

MINUTES
CORONADO TUNNEL COMMISSION

Thursday, July 10, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

Police Department Community Meeting Room
700 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118

1. ROLL CALL: Commissioners Sut Clark (Chairman), Steve Clarey, Bill Huck, Art Osborne, Margaret Meadows Pimpo, Darrell Sarich and Lou Smith

Absent: Jim Benson (City Staff) and City Council Representative Al Ovrom

City Staff: Rhonda Cruz, Ed Walton and Recording Secretary Nancy Reynolds

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

2. MINUTES: Mr. Smith moved to approve the June 12, 2008 minutes; the motion was seconded by Mr. Huck and passed unanimously.
3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Bruce Shaffer introduced himself as the Community Planner and Liaison for Naval Base Coronado, Public Works Office. He reports to the Commanding Officer at NBC and works with community leaders and agencies on community relations. He is the point of contact for interface, but he is not the Public Affairs Officer.
4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Update

1. Project Report & Environmental Document (PR/ED)

- Draft Project Report and Draft EIS/EIR Review Status – Response to Comments – The Navy submitted their comments on the draft ED. PB responded and gave their comments to Caltrans. Caltrans responded to PB's comments, PB revised the document and gave it to the City for review.
- Status of Alternative 4 Option 2 Study – The traffic analysis is finished; PB will wrap up the geometrics and bring plans to the next CTC meeting. When concluded, this study will result in some significant changes to the Project Report and Environmental Study.
- Status of Toll/PPP Feasibility Study – At today's PDT meeting Caltrans said they want this added to the environmental document as an operational alternative to each alternative. PB will run new traffic forecasts with tolling assumed and this will likely affect air quality, etc., due to reduced traffic expectations. They will incorporate the revisions into a separate document which will be incorporated into the environmental document.

Mr. Osborne asked if the third carrier will be considered in this study and was informed that the Navy is preparing their own report. Mr. Clarey felt that at least one tolling scenario should be with three carriers. Mr. Osborne asked who would be responsible for comparing the Navy's numbers with the City's and Ms. Cruz said that the City is looking at hiring an environmentalist to study the Navy's SEIS and look for significant differences. Mr. Pearson said if the Navy's environmental document shows a significant effect on traffic with a third carrier the question is whether the City goes back and recycles its document based on more traffic from a third carrier. He requested a schedule with milestone dates from Mr. Schaffer. Mr. Osborne asked whether the Navy needs to use the same SANDAG model that the City did and Mr. Pearson responded that it does. Mr. Clarey asked if there is a target date for a Record of Decision and Mr. Shaffer replied no, that now they're looking for dates for public hearings and scoping meetings. Mr. Pearson said that since a final decision on homeporting a third carrier has not been made it can't be included in the City's study. That study will look at current conditions. Mr. Osborne requested that this be placed on future agendas so that the Commission can be briefed.

When concluded, the toll/PPP study will result in some significant changes to the Project Report and Environmental Study.

- Agency Coordination – Navy/Caltrans – See A.1.

B. Funding

1. Discussion of Tolling/PPP Feasibility Study Assumptions – On June 16 there was a well-attended kickoff meeting to review scope, schedule and assumptions. Data collection has started. Mr. Schaffer felt that Caltrans would have some kind of historical data for toll roads and Mr. Pearson said they have data for new facilities, but they lack data where a facility was free and is now tolled.

2. Subcommittee Report on Council Contacts – Mr. Clark reported that the Subcommittee will meet on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. with the Mayor to tell him where the Tunnel Commission is on tolling and PPP. He said that Richard Ledford had suggested also briefing candidates for office. Mr. Clarey asked if the Council realized that federal money might not be there as in the past and Mrs. Pimpo said that they were all aware of this.

[Commissioner Smith left at 4:31 p.m.]

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

1. Status of Third Street Gate Project – The contractor is still on board framing the concrete pedestal that Admiral Stockdale's plane will be placed on. Mr. Osborne asked if there was any consideration being given to moving the plaque – you can't read it from the car and you'll get run over reading it if you're not in a car.

2. Bulb-outs/Signals Update – Caltrans is still insisting on having a four-foot shoulder and they're opposed to putting anything in at B Avenue at Third Street.

Also, the bulbouts must have a turn radius that a 65' "California truck" can make. The existing conditions don't meet this requirement.

Mr. Clarey said the alley between B and C Avenues has a blind exit because parking is allowed there. He'd like the City to look at some red curb there. Mr. Walton noted it's a trade-off because there's a demand for parking there. Mr. Osborne reported a problem at Third and Alameda due to some bushes.

The City now has a cooperative agreement with the Navy for the signals and the Navy is working on a license agreement. When the license agreement is done the project can be bid and the start of construction could be December. Mr. Osborne asked if the signals project would help when Fourth and Alameda floods with heavy rain and Mr. Walton responded that it would not, but the City is aware of the problem and has identified a future project to correct the problem. However, it conflicts with the tunnel project, so it is on hold.

3. General Information Update – Ms. Cruz reported that the City might issue a newsletter that would discuss tolls and PPPs. The last newsletter was a year ago. Mr. Pearson said that the City will likely hold some public meetings in November on just these two additions to the document. Studies will be far enough along to provide some definitive results.

Mr. Walton said a roundabout was recommended in a study of the Pomona/Seventh/Adella intersection. The City Council voted to put in a temporary one; if it works the City will probably put in something permanent.

D. Next Meeting: Thursday, August 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Approved:

Jackson S. Clark, Chairman

Nancy Reynolds, Recording Secretary