



Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

May 15, 2018

Summary and Motions

Chair Farmer called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Committee Members F. Brown, Moloney, Stinnett, Gibbs, Evans, Worley, Mossotti, Bledsoe, and Plomin were present. Council Members Smith and Lamb were also in attendance as non-voting members.

I. Approval of Committee Summary – April 24, 2018

A motion was made by CM Bledsoe to approve the April 24, 2018 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary, seconded by CM Stinnett. The motion passed without dissent.

II. Pavement Plan

Dowell Hoskins-Squier, Commissioner of Environmental Quality and Public Works, presented the item. She explained the history of the current pavement management plan. She reviewed the recent budget allocations and actual funds spent and how those funds are allocated to major/minor arterials, collectors, and local roads. She highlighted remaining balances in recent fiscal years. She explained the backlog of needed paving in each road category to assess the paving needs assessment. She explained how the paving needs assessment was used to shift the approach for budget allocations for FY19, changing the percentage of funds going to each road category, as well as new categories for various types of road projects. She pointed out that she feels the paving needs assessment needs to take place again for FY20 because there are larger road projects that are on hold for the time being.

CM F. Brown commented on the FY19 proposed budget allocation. He said 65% for local streets seems high and collector streets seems low because several of our collector streets are being shortchanged because they are longer streets. He said we should probably put the collector streets at 30% and local streets at 60%. Hoskins-Squier said she does not have a problem with that.

CM Moloney asked about the pavement condition survey costing \$450,000, recalling the last time we paid for the survey. Hoskins-Squier said three years ago it was about \$396,000 which did not include a curb survey. She said the curb survey is about \$60,000 additional. CM Moloney asked about the data collected from the student interns for free in the past and how it compares to the data the condition survey we do now. Hoskins-Squier said the data collected by the students was more arbitrary and the data collected now is very objective. CM Moloney asked when Alexandria was blacktopped and how long the warranty is. Hoskins-Squier said it was done in 2016 and the warranty is good for one year. CM Moloney expressed concern that we did not use enough blacktop to carry the weight of heavy trucks coming through or we did not allow it to dry completely. William Osborne, Project Manager for Street Maintenance, said this was one of the very first roads recommended for inlet overlay. He said they have found it does not work on high volume roads. CM Moloney questioned who was responsible for the disrepair. Hoskins-Squier said the Lextran buses are tearing up the roads.

CM Bledsoe asked about the pavement condition survey and if that would be done every three years. Hoskins-Squier said that is the plan and she recommends moving forward with FY19 paving based on existing data because new data will not be available until November. She said she likes the category breakdown but she feels like every four years is too long and we should have more grace with the OCI with the rating going down slightly every year. CM Bledsoe expressed concern that the local roads are suffering and that it is hard for constituents.

CM Lamb said she appreciates the 65% and asked about a way to identify the greater underlying issues. She commented on the pavement condition survey, but she has concerns about underlying issues on recently paved roads. She said sometimes these roads are evaluated with an A+ rating which is not accurate because when these underlying issues surface, the rating would be much lower. She asked if these underlying issues can be taken into

consideration when the survey is completed so there is a more realistic outcome. She asked how they plan to handle the special projects. Hoskins-Squier said when they are identified and whether they are in a highly traveled area will determine how they are prioritized. She said there are a few that are currently being addressed. CM Lamb said she is aware of repairs that need to be made to Redding Road. Osborne said the problem with Redding Road is settlement. He said it was opened up to traffic before it should have been. CM Lamb suggested an idea about diverting traffic until the pavement repair completes more thoroughly.

CM Stinnett asked if the \$450,000 would be bid out. Hoskins-Squier said because we bought the proprietary software, we can go sole source on the pavement condition survey and we are in the process of negotiating a fee. CM Stinnett commented on the discrepancy between the company's estimated budget for paving versus the actual cost because they continue to come in under budget and their system is not working. Hoskins-Squier said we have modified variables in the software, but the number of ADA ramps is a big unknown and that is the discrepancy. She said it will never be perfect. CM Stinnett said \$450,000 is a lot to use on a third party. He asked if we could purchase our own truck and do this ourselves. Hoskins-Squier said she does not have that answer, but Transportation Cabinet has a fleet of trucks and they do pavement condition surveys across the state all year long.

CM Worley asked if the spending pattern is how they determine where the money needs to go in each council district each year. Hoskins-Squier said prior to July 1, the percentages are assigned to council districts based on land miles that are 1/6 of the OCI. CM Worley said whoever we bid this out to, we need to ask if they have the ability to provide good scientific data each year of how we can expect our roads to be. Hoskins-Squier said in order for it to be Fayette County specific, they would need historical data over a number of years to develop how pavement deteriorates over time. CM Worley asked if we have that kind of data and Hoskins-Squier said we have one data point from 2015 and we will have one from 2018. CM Worley asked for this to be looked into further stating that there has to be scientific method that can be used for accuracy.

CM Plomin asked about the remaining balances and what happens with that. Hoskins-Squier said that is the money they are using to pave currently. CM Plomin asked what the projected number will be by year-end and Hoskins-Squier said hopefully it will be zero, but there are no guarantees. CM Plomin asked about the priority on collector roads that need to be paved in District 12. Hoskins-Squier said when they prioritize collector roads, they sort from lowest OCI to highest and identify projects using the pavement condition scores and they identify projects that have the highest benefit costs.

CM Evans commented about her district receiving one of the higher allocations and she has the same problem with her constituencies' frustrations not having enough money for paving. She asked if there is a better type of asphalt we can use. Hoskins-Squier explained how they use a stronger asphalt for arterials and collectors. She said we can explore other options. CM Evans commented on the edges of roads that do not have curbs and she asked about the curb analysis and if there is a different option besides curbs. Hoskins-Squier said they can look at the particular areas of concern and try to find solutions.

CM Mossotti asked who maintains Man O' War and New Circle Road and she asked who does the paving and snow plowing. Hoskins-Squier said the city maintains Man O' War and the state maintains New Circle.

CM Farmer asked about how we can tweak the software going forward to get better information. Hoskins-Squier said we can tweak some of the variables without changing the condition scores. CM Farmer asked if the data we use is dynamically driven with input from our folks in the subsequent years after it is delivered. Hoskins-Squier said not unless we did some type of treatment on a particular segment. CM Farmer asked if we need to take action on the FY19 proposed budget allocations and Hoskins-Squier said yes. CM Farmer asked if there was other action we need to take. Hoskins-Squier said they took money off the top of the paving budget prior to allocating to the collector, arterial, and local streets so they will need action on that.

CM Bledsoe said there needs to be something between each year that accounts for horrible winters or changes in asphalt moving forward. She said she would like a report back before spending the money again on how to use that year to year. She said this will be critical for us to feel comfortable using the software moving forward.

CM F. Brown commented about Bates Creek Road that we gained from the state. He asked if this was a collector street or arterial. Hoskins-Squier said it was arterial and the cost estimate is \$330,000. He asked if this was at the top of the priority list. Hoskins-Squier said it was not surveyed until the road swap because it was a state route. CM F. Brown said with the road swap, we need to recognize this and if it is a priority, we need to take care of it as soon as school is out. Hoskins-Squier said we did not own this prior to making a list of FY18 streets.

CM Moloney asked if the road swap on Bates Creek goes all the way to New Circle Road. Hoskins-Squier said yes.

A motion was made by CM F. Brown to Accept the Pavement Management Plan and amend the resolution to include the FY 2019 budget allocation of \$12 million and percentages as they were presented, seconded by CM Evans, the motion passed without dissent.

CM Bledsoe said she is supportive of moving this forward today, but she would like to know how we are going to use the plan year to year moving forward before allocating money.

CM Moloney asked if this requires a motion because the money was provided for in the budget. Hoskins-Squier said because it was previously adopted by resolution, we have to amend the percentages based on our previous motion, not the administration's action. CM Moloney asked what percentages we are approving. CM Farmer said we are approving 65% for local, 25% for collector, and 10% for arterial. CM Moloney asked if the administration was okay with the 65% and Hoskins-Squier said yes.

A vote was taken on the motion.

III. Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Lauren Monahan, Environmental Initiatives Specialist with Waste Management, presented the item. She started the presentation by explaining hazardous waste which is anything that unsafe to pour down sinks and storm drains or place in regular garbage bins. She highlighted their most recent event on April 21 and the grant money associated with the event which requires a 25% match. She reviewed the tonnage that has been collected since 2014 and said you can see an uptick over the years. She also pointed out their community partners and their plan for future events. She said holding a second event will be a good way to look at the numbers and see if they collect more by adding the tonnage collected at two events.

CM Farmer commented that this is different than recycling as it is way to dispose of different kinds of materials differently without receiving money back. Monahan said that is correct and we work with vendors who recycle some of these materials such as gasoline, but it is separate from recycling. CM Farmer asked about doing a second event and if we have the people and funding to do this. Monahan said we could plan this in the fall around the tire amnesty event and we would have funding to cover the disposal cost. She said we could use grant funding to cover the costs of the fall event and city funding for the spring event.

CM Moloney asked what they do with the hazardous waste and where it is taken. Monahan said it will be packaged up according to federal regulations regarding hazardous waste. CM Moloney asked if we have looked into a permanent waste station and John Howard, Deputy Director of Waste Management, said it can be done, but it is a lengthy process which requires a permit to store the material. CM Moloney said if money is the issue, these are some of things Division of Water Quality qualifies for. Commissioner O'Mara said this goes back several years and he recalls that it needed a \$1 million cost to get started. He said it is a money issue as far as long-term management of the fund balance. CM Moloney said if there is an opportunity to get grants to do this program and keep these materials from getting into the water, we should not give that up.

CM Plomin commented on the small amount in 2014 and asked how that is quantified. Monahan said the consultant they work with has 80 categories and they do a physical sort and pull random samples of landfill waste. She said she does not recall the exact percentage, but it was not very significant. CM Plomin asked if they will be doing this again soon and Monahan said yes, about every 5 years. CM Plomin asked when these materials get into the system if our process filters them out. Charlie Martin, Director of Water Quality, said it does not reliably do that and sometimes we do not even know it is there.

CM Farmer asked if any action needed to be taken on this to move forward and Monahan said no. CM Farmer asked Monahan to keep Council posted so they can send people to these events.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

IV. Stormwater Priority Capital Projects List

Greg Lubeck, Stormwater Section Manager in Division of Water Quality, presented the item. He explained the history of the stormwater priority capital projects lists that was initiated in 1996, highlighting 53 completed projects out of 131 since 1996 and how the consent decree is connected to the priority project list. He pointed out that the methodology behind the list was updated in 2012, the severity scoring process, and additional factors that are considered with projects on the priority project list. Lubeck provided a list of active stormwater priority projects. (A motion was made to add an additional 5 minutes for the presentation, no one objected to the motion). Lubeck reviewed the consent decree obligation capital project list and highlighted what to expect.

CM Moloney asked if the city is due for a tax increase to keep pace and stay in compliance with the consent decree. O'Mara said for the sanitary sewer rates, they do not anticipate a rate increase this summer, but will continue to monitor and will review it at the beginning of the calendar year to see about the next rate increase. Martin said some of the projects came in lower than what they expected. CM Moloney asked where we are in conclusion of the consent decree and Martin said the deadline is December 31, 2026. CM Moloney asked if we were ahead or behind schedule and Martin said he thinks we are okay.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

V. Division of Water Quality Projects

Charlie Martin reviewed the current project list for the Division of Water Quality and he pointed out several specific projects.

CM Farmer asked what would be in the tunnel and Martin said it would be the pipelines.

No further comment or action was taken on this item

VI. Items Referred to Committee

No further comment or action was taken on this item

A motion by CM Bledsoe to Adjourn, seconded by CM Plomin, the motion passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

KT 5.15.18