



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
June 27, 2017

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor DuBois in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Diane DuBois
Vice Mayor Steve Croft
Council Member Ron Piazza
Council Member Todd Rogers
Council Member Jeff Wood

LAKESWOOD BOULEVARD STUDY SESSION

Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works introduced Adel Freij and Bill Pagett of Willdan. Mr. Pagett displayed slides and described the Lakewood Boulevard Regional Corridor Capacity Enhancement Project. He identified the findings of recent studies pertaining to some of the deficiencies in the corridor, which included average daily traffic volumes, vehicular delays, high truck volumes, accident/collision rates, levels of service and freeway ramps operations. He stated that the corridor study addressed improved multimodal mobility and access; improved safety and security; healthier communities; environmental justice; improved air quality; economic gains; and improved quality of life. The project consisted of widening or narrowing Lakewood Boulevard to provide for a regional bike path in compliance with the Gateway Council of Governments (COG) Active Transportation Plan (ATP) and construction of segments of sidewalks which would allow pedestrian access to various commercial establishments and the Lakewood Center as well as landscape improvements utilizing water conservation features. Some of the features included the first segment of a Regional Complete Streets Capacity Enhancement Project; expanded intersection capacity at Hardwick Street; traffic signal equipment to improve safety upgrades; provided bicycle parking and lockers; improved transit stops; added sidewalks within the corridor and car underground overhead power lines to meet ADA requirements; street resurfacing; and replaced landscaping and irrigation. He identified some of the benefits such as implementing signal design to coordinate pedestrian and bicycle movements into current County Traffic Signal Synchronization Program; providing Green Streets storm water quality treatment and drought-tolerant landscaping; identified in the Gateway COG ATP as a regionally significant project; enhanced existing Metro bus route connecting the Lakewood Center to Pasadena; regionally designated truck route; and providing regional access to Lakewood Center, Long Beach Airport, other retail areas, colleges, medical centers, employment centers.

Council Member Piazza made a statement for the record that he did not own the property on which he operated a business at the corner of Del Amo and Lakewood boulevards and felt that the proposed project would not significantly impact the business and, therefore, allowed his participation in the discussions.

LAKWOOD BOULEVARD STUDY SESSION - Continued

Mr. Pagett presented the various plan concepts and cost estimates for each variation. He added that the Gateway Cities COG and Metro had approved \$3.6 million for the preliminary design, environmental clearance and final design. He explained that some of the possible funding sources included Measure R, Measure M, SB-1 and Federal Highway Funds.

Ms. Rapp explained that the recommended design of concept 2A included the removal of the Southern California Edison poles and would be proposed for funding, but should the effort prove unsuccessful, there would still remain the basic plan intact with some minor modifications as concept 2B to allow moving forward.

Council Member Croft expressed appreciation for the potential addition of the sections of sidewalks which currently did not exist and noted the benefits of locating the bike trails away from the streets providing some distance from traffic for families using the trails.

Council Member Piazza stated that in light of the passage of Measure M, he observed that the City was due its fair share of the funds to benefit the residents and noted the importance of maintaining Lakewood as a forerunner and model to the region with this project.

Council Member Wood expressed concerns with the design plans as they related to adjacent cities and with the project selection of Lakewood Boulevard rather than other major streets in the City, such as Del Amo Boulevard.

Mayor DuBois commented that from Metro's standpoint, when it came to transportation issues, the focus was not on individual cities but rather on the benefits to the region.

Mr. Pagett responded to Council Member Rogers' inquiries pertaining to the uncertainty of funding by stating that agencies like Metro and the State had indicated a preference to fund projects that were shovel ready. Council Member Rogers stated the importance of proceeding with a design that would prevent the loss of trees if the undergrounding funding fell through.

COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION OF SELECTING DESIGN CONCEPT 2A WITH THE OPTION TO SELECT 2B PENDING FUNDING

Responding to Council Member Wood's request for a timeline, Ms. Rapp discussed the project schedule along with the next steps which included selecting a design concept; authorization for environmental clearance and final design; establishing Underground District for Lakewood Boulevard from Del Amo Boulevard to the north city limit; continuing outreach to transit partners; continuing participation in the corridor committee meetings; and applying for construction funding sources.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor DuBois adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk