

CORONADO TUNNEL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, March 8, 2007

Police Facility, 700 Orange Avenue
Community Meeting Room

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL:

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

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

City Staff: Jim Benson, Gail Brydges and Ed Walton

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

2. MINUTES: Mr. Clarey made two clarifications to the February 8, 2007 minutes. Under A.1., Agency Coordination – Navy, the wording “the Navy prefers not to accept” should have been “from a force protection/anti-terrorist point of view the Navy prefers not to accept.” Under B.3, Vacancy on Coronado Tunnel Commission, “Mr. Clarey will see if Toni Gaylord is interested” should be “Mr. Clarey will see if Toni Gaylord can help in recruiting a Coronado Cays candidate.” With those changes, the minutes were approved.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Update:

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

- Status of Technical Reports – Engineering/Environmental – The reports should be wrapped up by the end of April. The preliminary draft PR/ED will be ready in early July and released to Caltrans and the Navy in late July. It will be on the first City Council meeting in August to let them know the preliminary review process is starting and to ask for their comments. Caltrans and FHWA have approved the “reader-friendly” document format.
- Agency Coordination – Navy – Mr. Benson got feedback from the Mayor in Washington, D.C., where he and Al Ovrom both are at the moment. He has received support from Senators Feinstein and Boxer’s staffs and Representative Susan Davis that yes, there is a problem and yes, something needs to be done. At a meeting with the Navy, the CNO, ADM Mike Mullen, basically committed to a letter stating that the Navy will be a full participant in looking at the alternatives and a significant participant in the design. If the City does not get an acceptable commitment, the City

Council may take a position on a third carrier, i.e., support or oppose. We need a commitment from the Navy that something needs to be done and that someone in San Diego will be designated to participate. The CNO had not had as much briefing on the project as the Mayor would have liked.

At today's PDT meeting, a community planner with Naval Base Coronado retracted the comment made by SW DIV staff at February's meeting that the Navy would not accept a portal on Navy property or participate financially. She said that the Navy will cooperate in looking at the alternatives and does not oppose a portal on Navy property, but has concerns about force protection and real estate issues. The public works officer had intended to make the statement at the meeting, but could not make it and asked his staff to make it for him.

- Agency Coordination – Caltrans – The City will be getting a draft policy letter from Caltrans on maintenance and operations and will meet in late March to discuss it. The draft will include Pedro Orso-Delgado's comments. The PDT has lost Jason Reynolds and David Nagy (both Caltrans Environmental) and Luke Serna, Mr. Nagy's replacement, was not at today's meeting. A more senior staff person was there, however. John Rieger (Caltrans Project Management) is being reassigned to the 805 corridor.

2. Possible Relocation of USS Carl Vinson to NASNI: See second bullet under 4.A.1.

3. Funding:

- Update on Financing Strategy Report – There will be an updated finance strategy report in May which will go to the Council in June. This will be covered in the next newsletter, which will probably be in July. Southwest Strategies will have a mock-up for the next Tunnel Commission meeting. Mr. Clark said he'd like to see a statement in the newsletter to the effect that the grade separation alternative does not address all aspects of the Purpose and Need, nor does it improve capacity or solve the division of Coronado by the corridor.

- 2007 Update of Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Anticipate draft in May 2007; adoption in fall 2007 – Nothing new to report.

- Federal Transportation Appropriation (2008) – The City has requested \$2.7 million in this year's annual bill. It's unknown whether we will get an earmark.

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

1. Status of Third Street Gate Project: The opening is delayed to mid June. Cooperative agreements for the signals are in Caltrans and the Navy's hands.

2. Congestion Relief Working Group (CRWG) Project: The City's consultant is working on the bulbouts design.

3. Vacancy on Coronado Tunnel Commission: Mr. Clarey spoke to Toni Gaylord about recruiting candidates from the Cays and she and her replacement at MainStreet are working on this. Mr. Clark said that Coronado police officer Keith James volunteered, but he believes he lives close to the corridor and the Commission still wishes to try to get a Cays candidate. He said any viable candidates will be considered, but it would be to the Commission's advantage to have someone from the Cays. Every current member is

close to the corridor. Mrs. Pimpo urged waiting a little longer to try to get a candidate from the Cays.

4. General Information Update: On Monday, a contractor working on the Glorietta Bay dredging and revetment project took out a Time Warner cable and the next day a high power SDG&E line was cut which took out power to the Boathouse Restaurant, the signal at Pomona and SR 75 and the Shores. Fifteen minutes before that, a contractor took out a line on First Street which took out the golf course and some homes.

Mr. Clarey and Mrs. Pimpo reported that they heard many compliments on the Transbay project; people were praising it. Mr. Benson agreed that the pipe pullback had gone well; there are still connections to make.

Ms. Brydges has made a career decision and submitted her retirement papers to the City. She will be going to work for PB's environmental division in the City of Orange. Her last day will be Thursday, March 15.

C. Future Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be Thursday, April 12, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Police Department Community Room.

5. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting concluded at 4:55 p.m.

Approved:

Jackson S. Clark, Chairman