

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

City Council Minutes

Adjourned Regular Meeting - February 21, 2007

An Adjourned Regular Meeting of the San Clemente City Council was called to order on February 21, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Ole Hanson Room of the Community Center, located at 100 N. Seville, San Clemente, California.

PRESENT ANDERSON, DONCHAK, KNOBLOCK, MAYOR DAHL

ABSENT EGGLESTON

STAFF PRESENT George Scarborough, City Manager; Myrna Erway, City Clerk; Bill Cameron, City Engineer; Al King, Beaches, Parks and Recreation Director; David Lund, Public Works/Economic Development Director; Paul D'Auria, Police Services Lieutenant; Jim Holloway, Community Development Director.

ALSO PRESENT Congressman Ken Calvert and his Staff

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1. **Introductions**

Individuals in attendance were introduced.

2. **Federal Budget Requests for FY 2007-08**

A. **Senior Center Construction**

City Manager Scarborough provided an overview of the senior center project and requested Congressman Calvert's support in helping to obtain \$1 million in federal funding assistance. The City has already spent \$572,000 to secure the site; however, the project is estimated to cost \$3.7 million. An aggressive fundraising campaign is underway to raise additional funds and to date \$660,000 has been raised, still leaving a significant deficit.

Susan Ritschel, Honorary Chair of the Senior Center Fundraising Campaign, spoke in support of the project and federal funding assistance.

Congressman Calvert indicated that he would try to obtain federal funding for the senior center construction project, but added that the next fiscal year is going to be a more difficult and tighter budget year.

B. Beach Restoration and Sand Replenishment Feasibility Study

City Manager Scarborough provided an overview of the Beach Restoration and Sand Replenishment Feasibility Study that is being prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose of the study is to investigate the causes of erosion along San Clemente's coastline and to evaluate and recommend alternatives to correct the problem. If approved, the Feasibility Study phase will be followed by a design phase and ultimately a project phase to restore the City's beaches. The Corps is preparing to finish the Feasibility Study in fiscal year 2008 and continue with available funds into the preconstruction, engineering and design phase of the project. City Manager Scarborough requested Congressman Calvert's help in obtaining \$500,000 in federal funding to assist the City with the continuation of this vital project.

Congressman Calvert's staff advised that federal funding is secure for the remainder of FY 2006/07 and that it will pursue continued funding for the next fiscal year.

C. San Clemente Pedestrian Beach Trail - Phase II

City Manager Scarborough reported that the San Clemente Pedestrian Beach Trail has been constructed between North Beach and Calafia, noting that community response to the project has been very positive; explained that Phase II of the project involves construction of the rail undercrossing at Mariposa Point, as well as three at-grade crossings at Dije Court, El Portal and Lost Winds. The City is facing a funding shortfall for this project of just over \$3 million. Completion of the rail crossings will enhance safety and increase the City's ability to have a Quiet Zone designated along the length of the trail. City Manager Scarborough requested Congressman Calvert's assistance in helping to pursue \$1 million in federal funding for the rail crossing projects. Additionally, City Manager Scarborough spoke in support of federal legislation that would help to facilitate a local government's ability to achieve Quiet Zones within their jurisdictions.

D. **La Pata/Vista Hermosa Community Park**

City Manager Scarborough reported on the status of the La Pata/Vista Hermosa Community Park. The City and Beaches, Parks and Recreation Foundation are currently engaged in a fundraising drive that is seeking to raise \$4.5 million to help bridge a \$13 million funding shortfall for Phase I of the park; urged that Congressman Calvert assist the City in its quest to obtain \$6.9 million in federal funding assistance for the park project.

Congressman Calvert agreed to help the City obtain federal funding for the La Pata/Vista Hermosa Community Park.

E. **Reclaimed Water Storage/Treatment Expansion**

City Manager Scarborough and City Engineer Cameron provided an update on the City's Reclaimed Water Storage/Treatment Expansion project, noting that the project would double the City's reclaimed water distribution; spoke on the desirability of a federal grant to help complete the project.

Congressman Calvert reported on the status of H.R. 5786 (the South Orange County Recycled Water Enhancement Act) which he sponsored; explained that H.R. 5786 proposes to appropriate up to \$5,000,000 (or 25% of the total project cost of \$20 million) for the project's design, planning and construction; stated that he expects that the House of Representatives will act upon the funding legislation by the end of the year, adding that the next step in the process will involve an appropriations bill.

3. **Closing Discussion**

Congressman Calvert reported that he is working on legislation that would allocate \$3 to \$4 billion to fund transportation shortfalls; suggested that the City provide him with a listing of the City's transportation improvement needs.

Councilmember Donchak noted that the Capistrano Unified School District has applied for a grant to improve sidewalks near schools and requested that Congressman Calvert assist in this effort if possible.

Congressman Calvert offered to keep the City aware of federal grant opportunities.

4. **Oral Communications**

Larry Duffy, San Clemente, commended Congressman Calvert's office for its responsiveness.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DONCHAK, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM ANDERSON, CARRIED 4-0, to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular Meeting to be held on February 27, 2007 in the Council Chambers, located at 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California. The Long-Term Financial Plan will be considered at 4:00 p.m. and the Vital Few Priorities will be considered at 6:30 p.m.

CITY CLERK of the City of
San Clemente, California

MAYOR of the City of
San Clemente, California