

FULLERTON CITIZENS'INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2008 - - - 4:00 P.M. ENGINEERING CONFERENCE ROOM 1ST FLOOR - CITY HALL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Kremer

Patrick McNelly Allan Olson Arean Park Richard Wilson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeanne Costello

Richard Daybell Samuel Post Dorothy Ruhnke

STAFF PRESENT: Don Hoppe, Director of Engineering

Janelle Pasillas, Administrative Asst.

The meeting was called to order by Chair McNelly at 4:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 21, 2008

MOTION made by Member Olson, SECONDED by Member Kremer, and CARRIED unanimously, that the Minutes of the May 21, 2008 meeting be APPROVED as amended.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Director Hoppe asked the Committee if they had any further questions regarding the 5-year CIP that had been discussed at May's meeting. Member Park asked if it would be possible to have staff provide additional documentation or pictures of proposed projects, current conditions, expectations at completion of the project, etc. Mr. Hoppe responded that such items could be provided if they were already of record, but there would need to be some type of compelling reason to spend staff time gathering additional information.

Several Members had previously expressed concern over the condition of the City's sidewalks, and Director Hoppe suggested pavement reconstruction and how the projects are prioritized as a possible discussion item in the future.

Chair McNelly commented on scoping meetings being held between the OCSD and the City of Newport Beach to look at long term OCSD projects and their impact on various local cities and agencies. He asked Mr. Hoppe to add to the agenda, any projects being undertaken by other agencies that could have an impact on Fullerton projects.

Member Kremer asked if Fullerton coordinated with the utilities when undertaking a new project and Mr. Hoppe responded that utilities were notified. He also explained when a utility was planning a project that would involve digging up part of a street that was scheduled for repair, Fullerton would delay their project so as to not have the new pavement dug up by the utility.

Member Park asked the status of the properties with landslides on Euclid, and Mr. Hoppe responded that a lawsuit had been filed against the City regarding these properties, and therefore the Committee could not discuss the topic.

SEWER LATERALS

Director Hoppe started the discussion by clarifying that, per the City Attorney's office, there was no longer a "gag" order on the topic of sewer laterals, therefore the Committee was free to have a discussion.

Chair McNelly provided the Committee with samples of requirements from other cities, and discussed the repair and maintenance of sewer laterals and various ways cities dealt with them. Mr. Hoppe asked if the Committee was recommending the City look into expanding the amount of sewer lateral repairs that were done, either singularly or in conjunction with the Sewer Main Replacement project. Current Code stipulated the owner was responsible for the lateral up to the main. He explained that there had been times when the City was putting in a new main and would rebuild the lateral to the curb, and if they were within several feet of the curb they would go all the way to prevent the new street from being dug up.

Member Kremer believed repair of the broken sewers would reduce the amount of infiltration. When a lateral became plugged an immediate response was needed, and many homes in Fullerton did not have a clean out, which could be expensive to install.

Mr. Hoppe would like to come back to the Committee with a report that would discuss the cost to include the repair and replacement of the sewer laterals, which would also include installation of a clean out in the parkway, in conjunction with the sewer repair work currently underway. He also explained that the City tried to include street reconstruction in the project on those streets which were in bad repair.

Chair McNelly asked if, while using CCTV to take pictures of the laterals, a massive root was seen, would those pictures be sent to the homeowner. Mr. Hoppe responded Bill Roseberry in Maintenance was the person actually looking at the video, and it was his understanding that they would follow-up with the property owner.

Member Kremer asked if a parkway tree's roots interfered with the clean out, would it be possible to move the clean out upstream and have the homeowner share in the cost. Mr. Hoppe explained the lateral was put in at the parkway so the street would not be dug up if there was a root problem. If it was moved further back, it would require tunneling under the sidewalk and then installing it on private property.

Chair McNelly stated Fullerton Municipal Code 12.08.31 provided a definition for lateral and discussed responsibility for its maintenance. He believed the City had a right to protect their infrastructure. Mr. Hoppe explained that everyone paid the sewer fee, and there may not be a major financial impact if the laterals were repaired during the sewer replacement projects.

CIRC – June 18, 2008 Minutes Page 3 of 3

Chair McNelly provided staff with documents from previous meetings and requested they be copied and distributed to the Members at the next meeting.

Discussion was held on Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO). Mr. Hoppe explained if the property owner was not available, the City would make the repairs and charge the owner.

Mr. Wilson commented on the fats, oils, and greases, along with other non-flushable items that entered the sewers. Mr. Hoppe stated he would give Mr. Roseberry a copy of the meeting minutes and find out what type of public awareness programs he currently has or if any are anticipated. Chair McNelly explained that Mr. Roseberry has an informative PowerPoint presentation that he would like the Committee to view.

Member Kremer asked if the City took over repair of the laterals would it have a negative impact on the plumbers who normally did the work, and Mr. Hoppe explained that work in the street must be done by a Class C licensed contractor.

Chair McNelly asked if there was a record available of how many laterals were repaired/replaced, and Mr. Hoppe commented that it may be possible to count the number of permits that had been pulled.

Member Kremer wanted to know if there had been any action on removal of the intrusive trees, and Mr. Hoppe responded that the City did not install any of the known "problem" trees, but he would need to check with the maintenance department to find out how they handled problems with existing trees. If there was a crack in the lateral and roots were present, it was a nutrient rich environment for the trees.

Member Olson asked if the Committee was going to put together recommendations to the City Council on a change in responsibility for the laterals, and a possible change in the Code. Chair McNelly advised that anything the Committee did would be in relationship to infrastructure questions that affect the residents and the common welfare of those paying for services. Mr. Hoppe suggested the discussion be put on a future agenda; Council would likely want feedback and support from this Committee prior to discussing a change in the existing ordinance.

Mr. Hoppe recommended staff bring back information on the history of the City's position on laterals, the potential costs, and current status of the sewer replacements. Chair McNelly also asked staff to provide a list of Members names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Citizens' Infrastructure Review Committee adjourned at 5:06 p.m. until the next meeting of September 17, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.

Janelle Pasillas Administrative Assistant I