopes that makes the work more complicated and requires the need of outside consultants versus current staff resources. The Tennyson Corridor, which was also considered, consists of more flat, leveled streets which could be addressed with current City resources.

Mr. Kelley also added that staff felt tying in safety improvements in the Tennyson Corridor with the Tennyson Corridor Strategic Initiative Plan made more sense for better use of staff time and inhouse resources.

Chair Márquez asked that staff be mindful of the growing needs of the communities from Hayward Blvd to the Stonebrae Elementary School area, such as increased attendance at Cal State East Bay, and would like to see other issues addressed in this area such as sidewalks. She also wanted to ensure that staff had a complete list of all Homeowner Associations in that area and that proper and thorough outreach was done using resources such as Nextdoor. Chair Márquez also added concerns she has with evacuation routes in case of an emergency in that area and the lack of direct access roads to safety. She would like to staff to look further into the possibility of opening side access roads.

Council Member Mendall thanked staff for the clarification of the process used for location selection and asked that for future projects, staff did their best to complete as much of the initial work inhouse versus expending funding on outside consultants, though acknowledged staffing shortages within the division.

Chair Márquez confirmed that the collision data collected and represented in the report is from 2014 to 2018, and that the same data is available and would be used in the future consideration of other corridors.

Council Member Mendall wanted new staff members to be aware of the attention that has been placed in the Downtown Area and asked that emphasis and direction be placed on other areas in need moving forward.

2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan:

Charmine Solla introduced the report and provided background information.

Public Comments/Discussion

Council Member Mendall emphasized the history of the City building and rebuilding sidewalks and crosswalks in certain City streets, while others remain unattended and without needed safety features. Ms. Solla explained that staff is looking into additional funding sources to be able to complete more or bigger projects Citywide.

Director Ameri added that the next presentation brought before the Committee would focus more on funding sources.

Council Member Mendall added an observation he made in crosswalk timing in Foster City where there is a slight delay from when the walk signal comes on to when the traffic signal light turns, which provides pedestrians safer entry into the crosswalk. He asked staff if this was possible in all or most crosswalks in Hayward and if so, that staff make any necessary adjustments.

Ms. Solla advised that this was an improvement in programming staff was already looking into.

3. Safe Routes for Seniors (SRS) Program:

Ayeh Khajouei, Associate Transportation Planner, presented the report and provided background.

Public Comments/Discussion

Chair Marquez was impressed with the number of senior centers located in or near the Downtown area. After reviewing the location map provided, she can see the higher immediate need in the Downtown but would also like to see other project areas in the future. She also asked that staff revise the current location map to include the Senior Center and Japanese Gardens.

Council Member Mendall asked that the next presentation include the Tennyson Corridor area and other areas that are equally as traveled by seniors.

Director Ameri advised that funding was an issue in including other areas with this project. However, staff understands the importance of the safety of all areas frequented

by seniors and as staff secures additional funding, more projects that expand beyond the Downtown area will be brought before the Committee.

Council Member Mendall confirmed that the design phase of the project would all be completed inhouse. Ms. Khajouei confirmed but advised that outside assistance will be used for the engineering part of the project.

4. Future Agenda Items:

Council Member Mendall asked if staff was taking advantage of the software and technology we currently have for the City's traffic signals or if the staffing gap was preventing staff from using them to their full potential, and that a recommendation for additional staffing resources be brought back to the Committee on a future agenda.

He also expressed his concern with the high number of items being brought before the Committee on one agenda and would like to consider having a monthly meeting or extending the allotted time for each meeting.

Council Member Marquez asked that we track discussion times for each item in future meetings to determine if additional time per meeting is needed or more focus on the specifics of each item.

Director Ameri advised the Committee that Technology Services asked to add an item to the agenda for the July CIC meeting regarding public, education and government broadcasting. The Committee was comfortable with adding the item but asked that sufficient time be allocated for that meeting to account for anticipated public attendance.

Chair Marquez asked that item number four on the July 24, 2019 agenda, Receive Final Report on the Library Construction Project, be tabled to a future agenda; and, item number seven, Oral Update on the ACTC Eastbay-Greenway Project, be kept brief.

5. Committee Member/Staff Announcements and Referrals:

There were no announcements or referrals.

6. Oral Updates

Kevin Briggs, Senior Civil Engineer, provided an update pertaining to the opening of the 21st Century Library. He advised of a number of events currently planned at the library and confirmed that there is a fire watch for those events. Mr. Briggs also advised of the target date to open officially to the public of July 1, 2019.

Director Ameri updated the Committee with the progress and positive communication between the City and the Federal Aviation Association pertaining to the completion of Fire Station No. 6.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:09 PM