



**CITY OF AUBURN  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**December 10, 2007**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Rich Wagner called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm in Conference Room #3, located on the second floor of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street, Auburn, Washington. Committee members present were: Chairman Rich Wagner, Vice-Chair Roger Thordarson, and Member Bill Peloza. Also present during the meeting were: Mayor Peter B. Lewis, Councilmember-elect Haugen, City Attorney Hide, Director Dennis Dowdy, City Engineer/Assistant Director Selle, Assistant City Engineer Ingrid Gaub, Utilities Engineer Dan Repp, Traffic Engineer Laura Philpot, Transportation Planner Joe Welch, Project Engineer Jacob Sweeting, Project Engineer Ryan Vondrak, Project Engineer Fritz Timm, Senior Planner Elizabeth Chamberlain, Planner Stacy Borland, Auburn Regional Medical Center Representative Aneve, Valley Radiologists Representative Williams, Auburn Diagnostic Representative Makowichuk, and Secretary Alison Hudson.

Executive Session: Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) the committee adjourned for 15 minute period to discuss matter concerning potential litigation. At 2:45 pm the committee reconvened the regular meeting to continue the scheduled agenda.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Peloza, that the Committee approve the Public Works Committee minutes for December 10, 2007. Motion carried.

**B. ANNUAL ON-CALL CONSULTANT AGREEMENTS FOR 2008**

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Peloza, that Council approve the Annual On-Call Consultant Agreements for 2008.

**C. GRANT PERMISSION TO ENTER INTO AMENDMENT #1 TO CONSULTANT AGREEMENT NO. AG-C-292 WITH INCA ENGINEERS, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES ON PROJECT NO. CP0701 – 8<sup>TH</sup> ST NE AND R ST NE SIGNAL**

Project Engineer Vondrak presented the amendment to the consultant agreement required to complete initial design level work on the alternative previously discussed with the Committee. The preliminary estimate of project costs is a significant increase over the previous scope for the project and includes a full bus turn-out on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Committee members were concerned about the capability of a westbound U-turn at the intersection of R Street and requested that staff look into the feasibility of this additional work. The Committee also requested that staff provide a comparison cost of the original scope of the project when reviewing alternatives.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Peloza, that Council grant permission to enter into Amendment #1 to Consultant Agreement No. AG-C-292 with INCA Engineers, Inc. for Engineering Services on Project No. CP0701 – 8<sup>th</sup> St NE and R St NE Signal

**D. GRANT PERMISSION TO ENTER INTO CONSULTANT AGREEMENT NO. AG-C-318 WITH HEDGES ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES ON**

**PROJECT NO. CP0703 – LAKEHAVEN WATERMAIN DESIGN**

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Pelozo, that Council grant permission to enter into Consultant Agreement No. AG-C-318 with Hedges Engineering and Consulting, Inc. for Engineering Services on Project No. CP0703-Lakehaven Watermain Design.

**E. FINAL PAY ESTIMATE #2 TO CONTRACT 07-11, SEWER RELINING, 19<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE NE AND RIVERVIEW DR NE**

Following a request from Chair Wagner, Project Engineer Timm provided a brief description of sewer re-lining and explained that this particular situation has a strong influence on the comparison of costs between a typical replacement and a re-lining project. In this instance, due to recent road work and the condition of the pipe structure, it was concluded that re-lining was an appropriate solution. It will not reduce all the infiltration in the system as it only affects the piping and that staff feels that it will decrease the ground water leakage into the system by approximately 50%.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Pelozo, that Council approve Final Pay Estimate #2 to Contract 07-11, Fritz Sewer Relining, 19<sup>TH</sup> Drive NE and Riverview Drive NE.

**III. ISSUES****A. ORDINANCE NO. 6146 AMENDING AUBURN CITY CODE CHAPTER 15.74 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING CODE LANGUAGE TO CLARIFY INTENT AND ADDING LANGUAGE FOR GRADING AND FILLING ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDING FEES THEREFOR**

Assistant City Engineer Gaub provided responses to several questions presented by Chair Wagner and the Committee. The Committee requested that clarifications be made to Page 4, Item F. "Impervious surface", to provide a stronger definition of an impenetrable surface and to Page 2, Item E to incorporate language that is being removed related to the requirement for new development to address their impacts and not correct naturally occurring situations that may be impacting other properties.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Thordarson, seconded by Member Pelozo, that Council introduce and adopt Ordinance No. 6146, as amended, Amending Auburn City Code Chapter 15.74 for the purpose of revising code language to clarify intent and adding language for grading and filling activities and providing fees therefor.

**IV. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION****A. ORDINANCE NO. 6147 AMENDING AUBURN CITY CODE CHAPTER 3.10 ENTITLED "PURCHASING POLICY" FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING CODE LANGUAGE TO CLARIFY INTENT.**

Committee was satisfied with the proposed revisions.

**B. ORDINANCE NO. 6140--ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS (AMENDING AUBURN CITY CODE CHAPTER 18.04 AND SECTION 18.52.020) RELATING TO OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS FOR SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES**

Planner Borland responded to questions presented by the Committee no recommendations for change were requested before going to the Planning & Community Development Committee.

C. ORDINANCE NO. 6141--ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS (AMENDING AUBURN CITY CODE CHAPTER 18.60) REVISING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR HOME OCCUPATIONS

Planner Borland responded to questions presented by the Committee which then recommended several minor modifications to be passed along to the Planning & Community Development Committee regarding employment of a non-residents and hours of operation in regard to "quality of life" issues presented by Councilmember Pelozza.

D. ORDINANCE NO. 6142 – LEA HILL ZONING

Senior Planner Chamberlain reviewed the changes that had been made on the map to the Committee and noted that it now incorporates everything as requested by the Committee. The Committee agreed that it looks good and to continue with changes made as suggested.

E. ORDINANCE NO. 6143 – WEST HILL ZONING

Senior Planner Chamberlain explained that this Ordinance has not seen any changes. She then responded to several questions regarding animal property requirements, which she will further discuss with Development Services Coordinator Pilcher who is currently working on the language. The Committee agreed that a good job is being done on the Ordinance and to move forward.

F. ORDINANCE NO: 6136: ON STREET PARKING ADJUSTMENTS ON 4TH STREET NE NEAR AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Traffic Engineer Philpot explained how it is currently signed on 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE near Auburn High School and that the H Street NE parking configuration will not be changed. She assured the Committee that citizens and the school district had been contacted for coordination, approval and suggestions. Changes to be made will bring it to be more consistent adjacent to the along the high school campus. The north side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE will remain all day parking between H Street NE and J Street NE. This change will be made to the ordinance before it comes back to the Council.

G. 3<sup>RD</sup> ST NE C-CURB

Note: This Discussion Item was moved forward in the discussion prior to the consent items due to attendance of staff from Auburn Regional Medical Center, Valley Radiologist, and Auburn Diagnostic.

Transportation Planner Welsh presented an area map that implements staff recommendations and stated that after public works staff had reviewed the location and issues they proposed an interim solution that included the removal of the c curb on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE. This would be accompanied by the installation of signage precluding left turns at the Cascade Orthopedics driveway on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE. He also stated that the traffic study which had been part of SEPA identified a sight distance problem caused by the vegetation along the frontage of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE and Auburn Ave. on the property of the Merritt Building. Part of the interim solution would be to work with the property owner of the Merritt building to obtain a sight distance easement to improve the visibility for the southbound to westbound drivers. He noted that currently there was not enough room to install a dedicated left turn pocket on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE as had been

discussed previously. Chair Wagner suggested redesign of the southbound to westbound turn lane from Auburn Avenue to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE to make it a sharper turn in order to reduce vehicle speeds. Mayor Lewis commented that he was also concerned that pedestrians cross near the location even though there is no crosswalk there. Traffic Engineer Philpot noted that the removal of the c curb, installation of signage (including warning signs on Auburn Ave. about the proximity of the driveway and B Street NE), and removal of sight distance obstruction at the Merritt Building were the first phase of a larger change at the location. A second change would involve a public works project which would look at all the safety and traffic movement issues at the intersection and would include creating a pedestrian crossing. Mayor Lewis also stressed that the city would be monitoring the location for traffic incidents and would act to modify 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE and B Street NE if there were any serious accidents.

The Committee agreed that it was a good recommendation and asked for comments from those attending from Auburn Regional Medical Center and the Merit Building. They stated that while they understand the safety issue that the c curb creates an access issue for both patients and physicians and that is their continued reason for concern. Representatives expressed satisfaction with the staff recommendation and indicated a willingness to work with staff on the site distance issue created by the shrubbery landscape on the curve by the Merritt Building.

#### H. CAPITAL PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Item No. 12 2006 Pedestrian Crossing Improvement - Chair Wagner asked about the placement of the new pedestrian crossing island on I Street NE. Traffic Engineer Philpot explained the reasoning for installing the island at its current location. The concern from the public is that the left turn storage has been reduced for drivers wanting to turn into the north driveway at Top Foods. Engineer Philpot explained that there is also access to Top Foods parking lot from turn left on 17<sup>th</sup> Street NE and that staff is looking at adding signage to help that.

Mayor Lewis asked staff to research the history related to the formation of the City's pedestrian crossing program. He would like to see the information and the details of where the program came from and some of the citizens concerns at the time. There seems to be some negative feedback related to the pedestrian improvements around the City and Mayor Lewis wanted to have the history to confirm the City's high level of concern for pedestrian safety. Traffic Engineer Philpot added that there were new improved standards regarding speed, volume and pedestrian safety and that she would find out when the Council first started discussions on the program.

Item 20 A Street NW corridor Phase 1 (A/B Street) - Assistant City Engineer Gaub explained that the budget for the project includes the corridor from 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NW to 14<sup>th</sup> Street and the required property acquisitions and wetland mitigation expenses at this time. The construction of the portion of the project being completed by a developer will be under construction in 2008. The remainder of the City's project will not likely be under construction until 2009 due to the linear process required by the state due to the federal funds. The project is currently in the environmental review process and staff can not begin the property acquisition process until after environmental approval. In addition, construction can not begin until after the property acquisition has been completed.

Item No. 28 Downtown Water Quality Facility - Chair Wagner questioned the budget verses the estimated costs, Assistant City Engineer Gaub explained that the current approved budget shown is for 2007 only and that as the design is refined and a more accurate estimate of the project costs is available, the Budget will be amended. The project is in the preliminary design

and environmental process.

Item No. 27 A St SE Pedestrian Improvement - Traffic Engineer Philpot explained the project scope was modified last year and a grant was applied for and obtained to complete this project. The project schedule shown is appropriate given the approvals that are required by the grant funding agency on this project and use of a consultant at this time is not likely to complete the project any sooner.

Item No. 11 West Main Street Improvements - It was confirmed to Councilmember Pelosa that this was still on schedule to be completed in January.

Item No. 42 City Wayfinding Signage - Assistant City Engineer Gaub commented that the signs are being made and staff anticipates their delivery by the end of the month. At that time, staff will begin installation of the signs.

#### OTHER DISCUSSION

Transportation Planner Welsh and Traffic Engineer Philpot provided a drawing and explained that a new development was proposed at the intersection of Auburn Way North and S. 277<sup>th</sup> Street. Planner Welsh explained that staff was recommending c-curbing to restrict the left turn access to this site on both 277<sup>th</sup> and on Auburn Way North. The Committee concurred with the c-curbing installation after hearing the engineering rationale.

Chair Wagner asked for that any possible traffic modifications or anything that affected traffic movement should be brought before the Committee so that they might be in a better position to answer general public comments and questions when the modifications are implemented.

Councilmember Pelosa questioned the installation of a 20 mile per hour speed advisory sign on 116<sup>th</sup> Street prior to 333<sup>rd</sup> Street and Traffic Engineer Philpot said that she would have staff review and modify the sign or the sign placement as needed.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Public Works Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

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Rich Wagner  
Chairman

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Alison Hudson  
Public Works Department Secretary

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