



CITY OF RIDGECREST
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555-4054

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
City Council Chambers
Wednesday November 10, 2010 at 5:00 pm

Committee Members: Chairman Tom Wiknich, Council Member Jerry Taylor
Planning Commissioner Craig Porter
Planning Commissioner Lois Beres

1. CALL TO ORDER: Call to order 5:03
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Chairman Wiknich asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Taylor made the motion, seconded by Planning Commissioner Craig Porter. The Agenda was then approved as submitted.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion was made by Councilmember Taylor to approve the minutes from October 13, 2010 minutes motion was seconded by Planning Commissioner Craig Porter. Minutes were approved as submitted.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. West Ridgecrest Blvd Storm Drain Project
 - Loren Culp gave information (handouts) of design and proposal from Penfield and Smith and Mark Thomas. Also the RFP and scope of work (handout). Loren Culp discussed options and differences of proposal and estimates with Penfield and Smith and Mark Thomas. Balsam Street isn't included in these estimates and would be considered a separate project.
 - Chairman Wiknich are the numbers today's numbers
 - Loren Culp yes they are today numbers.
 - Dennis Speer costs have been cut by using different techniques in building the road
 - Councilmember Taylor where is this in a priority of the Master Drainage Plan.
 - Dennis Speer this is of a high priority in town, but out of town would be the building up of culverts.
 - Jim McRea discussed the last rain and how it was affecting the areas around town.
 - Chairman Wiknich would this be in the council city dollars – of RDA Money

- Loren Culp by doing a cost comparison you would not have a project (cost benefit analysis) Need to make an economical decision versus how it would benefit and meet the means to the community of business owners.
- Committee discussed the flooding within the community and how it affects the community.
- Discussed the funding and phases of implementing the master drainage plan
- Craig Porter wanted to know if Ridgecrest Blvd was capable of a 10 year flood.
- Mr. Culp explained the philosophy of water distribution on the roadway and how to keep it out of door fronts.

Public Comment:

- Dave Matthews where did you get your numbers for the cost to benefit ratio.
- Loren Culp – Per storm what cost would be to vehicles, stores, homes.
- Dennis Speer – Lower of crown would be moving water over to Balsam Street
- Loren Culp – Public Testimony – two independent master plan, FEMA maps indicate 100 Year event.

Committee Comment:

- Council Member Taylor is there a way to do sumps in area, discussed bubblers. Use the pipe as a storage tank and pump it out. Would you consider this for the RDA funding?
- Loren Culp felt that yes he would consider this due to the benefits that the community would get but once again cautions the committee that it will not meet an economical study. These types of projects don't usually meet economical studies but do help the community.
- Council Member Taylor wants to make sure that CH9- CH12 – CH13 are discussed during the RDA funding meetings and that this is brought to the table.

B. Demonstration Project – outcome from meeting

- Dennis Speer updated the committee on the demonstration project and that the hybrid pedestrian crossing is at the Committee Level (state level) and is still being looked at. Mr. Speer will continue to monitor the progress and bring it back to the committee in February.

Public Comment

Committee Comment:

C. Wastewater Treatment Facility - sewer lines from camera.

- Dennis Speer discussed the findings from the camera and will be tying in the GIS mapping. The long term plan will be able to assess the lines and come up with a plan of replacement.
- Jerry Taylor how are we going to come up with a plan with all of the RDA projects that are coming up.
- Dennis Speer we will retain a consultant and develop a plan, and that could take up to take up to six months. All tab projects will be checked with sewer, water, and utility lines to make sure that everything is up to date.

- Dennis Speer updated the committee on the consultant progress as they have moved forward.

Public Comment

- Dave Matthews – grant person is any funds available from the EPA.
- Dave Matthews – at what level is the change of heart on base for the new Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Jerry Taylor indicated that he has been working with the base and they are warming up to the idea.
- Stan Ratoja – percolation pond are we not trying to use the reclaimed water.
- Dennis Speer - That is what the consultant is providing, comparative treatment plans. It is not off the table.
- Randy Jenkins – are all of our sewer lines shot, when you do your survey to see their condition. Are we competing for grants?
- Dennis explained the mechanisms for funding and how it works.
- Dennis Speer discussion of fees for the rate payers
- Stan Ratoja has heard at a meeting that we were at 72-73% and that we were watching to see how things are going
- Mr. Speer explained how the cease and assist order would work

D. Street Lights

- Dennis Speer distributed handouts and recapped what was presented to City Council several City Council meeting ago.
- Dennis gave a brief overview and history of street light reduction.
- Dennis Speer gave a status of street lights costs
- Dennis Speer discussed the alternative to street light reductions.
- Dennis Speer discussed the Acquisition Strategies (3) for ownership of the street lights
- Dennis Speer discussed the result of how this would work and the annual savings costs.
- Dennis Speer came to the committee to discuss the preliminary steps of obtaining street lights.
- Dennis Speer asked the committee needs to know how the committee would like to go.
- Dennis Speer indicated that the City has been signing off on street lights for developing tracts when in fact the developer has already paid for these light poles and fees.

Public Comment

- Randy Jenkins – if you can prove that 9 out of 10 lights are ours we need to ask for a rebate. Also feels that this is an area that looks like fraud and should be taken as a lawsuit.
- Dave Matthews – you don't want to make a false accusation; I had to wait to move into my house before all the utilities were done.

Committee Comment:

- Chairman Wiknich determining to buy out SCE we would need to find out who owns the street lights.
- Council Member Taylor also agrees that we need to look at who owns the street lights.
- Planning Commissioner Craig Porter all new development needs to have the lighting district.
- Committee discussed the facility charges and if the 120k would be absorbed with maintenance fees.
- Committee asked staff to random sample of the street light inventory.

E. Bowman Road East of China Lake Blvd.

1. Drainage issue after Super Wal-Mart Project

- Council Member Taylor asked if the low spot at Forrest Knoll is going to be address in the design of the Wal-Mart project.
- EDA may be see a liability at this area, Wal-Mart was looking at this. Pilot channel to discharge the flows to end up in the area northeast of this area. Pilot channel is being evaluated right now by Wal-mart.
- Jim McRea – discussed the area roadways and drains to solve the drainage issue
- Council Member Taylor when you say solve will that be for a 10 year event.
- Loren Culp indicated that yes it would be solved for a 10 year event.

Public Comment

- Randy Jenkins – Just going to be a big flood.

6. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

- Kern County Do not have a policy and would not have a policy consider it a arterial
- Status report from Willdan on the PMS and have reviewed and working on the decision tree
- Recommendation set aside money from the RDA bond so that we can match or pay for the preliminary engineering and construction Engineering (\$500,000).
- There will be a rash of 3 agreements of consultants to council on 1st
- Discussed projects that are ongoing

7. COMMITTEE'S COMMENTS

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Update of wastewater treatment facility-Carollo
- Bowman Channel – Pilot channel
- Street Sweeping

9. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.