



CITY OF FULLERTON
INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2020
Assembly Room, Basque Yard
1580 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92833

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thad Sandford
Ryan Alcantara
Arnel Dino
Damion Lloyd
Patrick McNelly
Gregory Sebourn
Mark Shapiro (Via Teleconference)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sonia Carvalho
Patricia Tutor

STAFF PRESENT:

Meg McWade, Public Works Director
Antonia Castro-Graham, Deputy City Manager
Jerome Joaquin, Administrative Analyst II

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MINUTES – June 24, 2020

The June 24, 2020 minutes were continued to the next meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2. TRASH & RECYCLING STATUS UPDATE

Mark McGee, Municipal Manager, and Izabella Villegas, Recycling Coordinator, from Republic Services gave a presentation on the current status of trash collection and recycling in Fullerton and answered questions from Committee Members.

3. SANITATION FEE UPDATE

Staff Member McWade provided an overview of the sanitation fee, including a brief history, how it's calculated, and how the funds are used. Staff Member McWade discussed the recent changes to the sanitation fee calculation (due to the water rate increase) and answered questions and received feedback from Committee Members.

STAFF/COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION

Chair Sanford gave a brief overview of the July 7, 2020 City Council actions to establish an Infrastructure Fund and place a sales tax measure on the November 2020 General Election ballot.

Chair Sanford reminded Members of the opportunity to take a virtual tour of the wastewater treatment facility.

Member Shapiro shared a possible solution to the series lighting problems. Staff Member McWade noted that the City is currently working with a consultant engineer to address this issue.

AGENDA FORECAST

- Water Bill Dispute Panel Meeting - July 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
- Pavement Management Plan Update
- List/Schedule of Agenda Items
- Sales Tax Measure

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m. The next meeting of the Infrastructure and Natural Resources Advisory Committee will be on July 22, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. in the Basque Yard Assembly Room.

Attachment 1: INRAC Letter to City Council, June 29, 2020*

*At the July 22, 2020 INRAC meeting, Member Alcantara asked that this letter be attached to the July 8, 2020 meeting minutes.

June 29, 2020

To: Fullerton Mayor Jennifer Fitzgerald and Members of City Council

From: Members of the Infrastructure and Natural Resources Committee (INRAC)

RE: Revenue Ordinance and Sales Tax Initiative Under Consideration

The Infrastructure and Natural Resources Committee (INRAC) is gravely concerned over the revenue ordinance and sales tax initiative introduced by City Manager Domer and under consideration by the City Council. Our concerns are two-fold. First, the plan has been characterized as recommended and endorsed by INRAC, which it is not the case. Second, the plan seriously underfunds infrastructure, which will result in further degradation of our infrastructure, and roads, in particular.

In February 2020, after more than six months of review and deliberation, INRAC forwarded a conditions and funding report in response to the request from City Council for a full review of Fullerton infrastructure. As a result of this work, INRAC identified an annual funding deficit of \$24,610,125 and recommended that the City Council support a 1% special tax dedicated to city infrastructure. Infrastructure such as sewers and airport assets are in good shape, largely due to dedicated sources of funds. Roads lack such dedicated funding, and as such have received insufficient capital investments over the past thirty years. The proposed plan does not adequately protect the allocated infrastructure, as a special tax would, which is extremely concerning given the financial difficulty in which the city finds itself, and when coupled with a longstanding lack of commitment to investing in our city infrastructure and roads. Further, the proposed plan in setting aside 50% of new revenues is not even expected to regularly meet half of this need.

Second, Fullerton roads alone require no less than \$10 million in additional sustained annual resources to ensure the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) does not continue to decline. Failure to invest in our roads at this level will mean that our current PCI of 64 (on a scale of 100) will grow worse and will require even more resources to service and maintain. Should the intent of City Council be to claim that this revenue ordinance and sales tax initiative is too address our failure roads, than this scheme should not be portrayed at addressing Fullerton infrastructure, it should only claim to address the needs of the city's roads.

The INRAC committee members do understand that the city faces financial pressures in many areas and that the city manager and council must make difficult allocation decisions. And we appreciate the development of additional resources to support infrastructure. However, we remain extremely skeptical of the proposed plan's ability to fully address the scope of our problem, as well as ability of these resources to remain directed to the city's infrastructure. We face skeptical residents, represented by the membership of INRAC, who are not quite ready to trust that city leadership is truly ready to take the issue of our roads seriously. Please do not misrepresent the efforts of INRAC in your current plan, and do not overpromise what might be attained by 50% of a one cent sales tax.

C: Ken Domer, City Manager
Meg McWade, Public Works Director
David Grantham, Senior Civil Engineer