

Report on a Meeting between LMD personnel and HMDAC members

11 am, Thursday June 7 2012, City of Vallejo Corporation Yard, Amador Street.

Present for LMD - James Nichols, James Olson, briefly present Sean Sanchez and Mike Schreiner. Present for HMDAC – Mike Baldwin, Joyce Estes, Paul Norberg, Jane McWhorter.

1. Street Maintenance. Some dig and patch repairs are planned for the Parkway. Fog sealing of the Parkway sidewalk is planned for June 20, during which the path will be closed to walkers. Crack sealing of other streets will continue when funds are available. There is a plan for slurry sealing those streets that were not done last time but it will not be this year. The roadway at McGary Road has been repaired and there are plans to rebuild the kerbstone.
2. JN presented 2-dimensional plans for the Entryway Improvement Project prepared by Brian Killian. The work is more extensive than originally envisaged, e.g. the stone walls requested by HMDAC had amounted to approximately 50 linear feet whereas the new plans incorporate more than 300 feet. JN emphasized that individual components in the plans can be changed or eliminated. LMD had estimated the costs at \$174k but Paul pointed out that this did not appear to allow adequate funds for the lighting. JN also stated that the planting plan would be based on Mediterranean type plants that would require less water and less care and attention. He also reported that the landscaping at the entryway would set the theme for upgrading other regions of the Parkway. It was agreed to postpone detailed discussion of the project until 3-D conceptual plans are available, which might be next week. Expenditure on this scale would require council approval but JN expressed confidence that the project could be completed in the Fall, which should be the optimum planting period.
3. The state of the landscaping and the performance of Coast were strongly criticized by HMDAC. Jane showed photos shot that day of new plantings at the Orchards monument with weak, spindly plants and areas of bare dirt. This was despite our requests for the monuments to be treated as high priority areas. JN acknowledged this was unacceptable and he and JO are attempting to address these issues, partly through more detailed planning that should better define the scope of work required. HMDAC members emphasized that the quality of new plants being installed and the lack of proper pruning and plant care relied on supervision of the work on-site. Jane also questioned whether Coast was employing adequate manpower, especially as they were often pulled off regular maintenance for special projects such as clearing firebreaks. JN agreed that the maintenance contract could be managed more effectively if items such as firebreaks were subject to a separate contract, perhaps a single city-wide contract.
4. Mike stated the need for regular monthly HMDAC-LMD meetings at which goals would be set and progress monitored. It was agreed that Jane would meet with JO the next day to review a list of projects and there would be a general meeting at 10:30 am on July 9 to evaluate the outcomes.
5. The Engineer's Report was discussed briefly and Paul asked some questions on the budget and the allocations of the City's administrative charge. JN pointed out that our direct costs have increased whereas some other districts have reduced their expenditure and that the total city-wide expenditure is lower this year, therefore our share is greater.
6. JN informed the committee that John Cerini will be retiring in the near future.