

MINUTES
ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTEREY
WEDNESDAY, April 25, 2007
4:00 – 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, FEW MEMORIAL HALL
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Della Sala called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Council Members

Present: Councilmembers: Haferman, Selfridge, Sollecito, Mayor Della Sala
Absent: Councilmembers: Downey

City Staff:

Present: City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, Assistant City Manager, Director of Plans, Engineering and Environmental Compliance, Human Resources Director, Traffic Engineer, Assistant Human Resources Director

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Della Sala opened the floor for public comments on items not on the agenda, and having no requests to speak, closed Public Comments.

STUDY SESSION

1. Lighthouse District Destination Plan (Public Works 803-12-)
Action: Received and discussed report

Plans, Engineering and Environmental Compliance Director Reichmuth introduced the item. Traffic Engineer Deal presented a brief history. Lee Steinmetz of Bellinger Foster Steinmetz presented three alternate plans, and included the purpose and stakeholders for each. He reviewed the vision for the Lighthouse District. Mr. Steinmetz presented the New Monterey Business Association's recommended action items, emphasizing the need for a decision. Traffic Engineer Deal presented a traffic simulation showing the preferred Alternative C. Mr. Reichmuth said that the model demonstrates a working traffic solution. City Manager Meurer explained that of the three plans, Alternative C is the only one that continues to handle the projected traffic volumes through 2025.

On question, staff explained that it would be impractical to put the recommended plan into effect for a six-month trial period due to the extensive infrastructure changes that it would necessitate.

Mayor Della Sala opened the floor for public comments. Eileen Angelos, Cannery Row Business Improvement District, read a letter into the record saying that her organization does not support any of the proposed solutions. Bob Evans, LUST Committee, said that that the modeling was very helpful, and he and the New Monterey Neighborhood Association support Alternative C. He said that he would oppose Alternative B. John Narigi, member of the Cannery Row Business Association, voiced concerns regarding what happens to the traffic flow at David Avenue and in the tunnel. He said that he could not support any of the proposals until other areas are addressed. Carl Sedoryk, President of Monterey-Salinas Transit, supported Alternative C.

Clyde Roberson, Monterey resident and New Monterey property owner, asked about the impact on Hawthorne and if Hawthorne residents had been surveyed. He suggested that the property owners should be asked for input. Barbara Bass Evans, New Monterey resident, said that this plan grew out of what the people said that they want. She said that she hopes that there will be more meetings with Cannery Row Association. Mary Archer MST planner, spoke in support of Alternative C and noted that MST is ready to move forward. Frank Donangelo, Foursome Development Company and Cannery Row Company, said that all of their properties on Lighthouse are fully occupied and they have had no trouble renting them. He cautioned that changing the lanes to one-way might affect Cannery Row negatively and he suggested widening Lighthouse Avenue instead.

Carl Outzen said that something needs to be done, and he suggested making the traffic on Foam Street flow better. Sharon Dwight noted that NIP would be voting on funding a pedestrian bridge at Washington/Del Monte, which would ease traffic flow. She supported the proposed Alternative C and said that Alternative B does not work. Hunter Harvath, MST Director of Administration, spoke in support of Plan C, noting that transit is an important part of the solution. Scott Miller, Pacific Grove, supported Plan C and said that he believes the Pacific Grove City Council would also likely support it. Having no further requests to speak, Mayor Della Sala closed Public Comment on the item.

City Manager Meurer suggested that Council might want to see a simulation of the “do-nothing” option. He explained that staff is trying to fix the traffic flows within the City, and planning for several different areas must be done in parallel. Further discussion among Councilmembers ensued.

CLOSED SESSION

- 2. Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 – Agency Negotiators: Fred Cohn, Ralph Bailey, Mike McCarthy – Employee Organization: General Employees of Monterey (GEM/ MEA) (City Manager) (Human Resources 507-02)
Adjourned to this meeting from April 17th Meeting
Action: No closed session was held

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Della Sala adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

/s/
Bonnie Gawf, City Clerk

/s/
Chuck Della Sala, Mayor