



City of Ridgecrest

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

City Council Conference Room

100 W. California Ave.

Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Infrastructure Committee Member: Chairman Tom Wiknich, Councilmember Jerry Taylor,
Members Lois Beres and Craig Porter
Recorder: Karen Harker, Administrative Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 4:06 pm by Chairman Wiknich
Present: Chairman (Vice-Mayor) Wiknich, Councilman Jerry Taylor, Lois Beres, Craig Porter
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A Motion was made by Dennis Speer, Public Works Director, to move Agenda item 5E up to the front of the Agenda since the Water District had a representative present and didn't need to be present for all of the meeting. Lois Beres asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the said change. Motioned, seconded by Craig Porter. The Agenda was then approved as submitted.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Craig Porter to approve the minutes from October 14, 2009 as written; motion was seconded by Lois Beres. Minutes were then approved as submitted.
4. **COMMENTS: (PUBLIC COMMENT)**
Stan Ratorja – 1239 asked if the City Infrastructure is up to standards. He was informed by the committee that it would cost 128 million dollars to bring the roads up to the standards that we have been talking about. This estimate was done three years ago and costs have gone up some. As time goes by, we also will see an increase need to the roads that were not on the list at the time the study was done. Also, sewer lines have not been quantified in this Infrastructure plan. The City recently purchased in-line camera to look at the lines and see how the structure of these are doing. The City has also budgeted a consultant to have a GPS map done so that we can have good map of the lines and where they are at. Mr. Ratorja asked if there are any other infrastructure issues. Mr. Speer replied that the Corporation Yard, Street Lights, and Wastewater Treatment Facility are other infrastructure items.

Don McKernan – Bowman Road, asked about an update on the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Mr. Speer stated that the Request for Qualifications will be coming back the week of Thanksgiving and staff will be looking at all RFQ's.

Dave Matthew – Asked when the City would be striping with paint and why when we do the paint doesn't last very long. Mr. Speer stated that communities used to be able to paint with oil base paint that would last longer on the road. New regulations passed by OSHA do not allow us to use oil base paint anymore and the other paints only last 6 months.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) Call for Projects – CMAQ, RSTP, TEA

RSTP – Non Competitive. The City of Ridgecrest has \$401,000.00. Mr. Speer explained the process of the money and how Kern Cog programs projects and allocates the money. Discussion among the committee members on what projects they could choose from. The committee looked at RSTP Priority List that Mr. Speer had generated three years ago. Many of these streets were on the Measure N. The committee agreed to submit three projects even though it is over our budget. They are as follows and in this order of priority: 1. Downs (Drummond to Ward) 2. Sunland (Wilson to Church) 3. Gateway (Church to Ridgecrest Blvd.)

Public Comment: Cross gutters – are you going to make the aprons bigger for drainage. Discussion of Drainage on the roads was discussed. The roadway will be used for drainage and so the integrity of the road will be maintained.

CMAQ – Competitive Bid. Go for a variety of projects. CMAQ is rated on air quality. Currently we are using 1B money to fund Bowman Ave (Downs to Mahan). The committee wishes to apply for the CMAQ grant for this project along with Sunland (Upjohn to Bowman) as these roadways would be the extension that would bring county resident into the community. The committee discussed the priority of the roadways and Bowman is number 1 and Sunland number 2.

TEA – Our mayor suggested that we ask for stamped concrete. Jerry Taylor spoke of a Class I Bike lane on College Heights Blvd on the east side of the road. Already you have numerous community members using this area for biking and walking. In the General Plan it calls for a Bike Path to make a loop from College Heights over to Norma and back down. There is also an alternative bike path that takes you all the way to Brady Ave and back down. We need to get people and bicyclist off the roadway before an accident happens. Mr. Taylor spoke of providing a center turn pocket so that a car wouldn't be likely to be rear ended. It has already been proven to have bike paths are good for the community to have a Bike trail would be an extra bonus. Mr. Speer thought that a project that required a partnership with Kern County would be good. The committee decided to ask for a project as a loop College Heights to Norma Street with an alternate going to Brady Ave.

b) TDA Article 3 Projects – From City Engineer’s List

Discussion from the committee regarding the investment from each of the projects. Chair recommended that we give the City Manager Mr. Rose the first opportunity to find the money for all the projects. Mr. Taylor recommended that we find money for some of the projects but send a de-obligation regarding Upjohn Ave. Mr. Speer would like to move forward with the 16K from his budget on the Bowman Channel project. Karen Harker will get clarification from the City Engineer on what the joint funding means on the Upjohn Bike project and get the information back to the committee via email. Any information and decisions will need to be made via email so that design can move forward on these projects. These projects must be invoiced by June 30, 2010 for the City to receive it’s reimbursement from Kern Cog.

Public Comment: Should be looking at the Bowman Road. This is used by community members and has proven to be a huge asset to the community. On any given day you can see lots of people using the bike lane for walking and biking.

c) Solve intersection of Ridgecrest Blvd and Norma – Doing a desert mix and shut down the intersection. Mr. Taylor asked if there is data. We will grind and pave with a desert mix. Mr. Taylor doesn’t want to do something that will make it worse in the interim. Mr. Speer didn’t think that it would.

d) College Heights Blvd. – Jerry Taylor discussed how to turn

1. See TEA Projects

e) Road Patches by Water District

Chairman Wiknich stated that he has been receiving call from citizens who are concerned about patching taking place in our roadways by the Indian Wells Valley Water District. The Representative from the District stated that they are in the the process of removing the cold patch and moving into the hot patch phase of their work. When asked how long this would take, the District is giving a time frame of two weeks. During this time, can the cold mix be brought up to grade so that cars are not hitting deep potholes? The City of Ridgecrest Engineer tech will be looking at the patches when they open them up so that we can inspect them prior to them being filled with hot mix. The Rep from IWVWD stated that he will have his crew look at the area on S. China Lake Blvd and Church and bring it up to grade and gave his word that all the hot mix patches will be up to grade. The committee thanked him for coming to the meeting.

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

The Committee decided that they would meet in January due to the holiday month.

8. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm