

Citizens Streets Advisory Commission

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Street Department Conference Room, 901 North Nelson Street

Commission Members present:

Dallas Hawkins
Stan Stirling
Donna Jilbert
Max Kuney
Hal Ellis

Staff present:

Scott Egger, Director Street Department
Gary Nelson, P. E., Engineering Services
Ann Nolan, Public Information Coordinator

Commission Members not present:

Clay Schueman
Phil Barto
Kathy Miotke

I. Introductions

Dallas Hawkins called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes of October Meeting

Stan Stirling moved to approve the December 12, 2006 minutes with the correction of adding Max Kuney as not present. The motion was seconded by Donna Jilbert and unanimously approved. The December minutes will need to be reviewed/approved at the February meeting because there were not enough members present.

III. Street Tree Update

Gary Nelson gave an update on the relationship with the County Conservation District. At this time, the County Conservation District gave a one year commitment to provide recommendations of tree replacement and donating the replacement trees and planting services. Tax-payers pay into the Conservation District –the Conservation District was looking for a way to give back into the City and a more urban environment. So, when we contacted them about donating trees that needed replacement on the Street Bond projects they not only agreed to donate the trees, but to assess the trees that need replaced, make recommendations on tree replacement, and work with the affected property owners.

Max Kuney asked what the difference was between the grant we applied for through the Community Development program and the agreement with the Spokane County Conservation Department. The grant through the Community Development program would cover Community Development neighborhoods only, and if the grant is approved funds will not be available for 2007 projects. So, the County Conservation program assists with this year's projects, plus it is city-wide. Mr. Kuney also asked how many trees would be impacted in the 2007 construction season. Mr. Nelson said the arborist reported that approximately 19 trees would need to be replaced.

Hal Ellis asked about the sidewalk letter that was on last month's agenda. Mr. Nelson said that basically, if a property owner had an up-heaved sidewalk along one of the construction projects the property owner would be sent a letter that informed them that they could have their sidewalk repaired during construction of the street project at a

reasonable price and would address issues with trees and how to replace the tree, but if the property owner decided not to repair their sidewalk or replace the tree that is causing an up-heaved sidewalk the street project will still move forward. Scott Egger reminded the committee that the Bond Program only funds the rehabilitation of curb-to-curb repair, not sidewalks, so unless the tree roots were causing the street upheaval the project would continue to move forward.

IV. Public Meetings

Mr. Nelson relayed Tom Arnold's thoughts on presenting to the Planning Commission, he stated that CSAC has never presented to Planning Commission before and may not be the best audience. Stan Stirling mentioned the Bond Program is a success story and wants to share that message. Mr. Ellis mentioned it as a PR opportunity to share what has been completed on the program, give an overview, not have an open discussion. Mr. Stirling and Mr. Hawkins agreed with Mr. Ellis's comments. Mr. Stirling mentioned having a lunch briefing to Planning Commission from around 12:15 to 12:30 p.m. Ann Nolan will contact the Planning Commission and schedule that presentation. The same presentation will be shown except the budget numbers will be updated.

Mr. Nelson gave an update on the upcoming public meetings through the beginning of February. The first meeting is surrounding trees on the Lincoln St. project which isn't scheduled for construction until 2012-2013, the meeting is set for January 25. The next meeting is set for January 31 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the South Hill Senior Center on the 29th Ave. from Southeast Blvd. to Freya St. The third public meeting is set for 7 p.m. at the MAC on the Browne's Addition/Peaceful Valley. The three upcoming public meetings that Engineering Services has scheduled are on the upcoming projects: Southeast Blvd. from Third Ave. to Sherman Ave., Austin Rd. LID and Maple St./Ash St. from Northwest Blvd. to Wellesley Ave. Residents and business owners for the projects were notified by direct mail. The direct mail packet included a letter, flyer and the pavement cut policy. The flyer also was distributed through the neighborhood councils. It was mentioned that in the future, a notice should be posted on the Web site.

V. Annual Report

Ms. Nolan gave an update on the Annual Report status. The report will be compiled no later than January 31. The report will be presented to City Council in tandem with Engineering Services year end report. Mr. Hawkins will attend the City Council meeting and distribute hard-copies of the CSAC Annual Report. Mr. Hawkins requested Ms. Nolan to compress the pictures on the Engineering Services year end PowerPoint and email to CSAC members for review.

VI. 2007 Street Bond Projects and Map

The 2007 Bond construction map was distributed to the CSAC members.

VII. Other Business

Mr. Hawkins showed the letter from the Mayor appointing him to another 3 year term as the CSAC Chair.

XIV. Public Comment

XV. Adjournment

The meeting was concluded at 2:23 p.m