



CITY OF TOPEKA

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL
City Hall, 215 SE 7th Street, Suite 255
Topeka, KS 66603-3914
Tel: 785-368-3710
Fax: 785-368-3958
www.topeka.org

Date: October 15, 2024

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: 1st Floor Conference Room; Cyrus K. Holliday Building 620 SE Madison
(*virtual attendance option also available*)

Committee members present: Council members Sylvia Ortiz (Chair) and David Banks. Neil Dobler absent.

City staff present: City Manager Robert M. Perez, Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley, Senior Attorney Brandy Roy-Bachman, Utilities Director Sylvia Davis, Planning and Development Services Director Rhiannon Friedman, Public Works Deputy Director Jason Tryon, Mark Schreiner, Nicole Malott, Travis Lathrop, Mark Bidwell

Council staff present: Councilmember Marcus Miller and Michelle Hoferer.

Call to Order

Chairwoman Ortiz called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Approval of October 4, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

Committee member Ortiz made a motion to approve the October 4, 2024 Special Meeting minutes. Committee member Banks seconded. Motion approved 2-0-0.

Huntoon Street Project No. 701025.00

Braxton Copley, Assistant City Manager, stated the need to discuss and establish a preliminary design with an overall high-level cost estimate and also get public engagement for the Huntoon Street Project (Gage to Harrison Avenue). Bartlett & West, 1200 SW Executive Drive, in Topeka was contracted as the consultant.

Jeff Lolley, Project Manager, with Bartlett & West provided a presentation for the Huntoon Street Project -Gage to Harrison Avenue.

- (1) Existing pavement conditions report (2) Existing Utility Review (3) Traffic study.
- Utilities Considered: (1) Sanitary; costs \$400,000 to \$600,000 (2) Water; \$2.7 million to \$6.3 million (3) Storm; \$1.5 million estimated construction costs.

- Safety analysis was conducted and after review of the traffic levels it indicated that a single lane design will improve safety for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists along SW Huntoon Ave. from SW Topeka Blvd and SW Gage Blvd.
- Public involvement meetings held; June 20, July 23, September 9, 2024 at Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library.

Public Meeting Survey:

- 77% of respondents voted for Option 2 - Full Design with Single-Lane Road and Complete Streets Elements
 - 20% of respondents voted for Option 3-Full Design with Two-Lane Road and Complete Streets Elements
 - 3% of respondents voted for Option 1-Street Maintenance Only (No Complete Streets Elements)
- Street Maintenance Only Option; 2024 Estimated \$7 million to \$9 million for construction-Including replacement of existing utilities and install new utilities, replace and repair pavement, sidewalk infill, overlay of roadway, time line 3 years of construction. It does not include; street elements, lighting, shared use path, pedestrian improvement, or private drives
 - Reconstruction Option; New roadway/storm sewer, shared path/sidewalks/ramps/bike lane/on-street parking, street lighting, landscaping, traffic signals, safety improvements to intersections. 2024 estimated at \$13.4 million for construction with 2027 estimated at \$14.9 million
 - City of Topeka CIP construction budget in 2024 is \$15.9 million

Committee Chair Ortiz asked Jeff Lolley how many businesses attended the public meetings and how many surveys were collected. He reported 5-6 businesses attended public meetings and there were 60 surveys that responded. She expressed the importance of watching the budget and taking full consideration for ways to make cuts. She also inquired about the current Pavement Condition Index (PCI). Braxton Copley stated he would get that report to Ortiz for Huntoon Street.

Councilmember Hoferer inquired about locations of the cores that were extracted from the pavement. Jeff Lolley confirmed all different locations were reviewed. She also asked about the alley entries. Lolley responded that they are replaced up to the right away of the street. She stated she does not support 8-10 foot shared use paths and spoke to the difficulty that emergency responders or large trucks have with raised islands. Lolley stated that it will be the plan to preserve existing parking and minimize disruption and costs. Hoferer added she does support completing the underground utilities.

Councilmember Marcus Miller stated that he spoke to many citizens from the College Hill area and they were in support of the project.

Committee member David Banks and Councilmember Michelle Hoferer expressed their thoughts about bike trails and that there are already many trails in Topeka.

Braxton Copley, Assistant City Manager, stated that the intent is to take this information to the Governing Body on November 12th to get guidance on what the design contract will entail. Options are (1) Do nothing (2) Maintenance work with mill and overlay (3) Full depth reconstruction.

Lead Service Line replacement and Amendment of the 2025 CIP Project No. 281361.00

Sylvia Davis, Utilities Director, reported the Lead & Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) announcement was presented at the Governing Body meeting October 1, 2024. She added the City would receive a \$74 million State Revolving Fund Loan with a 50% fund match requirement from the City of Topeka. There is a need for Resolution to amend the 2025-2034 and the 2025-2027 CIB for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. She added the program is set for a ten-year program, and coincides with the compliance schedule.

MOTION: Committee member Ortiz made a motion to approve the request for Resolution amending the 2025-2034 CIP and the 205-2027 CIB for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. Committee member Banks seconded. Approved 2-0-0.

Other Items

Rhiannon Friedman, Planning and Development Services Director, announced that a \$4 million Lead Hazard Reduction Grant was received for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant will enhance child safety and housing health.

Committee Chair Sylvia Ortiz thanked the Public Works Department staff for their hard work with the storm damage throughout Topeka.

Adjourned 11: 39 a.m.

This meeting can be viewed online at: <https://youtu.be/dRwyiN5itSw>