

CORONADO TUNNEL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, May 12, 2005

Police Facility, 700 Orange Avenue
Community Meeting Room

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL:

Attendees: Sut Clark, Steve Clarey, Lou Smith and Art Osborne

Absent: Al Ovrom, Bill Huck and Casey Tanaka (City Council representative)

City Staff: Jim Benson, Gail Brydges and Ed Walton

Consultant: Brian Pearson, Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB)

2. MINUTES: A clarification was made to item #C. 4. by adding “related to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans” to the end of Mr. Ovrom’s comment on compatibility. The April 14, 2005 minutes were then approved unanimously.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Clark passed around the obituary for former Commissioner Al Hollingsworth. Svante Hjertberg (audience) talked about the possibility of digging a trench. He has old records from a trench dug at the Golf Course that did not detect any faults. He suggests doing some resonance and drilling. They did a lot of that for the South Bay Outfall. He distributed some materials and Mr. Benson said that staff and PB would take a look at it.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Discussion of Replacement for Tunnel Commissioner Al Hollingsworth: Mr. Clark proposed Margaret Meadows as the new commissioner. She is the daughter of a Navy officer, a graduate of Coronado High School and a local dentist. She’s very bright and has expressed interest in the position. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of Margaret Meadows to the Tunnel Commission. This can be placed on the June 7 Council agenda. Staff will get a commission application form from the City Clerk and Mr. Clark will deliver it to Dr. Meadows.

B. Update

1. Project Report & Environmental Documents (PR/ED):

- Acceptance of Task 2.09 Status – Tunnel and Portal Architectural Design Concepts Final Report: On May 3 the City Council accepted the east portal design final report. They agreed that the wing is not historic due to its failure to meet the City’s standards for designation as such.

- Draft Preliminary Geotechnical Report/Seismic Design Memorandum – Caltrans Review and Supplementary Geotechnical Investigation: It is being recommended to construct a trench across the seismic zone to examine the stratigraphy and geological make-up within the zone. PB met with Caltrans and Kleinfelder's senior seismologist on April 22 and Caltrans concurred that the City should proceed with the trench as well as do a probabilistic fault ruptures analysis. Caltrans feels it is important to get additional physical data within the zone. Based on that meeting, Kleinfelder put together a proposal to initially do three bucket auger borings. Assuming the borings recommend further analysis, a trench will be dug running the full width of the zone. Mr. Benson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the supplemental geotechnical investigation.
- Environmental Technical Studies: Nothing new to report.
- Status of Possible Dropping/Modification of Alternatives: PB, City staff and Caltrans agreed to drop Alternative 4, the single-bore tunnel. Its diameter is at the limits of technology. Alternative 5, the cut and cover tunnel, is proposed to be modified to function identically to the twin bore except that it will be a concrete box instead of tubes. Another thing to note about Alternative 5 is that it would cause greater disruption than the twin-bore method, but would cost about \$100 million less. PB will put together a technical memorandum explaining this.
- Review/Approval of Construction Limits: The Navy is to send the City a letter saying they can't commit to any construction staging at this time.
- Refinement of Geometric Plans – Caltrans Review/Approval: Not discussed.
- Agency Coordination:
 - Caltrans – See above.
 - Navy – PB met last month with SW DIV and NASNI and walked them through the environmental process. FHWA has asked that they be a Cooperating Agency, but not a signatory to documents. The Navy will have their legal people review the procedures. The Navy has assigned a NEPA person from SW DIV to actively participate in the process.
 - Resource Agencies – No news.
 - Fire Life Safety and Security Committee (FLS&SC): The committee met on April 26 to review the scope.
- Newsletter: This will probably be distributed in late June. It will include information about alternatives that continue to move forward and probably something from Susan Davis regarding funding for the environmental process. The Navy has been asked for an article on the Third Street gate. Other articles may include trenching and portals.

2. Funding:

- \$500,000 Federal CBI Grant – Authorization: A milestone was reached this afternoon – the funding was authorized by Caltrans. FHWA finally released the funds after two years. The \$500,000 became \$470,000.

- Transportation Reauthorization Bill (TEA-LU) – \$5 Million in House Bill: The Senate has added an additional \$11 billion to their version of the TEA bill. The City has \$5 million in the House version of that bill. There are no earmarks in the Senate as of now. The City is cautiously optimistic.
- Annual Appropriation – Request for \$2.7 Million: There is no more information on the progress of this bill.

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

1. Status of Third Street Gate Project: The Navy intends to select a contractor by July, with a completion date in spring 2007. They have acknowledged that it's their responsibility to do something at the Third and Alameda intersection.
2. Major Traffic Study (MTS): This will be back to Council for prioritization of items.
3. Congestion Relief Working Group (CRWG) Project: This went to Council last week. The highest priority went to bulbouts and landscaping on Third and Fourth Streets. The second was for metering at the toll booths and finally, traffic signals. Two Councilmembers don't feel they could support signals based on the effect they would have on adjacent streets.
4. San Diego Regional Airport Authority Site Selection: Dual Use of NASNI: Nothing new to report.
5. BRAC: The list will be released tomorrow, May 13.

D. Future Meeting Schedule: Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting concluded at 5:34 p.m.

Approved:

Jackson S. Clark, Chairman