



City of Ridgecrest

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Infrastructure Committee Member: Chairman Tom Wiknich
Councilmember Jerry Taylor,
Planning Commissioner Lois Beres
Planning Commissioner Craig Porter
Director of Public Works Dennis Speer
Recorder: Karen Harker, Administrative Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wiknich at 6:07 pm.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Chairman Wiknich asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Planning Commissioner Craig Porter made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Taylor. The Agenda was then approved as submitted.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Planning Commissioner Craig Porter to approve the minutes from September 8, 2010 minutes with the exception of amending Dave Matthews comments in Section 4 of the Public Comments to read “especially in the southbound right hand lane”; motion was seconded by Planning Commissioner Lois Beres . Minutes were then approved as submitted.
4. COMMENTS: (PUBLIC COMMENT)
Jack Noyer – Is the street sweeper going to start to sweep in the areas that are littered with leaves and pine needles. Dennis Speer stated that with this budget we will not be doing the streets but the crews will be cleaning the inlet drains or collection areas throughout the City. Mr. Noyer was concerned that water is going to go where it is going to go but will be slower getting there through the debris that is in the gutters and could cause flooding. Council Member Taylor stated that the council is hoping that this is just a one year thing of not sweeping and that we can go back to sweeping next year.
Stan Ratorja – At a recent City Council meeting I had heard about the new wastewater treatment facility that is was going to come off the Naval facility and is any of the cost going to impact the 45 million and also is the navy is not allowing us to expand the current wastewater treatment facility. Council Member Taylor stated we are not moving off the base. The base is now exploring possibilities of expanding on the base. The plan is that we will continue to treat 1/3 of City effluent on base along with all of the bases effluent. We are researching all of our options when it comes to the wastewater treatment facility. The facility on the base was never going to be fully shut down.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Review of Current Street Projects

1. Schedule for completing engineering work
2. Projects ready for bid

Public Works Director Dennis Speer and Recording Secretary Karen Harker gave out handouts regarding the Capital Improvement Projects and current street funding. Mr. Speer first discussed the projects that were going into construction phase and the bidding process. Both the ARRA projects will be under construction along with the Norma project. The Radar Traffic Signal is out to bid right now with bid opening of the 26th of October. The Bike Path Projects will be taken to City Council on the 20th for consideration of rebidding. The bids came in over budgeted and staff is recommending that we go back out to rebid. He then moved into the projects that are in the design or environmental phase. We have the Safe Routes to School Project that is sidewalk around the area of the two schools on Church Avenue; the West Ridgecrest Blvd Project that is in the design phase; and the third is the College Heights III (Franklin to CCCC). Council Member Taylor would like to see that there is consideration into having left turn lanes and also if the design is taking into consideration the bike path that we will apply for at the next call for projects. Dennis Speer stated that would be considered during the design phase. Dennis Speer went on to show the handout of the programmed documentation that was on the KernCog site and gave the information about how the funding was tracked through the state and federal processes. It was during this time that Dennis Speer and Karen Harker realized that the State 1B money that had been appropriated to the Bowman Project that was now a CMAQ Project is available for a new project. Dennis Speer explained to the committee that once the committee gave staff direction, staff would need to go back to the City Council to get a resolution stated what project the State 1B money was now obligated to. Chairman Wiknich asked when the construction year for building new streets is. Dennis Speer stated that the year following design is usually the year that construction starts. Dennis Speer explained the State 1B money and how it will work. Of the \$499,920.50 of 1B money \$85K needs to be invoiced by May of 2011 or we will lose it. Council Member Taylor and Chairman Wiknich discussed the Priority List of the street on the Capital Improvement Project. The Committee agreed that the clock is ticking and that they should make a recommendation from the list to move forward on the State 1B monies and not wait until January for the PMS. The Infrastructure Committee agreed that they would move down the Priority List of streets to priority 2 and 3. These street would be Sunland (Wilson – Church) and Downs (Upjohn-Ridgecrest). Downs would be a priority due to the SCE project and moving all the poles underground along that corridor. If there is a shortfall of money it is recommended that the City use RDA Bond money to supplement.

Public Comment:

Stan Rajora – The street of Mahan (Ridgecrest to Las Flores) is on the list but wouldn't Wild Pointe be responsible for putting in some of that street along with curb and gutter. Yes the developer would be responsible for that.

Randy Jenkins – What percentage of funding does the list make up. Chairman Wiknich explained to Mr. Jenkins the Capital Improvement List and how funding used and how the list was compiled.

Action:

Planning Commissioner Craig Porter made a motion to replace State 1B money Bowman Project with streets Sunland (Wilson – church) and Downs (Upjohn – Ridgecrest) with the amendment by Councilmember Taylor to do Drummond (China Lake – Norma) if these fall through. All in favor 4 Ayes.

B. West Ridgecrest Boulevard and Balsam Street Storm Drain Project

1. Discussion – Councilmember Taylor brought to the committee his comments from the last meeting the committee was looking at a storm drain project on West Ridgecrest Blvd. The Old Towne Action Plan (OTAP) met with City Engineer Loren Culp on the West Ridgecrest Blvd Project and walked the project. Mr. Culp had laid out the project in paint to give the OTAP Committee a visual concept of how the corridor would look with the bulb outs and parking. Based on these visual concepts, the OTAP Committee came up with a new plan or 1.5 plans. It was discussed that the bulb outs are only one inch high. Are we doing an underground or street surface drainage is another question that was asked. Dennis Speer stated that City Engineer Loren Culp was unable to attend tonight due to a family illness and that Mr. Culp does have proposals from the firm regarding the Master Drainage Plan. Mr. Culp has been working with the firm to make sure that the street can maintain a 10 year flood as it is called for. The question is do we have funding for a Master Drainage Plan. Planning Commissioner Craig Porter would like to see the calculation of a 10 year flood for the road. Chairman Wiknich asked where we are in the process of being able to have a public meeting. The committee suggested that this topic be brought back to the meeting next month so that Mr. Culp may be here to be part of the discussion. Mr. Speer stated that the final plan check was with Mark Thomas and that would then need to be reviewed and with the holidays coming up we were probably looking at the being of the new year before it would be ready for another public viewing. Chairman Wiknich feels that another town hall meeting is essential for this project.

Public Comment:

Stan Ratorja – I thought that the water was to be underground before it reached West Ridgecrest Blvd. That is correct. In the Master Drainage Plan, the water flows to Norma and then goes underground from there.

Randy Jenkins – Mr. Jenkins feels that bulb outs are not worth the money. The Committee discussed the use of bulb out as a traffic calmer and beautification area.

Chairman Wiknich made the recommendation to Mr. Jenkins to make an appointment with the City Engineer or Public Works Director to review the plans so that he might be able to get an overview of the project.

C. Multi-Disciplinary Services

1. Request for Qualification Submittals

Send out the RFP for Multi – Disciplinary Services in all areas of services. 38 firms submitted. Mr. Speer listed the number of firms that applied for each category. Chairman Wiknich asked why we did this RFQ. Dennis Speer stated that it was done at the request of the City Manager who thought that we needed to go out and get firms in all areas of expertise for the bond money. There are a lot of projects that need to be done and one firm will not be able to handle this. This will give us the ability to have a rolodex of pre-qualified firms that we can go to and get proposals to do a job. Dennis

Speer cautioned City Engineer Loren Culp, to use a selection committee process for the streets projects in case we need to use state or federal funds we can be in compliance with an audit. Council Member Taylor understands the Caltrans process but felt that we needed to be looking at other alternative when it came to the Bond money. We should be looking at not only the qualified firms but also looking at the fee proposals so that we can get the best bang for our buck. It was discussed that we need to put on the Agenda in January when the PMS study is completed to have some sort of cap that is established so that a certain portion of the money is looked at in a different way from Caltrans.

Public Comment:

Randy Jenkins – are these fix bids and can they drive up the price. It was explained to Mr. Jenkins that we will be asking for fee proposals from each firm and that they will submit and have to honor that proposal. The Firm will be unable to drive up the price.

D. Demonstration Project Overview

Public Works Director Dennis Speer handed out the handout “Example of Process for Requesting and Conducting Experimentations for New Traffic Control Devices in California”. Mr. Speer gave example of these devices in the area. The CTCDC meet quarterly and you must have made your application to make their agenda. You will need to have a demonstration with complete documentation, experimentation, and a final report. This goes back to committee for review. If the device is approved it will then go to Caltrans to adopt the policy and posts it on the CA MUTCD at a future date. Right now the control devices that Council Member Taylor would like to use at the intersection of La Mirage is being heard at a quarterly meeting next week for possible approval. The committee decided to hold this over until the next meeting to see what the result of that meeting would be.

6. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

7. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Chairman Wiknich had receive a ARAM Quarterly and asked about the CalRecylce and the use of rubberized asphalt. Mr. Speer informed the committee that rubberized asphalt cannot be maintained on a regular basis. It must be completely removed and re-laid for the resurfacing process.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

West Ridgecrest Blvd – Storm Drain Project

January – PMS – bang for your buck thrush hold/set dollar amount RDA funds

Demonstration Project

CTCDC Meeting - Outcome

Outline of SR2S

Wastewater treatment facility updates sewer lines from the camera

9. ADJOURNMENT meeting was 7:54