



# ***City of Ridgecrest***

## **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

**City Council Conference Room  
100 W. California Ave.  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555**

**Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.**

### **MINUTES**

Infrastructure Committee Member: Chairman Tom Wiknich; Members Steve Morgan, Lois Beres and Nellavan Jeglum  
Recorder: Karen Harker, Administrative Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was raised by Chairman Tom Wiknich and seconded by Councilmen Steven Morgan to approve the Agenda. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes. The Agenda was approved as submitted.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 10, 2008**

There was a motion to approve the minutes by Chairman Tom Wiknich, second by Nellavan Jeglum, to APPROVE THE MINUTES for June 10, 2008. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes. Recording Secretary, Karen Harker, made note of all typographical errors to the minutes earlier today and the changes were made.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

A. **Status Report – Solid Waste/Local Assistance Plan**

Jim McRea – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report is due 30 days after June 30, 2008. At the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting we discussed nine action items: Mr. McRea passed out handout:

1. Letter to California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) regarding modifications of Local Assistance Plan (LAP) to focus on additional programs.
2. Request from CIWMB history reports
3. Discussion with Jon McQuiston
4. Meeting with Jon McQuiston/Daphne Harley and staff
5. Meeting with Nancy Ewert/Daphne Harley and Staff
6. Letter to Kern County requesting assistance
7. Work with consultant analyzing the SRRE and fair share cost participation
8. Meeting with CIWMB Staff

## 9. Item to September 12, 2008 Waste Advisory Committee

There were also three discussion points:

1. Universal pick-up and blue bin recycling fee – with a universal pick-up for unincorporated areas via a tax assessor collection, it would be a one year minimum process.
2. M.R.F., Transfer Station or Tehachapi Haul
3. Public awareness and education partnership with County of Kern

Councilman Morgan wanted to know if all the solid waste information would go from City Council to the Infrastructure Committee and the answer was yes. Chair Tom Wiknich stated in trying to move this recycling effort forward and making sure that we are meeting the deadlines, we needed to know where Benz Sanitation is going with their effort to accommodate the city with MRFs, Transfer Stations, etc. It is going to cost them permit fees and how long is it going to take for them to get those permits and we are getting closer to deadlines. What are we going to do with the county? Is the county going to make collection mandatory in the county area? City Manager Avery realizes that we need recycling, MRF, or transfer stations at the dump and that we need to move forward as a city and as a community. At the next meeting, staff will bring you ordinances from several different cities that we can start studying. The goal is to have a document that states our intentions as of March 2009. The document will cover all the critical area of mandatory collections and fees for low income, multi cart sizes, senior costs, etc. Dave Matthews, private citizen, wanted to know why we didn't haul the trash by railroad to Tehachapi. There is already a freight terminal down by the railroad tracks instead of using a big rig use a train car.

### B. Signal sequencing

The City has seven signals. Public Works Director Dennis Speer asked if the Committee was talking about Norma or South China Lake Blvd where we currently have stop signs. Radar and Church on Norma would be good for sequencing. Caltrans was going to go to radio controls and we do have Church, California, and Ridgecrest on one sequence. Mr. Morgan felt that we didn't have a reason to sequence at this time and should report that back to the City Council.

### C. Building Inspector In-House

Discussion: Contractors in our community were asking if it was time to bring back building and street inspectors into our community. Mr. Morgan stated that even if we hired an inspector we still might need county support. The Building Department is short staff and Engineer Techs can fulfill the requirement of inspecting a street, Project Management Design cannot be handled by a tech. City Manager Avery still feels the City does not have the money to support an inspector. Chair Wiknich asked questions about Helt Engineering and what they do for the money we are paying them and can we use that money to hire an inspector. Mr. Speer informed the Committee of the benefits that Helt is offering the City with his contacts in working with CalTrans, Kern Cog and other organizations. Helt provides a low fee to the City by handling paperwork for staff that the City just doesn't have. Member Nellavan Jeglum felt that

having someone on board was not going to save time or money on a project. Mr. Speer went on to explained how the gas tax money worked and how a contractor can mark up a job and the percentages that they can charge. He felt that Helt was using an appropriate mark up.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Handed out a memorandum from Kern Cog indicating that a moratorium has been imposed and that no construction project will start until March 2009. Mr. Morgan asked City Manager Avery to contact members to find out how this would affect our current projects.
- Handed out information regarding Federal-Aid Contracts with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goals
- Verbal – Pot Hole Patcher is permitted and scheduled for training on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, Les Wood will be going to Bakersfield to get one load of emulsion for the training.
- Received a letter from District 9, they have approved and signed the E-76 on Radar Ave and South China Lake Boulevard. Preliminary Engineering work is reimbursable for federal fund.
- District 6 is arranging a kick off meeting to start on the Ward and China Lake traffic signal project. I have not heard yet when the meeting will be taking place.
- Hand out - how projects will be ranked in the future by Kern Cog. This is for the TAC meetings
- Hand out – Undergrounding projects – guidelines and requirements to start engineering projects
- Hand out – Santa Barbara is using a resurfacing system made with aerate chips that they are getting 14 years worth of life out of. Mr. Speer thought it would be a good idea to go and see what the material is like and how is placed.

7. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Steven Morgan asked that Dennis Speer give his information and handout before the Committee Meetings. He also asked if District 9 would be willing to come to a City Council Meeting and do a Presentation. City Manager Avery stated that he would check on that.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Street Sweeping – 2 month progress report

9. ADJOURNMENT meeting 6:26