

**CORONADO TUNNEL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 14, 2006**

**Police Facility, 700 Orange Avenue
Community Meeting Room**

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL:

Attendees: Sut Clark, Al Ovrom, Margaret Pimpo, Bill Huck and Art Osborne

Absent: Lou Smith, Steve Clarey and Casey Tanaka (City Council representative)

City Staff: Jim Benson, Gail Brydges and Ed Walton

Consultant: Brian Pearson, Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB)

2. MINUTES: The November 9, 2006 minutes were approved.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Congratulations were given to Mr. Ovrom on his election to a City Council seat.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Update:

1. Project Report and Environmental Document (PR/ED):

- Status of Technical Reports – Engineering/Environmental – The technical reports are on schedule. There has been a change in the review process for the Navy, City and Caltrans/FHWA. The Navy and City's reviews were sequential; now they will review the reports concurrently. This also made sense to Caltrans.
- Value Analysis Study (VAS) Recommendations – Mr. Pearson recapped the VAS Response Report. The PDT discussed it this afternoon and they concurred with the recommendations.

Alternative 3 initially required acquisition of 60 parcels, but the design has been changed to add approximately 50% area to the grade separation structure, eliminating all but two of the full parcel takes. Mr. Pearson distributed a summary of this modification and an aerial map. This modification will require that two streets become cul-de-sacs. Mr. Clark said that the grade separation does not solve Coronado's traffic problem; it speeds access to the base, but Third and Fourth Streets continue to divide the City. There would be problems with no access to alleys and streets. Mr. Benson

observed that this alternative might be more palatable if the City can't get enough money for a tunnel. Mr. Pearson said local traffic would move more easily on Orange Avenue with this alternative as opposed to the status quo. Discussion ensued about traffic impacts, including the fact that 10 parcels would have their vehicle access off the public right-of-way affected and two parcels would be totally landlocked. Today Caltrans said they have no objection to removing this alternative. Mr. Pearson said that whether any of this would cause this alternative to be dropped is the question that will be in front of the Council. Mr. Osborne wondered if this became the preferred alternative, would it require a new public vote? Mr. Benson replied that the earlier vote was advisory so it would be up to the City Council whether to put it back out to the public. Mr. Clark stated that he was concerned that PB would expend a lot of effort and the City would expend a lot of money to explore this. Mr. Huck asked how far down the path do we need to go with this alternative until deciding to drop it? Mr. Pearson said that typically it would go through the entire environmental process with a full public hearing unless there's an obvious fatal flaw.

Alternative 4, the cut-and-cover tunnel, had a modification proposed by the VAS. The modification, called Alternative 4B, would dramatically simplify the portals and add a Navy security gate at the east portal. It would raise the tunnel box structure so the top of the box would be the roadway and double deck the box to provide two lanes in each direction. Mr. Ovrom observed that during construction this would disrupt traffic on Fourth where a bored tunnel would not. Mr. Pearson said he felt there is enough merit to include this in the environmental document.

Mr. Clark said that the original Alternative 3 was fatally flawed by the property takes required. He's inclined to drop it altogether. Mr. Pearson noted that it does not restore the residential character of the community, which the other alternatives do.

Mrs. Pimpo suggested that Mr. Smith and Mr. Clarey be briefed on the new alternatives in a special meeting before the next regular meeting. A tentative date and time were set for Wednesday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m.

- Agency Coordination – Navy
 - ◆ Interagency Coordination Meeting – The last meeting was canceled.
 - ◆ Navy Review Process and Timeline – Not discussed.

2. Possible Relocation of USS Carl Vinson to NASNI: The Navy made the decision that if the Vinson comes here they will do an environmental update after the decision to place the carrier here.

3. Funding:

- 2007 Update of Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Anticipate draft in May 2007; adoption in fall 2007 – No update at this time.

B. Reports and Discussion from Commission Members or Staff on Current Issues:

1. Status of Third Street Gate Project: The “ditch” will be filled in and water will go under the street.
2. Congestion Relief Working Group (CRWG) Project: The City Council Subcommittee recommended against bulbouts at D Avenue. They are talking about having them at Fourth and B and Third and Fourth at F and H Avenues. This will go to Council for concurrence.
3. Results of Recent Election: There will be no recounts.
4. Vacancy on Coronado Tunnel Commission: Mr. Clark asked if Commission members had ideas of people who would be willing and capable of serving. He said Dick Scharff had approached him and volunteered to be on the Commission. Mrs. Pimpo would like to pursue getting someone from the Cays. The Cays are cross-traffic people and cross-traffic is three-quarters of the population. She is pursuing some people herself. Ms. Brydges suggested that someone may want to contact Mike Fridgen, a resident of the 300 block of J Avenue. He is a civilian working at Navy Region Southwest and is involved with the community. Mr. Huck said he would like to postpone making a recommendation now and would like to advertise the position or put an article in the paper.
5. General Information Update: None.

C. Future Meeting Schedule: There will be a Special Meeting to discuss the Value Analysis Study recommendations on Wednesday, December 20, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Department Community Room.

The next Regular Meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Police Department Community Room.

5. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting concluded at 5:55 p.m.

Approved:

Jackson S. Clark, Chairman