

March 22, 2013

**To:** Honorable Mayor Gayle McLaughlin and Members of the City Council

**From:** Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee

**Subject:** Summary of the Meeting of the Public Safety and Public Services Standing Committee, Thursday, March 21, 2013, at 10:08 a.m.

**Present:** Chair Bates and Councilmember Boozé

**Absent:** Councilmember Myrick

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1. Discuss the status of suggestions recommended at the March 6, 2013, Special Public Safety Standing Committee meeting to reduce the traffic congestion at the Canal Boulevard Railroad Crossing.**

*Juan Acosta, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway, (BNSF) stated that train switching at the Cutting/Canal Boulevard end of the tracks can be rearranged to occur during non-peak traffic times to avoid triggering the gates and lights. Alan Wolken, Engineering Department, stated that the Dornan Tunnel is being planned to reopen at the end of April 2013 unless there are additional delays due to the repair of the voids in the tunnel.*

- 2. Discuss concerns regarding excessive water runoff from the Greenway at the property located at 41<sup>st</sup> Street at Ohio Avenue.**

*Alan Wolken, Engineering Department and Andy Yeung, Senior Engineer gave an overview of the matter. A portion of the gutter on the north side of Ohio Avenue was repaired and repaved; however, water was still ponding. The solution is to do a new curb and gutter from 41<sup>st</sup> Street down Ohio Avenue to 39<sup>th</sup> St. All the water will go down 39<sup>th</sup> and continue west. The estimated cost is \$60,000. The repair work will start at the beginning of the fiscal year in July. Chair Bates suggested that staff and members of the Public Safety Committee go on a site visit to 41<sup>st</sup> Street and Ohio Avenue.*

- 3. Receive an update from Public Works on the streetlight outages on the Richmond Parkway from Parchester Village to Giant Highway.**

*Public Works Director, Yader Bermudez, gave an overview of the matter. There has been a lot of copper wire theft, which has been causing the outages. Lights will begin to be replaced by the end of next week and continue toward the end of the year.*

*Councilmember Boozé requested an update on the installation of the lights at the next committee meeting.*

**4. Receive a status report from staff on the Knobcone Court development and roads in the community.**

*Jonelyn Whales, City Planner, stated that the developer's project was denied and staff has been in contact with the residents in the area to attempt to mitigate the problems in the area. Councilmember Boozé asked that he and Councilmember Bates are invited to attend the meetings.*

**5. Receive an update on event parking signage around Civic Center Plaza.**

*Deputy Chief, Ed Medina, gave an overview of the matter. Better signage and permit parking only signs are planned to be installed to help alleviate the issues during business hours. There will be 2-hour parking only on the streets around City Hall. Councilmember Bates asked that the parking lot on 25<sup>th</sup> Street behind the credit union also be included in the plan. A status update will be given at the next committee meeting.*

**OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

Councilmember Boozé requested that an item regarding code enforcement issues regarding the company at 1051 Chesley Avenue be placed on the next Public Safety Committee agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.