

MINUTES
STREETS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2007
5:00 P.M.
DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS SERVICES CENTER
TRAINING ROOM (2nd FLOOR)
1901 SOUTH ALAMO

Commission Members Present: George Britton, Darryl Byrd, Christine Castro, Esther De Leon, Ed Estrada, Mike Gallagher, Judy Hanson, Jim Hunley, Ray Martinez, Dolores Mendez, Amy Putney, Alonso Rangel, Tony Reyes, Larry Romo, Evanleen Schmueckle, Ken Thomas, Lila Theis, John Kuderer, Angie Ruiz, Susan Wright, Mike Villyard, Rick Idar, Adelita Huron, Ralph Gomez, Terrell McCombs

Commission Members Absent: Carlos Richardson, Ann Gamble, Richard Lafoil, Timothy Henson, Mike Phillips, Juan Mancha, Ted Guerra

Staff Present: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Richard Perez, City Councilman for District 4; Patti Radle, City Councilwoman for District 5; Trey Jacobson, Mayor's Office; Tom Wendorf, Director of Public Works; Jason Cosby, Assistant Director of Public Works; Nancy Beward, Assistant Director of Public Works; Peter Zanoni, Director of Management and Budget; Edward Benavides, Executive Assistant; Lori Houston, Special Projects Manager; Robert Perez and Ron Campos, Sr. Management and Budget Analysts; Kent Hickingbottom, Capital Programs Manager; Christie Chapman, Special Projects Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Terrell McCombs, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
Roll call was taken.

2. Co-Chairman's Welcome – Terrell McCombs, Darryl Byrd

- (a) Introduction:
Co-Chair Terrell McCombs expressed his interest in this being the last meeting. He stated some members will leave here unhappy, but the Committee will put together a list of projects most beneficial to the City.

Co-Chair Darryl Byrd thanked the Members for their participation on the Committee. He also thanked the citizens for their participation in the meetings.

3. Citizens to be Heard

Mr. Feldman – Addressed the Committee on behalf of the Meadows Retirement Community. Mr. Feldman requested a pedestrian bridge at Overbrook for children walking to school. He also encouraged the Committee to make decisions to benefit the elderly.

Mr. Ruben Nazarite-Ruben Perez – Mr. Perez spoke about drainage problems in the Palm Heights Neighborhood. He encouraged the Committee to address these issues in the 2007-2012 Bond Program.

George Heights – Mr. Heights spoke in favor of project #1037, Ridge Haven Subdivision. He stated it was unsafe to exit the neighborhood due to the chaotic intersection.

Stephanie Dwyer – Ms. Dwyer represented the Ridge Haven Subdivision. She indicated 95% of residents signed a petition requesting help to pass #1037 on the list of priority projects. The subdivision is a one entrance and one exit subdivision. The intersection where the entrance/exit is located is very dangerous.

Victor Boyer – (San Antonio Mobility Coalition, S.A.M.Co) provided a hand-out to Committee Members.

Joe Saenz – (VP Engineering for Port of San Antonio) Mr. Saenz spoke in favor of project #750 to be included in the Bond Program.

Bill de Valcourt – Mr. de Valcourt spoke in favor of bicycle lanes and encouraged the Committee to add bicycle lanes to all projects considered.

Marlene Hawkings – Mr. Hawkings addressed the Committee on several intersections including the following: Carson St. to New Braunfels and Greyson to New Braunfels. She indicated both intersections need improvement. She stated the projects in the area of the intersections mentioned on the current list are not needed.

Walter Thorman – Mr. Thorman represented Oakpark Neighborhood Association. He requested improvements for the intersection of Broadway and Nacogdoches.

Bill Shuler – Mr. Shuler also spoke on behalf of Oakpark Neighborhood Association. Mr. Shuler stated the association was voluntary and was very active in the city. He also requested improvements at the intersection of Broadway and Nacogdoches.

Diana Krusick – Mr. Krusick stated project #1701 needs to be complete and funded. She indicated it is has not been complete for some time and the project is much overdue. She also stated it is a major arterial in the city.

John Valdez – Mr. Valdez spoke to the Committee regarding project #1701 (Zarzamora St.) on the priority list of projects.

Glenn Hartman – Mr. Hartman was an advocate for improvements that improve the quality of life for the elderly. He commended the city's recommendations and stated transportation is important to the elderly.

Neddy Sandoval – Ms. Sandoval stated there is a concern for the health of our youth in San Antonio. She indicated one solution is for people to walk. She also stated Neff Middle School needs sidewalks for children and every resident of the Rolling Ridge, Inspiration Hills and Ingram Hills neighborhoods are encouraged to walk.

Consuello Peralez – Ms. Peralez would like to get the Medina Basse Rd. on the Bond Program list. She is concerned about the flooding in the area. She would like sidewalks and for the road to be widened. She indicated her home flooded and she has not been able to repair it.

Dr. William Shay – Dr. Shay founded “Bexar Trails”, which promotes human health and safe cycling in Bexar County and within the City. He asked the Committee to please consider those projects that have been on the bike master plan.

Michelle Peralez – Ms. Peralez would like support for the Medina Base Road. project. She indicated the road needs to be widened to four lanes and add sidewalks. She also stated water is not draining well off this road. She offered project #731 as a substitute.

John Darryl Tindell – Mr. Tindell lives in the medical center area. He is wheelchair bound and cannot get around well, especially on Babcock Rd. near the Medical Center Transit Area.

Scott Erickson – Mr. Erickson supports bicycling including more lanes to go along with the Bicycle Master Plan, adopted in 2005.

Ignacio Perez – Mr. Perez is the Vice President of the Lavaca Neighborhood Association. He urged the Committee to fix potholes and streets in the area.

Jaime Iverra – Mr. Iverra stated he would like for Ellana Claire Court/Zarzamora, the whole project, to be included in the Bond Program. He also stated children from four schools use this street, and when it rains the area turns into a lake. Mr. Iverra indicated sidewalks get covered with mud and you cannot see them.

Minerva Iverra – Ms. Iverra also spoke in favor of improvements to Ellana Claire Court/Zarzamora. She also indicated sidewalks were needed in the area.

4. Committee Discussion

- (a) Co-Chair McCombs recommended the Committee vote on the current list of Streets and Sidewalk projects recommended by City Staff and approve that list. He stated after the list is approved there will be room for discussion of changes to the approved list. Mr. Larry Romo made a motion to approve the Recommended List of Streets and Sidewalks Projects. There was a second, and the motion passed.

Co-Chair McCombs would like for the Committee to make their recommendations in the form of having a proposed deletion of a project to go along with the added project. He reminded the Committee there must be compromise and the Committee as a whole must approve all changes proposed. The floor was opened for recommended revisions to the list of projects.

- (b) Mr. Romo makes a motion to delete the Reed Road (#1480) project and add the Marbach Rd. Phase II (#1472) project to the recommended list. There was a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- (c) Judy Hansen made a motion to delete the Ray Ellison Road Project (#1745) and add the Medina Basse Road Phase I (#1131) project in its place to the list of recommended projects. There was second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- (d) Mike Gallagher made a motion to decrease project #1703 (Wuzbach Connectivity) by \$1 million and use the \$1 million to add the Nachadoches/New Braunfels (#1790) project. Tom Wendorf stated the \$1million estimated cost for Project #1790 did not include inflation. The cost of project #1790 to consider would be \$2.43M. Mr. Gallagher stated he is confident the City could find other funding for the Wuzbach project. Mr. Wendorf stated the decrease in proposed funds would increase the gap in funding. A Committee Member asked which project costs were sure to increase Mr. Wendorf answered there were several including the Fredicksberg Road and Marbach Road projects. Another Member asked about the traffic counts for the specified projects. Mr. Wendorf stated the counts would initially be about 80 thousand cars per day and could increase to over 100 thousand for the Wurzbach project. Approximately twelve thousand cars travel in the Nachadoches/New Braunfels project area. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to decrease project #1703 (Wuzbach Connectivity) by the \$2.43 million and add those funds (\$2.43 M) to the newly recommended Nachadoches/New Braunfels (#1790) project. There was a second to the motion. The motion passed with 16 members in favor and 9 in opposition.
- (e) Ken Thomas made a motion to eliminate the Wallace (#1125) project and give the funding to project # 1131, Medina Basse Road. Christine Castro verified with Mr. Wendorf that project #1125, Wallace Street, includes a drainage component that would improve the drainage along the street. Mr. Wendorf confirmed it would. A Committee Member asked if the Wallace project was on the Drainage Committee list. Mr. Wendorf answered no. Another Member asked if there were schools that would be impacted by the revision. City Staff answered yes, Las Palmas Elementary. Another Committee Member asked if the military base would be effected by the revision? City Staff answered no. There was a second to the motion. The motion failed with 8 members in favor and 17 members opposed.

5. Adjournment

Co-Chair McCombs and Byrd made closing comments. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm