

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Lieberman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

**ROLL CALL**

City Council: Council Members Ashton, Bright, Nicolls, Mayor Pro Tem Shoals, and Mayor Lieberman were present.

City Staff: City Manager Perrault, City Clerk McMahon, Administrative Services Director Chapman, Community Development Director Hansen, and Public Works Superintendent Ford were also present.

Also present was City Engineer Garing, and San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Programming Director Richard Murphy and Associate Planner Phillip Chu.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS** The Mayor opened the floor to any member of the public for comment on any item listed on this agenda. No public comments were received at this time, and the Mayor closed the Public Communications segment for this portion of the meeting.

**WORKSHOP**

**1. Review of State and Federal Funding Sources and Direction to Staff in the Development of a Long-term Funding Strategy.**

City Manager Perrault stated that this was the third in a series of public workshops held by the Council on the issue of local street rehabilitation. The previous sessions focused first on developing and implementing a short-term strategy to maximize the use of available funds, and second on initiating an ongoing program of street repairs. Tonight's session would focus on developing a long-term funding strategy. He stated that representatives from the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) had been invited to this workshop to present an overview of state and federal funds received to date for City projects, and to provide a prospective view of available funding in the near future. He also observed that, as a result of the passage of the 1B Transportation and Transit Proposition in the November 2006 election, the State would be providing \$400,000 in one-time money this fiscal year which could be used for street improvements. These funds would be in addition to the \$800,000 the Council had already allocated in the FY 08 Budget specifically for street rehabilitation.

He then outlined a suggested series of "next steps" to be reviewed at a future workshop session to: 1) examine the results of Pavement Management System data at both the \$10 million and the \$20 million funding level; 2) complete an initial analysis of costs associated with narrowing Longbranch Avenue and Newport Avenue; 3) examine refinement of financing options as provided by Mr. Craig Hill of the financing consulting firm Northcross, Hill and Ach at a previous workshop; 4) match a funding option to the selected street improvement level; and 5) develop an Implementation Plan. City Manager Perrault then introduced SLOCOG representatives Richard Murphy and Phillip Chu. Referencing a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Chu gave an overview of the various types of state and federal funds available for transportation projects. He then reviewed: 1) a list of transportation projects in Grover Beach that were previously funded in the total amount of \$8.27 million; 2) a list of transportation projects in the City that are currently funded in the amount of \$2.31 million total; and 3) an outline of funding program opportunities in the future.

Mr. Murphy provided further explanation of state and federal funding programs and the shift in focus to direct those funds towards major arterial street projects with interchange access. He outlined various options being considered to potentially leverage these funds with supplemental revenue streams such as: 1) local funding, 2) a regional or countywide sales tax; 3) gas tax, or 4) regional impact fees.

Discussion was held on the types of "major arterial streets", such as Oak Park Boulevard, West Grand Avenue, and Farroll Road, that qualified for specific state and federal funds, and specific funding types that could not be applied toward "local" residential street improvements. Additional discussion was held on funding programs to be used strictly towards non-motorized enhancement projects, for example, installation of streetscape and landscaping. It was noted that Safe Routes to Schools Program funds were available for local streets.

City Manager Perrault provided clarification on the different funding sources designated for the Meadow Creek Bridge/West Grand Avenue Storm Drain Project, and stated that there had been a delay in proceeding with that project due to Coastal Commission concerns that staff was working to resolve.

It was also noted that the previously planned rehabilitations of South 4<sup>th</sup> Street and North 12<sup>th</sup> Street had been withdrawn due to fiscal constraints at the state level.

Mayor Lieberman invited comments from those in the audience who wished to be heard on this matter.

Gene Bello, Grover Beach, inquired about criteria for SLOCOG's selection process when other cities were applying for the same regional pool of funds.

Mr. Murphy responded that projects which included matching local funds or partnership opportunities would be viewed more favorably.

Peter Keith, Grover Beach, suggested that the City establish a program for residents to gift property or funds to the City from their estates, and for the City to consider providing program incentives such as naming a street or public facility after the benefactor.

Gracia Bello, Grover Beach, spoke in support of a bond measure to fund street improvements.

There were no further public comments received at this time.

Brief Council discussion was held regarding:

- considering a bond at \$30 million instead of \$20 million;
- having a map prepared to display the extent of possible street improvements at the different bond financing levels;
- having that same map include information on the fiscal benefits of narrowing certain street widths before the Council committed to that course of action;
- continuing to work with local legislators to lobby on the City's behalf for state and federal transportation funds;
- keeping arterial streets in the Pavement Management System in order to keep the City's applications for state and federal funds more competitive in the selection process; and
- continuing to encourage individuals or groups of property owners to install their own curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements.

**Action:** Upon unanimous consensus, staff was directed to: 1) schedule an additional Council workshop on developing a long-term funding strategy for street rehabilitation; 2) prepare three separate financing models to analyze street rehabilitation data from the Pavement Management System at the \$10, \$20, and \$30 million funding levels; and 3) provide an analysis of costs on the suggestion to narrow certain street widths.

The Council thanked the SLOCOG representatives for attending the workshop and outlining the various resources to fund transportation projects, thanked the public for attending and participating in the workshop, and thanked staff for providing an historical overview of the City's focus, efforts, and expenditures toward improving streets.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lieberman adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

/s/STEPHEN C. LIEBERMAN, MAYOR

Attest:

/s/DONNA L. McMAHON, CITY CLERK  
(Approved at CC Mtg 1/22/08)