



Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

September 12, 2023

Summary and Motions

Chair Sheehan called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Committee Members Wu, Fogle, Lynch, LeGris, Monarrez, Gray, F. Brown, and Sevigny were present. Committee Member Worley was absent.

I. Approval of July 11, 2023 Committee Summary

Motion by Gray to approve the July 11, 2023 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary. Seconded by Sevigny. Motion passed without dissent.

II. Annual Stormwater Program Update

Mark Sanders, Engineering Section Manager in Division of Water Quality, provided an overview of the storm water priority projects list. He reviewed the severity score process for the priority list and mentioned 2 factors are structure flooding and street/road flooding. He displayed a map to illustrate remaining priority projects and he explained how to view the priority list on the web site. Capital improvement projects include Southland Park/Tucson/Yuma, and he reviewed phase 1 and phase 2. He showed photos of the Southland area park phase 1 which are the basins. He provided an overview of the Joyland area stormwater project phase 1 & 6 and he showed photos of the that project. He reviewed minor stormwater construction projects completed, projects to be advertised, and current design projects. He reviewed the completed work orders from 2018-2022 and he explained the frustrating outcomes which include unintended consequences. Future preliminary engineering reports. challenges and tasks for 2023-24. complete projects under design to clear backlog, assist with updating web-based map, etc.

When asked about utility companies, Sanders did know of any problems. If there is an issue, the utility companies are responsive, and they are quick to come out. Speaking about the priority list and if 99 is the last one, Sanders confirmed and said we are on 85. He clarified that the Gainesway project is a 3-part project. When asked if numbers 1-84 are complete, Sanders pointed out that several of those are in construction/design phase, so they are not complete. When asked if any of this work is done in-house, Sanders and Lubeck agreed it is all contracted work. Addressing whether there is any parallel between storm and sanitary, Sanders said they try to work together. Speaking about completed work orders and if we are still in catch up phase, Sanders said it is the nature of design. You will have to catch up and have new projects, etc. It's like a roller coaster. Speaking about Shannon Dr. and Parkside, which pools up with water and causes mosquitos, Sanders said work is being done there right now and they anticipate completion in the next 4 weeks. When asked about Ohio and 3rd Street and how we inform the office, Sanders said this is done through LexCall (311). Speaking about the timeline for stormwater projects from start to finish, Lubeck said it depends on the project. He said it is a lengthy process. No action was taken on this item.

III. Process for Road Closures

Commissioner Albright provided an overview of the major road impact communication plan. She defined what a major road impact is which considers the rank of road as identified in snow plan and the extent of impact. A major road impact also considers the time of day (rush hour), duration of the road closure, proximity to intersections, and proximity to other work zones. The communication plan parameters

include whether the project meets the threshold for a major road impact, it includes only LFUCG projects, and true emergencies change all of this. Albright displayed a flow chart to explain this communication plan. She reviewed the first steps once construction is ready to begin: the contract is awarded, the contract includes a Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan, relationship of MOT to road impact review determines timeframe. When a contract is in place, it advances communication with council members and talk to Traffic Engineering, Public Information and Education (PIE), stakeholders, etc. Traffic Engineering approves a plan of a minimum of 8 business days before impact and communicates that plan with Waze app., posts to traffic Ticker and posts to Lex-wrecks on impacted days. 6 days out, the PIE team sends mass communication and shares impact details with councilmembers and constituents. The contractor puts variable message signs up 5 days in advance and executes traffic control plan during the project. Albright summarized by saying that the initial notification to councilmembers when the contract is finalized (MOT). There is a notice to Traffic Engineering 10 days before road impact occurs. And once the traffic plan is approved, the PIE team, councilmembers and the contractor all have communication responsibilities.

There was some discussion about using contractors for paving, and those contractors put signs up. There was a question about whether we update notification when roads aren't necessarily closed but just worked on. Speaking about sharing information and what the best way is to communicate this, Poe spoke about what the Public Information Office does to communicate (Nextdoor app, councilmembers, neighborhood contacts, etc.) It was stated that not all Neighborhood Associations are active so we need to play more of an active role and that we understand the goal so we can share the information. Poe said communication is difficult because the ways people get information is split. Speaking about the Council communications person using a system and how to communicate with schools, Albright suggested speaking with her office. When asked about markings not present until road is running out, Albright said sometimes putting markings too early can scare people off. There was some discussion about how to better communicate with franchise so they can communicate with constituents. When asked about a communications budget, Albright said for something big, they typically use Poe's group. She would like to explore funding for outreach. No action was taken on this item.

IV. Items Referred to Committee

Motion by Sevigny to remove *Process for Road Closures* from committee. Seconded by Wu. Motion passed without dissent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.