

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
December 10, 2012 – 5:30 P.M.
Pasadena Conference Center
Ballroom Building, Ballroom E-H
300 East Green Street, Pasadena

SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING:

Mayor Bogaard called the special meeting to order at 5:52 p.m.
(Absent: None)

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 5:52 p.m., to discuss the following closed session:

POTENTIAL THREATS TO SECURITY OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS OR FACILITIES pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

Consultation with: Pasadena Police Department

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – INITIATION OF LITIGATION pursuant to subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (one potential case)

The above two closed session items were discussed, with no reportable action at this time.

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting reconvened at 7:22 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor McAustin.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Margaret McAustin
Councilmember Victor Gordo
Councilmember Steve Madison (Participated via
teleconference)
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Jacque Robinson
Councilmember Terry Tornek

Staff:

City Manager Michael J. Beck
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

CONSENT CALENDAR

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ELECTING TO RECEIVE TAX INCREMENT FROM FORMER REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREAS

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution electing to receive a share of statutory pass-through payments, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 33607.5 and 33607.7. (Resolution No. 9253)

RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT FOR FIREFIGHTER SURVIVAL TRAINING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,416 TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2013 OPERATING BUDGET

Recommendation: Recognize and appropriate \$83,416 from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program to the Fire Department’s Fiscal Year 2013 Operating Budget for the purpose of conducting a Train-the-Trainer course for Firefighter Survival. (Journal Voucher No. 2012-18)

RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$210,000 TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 OPERATING BUDGET GRANT FUND

Recommendation: Approve a journal voucher recognizing \$210,000 from the 2011 Sub-Grantee Homeland Security Grant Program and appropriate these funds to the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Police Department Operating Budget grant fund. (Journal Voucher No. 2012-19)

APPOINTMENT OF JACQUE ROBINSON TO THE BURBANK-GLENDALE-PASADENA AIRPORT AUTHORITY (City of Pasadena Nomination)

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No. 11,815	Kevin Pollard	\$ 600.00
Claim No. 11,816	Shauna Gorham Bigby	1,477.57
Claim No. 11,817	Ceferina S. Vita	3,500.00
Claim No. 11,818	Alfred W. Hutchings, Jr.	25,000.00+
Claim No. 11,819	Southern California Gas Company	3,080.84
Claim No. 11,820	Paul Anthony Stabile	Not stated
Claim No. 11,821	Martha Alicia Saras	Not stated

PUBLIC HEARING SET

January 14, 2013, 7:00 p.m. – Approval of a Substantial Amendment to the 2012-2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan to Allow for the Reprogramming of Funds.

Emanuel Najera, Pasadena resident, spoke in support of Item 3, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, and Item 4, Homeland Security Grant Funds to the Police Department budget.

It was moved by Vice Mayor McAustin, seconded by Councilmember Gordo, to approve the Consent Calendar, with the exception of Item 6, approval of minutes to be held until the December 17, 2012 meeting. (Motion unanimously carried)
(Absent: None)

SPECIAL ITEM

Councilmember Madison
in at 7:30 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL CITY OF PASADENA POSITION RELATED TO SR710 EXTENSION ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO)

Recommendation:

- (1) Find that the following proposed actions are exempt from review, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3);
- (2) Consider the potential impacts of SR710 alternatives, limitations imposed by Measure A, and whether the City should adopt a formal position in support of either of the following as the City's preferred alternative:
 - A. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line connecting from Alhambra to Pasadena generally along Fair Oaks Avenue, Colorado Boulevard, Hill/Lake Avenue and California Boulevard, provided realignment that resolves issues identified in Attachment A to the agenda report
 - B. Light Rail Transit (LRT) line connecting from Alhambra to Pasadena in an underground route generally along Fair Oaks Avenue with an underground terminus near Fillmore Street/Arroyo Parkway without the proposed maintenance yard on South Fair Oaks Avenue in Pasadena;
- (3) Authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Metro Board of Directors advising of the City's preferred alternative and concerns for adequate resolution of the issues listed in Attachment A to the agenda report; and
- (4) Direct staff to represent Pasadena as a Participating Agency for the SR710 EIS, continue to represent Pasadena on the Technical Advisory Committee for the SR710 EIR, and return to City Council with further recommendations as information becomes available.

The Mayor introduced the special agenda item.

Fred Dock, Director of Transportation Department, provided background information on the SR710 Extension project and alternatives being proposed for the Transit Service Management (TSM)/Travel Demand Management (TDM) components to be included in the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) process as part of a Powerpoint presentation, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Madison expressed his opposition to the tunnel alternative, stated his strong preference that the tunnel option be removed from the alternatives being studied by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), and requested that the City Council take a formal position to oppose the proposed tunnel option.

MOTION

Following discussion, Councilmember Madison moved, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve the staff recommendation amended to formally oppose the SR710 tunnel option listed as one of the alternatives for consideration in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) being proposed by Metro.

The following persons spoke in opposition to, and/or expressed concerns regarding, the SR710 extension alternatives being proposed by Metro:

- Anthony Portantino, Former Assemblymember
- Councilmember John Harabedian, City of Sierra Madre
- Jane Demian, Los Angeles resident
- Jonas L. Peters, East Arroyo Neighborhood Preservation Committee Director
- Paula Saatsky, Pasadena resident
- Mary Elgabalawi, Altadena resident
- Bill Weisman, Glendale resident
- Weston Dewalt, Pasadena resident
- Marcy Goodwin, Pasadena resident
- Bill Urban, West Pasadena Residents Association President
- Marion Quinn, Pasadena resident
- Dr. Ron Paler, San Rafael Neighborhood Association President
- Wesley Reutimann, Day One Environmental Director
- Sarah Gavit, NO 710 Action Committee – Pasadena Chapter representative
- Sylvia Plummer, Pasadena resident
- John Shaffer, San Rafael Neighborhood Association representative
- Reiner Nielsen, Pasadena resident
- Jan Soohoo, La Canada Flintridge resident
- Emanuel Najera, Pasadena resident
- Joanne Nuckols, South Pasadena resident

The City Council meeting recessed at 9:24 p.m.

The City Council meeting reconvened at 9:34 p.m.

Ruth McNevin, Pasadena-Foothills Association of Realtors President
Nina Chomsky, Pasadena resident
Jim Miller, South Pasadena resident
Tom Savio, Pasadena resident
Aida Morales, Pasadena resident
Joe Cano, Los Angeles resident
Sam Burgess, South Pasadena resident
John Favre, Pasadena resident
Ben Moran, Pasadena resident
Charles Miller, Los Angeles resident

The following persons spoke in favor of the SR710 extension alternatives being proposed by Metro:

Frank Venti, Retired Mayor, City of Monterey Park
Bob Huddy, Pasadena resident

The City Clerk reported that 22 letters of correspondence in opposition to the tunnel route were received by the City Clerk's office, posted on the agenda website, and distributed to the City Council.

Councilmember Tornek suggested that staff be directed to continue to represent Pasadena as a participating agency and the City continue to do research and prepare findings as a method to confirm or deny Metro's findings.

Vice Mayor McAustin stated her personal opinion that she does not support the tunnel alternative but indicated that there is not enough information currently available to allow the City Council to take a formal position opposing the tunnel option.

Councilmember Jacque Robinson stated that the other alternatives appear to be far superior to a tunnel option but to take a position before the completion of the EIR would be premature. She also stated her support for the City taking action to better educate the community on the health impacts created by the SR710 project completion, and providing the voters with another opportunity to vote on Measure A.

Councilmember Gordo stated that the City needs to work to refocus Metro's goal from moving trucks and cars to moving people and commerce, and that Metro needs to provide assurances that the tunnel alternative will include provisions that prohibit truck access in the tunnel.

Following discussion, Vice Mayor McAustin suggested that a letter be sent by the Mayor to Metro indicating that while the City Council is constrained from taking a formal position against the SR710 completion project in light of Measure A, individual Councilmembers oppose the tunnel project in its current form.

Mayor Bogaard indicated that a letter could be drafted along the lines of the Vice Mayor's request, and could include the following statements:

- Measure A is an obstacle that prohibits the City Council from expressing opposition to the tunnel option at this time.
- Additional information needs to be made available, and will be achieved following further environmental analysis of the impacts, including the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) being conducted by Metro.
- Studies conducted as part of the EIR should address the list of issues contained in Attachment A of the staff's agenda report, "Unresolved Issues for SR710 Alternative", as follows:

Transit Service Management (TSM)/Travel Demand Management (TDM) Alternative

- The impact of the proposed increase in bus transit service on transit stops, crossings and sidewalks on Colorado Boulevard and Fair Oaks Avenue and other streets where the collective headway already is below 10 minutes because of overlapping transit service patterns.
- What is the source of funding for the operating costs for the enhanced transit service?
- Would the north SR710 stub remain or be removed?
- Disposition of state-owned properties south of Del Mar.
- Relinquishment of State right-of-way on Pasadena Avenue and St. John Avenue to the City with Pasadena Avenue returned to its original cross section.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Alternative

- Loss of on-street parking on Fair Oaks, Colorado, Hill, Lake, California (not all Pasadena residences and businesses in these corridors have off-street parking options).
- Impacts on business/commercial districts from exclusive BRT lanes.
- Impacts to Deemphasized Street (California Boulevard east of Lake) in Pasadena General Plan Mobility Element.
- Impacts of bus signal priority on traffic flow on cross streets and surrounding intersections.

- Would the north SR710 stub remain or be removed?
- Disposition of state-owned properties south of Del Mar.
- Relinquishment of State right-of-way on Pasadena Avenue and St. John Avenue to the City with Pasadena Avenue returned to its original cross section.

Light Rail Transit (LRT) Alternative

- Impact of maintenance yard on South Fair Oaks Specific Plan area in terms of being a non-conforming land use, loss of local street connectivity, rail and truck access to the yard.
- Construction impacts from tunneling under South Fair Oaks Avenue.
- Impacts to the Gold Line during station construction.
- Would the north SR710 stub remain or be removed?
- Disposition of state-owned properties south of Del Mar.
- Relinquishment of State right-of-way on Pasadena Avenue and St. John Avenue to the City with Pasadena Avenue returned to its original cross section.

Freeway Tunnel Alternative

- Increased traffic impact on freeway access points remaining after the tunnel is constructed (SR134 at San Rafael, Pasadena and St. John at Walnut, 1-210 at Mountain and at Lake).
- Specific impacts associated with truck traffic, should they be allowed?
- Impact of extending St. John between Del Mar and California.
- Disposition of air rights in cut/cover section south of Del Mar and north of California.
- Disposition of state-owned properties south of Del Mar.
- Relinquishment of State right-of-way on Pasadena Avenue and St. John Avenue to the City with Pasadena Avenue returned to its original cross section.
- Details of the tunnel ventilation tower.
- Potential to locate the tunnel ventilation tower in the I-210/SR134 interchange area.

- Impacts of the tunnel ventilation on air quality and visual aesthetics in Pasadena.
- Noise and traffic impacts on I-210 north of SR134.
- Prior to submittal to Metro, the Mayor's letter would be posted for public inspection on the City's website.
- Statements expressing the City Council's strong opposition to allowing truck traffic in the tunnel to be included, and any tunnel alternative being considered must include provisions that would prohibit trucks from using the tunnel.

Councilmember Gordo clarified that a tunnel option prohibiting trucks should not be construed as an option being supported by the City Council, and that any tunnel project going through Pasadena would need to be fully studied and analyzed prior to such any determination being made. He also suggested that the City invest some resources to independently study the tunnel issue to refute or challenge the findings of Metro's study, if necessary.

VOTE ON MOTION

AYES: Councilmembers Gordo, Madison, Masuda, Mayor Bogaard

NOES: Councilmembers Robinson, Tornek, Vice Mayor McAustin

ABSENT: None
(Motion failed)

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Gordo, seconded by Vice Mayor McAustin, to approve staff recommendations Nos. 1 and 4; and direct the Mayor to send a letter to Metro expressing all the concerns stated above and described earlier, including an unconditional statement of opposition regarding any tunnel alternative allowing truck access or allowing Metro to divert truck traffic via a tunnel through Pasadena; and direct staff to come back with information on conducting independent studies regarding the environmental impacts of a tunnel alternative, so as to refute or challenge, when necessary, the findings contained in Metro's EIR study.

YES: Councilmembers Gordo, Madison, Masuda, Robinson, Tornek, Vice Mayor McAustin, Mayor Bogaard

NOES: None
ABSENT: None

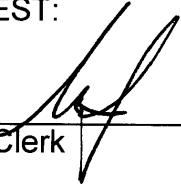
ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:49 p.m.



Bill Bogaard, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:



City Clerk