



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Special Meeting held
September 9, 2008

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Croft in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Steve Croft
Vice Mayor Todd Rogers
Council Member Diane DuBois
Council Member Joseph Esquivel
Council Member Larry Van Nostran

REVIEW OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL MASTER PLAN PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT

Bill Pagett, Willdan, displayed slides and presented the results of a Pavement Management Study conducted to meet State and MTA (Metropolitan Transit Authority) requirements for use of certain restricted funds. He reported that the study had shown that of 143 miles of residential streets within the City, only 12 percent were in need of resurfacing and that only 18.5 percent of major arterial streets would need resurfacing after this fiscal year. Mr. Pagett stated that the City of Lakewood was in a very good position compared to most other cities in Los Angeles County.

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp stated it was the recommendation of staff that the City Council received and file the Pavement Management Report.

Responding to questions from Mayor Croft and Vice Mayor Rogers, Mr. Pagett stated that most of the funding, like Proposition C and Proposition A funds, were restricted for very specific types of street work.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL STUDY

Lew Gluesing, Willdan, displayed slide and presented the results of the Traffic Signal Study. He reviewed how the intersections were inventoried and the information collected such as location, controller and cabinet type, and left turn phasing. He identified several locations where upgrades were recommended and reviewed a proposed left-turn warrant policy. He reviewed traffic signal warrant analyses at five locations currently controlled by stop signs and estimated costs to upgrade poles and control equipment, and install new or additional left-turn phasing at recommended locations.

Council Member DuBois inquired about funding allocations. Ms. Rapp replied by stating that grant funding had been applied for and awarded for seven locations, and that available Proposition C funds could be used for the required local match. Mr. Pagett stated that the Traffic Signal Study results had boosted the City's application for grant funding.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL STUDY - Continued

Ms. Rapp advised that previously, the City would have depended on the County of Los Angeles to complete this type of work due to the extensive Federal paperwork involved, but that Willdan now had the expertise to represent the City and accomplish the work much more quickly.

FIRE STATION 45

Mr. Gluesing presented the results of the study on solutions for Lakewood Boulevard traffic blocking ingress and egress at Fire Station 45. He advised that Station personnel would prefer to have controls that would clear traffic on Candlewood Street at its intersection with Lakewood Boulevard, rather than hold all stopped traffic.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, Mr. Gluesing stated that after a service interruption, it would take three or four full traffic signal cycles to get back to the signal's normal pattern.

Ms. Rapp stated that the recommendations were for the installation of a hardwire connection to the traffic signals on Lakewood Boulevard; proceed with design of the improvements in accordance with a proposal from Willdan; and to budget \$24,000 for the estimated construction cost of the improvements.

Responding to a question from City Manager Howard Chambers, Ms. Rapp stated that although the completion of the project could take as long as 18 months, staff believed the project could be completed sooner due to the good working relationship between Willdan and Caltrans.

Mr. Gluesing noted that two other systems had been looked at during the process, but that one system had yet to be approved for use in California and the other would have significantly increased project costs.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Mr. Gluesing stated that a review had been conducted of the pedestrian crossing on Clark Avenue at Michelson Street to determine if any improvements could be recommended to enhance safety. He stated that the study had shown that pedestrian counts did not warrant the installation of a traffic signal, but the additional red curb was recommended to increase sight distance for vehicles exiting Michelson Street.

Council Member DuBois inquired if the affected resident would be contacted prior to any hearing on a recommendation for additional red curb in front of the residence. Ms. Rapp stated that staff would be in contact with affected residents before the matter was heard by the Community Safety Commission.

Ms. Rapp stated that it was also recommended that the initial study be expanded to include two other mid-block crosswalks located on Del Amo Boulevard at Coldbrook Street and on Bellflower Boulevard at Hardwick Street.

Ms. Rapp concluded by stating it was the recommendation of staff that the City Council receive and file the Pavement Management Study and prioritized projects; adopt the Traffic

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS - Continued

Signal Study Report and its recommendations; approve the HSIP Grant Project, including approval of the Willdan proposal and application for Proposition C funding; and approve the plan for Fire Station 45 Pre-emption, including Willdan design proposal and budget for improvements.

Vice Mayor Rogers requested that the recommendations for Clark and Michelson be considered separately.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Van Nostran and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that adding red curbing or increasing enforcement would not adequately address concerns at the intersection of Clark Avenue and Michelson Street. He noted that judging by citizen reports, the intersection might be more dangerous than it would appear from the study, and would warrant more consideration by the City Council.

Mayor Croft suggested that this item be continued and discussed further between Council and the staff.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Croft adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk