

CORONADO TUNNEL COMMISSION

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Police Facility, 700 Orange Avenue
Community Meeting Room

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL:

Present: Sut Clark, Steve Clarey, Margaret Pimpo, Art Osborne, and Darrell Sarich; City Council Representative Al Ovrom; City Staff: James Benson, Rhonda Cruz, Ed Walton and Recording Secretary Nancy Reynolds

Consultant: Brian Pearson, PB Americas, Inc. (PB)

Absent: Bill Huck, Lou Smith

2. MINUTES: Mr. Osborne moved to approve the January 10, 2008 minutes; Mr. Clarey seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Update:

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

- Draft Project Report and Draft EIS/EIR Review Status – Response to Comments – Ann Rosenberry, the Navy representative for environmental, has been reassigned and there will be a new person assigned to this project. Buddy Penn received the Mayor's letter.
- Navy Comment Cover Letter (2/07/08) and Attached Technical Comments – On February 7 the Navy gave the City a two-page cover letter which said "detailed technical comments are enclosed," but they weren't. Will Kempton's office did not get the enclosure either. Buddy Penn's office told PMA that there were detailed comments. A copy of the letter was delivered to the local Caltrans office with the enclosure, but the person who got it did not know she had it. The City got its copy on February 27. The Mayor sent a letter to Buddy Penn's office in response. City staff is trying to collect their thoughts on the detailed comments by the end of the month. There are a lot of comments related to environmental issues such as air quality, energy demand, sanitary sewer demands, bird breeding season, biofiltration, dewatering and construction emissions. There are many comments on traffic forecasting modeling and analysis. About two-thirds of the comments are easily

addressed. The other third is bigger issues. One that the Navy has raised is exploring a tunnel that does not come up on base. With Alternative 4B, the double-deck tunnel, the lower deck could be built so that it dives into McCain and there would be no security issues. The upper deck would come up on Fourth, back farther than I Avenue (this has impacts on the intersections around I Avenue). The tunnel would end up at the surface on Alameda, cars would turn right and then turn left on Third. This changes nothing. [Does that make sense?] Mr. Pearson will send Kim Jacobsen (Navy civil engineer) an electronic copy of the schematics and she'll say whether this addresses some of the Navy's concerns. Mr. Osborne said that the Navy spent almost \$11 million to open the Third Street Gate and he feels it's inappropriate for the City to suggest going back to a right turn on Alameda. Mr. Benson noted that the problem is that if we don't have all the options out there someone can challenge our EIS as incomplete. He said that the Navy raised the user fee issue. If we don't do a study on that now we can do a supplement to the EIS. Mr. Clarey urged that a study be done on user fees and Mr. Pearson responded that there are firms that do tolling studies; he will contact one to see what it would cost for a study.

- Agency Coordination – Navy/Caltrans – The Navy thinks they're close enough to include the City in discussions about the cooperative agreement between Caltrans, as lead agency for NEPA authority as delegated by FHWA, and the Navy. The Navy felt that this was an administrative confidential matter and had been meeting with Caltrans without the City. It's moving along slowly but surely. A meeting will be set with the City, Caltrans and the Navy regarding the City's comments to the Navy (which comments are critical and then hammer out a set of acceptable responses).

B. Funding:

1. Discussion of Project Financing Alternatives and Steps to Implement: Mr. Clarey urged including an evaluation of doing the project as a public-private partnership along with a tolling study. Mr. Pearson said that the Strategic Finance Plan explains how much user fees need to be generated for each alternative.
2. Subcommittee Report on Council Contacts: Mr. Clark, Mrs. Pimpo and Mr. Huck met in advance of meeting with individual councilmembers. Mr. Clark has tried to contact Mr. Ovrom and will try again. Mr. Huck is coming up with potential measures for voters.

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

1. Status of Third Street Gate Project: The project is basically done. The Navy is talking about putting Admiral Stockdale's plane permanently on display.
2. Bulb-Outs/Signals Update: The plan started out with bulb-outs that are eight feet out into the street, but Caltrans said it was too much and it was changed to six feet. Now Caltrans says it needs to be four feet. The City is also dealing with a new person in Sacramento about the design exception.
3. General Information Update: The Commissioners Dinner is next Thursday, March 20.

C. Future Meeting Schedule: Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting concluded at 5:15 p.m.

Approved:

Jackson S. Clark, Chairman

Nancy Reynolds, Recording Secretary