



MINUTES  
CITY OF NORCO  
AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON  
INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS AND FUNDING OPTIONS

September 15, 2014  
City Hall Conference Rooms A & B  
2870 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860



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**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** **Present:** Chair Jodie Filkins Webber, Vice Chair Corinne Holder, Committee Members Kevin Bash, Cathey Burt, Linda Dixon, Patricia Hedges, Herb Higgins, John Padilla  
**Absent:** Committee Member Bill Schwab  
**Staff Present:** City Manager Andy Okoro, City Engineer Dominic Milano, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Brian Petree, Director of Public Works Lori Askew, City Clerk Cheryl Link

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Committee Member Burt

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

1. Approval of August 18, 2014 Meeting Minutes

**M/S Padilla/Holder** to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bash, Burt, Dixon, Hedges, Higgins, Holder, Padilla, Webber  
Noes: None  
Absent: Schwab  
Abstain: None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Continued Presentation by the City Engineer on the Conditions of City Streets and Needs Assessment

City Engineer Dominic Milano presented information on street deferred maintenance. Mr. Milano stated that if the City wanted to bring all the streets to its optimal level, the City would need to budget approximately \$21 million dollars. Currently, the City has approximately 70% of its street network in "good" to "very good" condition, which would mainly consist of slurry seal or single chip seal treatment to bring to its optimal level of

health. The other 30% of its street network is in poor health and would need a significant amount of funds to bring them back to optimal health.

City Manager Okoro indicated that if the City has \$21 million, the streets would be brought up to an 80% PCI level. The City does not have those funds, therefore if the City spends \$2 million over twenty years, then the cost will be \$40 million for the same results.

Committee Member Higgins indicated that the upper 30% levels are more critical.

## 2. Review Streets Capital Expenditures for the Past Five Fiscal Years

City Manager Okoro presented a brief report supplementing the City Engineer's information. Mr. Okoro provided a list of capital expenditures over the past five years, specifically two capital project funds – Measure A and Street Fund.

In response to Committee Member Dixon, Mr. Okoro stated that Measure A funds began in 2009.

In response to Chair Webber, Mr. Okoro stated that Measure A funds can be rolled over if unused in the previous fiscal year and the beginning balance for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is approximately \$2.8 million. City Manager Okoro stated that additional funding of \$800,000 - \$1,000,000 will be added to \$1.6 million allocated in this fiscal year, pending approval from the City Council and Riverside County Transportation Commission, in order to catch up with expenditures.

Mr. Okoro stated that the other funding source for streets is the Street Fund. There is no additional revenue so the City is limited in its spending from this fund.

## 3. Discussion on Facilities Rental Revenues

Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Brian Petree gave a brief presentation of a recap of last fiscal year's revenues. Director Petree indicated that the information does not include programming. It is actual revenue associated with rentals.

In response to Committee Member Dixon, Director Petree stated that youth groups are charged for utilities and explained further by discussing the City's fee policy.

City Manager Okoro explained that what Director Petree presented at the last meeting was the cost to sustain facilities. There is an operations side of the budget which is the cost to maintain facilities. The City's operation budget pays for daily operations of the City and is mainly budgeted in the General Fund. The City's capital budget is for the acquisition and/or maintenance of infrastructure.

There was some discussion between Committee Members and Staff regarding the focus of the Ad-Hoc Committee. Committee Member Dixon indicated that the

Committee is being asked to find ways to fund various projects and infrastructure and requested clarification on whether the Committee should consider options based on maintaining current standards or delve further with a more critical eye. Chair Webber stated that the Committee has been given a limited charge. City Manager Okoro stated that the Committee is charged with looking at the capital infrastructure aspect of the budget. In the past, projects have been funded by a certain source, which in some cases is no longer available, yet there is still a need. Committee Member Dixon expressed her concerns with the limited charge and that the Committee should be able to critique the whole budget in order to make responsible choices.

Committee Member Bash commented that the City does not generate enough tax revenue. The City lives on sales tax revenue and needs to generate a revenue source that is consistent. The General Fund is healthier but the continued problem that needs to be addressed is infrastructure.

Director Petree continued with his presentation. In response to Chair Webber, Mr. Okoro indicated that part of the budget process is to forecast revenue and to look at trends. The highest amount of sales tax achieved was \$6.2 million in 2008. When the recession hit, the City lost three dealerships and lost \$3 million in sales tax revenue. Unless something changes, the City is limited to sales tax revenue.

#### 4. Update on Trails

Director of Public Works Lori Askew stated that she is still working on the trail matrix and should be completed by October. Ms. Askew indicated that she is trying to address all possible questions and putting values to all trails.

In response to Chair Webber, Director Askew stated that the matrix will include trails with the Landscape Maintenance Districts as well. Mr. Okoro added that Director Askew is trying to assess what is needed to bring the trails up to an acceptable standard.

### **COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Chair Webber indicated that she will be meeting with City Manager Okoro to discuss the next phase for the Ad-Hoc Committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lauren Barnes stated that she has lived in Norco over fourteen years and has seen the ups and downs in Norco. Ms. Barnes expressed her opposition to a horse licensing fee. Ms. Barnes commented on discussions by residents that equestrian groups do not have horse shows in town because the fees are too high. She suggested bringing in vendors and expanding the types of uses at Ingalls Park.

Ted Hoffman expressed his appreciation to staff for presenting realistic numbers in the presentations. Mr. Hoffman commented on the auto mall and sales tax and that any

sales tax increase should go to public safety.

Glenn Hedges commented that the Norco Horsemens Association took stand in the mid-1990s for horse tax and licensing. Mr. Hedges invited Ms. Barnes to a Norco Horsemens Association general membership meeting.

Cindy Judd stated that she has attended equestrian-type classes at Ingalls Park. Ms. Judd suggested having those classes again for a fee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Webber adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.