

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL / RETREAT MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 5:00 P. M.
SAN DIMAS COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CONFERENCE ROOM
245 E. BONITA AVENUE

PRESENT:

Mayor Curtis W. Morris
Mayor Pro Tem Emmett Badar
Councilmember Denis Bertone
Councilmember John Ebner
Councilmember Jeff Templeman

City Manager Blaine Michaelis
Assistant City Manager Ken Duran
Assistant City Manager for Community Development Larry Stevens
Director of Parks and Recreation Theresa Bruns
Director of Public Works Krishna Patel
City Attorney Mark Steres
Captain Duane Harris, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morris called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. CONFIRM THE LOCATION OF THE WALKWAY THROUGH RHOADS PARK

Public Works Director Patel provided the background on the need to relocate the sidewalk at Rhoads Park. He reviewed the north plan which would bring out the existing curb line and locate the sidewalk adjacent to the curb and the north plan which would upgrade the existing dg path and eliminate the sidewalk at the curb. He provided cost estimates of \$85,000 for the north plan and \$40,000 for the south plan. The consensus of the Council was for the south plan, but to minimize grading where possible and to bring the path as far east as possible before reconnecting with the sidewalk.

3. REVIEW OF DIAL-A-CAB PROGRAM FINANCES

George Sparks, PVTA Administrator reviewed his report on the increasing ridership and cost of the Dial-a-Cab program. He recommended a \$0.50 increase in all rider fares; however, he suggested that it could be a \$0.25 increase each year for two years. He further added that currently the rider is paying for about 14% of the actual cost of the trip and the increase would raise that to about 18% of the cost. Mr. Duran explained the programs and projects funded from Proposition A funds and that there is currently a reserve but the Fund is operating at an annual deficit, drawing down those reserves.

Mayor Pro Tem Badar made a motion to bring back a proposal to increase the fares for all ride categories by \$0.50 effective July 2106. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bertone.

Councilmember Ebner expressed that he would prefer a \$0.25 increase. Councilmember Templeman expressed concern for justifying an increase when there is a reserve.

The motion to bring back a proposal to raise the fares \$0.50 July 2016 passed by a vote of 3 – 2 with Councilmembers Ebner and Templeman voting no.

4. REPORT ON DOWNTOWN VISIONING

Assistant City Manager for Community Development Larry Stevens provided a background of the downtown visioning process and the preliminary concepts from the consultant as a result of the public participation process. Mr. Stevens commented that one of the concepts was consideration for the Gold Line train station in the vicinity of Bonita and Cataract.

(Councilmember Ebner recused himself and left the room due to a conflict of interest by owning property in proximity to the area of discussion.)

Councilmember Templeman commented that the Council had intentionally decided to consider the site for the station off of Arrow Hwy. He added that he doesn't think that commuters will shop in the downtown and that adding additional traffic to what will already be a difficult intersection at Bonita and Cataract doesn't make sense. He expressed opposition to reconsidering the station on Bonita.

Councilmember Badar commented that even though he wasn't on the Council at the time, the Council was very clear when they told the community that the station would be located east of San Dimas Ave. and he is supportive of leaving the station where it is currently proposed.

Planning Commissioner John Davis commented that it may be a good idea to put the parking for a station south of the tracks on Bonita with the station at the M & E site.

Mayor Morris commented that the impacts of the Gold Line on the whole will be negative to the community and that the current proposed station location minimizes those impacts. The consensus of the Council was not to reconsider the relocation of the Gold Line station from its current proposed location.

Mr. Stevens presented that one of the other concepts raised by the consultant was the addition of residential development on or just off of Bonita west of Cataract. Mayor Morris expressed opposition to residential development along the Bonita corridor.

There was discussion on whether or not residential might be considered along Bonita and if so at what density. The general consensus was that the majority of the Council may be willing to look at alternatives for residential on the Bonita corridor but it would depend on what is being proposed. Mr. Michaelis commented that staff may bring back some general concepts or proposals may be presented by property owners.

Councilmember Ebner returned to the room.

5. REPORT ON GOLD LINE PROJECT MATTERS

Mr. Michaelis reported that staff continues to meet with Gold Line representatives to review at grade and grade separated options for the Bonita and Cataract intersection. He added that staff has also been meeting with 2A and 2B cities to learn from their experiences. He further added that there are no real good options for at grade crossings that will not create traffic congestion.

The Council discussed the option of a bridge and the consensus was they were not supportive of a bridge but asked staff to keep the bridge option open for now. The Council also expressed concerns for traffic impacts at San Dimas Ave. due to the station location. They asked staff to ask for traffic models with and without a station.

6. PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY ENCHROACHMENT IN THE DOWNTOWN AREAS

Mr. Michaelis presented that in light of the improvements in the downtown staff has been reviewing the existing encroachment permit process for outside displays and eating areas. Mr. Patel reviewed the existing permit process and fees and fees for surrounding communities. After Council discussion the consensus was to consider a fee structure that covers the City's costs for processing and maintenance but not to charge rent or make money.

7. ANIMAL CONTROL MATTERS

Mr. Duran presented his staff report regarding several animal control matters. In regards to the matter of increasing dog license fees, Councilmember Bertone made a motion to bring back for Council consideration an increase to dog license fees of \$45 for unaltered dogs, \$20 for altered dogs and a \$35 penalty. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ebner and passed unanimously.

The consensus of the Council was to not implement a mandatory requirement that dogs must be microchipped to obtain a license but agreed with staff and the Inland Valley Humane Society's recommendation to encourage microchipping by offering a waiver of shelter intake fees for dogs that are microchipped.

The consensus of the Council was for staff to bring back an ordinance implementing a breeder permit requirement for backyard breeders of dogs.

8. RECEIVE A REPROT REGARDING THE ACTIONS OF SOME CITIES TO ESTABLISH RESTRICTIONS AND THE PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN MULT-FAMILY HOUSING COMPLEXES

Mr. Michaelis reported that Councilmember Bertone had asked staff to research what some other cities have done to prohibit smoking in multi-housing housing complexes. Mr. Stevens provided some information on the prohibitions that some other cities have imposed. The consensus of the Council was that though there may be health benefits from such a prohibition it should be up to the individual multifamily property owners to impose restrictions and not the City. They directed staff to not consider a City restriction at this time.

9. RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING: ENGINEERING AND UTILITY MARKINGS; TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMING WEST OF THE 57 ALONG ARROW HWY; CALTRANS FREEWAY RAMP CONDITIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Mr. Patel provided a report on the various traffic and right of way matters. He explained the purpose of utility markings and stated that staff is reviewing options to ensure the more timely removal of markings by contractors.

Mr. Patel reported that one of the major impediments to traffic signalization along Arrow Hwy around the 57 freeway is that Caltrans controls the on and off ramp signals and has not been cooperative in the past with coordinating their signals with the City's. He commented that their willingness to cooperate may be changing and there have been recent discussions with them regarding synchronization.

Mr. Patel reported that Caltrans has also more responsive as of late in cleaning-up the on ramps and off ramps to the freeway.

10. UPDATES ON A VARIETY OF ITEMS

Mr. Stevens provided an update on the applications for three proposed in-fill housing projects.

Mr. Patel reported that the bids for the downtown project will be opened on April 27th with construction scheduled to begin late May.

(Councilmember Ebiner and Mr. Patel left the room and recused themselves for the next item due to conflicts of interest.)

Mr. Michaelis reported that staff and the consultants interviewed two proposers for the Bonita/Cataract RFQ earlier today and an interview for a third proposer will be scheduled soon. He indicated that that the next steps will be to request follow-up proposals from some of the proposers and possible site visits to some of their projects.

(Councilmember Ebiner and Mr. Patel returned.)

Ms. Bruns reported that the replacement sculpture for the stolen "Catching Frogs" sculpture for the civic center plaza has been delivered but is larger than the original and slightly different. She presented the plans to modify the installation. The consensus of the Council was that even though it is larger and a bit different staff should move forward with the installation.

Mr. Michaelis reported that staff and the Council sub-committee have been meeting with the Chamber of Commerce Board on evaluation of the services provided by the Chamber under the Memorandum of Understanding. He added that the approach being taken is to evaluate the services and determine which are for the benefit of the City, the benefit of the Chamber or mutual benefit and structure a new arrangement and City contribution accordingly. He added that some services or programs may be eliminated. He also reported that there have been discussions about changes to the City Birthday and Western Days events. He added that the City Birthday event will take place this year possibly with some slight modifications, however, the Western Days event will be suspended this year. One of the primary reasons for the suspension

is because the downtown project will have a significant impact on the parade route, however, this will also allow for some time to evaluate the overall event.

Mr. Duran reported that the Accela permit software project is moving forward with the implementation anticipated around July.

Mr. Stevens reported that staff is considering applying for a grant for a multi-jurisdictional bike and pedestrian event which would close certain streets from vehicles for a day to encourage biking and walking. The consensus of the Council was that there were no objections to submitting the application but only if it is a multi-jurisdictional event and subject to knowing more about the route.

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS

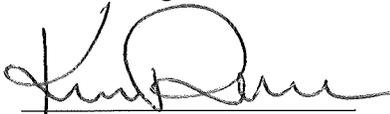
The Council agreed to August 12, 2016 as the date for Council Meeting with Assemblyman Chris Holden.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.



Ken Duran, City Clerk