

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE MONTCLAIR
CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019, AT
5:46 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 5111 BENITO
STREET, MONTCLAIR, CALIFORNIA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dutrey called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Dutrey, Mayor Pro Tem Raft; Council Members Ruh and Johnson

Absent: Council Member Martinez (arrived at 5:57 p.m.)

Staff: City Manager Starr; Director of Administrative Services and Human Resources Hamilton; Finance Director Parker; Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo; Director of Community Development Diaz; Assistant Director of Housing/Planning Manager Caldwell; City Attorney Robbins; City Clerk Phillips

III. PUBLIC COMMENT — None

IV. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

A. Systemic Safety Analysis Report Program (SSARP)

Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo stated that the City received a grant to develop the SSARP and hired the firm **Fehr & Peers** to create the report. He noted the process consists of analyzing the City's traffic and accident data to guide future safety improvements and give the City a competitive edge for upcoming traffic safety and active transportation grant opportunities. He advised the final report will provide a list of priority projects for future grant applications.

Ms. Emily Finkel of **Fehr & Peers** provided an overview of the SSARP project. She stated the project's goal is to improve safety outcomes for people traveling in the City, noting that once complete, the SSARP can be used in grant funding applications for safety and transportation projects including the State Highway Safety Improvement Program; help plan for effective, context-specific roadway safety projects; and develop a systemic approach to traffic safety. She noted the SSARP project process has four phases:

1. Crash analysis — Looking for patterns in when, how, and where crashes occur;
2. Priority Locations — Identifying locations or types of intersections and roadways where high numbers or the most severe collisions occur;
3. Countermeasure Pairing — Identifying safety improvements proven to be effective for the types of crashes at priority locations; and
4. Project Development — Developing feasible, fundable, context-specific safety projects at priority locations and throughout the City.

Ms. Finkel listed ten priority locations or types of intersections that have been identified for further analysis:

1. Monte Vista Avenue intersections with permissive left turns
2. Central Avenue intersections with permissive left turns
3. Ramona Avenue & Mission Boulevard

4. Ramona Avenue & Howard Street
5. Mills Avenue stop-controlled or offset intersections
6. Orchard Street stop-controlled intersections
7. Bandera Street between Ramona and Central Avenues
8. Holt Boulevard between Monte Vista and Central Avenues
9. Central Avenue between Benito and San Bernardino Streets
10. Kingsley Street between Amherst and Helena Avenues

Ms. Finkel discussed three countermeasures that could be used to address many of the priority locations identified:

1. Protected Left Turn Phases — Removes conflict between left-turning vehicles and other vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians; Crash Reduction Factor: 30 percent.
2. Advance Stop Bar — Increases vehicle yielding compliance at stop-controlled or signalized crosswalks and reduces vehicle encroachment in the crosswalks; Crash Reduction Factor: 15 percent.
3. Pedestrian Countdowns — Helps pedestrians determined if they have enough time to safely cross an intersection before conflicting vehicle movements approach; Crash Reduction Factor: 25 percent.

Ms. Finkel stated the next step will be to recommend projects, create the Safety Countermeasure Toolbox, and draft a report to be presented to the City Council next spring.

Council Member Martinez arrived at 5:57 p.m.

Council Member Ruh noted that newer car designs have a delayed start time and asked if extending the green light time was possible to compensate for the lag time.

Ms. Finkel stated that the project factors in signal timing for both green and red lights and looks at extending the time that all lights are red to lower the number and frequency of accidents.

Council Member Ruh pointed out that there are smart light systems that move traffic in other cities and asked if it would be beneficial for the City.

Ms. Finkel said there are safety benefits for a smarter signal system.

Council Member Ruh expressed the City needs to improve its traffic control, noting that slow traffic will discourage people from coming to the City's shopping centers.

Council Member Johnson asked when is the deadline to submit an application for the grant and when to expect the completed report.

Ms. Finkel answered the deadline for the State Highway Safety Improvement Grant is August 2020 and the SSARP will be finalized in the spring of 2020.

Mayor Dutrey stated he wanted to go over the priority locations because the Council receives many complaints from residents about the City's traffic and cases of car accidents with children. He pointed out that Vista Avenue merges from two lanes to one lane after the San Bernardino Street intersection, and wondered if changing the permissive left turn to protected would make much of a difference, despite not addressing the lane merge.

Ms. Finkel stated that there is a lack of fully protected left turns along Monte Vista Avenue and there are similar patterns of collisions occurring at these intersections.

Mayor Dutrey stated he would like a more thorough analysis of the Monte Vista Avenue and San Bernardino Street intersection that takes the impact of the lane merge into consideration.

Council Member Ruh commented that residents seem to only want traffic to be slow in their neighborhoods, but are against slowing down traffic in other neighborhoods.

Mayor Dutrey asked if school sites were examined.

Ms. Finkel stated that they did not find any specific patterns occurring around school sites, but noted that they are taking a holistic view of them.

Council Member Ruh stated people need to load and unload their car on the curb-side, not street-side, which carries a higher risk of being run over.

Mayor Dutrey asked if other countermeasures like flashing beacons and lighted crosswalks could be part of the list.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Castillo advised those plus a myriad of other options are available and noted the three in the presentation are simply the ones that would address the most of the identified priorities.

B. I-10 Widening Project Update

Mr. Jason McLear, Project Director **Lane-Security Paving**—the contractor hired by the **San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)** to perform work on the Interstate 10 Corridor Project—stated that construction of the project will begin in mid-to-late April with extended weekend closures, and the construction phase will continue for a total of 23 months. He advised there will be public workshops and meetings to inform local residents of project updates. He estimated that the project will be complete by the end of 2023.

Mr. Tim Watkins, Chief of Legislative and Public Affairs for **SBCTA**, stated **SBCTA** will provide accessible information to the public for clear communications on the project through emails, texts, meetings, and presentations.

Mayor Dutrey asked who **SBCTA's** point of contact will be for noise and dust complaints related to the construction work, and if there is a phone number or social media page with updates for the duration of the project.

Mr. Watkins stated **SBCTA** would be advertising to provide residents in the project area with that information.

Mayor Dutrey inquired whether the residents with their backyards facing I-10 Freeway will be affected and asked who they can turn to for updates.

Mr. Watkins stated that they will identify what type of conditions residents will see during the project and set up community meetings for information for residents that are most impacted by the project.

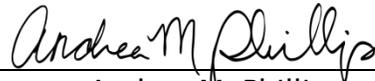
Council Member Ruh stated that he resides on one of the streets that is directly affected by the I-10 Corridor Project and stated that he feels betrayed that he has seen no notifications of the project made by **SBCTA**. He stated that construction at night will produce noise and dust pollution and that, after the project's completion, semi-trucks on the freeway will be traveling dangerously close to his property line and he fears they could potentially crash through the wall and into his home. He expressed disappointment that **SBCTA** did not acknowledge these issues or notify residents at the time the project was conceived.

Mayor Dutrey stated that he is the City's appointed representative on the **SBCTA** Board and assured he would get in contact with contractors working on the project to ensure the least amount of impact on the residents.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:32 p.m., Mayor Dutrey adjourned the City Council.

Submitted for City Council approval,



Andrea M. Phillips
City Clerk