



**CITY OF NOVATO  
PUBLIC WORKS**

**Street Improvement Oversight Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, November 19, 2020 - 12:00 PM**

**A. CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL**

Meeting started at 12:04pm

**Committee:** Meherdad Namiranian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus, Ed Schulze

**Staff Liaison:** Gosia Woodfin

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

M/S Schulze/Osthus All in favor 4-0-0 Meherdad Namiranian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus, Ed Schulze

**C. Approve the meeting minutes of September 17, 2020**

This item was skipped, and the minutes were not approved.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ed Schulze wanted to comment as a member of the public regarding the Rowland overpass based on the publicity and the fact that it has been brought up in previous meetings; would like updates on the repave/restripe.

There were 2 attendees from the public including Susan Wernick who attended regarding Thad Anders request concerning Virginia Ave.

Thad Anders spoke and said Mary Jo has reached out to him and told him a traffic study would be ordered, but he has not heard back yet. He realized closing Virginia Ave may not be realistic, but he thought a sign could be placed that reads closed to through traffic to assist in eliminating excess vehicles speeding. The outcome is pending, and a final determination will not be made until after Mary Jo has had an opportunity to do a thorough investigation.

**E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

*These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Committee. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.*

**E.1 Review and possibly vote on approving the draft Annual Report**

Meherdad wrote the report, and the committee reviewed it, made edits, suggestion and additions. This year's report is brief, covering 3 meetings.

### **E.2: Receive update on resident's request to block Virginia Ave to Vehicular Traffic**

Gosia read Mary Jo's response and the status of her investigation. As well as the initial request that came in from Thad Anders regarding his concerns with speeding on Virginia Ave and his wish to close Virginia Ave to through traffic.

Paul said there are two issues, a barrier and speeding. The committee would like an update to the outcome after Mary Jo has had an opportunity to finish her investigation. Meherdad asked if there are other speed calming measures or policies that the city has in place. We don't but have installed rubber speed humps on Davidson as an experiment. The fire dept has historically not liked speed bumps due to the damage it can cause to their vehicles. What are the other options for traffic calming, do these need to be explored? Paul said we tend to focus on infrastructure but should consider enforcement and education as key parts of the solution.

### **E.3: Receive Updates on Solutions for Intersection Redwood Blvd/Hill Rd.**

Chris Blunk talked to Marin Transit and they suggested changing the route and location of stops. The Clinic no longer creates people crossing due to the relocation of the stop. It solves the immediate problem-but we will keep that location in mind for future improvements. Red curbs were also added near the entrance/exit to help eliminate parking therefore improving visibility as cars are coming into and pulling out of the lot.

### **E.4: Review and Discuss 2015 City Satisfaction Survey**

The survey is now posted on the City's website for review; not certain when the next survey will take place due to budgetary constraints. Smaller surveys take place throughout the year and signing up on the city's website will keep you informed.

### **E.5: Discuss Opportunities to close streets to vehicular traffic**

Similar to the Grant Ave closure; are other opportunity's available? Gosia read Mary Jo's report. Some comments include temporary street closures are more feasible and allow for experimentation and consist of moveable barriers prohibited all vehicle access, they can also be set up with signs allowing local traffic only.

Thought there might be opportunity to get more value from our streets more outdoor spaces for business and or events on the weekends. Should they reach out to the chamber of commerce or DNBA to look into this and potential opportunities? Closed to allow restaurants to serve outdoors during pandemic and was temporary. Meherdad said he would reach out to the locals' entities responsible for the oversight and report back

### **E.6: Review and possibly vote on approving the 2021 Meeting Schedule**

Paul LaPerriere moved to accept dates, for 2021 meeting dates. If a date needs to change it will be discussed at future meetings. It was not seconded.

## **F. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS**

*This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting*

**F.1. Consider future topics**

Review Resolution, Annual Report, Update on Virginia Ave. CIP project updates, Traffic Safety log updates (invite Mary Jo)

**F.2. Next Meeting Date** (*January 15, 2021*)

January 21, 2021 No vote- All in favor

**G. ADJOURNMENT (1:30 PM – TIME APPROXIMATE)**

1:41 pm M/S LaPerriere/Osthus All in favor 3-0-1 Meherdad Namiranian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus Ed left and was absent for this part.