

OSCAR LEESER  
MAYOR



JOYCE WILSON  
CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL  
ANN MORGAN LILLY, DISTRICT 1  
LARRY ROMERO, DISTRICT 2  
EMMA ACOSTA, DISTRICT 3  
CARL ROBINSON, DISTRICT 4  
MICHEL NOE, DISTRICT 5  
EDDIE HOLGUIN JR., DISTRICT 6  
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7  
CORTNEY NILAND, DISTRICT 8

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
MAY 12, 2014

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Cortney Carlisle Niland, Emma Acosta, Michiel Noe, Lilia Limón, and Ann Morgan Lilly. Late arrivals: Carl Robinson at 10:02 a.m. and Eddie Holguin, Jr. at 10:24 a.m. Not present: Larry Romero

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1. Discussion and action concerning adopted 2012 Street CIP with revisions as approved by Council.
    - Activity/obligations to date
    - Direction on New Priorities and Annual Appropriation

Ms. Joyce Wilson, City Manager, explained there will be design standards for both arterial streets and residential streets and will address deviations from the standards with City Council representatives.

Mayor Leeser questioned the inclusion of maintenance costs.

Representative Limon asked if \$20,000 per gate for \$40,000 per year maintenance was included in the total cost presented.

Representative Niland wants dialogue to occur. She gets there's a difference. District 8 has these subcategories. What are your priorities? Should the schedule be changed? She wants dialogue to occur with only one point person - plan presented, what is important to representative, what the options are. No personal contact has taken place to work out these issues, so she cannot make a decision today because options have not been presented or explained by staff.

Ms. Joyce Wilson stated, "She is not asking for a decision today."

Mayor Leeser said we need to take into consideration that we have an election every four years and expenditures on projects that have begun are not abandoned.

Representative Robinson wants to see the presentation in totality. He said when he came into office the plan was presented to him as finalized and not changeable. The allocation was totally out of whack. There were no analysis of needs and allocations per district. If you are going to give \$210 million to streets, the most equitable way is to divide it by district, not to the exact dollar, but not so far out of whack as to weaken one district over another.

Ms. Wilson wants the chance to show the actual plan, schedule and distribution of funds.

Representative Niland never had an opportunity to reassess the established street improvement plan.

Mayor Leeser stated the plan can be changed but it needs to be regarding the budget available and we need to get staff meeting on the implications of changes - the impacts.

Representative Niland questioned, "What is the allocation?" We need to go into budget sessions with their options and need one point person.

Representative Noe said he has a different point of view as to how it should be spent. The budget should be allocated according to the streets most in need, not divided among districts.

Representative Acosta stated last year when she was provided with a list, some of the streets shown to her were ones that had been shuffled to other districts due to the redistricting effort. She has not seen the pavement management program. She finds it difficult to understand the status of the projects and funds unless a staff person sits down with a staff member who knows the district and the needs and explains the plan to them.

Mr. Ted Marquez, Director for Department of Transportation, commented that the 2008 Pavement Management System was the last update.

Representative Niland stated redistricting has impacted her too and no one has explained the needs of the newly acquired streets.

Ms. Wilson stated we will suspend the program except for those things that are already under progress.

Representative Lilly questioned Robinson/Ochoa Streets. She wants to stop it and does not want to put a road through the arroyo.

Ms. Wilson and Ms. Irene Ramirez, Interim City Engineer, agreed that is not happening. It is street resurfacing.

Representative Limon appreciates the presentation. She thought there was 7.3 million for aesthetic design.

Ms. Wilson needs Council to quickly go through the listing and give guidance.

Representative Limon questioned when the arterial lighting list will be discussed.

Ms. Wilson explained the constraints and timing of drawdowns for state monies. "Is there anything on that list the City Representatives do not want?" By the end of the summer, Council should have decided on the projects.

Representative Niland wants Ted Marquez to set up meetings with City Representatives to go over with each of them the projects and priorities.

Ms. Wilson stated a representative from Engineering can attend with Ted Marquez so the cost estimates are sound.

Ms. Irene Ramirez replied quad gates are planned to be installed.

Representative Limon questioned the closures in District 7 and 6 and asked if quad gates are on a yearly maintenance?"

Representative Noe asked about quiet zones.

Representative Lilly asked about University Street and reconstruction?"

Representative Niland wants the Council members consulted.

Public comment:

Ms. Lisa Turner commented that revisions to design standards should be discussed at a regular Tuesday meeting - ADA standards and sidewalks. She asked how many miles of unpaved roads are there in El Paso, Texas?

Mr. Ted Marquez answered little less than five miles. The first priority is to get the five miles paved without regard to what district it is in. All except District 3 and 5 have unpaved roads.

Mr. Charlie McNabb representing McNutt Company, related to the MCA Quiet Zone original proposal affecting their district. Plans were revised to put it in quad gallons. 2 of 5 gates affect them. He would like to have a dialog with Council. If quad gates are not put in McNutt Company is greatly affected.

**NO ACTION taken on this item.**

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Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Niland, seconded by Representative Lilly, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 10:40 a.m.

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**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

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Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk