

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (NICC)

Community Meeting Center, Council Chamber  
11300 Stanford Avenue

Monday, June 4, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 6:32 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIR RAMIREZ  
VICE CHAIR MCINTOSH  
COMMISSIONER BLACKMUN  
COMMISSIONER BRIETIGAM  
COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD  
COMMISSIONER PHAM  
COMMISSIONER SERRANO

Absent: Serrano.

ALSO PRESENT: Allison Wilson, Neighborhood Improvement Manager; Nate Robbins, Senior Program Specialist; Lisa Kim, Community and Economic Development Director; Bill Murray, Public Works Director; Judy Moore, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Brietigam.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

MINUTES: It was moved by Vice Chair McIntosh and seconded by Commissioner Blackmun, to receive and file the Minutes from the March 5, 2018 Meeting. The motion carried by a 5-0-1-1 vote as follows:

Ayes: (5) Blackmun, Crawford, McIntosh, Pham, Ramirez  
Noes: (0) None  
Absent: (1) Serrano  
Abstain: (1) Brietigam

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION: It was moved by Vice Chair McIntosh and seconded by Commissioner Brietigam that Commissioners had reviewed and acknowledged the Code of Ethics governing the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote as follows:

Ayes: (6) Blackmun, Brietigam, Crawford, McIntosh, Pham, Ramirez  
Noes: (0) None  
Absent: (1) Serrano

## MATTERS FROM STAFF:

The following item was taken out of order.

PUBLIC WORKS – PRESENTATION ON SELECTING PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: Staff presented an overview on the Pavement Management Plan (PMP), an in depth report, which categorized and prioritized the maintenance of the City's road infrastructure over a seven year period. Road conditions were determined by the use of a heavy, van-like vehicle, which drove over the roads using lasers to measure the deflection of the road surfaces. Data was collected and stored, and streets were given a numbered grade along with a solution for repair if needed. The City followed the guidelines laid out by OCTA, which regulated Measure M money, the main source of funding, along with grant funding and the future gas tax. Though the work plans best show where to spend funds, portions of the plan were modified to account for overall neighborhood maintenance in lieu of contractors spreading out the work in different areas increasing costs. Time frames for area selections needing maintenance were also coordinated to avoid utility repairs and any high traffic due to school schedules, special events, and elections. The completed data was presented as the Capital Improvement Plan for City Council approval. Also, neither the City Council nor Public Works had input as to the selection of streets to be repaired as the list was generated by a computer for a seven year period.

Staff further explained that there was limited funding for concrete repair of uneven curb, gutter, and sidewalks from tree growth, as the monies would be pulled from the asphalt funds. Concrete repair, therefore, was on a case by case basis by customers calling in. Any recent curb and gutter and sidewalks had been put in by developers with the costs passed onto the homeowner.

Staff then added that the gas tax was currently divided by 36 Orange County cities; that the cities maintained 95% of the roads, and the County of Orange maintained only 5%; that the State received 50% of the gas tax with the cities sharing the other 50%. The original gas tax plan from the 60's and 70's was drafted when California was more rural at a time when the percentages made sense, however, these were different times.

Vice Chair McIntosh asked if residents could adopt neighborhoods for street repair. Staff responded that the costs would be exceedingly high. McIntosh then asked if the City owns the laser truck. Staff responded no, that the City annually pays for a consultant to prepare the PMP report, which for the entire City, takes six years. McIntosh then asked if new plastic road technology was in place. Staff replied no, as utility cuts in the roads to maintain aging road infrastructures, such as for Edison, gas, and sewer would be a problem. Staff then explained the varying quality of slurry seal on roads noting that different companies were used, and some road surfaces were older than others affecting the quality.

Vice Chair McIntosh then asked if the median northbound on Brookhurst Street, between Lampson Avenue and Bixby Avenue, and those in similar dark areas, could receive safety reflectors. Staff would look into the matter.

Chair Ramirez noted that the street to the post office from Brookhurst Street was badly damaged. Staff explained that the damage was a result of heavy equipment from sewer repair, and that maintenance repair from Brookhurst Street to Nelson Street was scheduled for next year and that curb and gutter repair along the frontage of Vice Chair McIntosh's home was on hold until the oldest tree in the City came to its natural conclusion. Staff then stated that Garden Grove was designated as a Tree City, however, money was not budgeted to fill empty tree wells with trees or concrete. Finally, in regard to street sign replacement, the City was behind, with replacement costs being upwards of \$10,000,000.

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) – STREET OUTREACH UPDATE: Staff explained that each year, the City received funds of \$170,000 from the Federal Government for homelessness services, a portion of which was used for administration with the remainder shared between five service categories, one of which was \$25,000 for Street Outreach. City Net received \$15,000 of the allotment and Illumination Foundation received \$10,000.

Over the first three quarters of the year staff learned the following:

- Neighborhood Improvement – That there should be less emphasis on ride-alongs, and a more specific scope of services was needed;
- Service Providers – Garden Grove had a dynamic homeless population with very few encampments and with the diverse population, service assistance had been hindered by language barriers, though now Vietnamese speaking staff was available; and,
- Special Resources Team (SRT) – Service providers were best utilized as the immediate, street-level resources on their own with no law enforcement presence.

Staff noted the Fiscal Year 2017-18 accomplishments:

- Illumination Foundation assisted 70 out of the projected 200 individuals with housing; and,
- City Net assisted 96 individuals over the projected 50 number, with 16 engaged without other services, 31 being case managed, and 49 with housing.

Staff then presented the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Outlook:

- City Net would receive the full \$25,000 Street Outreach budget as Illumination declined their portion due to their having a different outreach system. Staff pointed out that Illumination had a medical component in the field, and City Net had access to emergency rooms and clinics;

- Scope of Services would focus on the five HUD eligible expenses such as engagement, case management, emergency health services, emergency mental health services, and transportation, resulting in better monitoring;
- Improve the client data reporting format to avoid duplicating services;
- Provide a comprehensive reporting form that tells a story of each individual; and,
- Improve coordination with Street Resource Team (SRT).

Commissioner Crawford asked if County funds were available for shelters, specifically the designated shelter each city was to provide. Staff responded that the Association of California Cities - Orange County (ACC-OC) calculated 2,500 shelter units would need to be provided. Each city was given a suggested percentage, with Garden Grove to provide 150 units of permanent supportive housing with services coming to the units. The City was already talking to developers to provide one or two units in apartment complexes. Staff then highlighted the \$100,000,000 'No Place Like Home' grant movement, which the State was offering to the counties. The cities were to collaborate to develop projects, then the State would award money to the counties, however, currently, there was no access to the funds, though the program was moving forward.

Commissioner Blackmun asked how often Illumination and City Net reported out. Staff responded quarterly, and that the service providers were paid for outreach time, not per individual.

Vice Chair McIntosh asked how many nights hotel vouchers were good for and was there follow up on the individual after they left. Staff explained that voucher limits were on a case by case basis, and if the person had a cell phone, they could follow up with services.

Vice Chair McIntosh then asked staff if the City had a safeguard against fake residential rehabilitation homes. Chair Ramirez responded that if there were six or less persons in a home, with none receiving medical treatment, the residence was treated as a home per State law. Staff concurred. Commissioner Peterson commented that he worked with recovery and had not seen this scenario.

Commissioner Brietigam asked why City Net received more funds than Illumination Foundation, especially since Illumination was projected to assist more people. Staff responded that both services asked for those specific amounts, and the service providers were welcome to apply again in 2019.

Commissioner Peterson asked for clarification on the reporting forms and if the Commissioners could give input to City Net. Staff explained that the City forms, once filled out, would be returned to the City to tell the story of each individual and that Commissioners were welcome to give input to staff for recommendations to City Net.

Commissioner Peterson hoped Asian Americans, as well the LGBT and women populations, were prioritized for services to make the program more successful as there seemed to be a difference between non-discrimination and prioritizing certain communities. Staff responded that service providers provided non-discriminatory services per HUD's rules.

Finally, Commissioners asked for interim updates on the programs, including the program for the 150 permanent supportive housing units.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS: The Commissioners thanked staff for the presentations.

Commissioner Peterson announced his resignation from the Commission as he had achieved his Master's Degree in social work and would be leaving Garden Grove for a while. He and his family were proud that he was the first openly LGBT Vietnamese American person in an appointed position. He thanked everyone and hoped to stay connected.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission will be held Monday, September 10, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., at the Community Meeting Center, Council Chamber, 11300 Stanford Avenue.