

**CAPITAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING  
SUMMARY NOTES  
Thursday, February 18, 2021  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Committee Members Present: Mayor Claudia Bill-de la Peña and Councilmember Ed Jones. Also present: City Manager Andrew Powers, City Attorney Tracy Noonan, Assistant City Manager Ingrid Hardy, Deputy City Manager Gary Rogers, Finance Director Jaime Boscarino, Public Works Director Clifford Finley, Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer Nader Heydari, Deputy Director-Operations John Smallis, Deputy Finance Director Carrie Matson, Engineering Division Manager Shamir Shahamiri, Utilities Superintendent John Minkel, and Office Supervisor Ester Marcelino

**Public:** None

3. **Public Comments:** None
4. **DPW's CI 5284 SCADA System Upgrades – presented by City Engineer Nader Heydari**

Nader Heydari provided a powerpoint presentation describing and providing an update on the project status.

Questions Raised and Staff Responses:

A. City Councilmember Ed Jones

1. Where is the difference between the Project Cost of \$4.9M and requested budget appropriation of \$724,360 coming from?

The difference is budgeted and included in the previous CIP budget. The additional funding which is coming from the water and wastewater enterprise funds and paid for by the water rate payers, is needed for the following upgrades: New SCADA software, servers, workstations, and network equipment (located at the MSC); Upgraded control and monitoring at all remote sites; Installation of radio-based communication system; Installation of chlorine analyzer units at all reservoirs; and Cyber Security improvements.

2. Where is the money going to be spent throughout the City?

The money is going to be spent at the Municipal Service Center, the central control site of the project's monitoring and management system, and around 40 other sites such as booster pump stations, water reservoirs, and turn outs.

3. How many water reservoirs does the City have, what are the types, and how does maintenance differ?

The City has 16 water reservoirs, concrete and steel. Concrete water reservoirs last longer and cost more to build and maintain.

4. What are the upgrades that will be done?

The project will add monitoring equipment to the tanks which would enable remote control of the entire system such as checking the tanks' levels and chlorine content and controlling the tanks such as adding water to the tanks, depending on how the pump stations function.

5. Can we still use the system the City currently has in place right now?

The City is still using the system in place but it is antiquated and there have been communication failures that have resulted in unsafely low water levels. The City wants to make sure that service provided to residents works and is effective. Also added was the cybersecurity improvements that is considered a big component of the upgrades being done.

6. Is the project cost within the engineer's estimate, is there local preference for local contractors, and was there a background check done?

The project cost is under the engineer's estimate. The state-regulated law requires that contracts be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder as long as the bid is responsive and does not allow preference to local contractors. References were checked and contractor is found to be reputable and able to do the project.

7. Will there be periodic checks done on the progress of the project?

One of DPW's recommendations to City Council in its February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting is to hire a consultant that would do an inspection of the project's progress during construction and hold the contractor responsible.



B. Mayor Claudia Bill-de la Peña

1. Will this project be just a system upgrade or will it increase the capacity or the number of households or accounts our water treatment plant can hold?

The project does not change the number of customers, it will make the service better than how the City did it in the past.

2. Clarification that the project cost will be paid for by the water rate payers. Will the water fund be able to absorb the project cost?

The project is in the Capital Improvement Program budget and is part of the City's plan of maintaining its facilities. The City has built reserves in the past several years in preparation for expected significant capital projects.

3. Looking into the future and based on the General Plan Update, how will additional 15,000 accounts impact the current system?

Once City Council has established the growth number will have any impact, staff, based on the environmental document, will have to do master plan update, evaluate everything based on new drawings for new required upgrades and equipment, and any improvements needed will be borne by the new developer.

4. How will future improvements needed at the treatment plant and water reservoirs impact customers of the water purveyors?

The other water purveyors also follow the same process. The City service areas has more storage than is presently used and has done upgrades, that impacts from the growth number are not anticipated. The City was originally planned for more population than it presently has.

5. If the proposed project is likely to be upgraded in 10-15 years, why not upgrade for everything right now?

Our present equipment will be worn out and be replaced in 10-15 years, at which time, the City will have to equip it with the newest and latest technology.

In addition, the City's Finance Dept. sets aside an amount every year to prepare for the equipment's replacement.



5. **CIP Public Works Construction Forecast – presented by City Engineer Nader Heydari**

Nader Heydari provided a powerpoint presentation providing a brief overview of DPW’s projects which were completed in the past six months, projects currently in construction, and upcoming projects totaling \$30 million in improvements for the community.

**ACTIVE/CURRENT PROJECTS:**

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Completion</u>
CI 8082	La Granada Pump Station/Pipeline	\$6,600,000	Summer 2021
OES014	MSC Security Fencing	\$ 156,000	Spring 2021
MI 2564	HCTP Digester #1 Cleaning	\$ 186,000	Spring 2021
MI 2584	HCTP Facility Painting	\$ 220,000	Spring 2021
CI 5395	Los Robles Groundwater Flow Test	\$ 700,000	Summer 2021

**ADVANCED PLANNING/MASTER PLANS:**

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Completion</u>
MI 2542	Hill Canyon Master Plan	\$ 500,000	Fall 2020
MI 2104	Groundwater Management Plan	\$ 200,000	Fall 2020
MI 2594	Water System RRA, ERP, UWMP	\$ 300,000	Fall 2021

Questions Raised and Staff Responses:

A. Mayor Claudia Bill-de la Peña

1. For projects such as Willow Lane and Rancho Road, are we doing public outreach in terms of traffic detours, and posting signs to direct residents to websites and media accounts about the latest construction hours and other project information?

Yes, these are being done.



2. Is there a grant money in sight for the Hampshire Road 101 Interchange, and may the City work with the Assemblywoman and State Senator to secure it?

DPW is working with VCTC on what will be eligible for grant funding for this more than \$70 million project.

A lot of the money will probably come from the federal government. First step is to get the project into VCTC's list of projects. The City has started collecting traffic impact fees for the City's estimated match for the project, and getting things ready to start the project once grant funding becomes available.

- B. Councilmember Ed Jones

What are we doing with the La Granada Reservoir?

This is a routine upgrade maintenance project that is done every 15 - 20 years. This is a steel reservoir that needs to be drained, cleaned, and re-coated to prevent it from rusting out.

## 6. **Committee Member Comments**

Staff was commended by the Mayor. No further comments from the Mayor and Councilmember.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

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