



**CITY OF NOVATO
PUBLIC WORKS**

Street Improvement Oversight Advisory Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 21, 2021 - 12:00 PM

Teleconference Only

A. CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 12:02pm.

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

Staff: Chris Blunk, Gosia Woodfin, Mary Jo Yung

Guests/Public: Tim Blofeld, Thad Anders, Penny and Dave Stabenfeldt

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

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

C. Approve the meeting minutes of September 17, November 19 and December 17, 2020

M/S Schulze/LaPerriere All in Favor Meherdad Namiranian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus, Ed Schulze

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Novato resident, Tim Blofeld, wanted to discuss his favor of using roundabouts instead of stop signs. He stated that from an efficiency standpoint, they save gas, are better for the environment (greenhouse gas reduction), and safer. He feels the city should utilize them more frequently and put them in wherever and whenever possible. He said he has been in touch with Council and they were generally in favor.

Virginia Ave. resident, Thad Anders, provided an update to his previous request regarding the closing of Virginia Ave. to through traffic. He did speak to Mary Jo Yung, traffic engineer. She had received the traffic study but did not have time to review it; he realizes blocking it entirely is not practical but would like to determine if there is a way to minimize the through traffic. A final determination has not been made yet.

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 mentioned that he had added a couple things to the report. Paul asked if there is any reason to hold off until item E4; Gosia said, we should move forward.

M/S LaPerriere/Schulze motion to approve draft annual report that is on agenda.

All in favor Meherdad Namiranian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus, Ed Schulze.

E.2 Review and possibly vote on approving the 2021 Meeting Schedule

M/S LaPerriere/Schulze Paul made motion to accept 2021 schedule as written.
All in favor Meheredad Namirianian, Paul LaPerriere, Joakim Osthus, Ed Schulze.

E.3 Receive update on resident's request to block Virginia Avenue and Oak Grove Drive to vehicular traffic

Chris and Mary Jo displayed and discussed a PowerPoint presentation, based on the research and findings regarding both Virginia Ave. and Oak Grove Dr. Mary Jo spoke about Virginia Ave. first and showed some examples of the type of closures and how the popularity of these closures has increased during the pandemic due to social distancing and more people are out walking with sidewalks typically not wide enough to accommodate 6 ft distance.

The data collected in Nov 2020 ADT revealed there are 1500 (VPD) vehicles per day, serving both the school and homes. The speed posted is 25 MPH; but 36 MPH is the average, so there is a speeding issue.

Mary Jo will see if there is an opportunity to have a neighborhood meeting so she can gather feedback and determine the best way to move forward.

Oak Grove Drive is in Pointe Marin Neighborhood, it is a connector as well as runs parallel to a major city street, Ignacio Blvd. Both Palmer Drive and Oak Grove Drive have issues with cut through and high-speed traffic. They did get some recent improvements, including the addition of stop signs, crosswalks and the speed limit was reduced from 30 to 25 mph.

The data collected in January 2021 showed ADT=500VPD.

Outreach is necessary before implementing a closure or partial closure; a temporary closure/stop gap measure, can be introduced while we continue to identify other traffic calming measures that could be used more permanently.

Residents of Oak Grove Drive, Dave and Penny Stabenfeldt, both spoke of their concerns and state that they have never seen emergency vehicles use Oak Grove Dr., as they have alternate access, and hope that their street could be used in a pilot program.

Chris commented the plan is to bring back a discussion after there has been an opportunity to review all options and possibilities.

E.4 Review SIOAC Resolution

Paul said they discussed the resolution in November, but he feels there is a lack of conversation regarding both enforcement and education as these issues were not included in the resolution. Chris clarified what their role and responsibilities are as well as the initial role of the members at the onset of the committee's creation which was as an oversight for spending of Measure B funds. After the sunset of the fund source, the committee continued in an oversight role but has since evolved to include more complex issues. Chris will see if an NPD rep can share information with the committee via semi regular presentations and/or annual reports.

E.5 Receive update on CIP Projects

Gosia provided the committee a review and status of the current CIP projects:

- Annual Pavement Rehabilitation of San Marin Dr. which will also include concrete work.
- Grant Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation: revised design is pending, construction anticipated to begin in 2022.
- Speed Tables on Mirabella Ave: a pilot program, feedback from public pending.
- Rowland Blvd improvements behind Vintage Oaks: in design.
- Novato Blvd: in design, anticipated construction 2022; undergrounding utilities and right of way process to be addressed prior to construction.

E.6 Review Potential Changes to San Marin Dr. / San Andreas Dr. Intersection

Gosia had a graphic of the plan displayed and reviewed it with the committee. She explained the intersection is not included in this year’s paving project as it is currently in the planning phase and will be improved as shown on the plan.

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

Presentation of traffic committee’s findings
 Update on Bolling Circle and discussion regarding traffic enforcement and education to nearby apartment community
 Virginia Avenue and Oak Grove Drive update

F.2. Next Meeting Date *(March 18, 2021)*

Next meeting date of March 18 was confirmed.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm