

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
March 20, 2008  
City Hall – City Manager’s Conference Room (Upstairs)

The Public Works and Facilities Committee met in regular session on the above date at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall in the City Manager’s Conference Room and the following items were discussed.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members present: Committee Members Dan Gjerde and Meg Courtney.  
Staff present: Director of Public Works Dave Goble and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Cindy VanWormer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of February 21, 2008**

The minutes of February 21, 2008 were approved as received.

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

**1. Receive Presentation from Simpson Lane Resident Linda Leitner Regarding Maintaining Water Quality at Waterfall Gulch**

Linda Leitner provided maps of Waterfall Gulch and noted the following during her presentation:

- The City gets 25% of its water from Waterfall Gulch; it should be maintained so that the water quality continues to be good in the future.
- Only 1/6 of the watershed is owned by the City (rough calculation).
- There are signs of human impact on the watershed such as trash dumping.
- She suggested research on what would happen to the water flow if an earthquake occurs.
- A neighbor put railroad ties along Simpson Lane to keep people out of the area; she suggested that those not be replaced with junk concrete.
- There are trails throughout Waterfall Gulch, some right down to the stream, there could be a problem with erosion and sediment into the stream.
- The pipeline is in poor condition. Director of Public Works Goble explained that the pipeline she is seeing was abandoned in place; there is a new underground pipeline that was installed in the early 1990s.
- Some building activity has occurred in the watershed using heavy equipment and creating mud; this might be a problem for water quality.
- Leitner provided the following four suggestions:
  - The City needs to pay attention to what is happening on the properties in the watershed by keeping in touch with the Mendocino County Planning Department regarding any zoning changes. Request the County notify the City of any changes to property next to City property or in the watershed.
  - Promote careful management of further development in the watershed.
  - Look into purchasing property in the watershed as it becomes available; coordinate with the Mendocino Land Trust.
  - Team with the Mendocino Land Trust regarding conservancy easements on all watershed properties.

Public comment on this item was received from: Paul Clark and Marvin Parrish who addressed the requirements being imposed for a hydrologic study for Parrish’s subdivision.

Discussion: The following items were noted during discussion by Committee Members and staff:

- Committee Member Courtney noted that Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MSWMA) could help with the trash cleanup; Goble noted that there is not a lot of trash and City crews can handle the cleanup.
- Staff will develop a list of properties in the watershed and provide it to the County for notification of future land use changes.
- Staff will work with the Mendocino Land Trust on conservancy easements.

- City staff periodically tests the water quality.

**2. Discuss Suggestion that Crosswalks be Striped on Madrone Street and Provide Direction to Staff**

Alan Peters reviewed his concerns as addressed in his e-mail to Council dated February 28, 2008, and provided a letter from his tenant Nancy Milano.

**Following discussion, Committee consensus was to direct staff to put in parallel lines (fog lines or bicycle lanes), and install a crosswalk at Whipple and Madrone Streets. Staff will check on the status of the speed trailer and place it at this location once operational.**

**4. Review Bainbridge Park Restroom Design and Cost Estimate and Provide Direction to Staff**

Michael Leventhal reviewed the design and estimate noting that they can either cut items from the plan, the City can come up with more money, or the project can be redesigned. Director of Public Works Goble noted that there has previously been discussion of donations that can help to reduce the cost of the project. Donations indicated so far include: Doors – wood has been donated and woodworkers have volunteered to make the doors; Mendocino Redwood Co. and Hawthorne Timber have also indicated a willingness to participate in the project through material donations and possibly labor donations; and Waste Management promised \$5,000 to the project.

Discussion: The following items were noted during discussion by Committee Members and staff:

- Donations need to be finalized so that the City/County is sure of what resources are available.
- **Staff needs to verify with the City Attorney that dividing the project and using volunteer labor won't violate the Public Contracts Code.**
- Fourth District Supervisor Kendall Smith noted that the project will need to be approved by State Parks since Park Bond money is being used. **Staff will have a preliminary discussion with the State regarding the project and possible use of volunteer labor and donated materials, and find out whether the project needs to go to the State Architect for approval.**
- Smith stated that more County money might be available for the project since the Guest House project isn't ready yet.
- Leventhal noted that they have learned that the solar tubes originally planned for this project are only allocated to massive projects and would not be available for this project. A solar collector can be put on the roof but it won't blend into the building. Smith reported that she has contacted PG&E about the project but hasn't heard back yet; hopefully they can get solar panels and/or install the system.
- The rainwater recycling canister (approximate cost \$9,000) is not in the plans at this stage but can be added to the building later when funds become available.
- Smith and Committee Member Courtney stated that they would work on public information showing the purpose of the project – Environmental-Educational-Efficient.
- Committee Members and Kendall discussed possible use of stationary bicycles for generating energy or providing water for a fountain the kids can play in. It was suggested that a public art grant be obtained and that a design contest be used to encourage local artists to design the fountain.

Public comment on this item was received from: Marvin Parrish who suggested identifying a project coordinator and Jim Tarbell who stated that Noyo Headlands Unified Design Group might be interested in helping with this project

**3. Review Sample Bicycle Lane Plans Provided by Councilmember Gjerde and Provide Direction to Staff**

Committee Member Gjerde reviewed the information regarding "Sharrows" noting that this option works well for streets like Dana and Sanderson that are too wide without striping but too narrow for standard bicycle lane striping.

**The Committee directed this item be placed on the next Public Works Committee agenda as there wasn't sufficient time to complete the discussion at this meeting.**

**5. Matters from Committee Members and Staff**

- A. City Clerk VanWormer noted that the next two meetings will need to be at 10:00 a.m. as she and the City Manager have an Animal Care & Control Task Force meeting from 8:00-9:30 a.m. on those days.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.**