

Commission on Infrastructure Asset Reporting and Investment

Adopted Minutes – 08/13/2024

City County Building Suite 646, the Learning Lab

Attendees

Commissioners (11/19): Erika Strassburger, *City Council*; Lisa Frank, *Mayor's Representative*; Patrick Cornell, *City OMB*; Eric Setzler, *City DOMI*; Greg Bernarding, *Construction Industry*; Andrew DeWitt, *City Controller's Office*; Sam Miclot, *At-Large*; Tyler Watts, *At-Large*; Andy Waple *At-Large*; Michele Miller Beener, *At-Large*; Lou Ruzzi, *WSP Ad Hoc Commissioner*.

Non-Commissioned Attendees (4): David Maynard, *City OMB*; Alan Houseman, *City EMA*.

Unfilled Commission Spots (3): Representative of the National Society of Black Engineers, Representative from Southwestern Engineering Outreach, A Second representative of Organized Labor.

- Call to Order
 - Patrick Called to Order at 3:36
- Roll Call
 - No Quorum recognized by the group.
- Recognize Newly Confirmed Commissioners
 - Andrew DeWitt, Special Projects Manager in the City Controller's Office. Follows legislation, tracks operational and capital budget spending, and retains relationships between the City Controller's Office and other City Partners.
- Adoption of Minutes from Meeting on 5/8/2024
 - No Quorum to adopt.
- Review Council Report
 - Patrick – In the Council Chamber we presented a formal presentation where we jumped through the recap of what we've done and how the commission was set up. We updated everyone on membership and who we need to add.
 - Eric – Council still had some questions with respect to what this Commission has power to do and what influence it has on the budget.
 - Patrick – We agreed that we are a reporting and recommendation body; we don't wield power similar to the Planning Commission.
- Discussion & vote on definitions of "Infrastructure"
 - Proposed Definition: *City-maintained Infrastructure describes the "bridges, tunnels, roads, poles, lights, signals, signs, steps, sidewalks, retaining walls and facilities in the right of way owned and maintained by the City" More broadly defined, Infrastructure refers to the array of capital assets, utility conduits, parks, and institutions that are essential to a healthy and productive society.*
 - Lou – Could be important to add truss sign structures, cantilevered structures with signs, structures with digital message boards, etc. They have bigger risks than your typical sign because of their bulk and how they hang over traffic.

- Eric – Not sure if we have any of these... good to check on it.
- Lou – Does this include utility pipes or authority-owned pipes?
- David – the first clause is intended to cover everything under direct City control, while the more broadly defined clause is meant to be more general like those pipes owned by PWSA.
- Erika – Our charge is to have a second set of eyes on things that relate to the safety of the public. There's a primary category of things in our control in the right of way like DOMI and DPW infrastructure. There's the second category of things the City owns that have an effect on the safety of the public that are not in the right of way, and a third category of items we don't control.
- Tyler – What we're trying to do is break down the silos within the City, so I agree it's good to at least acknowledge the items that aren't directly in our charge.
- Patrick reviewed tentative asset inventory that inspired above definition.
- Eric – Cartegraph asset management is useful for identifying categories but most of these entries aren't sorted by ownership yet. A more thorough review is required.
- Capital Budget Cycle and Engagement Opportunities
 - Patrick - The major operating request related to this group was 1M dollars for bridge maintenance. CPFC Meetings have been scoring millions of dollars' worth of Capital Requests. The bridge report from Lou's team have helped CPFC use a much easier scoring methodology for bridge related projects. We look forward to similar reports on other asset classes.
 - Andrew – in addition to DOMI and DPW, we've also had good conversation about cabling/fiber and interplay between I&P and Public Safety. It's been challenging to identify and rank these NetPGH projects.
 - The Budget Engagement Cycle has been completed; we had a meeting at Lincoln Lamar with over 40 people in attendance. We've finished synthesizing the comments and presenting them to Department Directors.
 - Patrick Cornell to work with Darrin to write a letter to the Mayor and the CPFC with recommendations for November. Patrick too close to write the letter himself.
- DOMI Updates
 - Major focus on budget requests
 - TIP 31 requests for TIP projects = \$32M
 - Locally funded bridges
 - Walls \$4M
 - Steps \$2M
 - Bridge maintenance has been going very well this year
 - Facchiano has a crew working for us full time, he has 40 work orders with us.
 - Patrick – The BAMP ARPA account has \$10.50 left, one of our most successful ARPA spending efforts.
 - Charles Anderson work is kicking off. Work begins this month and we'll be fully closing the bridge deck for construction soon.
 - Lou – Does the bridge maintenance crew have what it needs to start in 2025?
 - Positions
 - Bridge Maintenance Supervisor – hired

- Foreman – interviewing
 - 3 laborers to come next
 - Group will live with Traffic
 - Lou – You should do a presser... internal crew work is significantly cheaper
- Regular Updates
 - TIP Updates
 - 10 active projects in the design phase, a federal earmark for 5 city steps, and 1 project in the construction phase.
 - External Infrastructure Funding
 - Green Light Go award
 - Erika: Legislation for ARLE has been introduced to allow for the installation of red-light cameras for Automated Red-Light Enforcement. There's a long way to go still, Council discussion, final vote, and Penndot approval. Not only will this pay for itself the profits will go to funding intersections throughout the commonwealth.
 - Changing Labor Conditions
 - Lou - Penndot is hiring consultants to work with high school tech schools and community colleges to put more transportation related classes to encourage more people to go into the field. They'll be selecting someone in the fall.
 - Patrick - Lou can you keep us posted because that slots well into our White House *Work Force Hub* work.
 - Supply Chain Concerns
 - Public Outreach Comments
 - Tyler - I just recently was voted to the SWEO board and I was talking to the representative Holly Douglas and subsidy offices like procurement and Alcosan. I mentioned to Holly that we were trying to promote this group, and she said that we could hold a public/private forum with them. It would help to notify the leaders and engineers who are directly related to our work. Are there any other opportunities for us to table at events?
 - Tyler - Open Streets
 - Patrick - City in the Streets
 - Lou – advocacy for women in construction?
 - Engagement Opportunities from Neighborhood Services
- Other Business
 - Alan – Adam and Alan want to come in to discuss “critical infrastructure”
 - This is a federal definition, so we want to make sure overlap is highlighted
- Q4 Meeting Scheduling
 - Reaching out for a meeting in November if possible.
- Next Steps
 - Tyler to follow up about Alcosan open house or further tabling opportunities.
 - Patrick and Darrin to write letter