GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING

Monday, December 18, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Council members present: Marc Crawford, Chair, Sheila Cunha, Dave Sadoff, Chuck Moore, Linda Tangren, Ted Riche

Location: Castro Valley Library – 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94646

Summary Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Sullivan, potential for Castro Valley to suffer a fire, along the Ten Hills Trail, a forest fire near the golf course could result in a big disaster. Ten Hills Trail – there is no water near there, ensure water can be brought to Ten Hills Trail, there are other areas Ten Hills Fire Trail, accessible East Bay Park District; request MAC take this serious and get public awareness, EBMUD, HARD, Fire, proactive;

Judy Culves, Castro Valley resident, stated that she lives on Crow Canyon Road and it has some extreme issues, including traffic and noise. Ms. Culves requested a meeting to talk about Crow Canyon issues.

I. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Sheila Cunha and seconded by Linda Tangren that the minutes of September 18, 2017, be accepted as corrected.

Motion passed 4/0.
Abstention: Dave Sadoff

II. Castro Valley Reads Campaign Launch – Castro Valley Library

Chris Selig, Castro Valley Library, presented a PowerPoint presentation to announce the “Castro Valley Reads” Campaign. This will be the first annual Castro Valley Reads, an exciting new program that celebrates great literature by asking what would happen if everyone in Castro Valley read the same book.

The 2018 book selection is Lab Girl, a coming of age story by Hope Jahren. The Castro Valley Reads Kick Off Even will be held at the Castro Valley Library on Sunday, January 21, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participants will be able to sign up for a discussion group and get a free copy of Lab Girl.
III. Discussion of Stanton Avenue Walkability

Maurice Kaufman, Deputy Director of Engineering and Flood Control, Public Works Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Stanton Avenue Walkability.

Mr. Kaufman previously worked in the City of Emeryville, and has spent the last few months learning the streets and roads in the unincorporated area.

There are pedestrian safety issues on Stanton Avenue and some of the planning efforts underway to improve its walkability include:

- Identified various interim and future safety improvement measures
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update
- Robust outreach to collect feedback completed (November 2017)
- Community workshops to prioritize identified projects to begin (January 2018)
- Construct concrete sidewalks on Stanton Avenue from Castro Valley Boulevard to Miramar Avenue

The budget for sidewalk construction is $4.2 million; the County has received a $300,000 Active Transportation Program (ATP) Grant to fund the design of project. The topographic survey work is currently underway. The design contract was awarded to Bellicci & Associates, who will present alternate designs to community and obtain community feedback in the Spring of 2018. The design should be completed by Fall/Winter 2018 and construction to begin in the Summer of 2019.

Planned interim solutions to address Stanton Avenue issues include:

- Delineate limits of parking with white painted lines; to be completed by January 2018
- Code Enforcement to address encroachments within County right-of-way
- Challenges – The County will work with property owners to deal with encroachments
- Whether or not to install bike lanes on Stanton Avenue will be a community process

Speakers

Roy Taylor asked for clarification on the temporary solution; does the white painted line clearly designate a sidewalk; will any cars parked over the white painted line by ticketed by the Sheriff’s Office?

Alexander Tumlinson stated that Somerset Avenue is a really critical and problematic area and he hopes that the County is looking at all problem areas.

Sam Rycoff stated that he walks to school and to please keep sidewalks safe.

Rebecca Stanek-Rycoff thanked the County for their work on this issue so far and asked if there is an outreach plan from Public Works when the white painted line rolls out; also will this happen on other streets; have other streets received design funding in Castro Valley?

Bruce Dughi stated that he wanted to emphasize problem on Somerset Avenue and other streets; the pedestrian plan should include the painted white lines to delineate sidewalks; Mr. Dughi thanked the County saying they have made great progress.
Maya Dughi stated that she walks home from school every day on Somerset and there are always cars in the walkway and it makes her feel unsafe.

Anna Dughi stated that she has the same problems as Maya.

Hannah Null stated that the Castro Valley needs more crosswalks and sidewalks and to support pedestrian safety.

Amy Ramos requested that the County add crosswalks by the day care and field entry near Stanton Elementary School.

Carey Sanchez Para stated that she has lived in the community for 40 years and has a lot of experience with child pedestrian safety. Ms. Sanchez Pera described an auto/pedestrian fatality which occurred on Stanton and Carlton; she is also concerned that painted white lines will not be maintained.

Parvin Ahmadi, Superintendent, Castro Valley Unified School District, stated that the school district remains concerned about student safety. The painted white lines will be helpful. Ms. Ahmadi thanked the County for the work that has already been done.

Sergeant Brett Scheuller stated that the Sheriff's Office will enforce the white painted lines; however there has to be an educational component and deputies will also use discretion in writing citations.

**Recommendation from Castro Valley MAC:** The Council did not make a motion, however it was decided that the MAC Subcommittee for Pedestrian Safety will work with County staff to take a field trip to note issues further along Stanton Avenue and to determine time frames for completing some of the work.

**IV. Discussion of Traffic Calming and Enforcement Palomares Road**

Attachment

Art Carrera, Deputy Director, Public Works Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Traffic Calming Efforts on Palomares Road.

There was an Engineering and Traffic Study completed in 2016 which now allows radar speed enforcement. The speed limit is currently 40 miles per hour.

The Public Works Agency received a request to evaluate speeds on Palomares Road during the 2017 closure of Palomares Road and the findings were the same speeds were identical to the Engineering and Traffic Speed Study without the road closure.

Safe Routes to School Study was completed for Palomares Elementary School and several traffic calming measures have been put in place as a result and there are long term measures being reviewed.

Circulation Study will be completed on East Castro Valley Boulevard and Palo Verde Road sometime in January 2018 after the road closure.

**Palomares Road Actions Identified**

- Enforcement turnouts to be installed on Palomares Road with the design completion scheduled for the summer of 2018 and anticipated construction to begin in spring of 2019.
- Deer crossing signage has been installed in addition to speed display signs to be installed during winter of 2017/2018.
- Speed tables along Palomares Road
Palo Verde Road Actions Identified

- Installed left-turn lane for southbound Eden Canyon Road
- To install traffic signal at the intersection of East Castro Valley Boulevard and Palo Verde Road
- Scheduled to install speed humps on Palo Verde Road during winter 2017/18 (depending on PG&E schedule)

Sergeant Brian Martinez and Sergeant Daniel Jackowitz of the California Highway Patrol, reported on issues on Palomares Road. The California Highway Patrol (CHP), stated that enforcement works and the CHP is now able to do radar enforcement on Palomares Road. From October 16th through November 17th the CHP conducted a traffic enforcement operation on rural roads: The first week there were 49 citations written, in the 2nd week 89 citations, the 3rd week 8 citations and the 4th week 1 citation. The CHP has 12 deputies working enforcement in problem areas.

Speakers

Mike Hardman stated that there has been at least three accidents per week in front of his house; there needs to be more enforcement on Palomares Road.

Daniel Jones thanked the Public Works staff for recent traffic calming efforts on Palo Verde. Try to establish communication with neighbors and law enforcement to come together on issues.

Scott Terry stated that the enforcement does have an impact on traffic and there is a need for more enforcement on Palomares and surrounding areas.

Cindy Luengo asked what the results were from a previous study done a few years ago. The community has become a bypass community with traffic apps rerouting people into the community. It takes Ms. Luengo 20 minutes to leave her driveway.

Michael Ruiz stated that the roads have become a bypass road and the problem stems from traffic on the freeways. CalTrans needs to disincentivize using Palomares and other rural roads; perhaps by expanding the freeway, the problem will only get worse.

Rahel Ruiz stated that she agrees with others have been saying, especially about the traffic situations. The traffic situation has become a nightmare, driving in Castro Valley. Friday afternoon in Castro Valley is a traffic nightmare especially on a holiday weekend.

Roy Taylor stated that Palomares Road is very popular for cyclists, and has that been taken into consideration?

Helen VanBuskirk stated that a new lane has been added and thanked the County for that as it has made a huge difference; Enforcement on Palo Verdes is needed. Ms. VanBuskirk is concerned about open/uncovered dump trucks that are not safe on the narrow road. Sgt. Schueller stated that she can report dump truck violations to the Sheriff’s Office.

Recommendation from Castro Valley MAC: The Council requested statistics on citations from the California Highway Patrol in future reports.

V. Council/Staff Comments

None.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned to January 29, 2017