Transportation and Public Works Commission
Minutes
7:00 p.m. – Monday – March 21, 2011
City Council Chambers
809 Center Street

Call to Order **7:00 p.m.**

Roll Call Chair: Schlenger, Commissioners: McKee, Noroyan, Elston, Searle, Pomerantz and Garza

Staff Mark Dettle, Christophe J. Schneiter, Mary Arman, V. Anne Lynch

Public 8

Announcements

- Commissioner Peter Kennedy assigned to the Planning Commission by City Council.
- Introduction of Commissioner Reed Searle.
- The City Council will hear the Draft CIP on April 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Presentations

- *Transportation Project Update by Chris Schneiter, Asst. Director of Public Works*
  PowerPoint presentation of Completed and Current Projects with details of funding and brief descriptions of the projects.

Approval of Minutes

1. *Transportation and Public Works Commission Minutes of January 10, 2011*

ACTION Commissioner Elston moved, seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve minutes of January 10, 2011 as submitted**. Motion carried** by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Pomerantz, Elston, Schlenger, Garza, and McKee
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Noroyan and Searle

Consent

2. *City of Santa Cruz Sewer Liner Project – Authorization to Advertise*

ACTION Commissioner Pomerantz moved, seconded by Commissioner Noroyan to approve the plans and specifications for the City of Santa Cruz Sewer Liner Project and authorize staff to advertise for bids**. Motion carried** unanimously.

General Business

3. *Election of Vice-Chair*

Commissioner Elston nominated Commissioner Noroyan
Commissioner Searle nominated Commissioner Pomerantz
Vote for Commissioner Noroyan: 3
Vote for Commissioner Pomerantz: 4
Commissioner Pomerantz elected Vice-Chair.

Councilmember Katherine Beiers, recognized by the chair, stepped forward to congratulate and welcome Reed Searle to the Transportation and Public Works Commission.

4. *Branciforte Creek Bike/Pedestrian Bridge & Multi-Purpose Trail Project – Concept Development (C401001*)

Commissioners discussed this project and Commissioners Garza, Elston and Noroyan volunteered for the ad hoc committee to assist in selecting a final concept. Commissioner Pomerantz volunteered as an alternate. Chair Schlenger appointed Garza, Elston and Noroyan to the ad hoc committee.

PUBLIC

1. Micah Posner, People Power, feels that this is an excellent project. The current missing link in the levee discourages usage. Mr. Posner appreciates staff bringing this project forward.

Commissioners requested that staff provide information on how CIP projects are ranked and prioritized and provide an overview of the type of grants and funding sources that may be available for these projects.

5. *Points for Improving the Climate Action Plan (CAP)*

Mary explained that Juliana Rebagliati, Planning Director, had requested that the commission hear comments, but refrain from making further recommendations on changes to the draft CAP until they have received the compiled comments and the Revised Draft CAP. The Revised Draft CAP will come before the TPWC for another hearing this summer.

Presentation by Non-profit Environmental Organizations who submitted "Points":

- Batya Kagen, Transitions Santa Cruz, would like Community Choice Aggregation added under Alternative Energy to increase our chances for having our own energy systems or at least to not be dependent on a single energy source. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) was approved in California in 2001 and allows communities which form a CCA to choose where they get their energy. She stated that Marin County has successfully done this and is getting energy from Washington State solar and wind plants.
- Micah Posner, People Power, said the coalition of environmental groups who submitted the "Points" would support any mass transportation system that runs on the tracks, since fixed rail has ability to affect land use patterns in a multi-modal sort of village way that encourages more walkable communities. Said this plan needs specifics and the email submitted to the Commission provides some of those specifics. Mr. Posner encouraged commission not to wait until June to make additional recommendations.

PUBLIC:

- Jean Brocklebank supports Micah Posner's email points #3 and #4 Supports #2 only if it does not involve PRT (personal vehicles). Cannot support #1 if it includes Broadway/Brommer Pathway. Said the "Points" does not represent all local environmental groups since the Sierra Club, The California Native Plant Society, and the Friends of Arana Gulch are opposed to the Broadway/Brommer Path project. Ms. Brockelbank urged the commission not to support this item.
- Tom Kennedy, Director of Greenways to School which works with local teens said youth are concerned about the rail trail. Mr. Kennedy is behind point #4, this goal to have 50% of all public schools in the city limits have safe routes for students to ride or walk to school by 2015. Urged Commission to adopt these points before the next meeting or review.

- David Sterns, Campaign for Sensible Transportation, said alternate transportation would free parking for customers' use instead of employees. Urged Commission to adopt a Transportation Demand Management Program. Gave handout of the plan to the Commission.
- Ed Porter, former Councilmember, said he was pleased to see the commission taking up this item. He shares the excitement for light rail, which should be a powerful transportation system. Suggested adding additional language of "and/or other light people movers" to the light rail service point #2.
- William Menchine urged the Commission to make a stretch goal out of the idea of increasing safe routes to all schools by 2020 and to make it the highest priority. He feels that solving the "last mile" problem of how to get between neighborhoods and local schools without using cars is key.

ACTION Commissioner Garza moved, seconded by Commissioner Noroyan to postpone action on CAP recommendations until the next public meeting on the Climate Action Plan when these points will be reviewed along with the Revised Draft Plan and any other comments. **Motion carried** unanimously.

6. *FY 2012-2014 Capital Improvement Program – Admin Draft*
Recommendation: To provide comments to the City Council regarding the FY 2012-2014 Capital Improvement Program.
Commission discussed Gas Tax CIP programs.

PUBLIC

- Micah Posner restated his 4 recommendations from his email.
- Steve Pleich supports Micah's recommendations for a better bike town with reduction of greenhouse gases. Mr. Pleich feels the role of this commission is to be the eyes and ears of the City Council.
- Tom Kennedy is in full support of studying the Mission/King corridor as a single project.

ACTION Commissioner Garza moved, seconded by Commissioner Pomerantz to add to the CIP Public Works Unfunded Projects list the design and construction of a trail on the rail right-of-way from Bay to Moore Creek. **Motion carried** by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Pomerantz, Schlenger, Noroyan, McKee, Garza and Searle
NOES: Commissioners Elston

A friendly amendment proposed by Commissioner Elston to change the wording to "rail trail improvements or linkage citywide" was rejected by Commissioner Garza.

ACTION Commissioner Pomerantz moved, seconded by Commissioner Garza to eliminate the State Route 1 Bridge Widening project from the CIP. **Motion failed to carry** by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Pomerantz, Schlenger, and Garza
NOES: Commissioners Elston, Noroyan, McKee and Searle

ACTION Commissioner Pomerantz moved, seconded by Commissioner Garza to eliminate the Bay/West Cliff Traffic Signal project. **Motion carried** by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Pomerantz, Schlenger, Noroyan, McKee and Searle
NOES: Commissioners Elston, Garza

ACTION Commissioner Pomerantz moved, seconded by Commissioner Noroyan to combine the State Route 1/Bay Street Intersection Improvements, State Route 1/Mission/Chestnut & King Improvements and the King Street Bikeway projects into a single project for planning purposes with the intent that an overall study would be completed before any project commences. **Motion carried** by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners Pomerantz, Schlenger, Noroyan, and Searle
NOES: Commissioners Elston, Garza, and McKee

Commissioner Elston requested that staff provide Commissioners with information on the definitions of terms such as "collector," "arterial," etc. If the information is on the internet, just the weblink is sufficient.

ACTION Commissioner Garza moved, seconded by Commissioner Pomerantz to extend the Transportation and Public Works Commission meeting to 10:30 p.m. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Information Items **No action may be taken**

7. *Investigations into Food Waste Collection and Processing*
8. *Santa Cruz City Household Hazardous Waste Program*
9. *How the Transportation and Public Works Commission (TPWC) Agenda is Set*

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports

- Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force, Alan Schlenger
  County had issued a negative declaration on their proposed single-use bag ordinance. On the last day of the comment period the Save the Plastic Bag Coalition threatened that the County must do a full EIR or be sued. The County is working on a response. Commissioner Noroyan suggested a different approach: using the costs of plastic bags clogging recycling equipment and the costs to pick up plastic bag litter as the basis for such ordinances.
- TPWC Bylaws and Commission Procedures Review, Goal Setting Committee
  (Schlenger, McKee) No report.

Items Initiated by Staff and Members for Future Agendas

- Refuse Collection on Monthly or Bi-monthly basis
- Single person utility/refuse rate as separate, lower cost category
- Riverside Avenue Utility Underground and Streetscape Project
- East Cliff Drive Slope Stabilization and Repair
- Sunnyside Sewer
- Grey Water ordinance change
- West Cliff Drive Path Pavement Rehab
- Portable Basketball Hoops on Public Right-of-Way
- Fall paving schedule.
- Agendize times to review portions of the 3-Year CIP at fall and winter TPWC meetings with goal of understanding it by the time the new CIP is presented in March

Adjournment at 10:30 p.m.

The Transportation and Public Works Commission will adjourn from the March 21, 2011 regularly scheduled meeting to the next scheduled meeting on May 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers.