

GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING

Monday, April 21, 2014

6:00 p.m.

Council members present: Marc Crawford-Chair, Cheryl Miraglia, Dave Sadoff, John Ryzanych, Matt Turner, Aileen Chong-Jeung

Location: Castro Valley Library – 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94646

Summary Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marvin Drisher requested the Council to ask Alameda County Flood Control or the Public Works Agency to inspect the erosion from the creek on his property.

I. Approval of Minutes - March 2014 minutes

A motion was made by Sheila Cunha and seconded by John Ryzanych that the minutes of March 17, 2014 be accepted as corrected.

Motion passed 6/1 - Councilmember Sadoff abstained.

II. Update on Tree Ordinance Revisions - Alameda County Public Works Agency

Inta Brainerd, Environmental Compliance Specialist, Public Works Agency, introduced the Tree Advisory Board members: District 1 - Donald Nelson; District 2 – Walter Fuji District 3 - Kathie Ready; District 4 – Dan Gallagher; District 5 – Dee McDonough.

Kathie Ready, Chair of the Tree Advisory Committee, presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the Alameda County Tree Ordinance. The purpose of the Tree Ordinance is to preserve all the trees within the County right-of-way by establishing standards and regulations for planting, maintaining and removing trees.

The Tree Ordinance was last revised in 2003. The Tree Advisory Board has identified several sections of the tree ordinance that require language clarification. The Tree Advisory Board is accepting public input on the ordinance in the following categories: 1) enforcement 2) compliance 3) responsibility 4) financial burden and 5) establishment of a special district or county service area (CSA) for tree maintenance. Forms for the public comment period were made available.

Discussion

Councilmembers requested a copy of the tree ordinance and a copy of comments already received. In addition a discussion ensued with the Council, Tree Advisory Board and the Public Works Agency about inventory of the trees in the County's right-of-way and the responsibility of tree maintenance in the County's right-of-way. The current ordinance indicates that the property owner is responsible for tree maintenance in the County's right-of-way.

Daniel Woldesenbet, Director, Public Works Agency, stated that the Tree Advisory Board would like to know how the community feels about trees and would they support a CSA to maintain trees, without being influenced by the existing ordinance. Previous comments submitted will be posted on line on the Public Works Agency's website.

Speakers

Dan Gallagher, Tree Advisory Board member stated that a property owner requesting removal of trees due to sidewalk damage was denied due to the trees being of more value to the area. Strengthening the ordinance would provide the Tree Advisory Board assistance in dealing these situations.

Bob Swanson, have a lot of calls of people who cannot maintain their trees; CSA is a good idea for tree maintenance.

Recommendation from MAC Council: The Public Works Agency will present information regarding County Service Areas for tree maintenance at a future meeting.

III. Public Works Projects, Programs, Services and Budget for Castro Valley

Daniel Woldesenbet, Director, County Public Works Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Agency's services and budget.

The presentation included information on engineering and transportation projects under design and planned for construction, Flood Control engineering services, construction management services road maintenance, bridge operand and their involvement in community activities.

The Council thanked the Agency for the extensive report.

This item was informational only and requited no Council action.

The meeting was adjourned to May 19, 2014.