



Advisory Committee: Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 22, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gilbert A. Herrera, Chair – **Present**
Jeri Brooks – **Present**
Frances Castaneda Dyess – Absent
Kathryn Easterly – **Present**
Scott Elmer – **Present**
Vernita Harris – **Present**
Bert Keller – **Present**
Jeff Ross – Absent
Edward Taravella – **Present**
Council Member Oliver Pennington, Ex-Officio – Absent

1. Call to Order / Welcome

Chairman Gilbert Herrera called the meeting of the ReBuild Houston Advisory Committee to order at 10:35 a.m. and thanked all in attendance. Also in attendance were Council Members Larry Green and Dwight Boykins.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the March 25, 2014 meeting minutes was made by Ms. Jeri Brooks and seconded by Mr. Bert Keller. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion for FY16 – FY25 Planning & Programming

“Project Selection, Process Methodology & Recommended Changes”

Chairman Herrera asked committee members to keep in mind that the Department of Public Works & Engineering (PWE) is wrapping up the Planning and Programming process for FY 15 – 24 and beginning the next cycle (FY 16 – 25). He requested that the Committee continue its discussion initiated last month and he thanked Ms. Kathy Easterly for her recommendations on city-owned alleys and curb

Rebuild Houston Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes: April 22, 2014

maintenance. Mr. Herrera went on to ask for committee members to elaborate on recommendations they may have for the committee to consider.

Ms. Easterly asked if the committee's recommendations go to others in the City. Chairman Herrera responded that per the ReBuild Houston Mission Statement provided by the Mayor, the committee is to report recommendations back to the Mayor. He also noted that Director Krueger is a direct report to Mayor Parker.

Mr. Scott Elmer stated he is a proponent of different Pavement Condition Rating (PCR) thresholds depending on the road classification. He also stated that the goal for the committee members is to be ambassadors for ReBuild Houston, have a greater focus on community engagement and education to better inform the public on the value of ReBuild Houston.

Ms. Vernita Harris stated that (being a newer committee member) she has had to familiarize herself with the program relatively quickly and that she feels that the various workshops, orientation, field trip, etc. have been extremely helpful in giving her a stronger grasp on ReBuild Houston.

Mr. Bert Keller stated that he agrees with Mr. Herrera's recommendation regarding allocation of DDSRF funds to spend the revenue faster. He then noted that public perception is of great relevance regarding the longevity of the program. Mr. Dale Rudick stated that there needed to be clarification between allocation vs. appropriation vs. spending. The City's Charter is specific that appropriations need a financial backstop – if the City has a contract, the City must have the funds to back it up. Current appropriations are performed in accordance with the legal department's interpretation of the Charter. For a shift in appropriation practice to occur, the City's legal department and City Controller need to make recommendations to changes to current practice. Council Member Green stated he would arrange a meeting with Chairman Herrera, the Finance Director and the Controller as to why we cannot fund projects more readily. Council Member Dwight Boykins stated he would also like to see a restructuring of the allocation of funds for projects.

Ms. Jeri Brooks recommended that language be added to the ReBuild Houston Mission Statement detailing the 'worst first' methodology. She also stated that she would like to see reporting on public engagement activities. Mr. Edward Taravella stated that he would like to see the process of evaluation of the 'worst first' reviewed more closely.

Mr. Rudick introduced Senior Assistant Director Carol Haddock to the committee. Ms. Haddock is over the Infrastructure Planning Branch of the Planning and Development Services Division for PWE. Ms. Haddock noted that what the group is currently working on is the FY16 – 25 CIP and that PWE continually evaluates the process and methodology to ensure that the best solutions for our city are determined. The workshops provided last fall detailed the process refinements that were made in 2013. And that is what we are asking the committee for now – for the next cycle's (FY 16-25) planning efforts.

4. 2014 Meeting Schedule

The committee reviewed a tentative Meeting Schedule (attached) and discussed possible future workshops for educational purposes. Ms. Easterly stated she would like to have a workshop on Pavement Condition Ratings. Ms. Brooks stated she would like to have a finance workshop scheduled. Chairman Herrera and Ms. Easterly would like a workshop on better understanding the data sets. Upon discussion, the committee proposed the following workshop discussions to include 1) Finance/Funding, 2) Data Sets & Improvements, 3) Process Manual's Weighting, Benefit/Cost & Prioritization and 4) Communication & Public Engagement.

5. Executive Report

Mr. Rudick provided a brief recap of information received during the public input period during the District CIP Meetings. He also noted that since the CIP meetings have been completed, PWE is beginning a new series of public speaking engagements on the ReBuild Houston initiative. Mr. Rudick then encouraged committee members to inform him if they would like him to speak at any professional or civic organization they are involved or associated with. The most current Drainage Utility Collections / Expenditures report (as of March 31, 2014) was distributed.

6. Old Business/New Business

It was announced that City Council's upcoming TTI Committee meeting will be held in Council Chambers on May 13, 2014 at 10 a.m.

7. Public Comments - None

8. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Attachments:

- ReBuild Houston Advisory Committee Tentative CY14 Meeting Schedule
- Drainage Utility Collections/Expenditures – Inception to Date (as of March 31, 2014)

Advisory Committee: CY 2014 Meeting Schedule – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

February 4, 2014 (rescheduled from 1/28/14)

- PWE's Draft "5+5 year Plan" (FY 15 – 24); CIP Program Update & Prioritized Need Areas
- Preview: CIP Town Hall Meetings & Process

February 25, 2014 – PWE 101 Tour

March 25, 2014

- Discussion on "project selection, process methodology & recommended changes" for FY 16-25

April 22, 2014

- Consensus on "project selection, process methodology & recommended changes" for FY 16-25

May 27, 2014

- Meeting?

June 24, 2014 – No RHAC meeting

July 22, 2014 – No RHAC meeting; Orientation for interested members

August 26, 2014

- Workshop on _____

September 23, 2014

- Workshop on _____

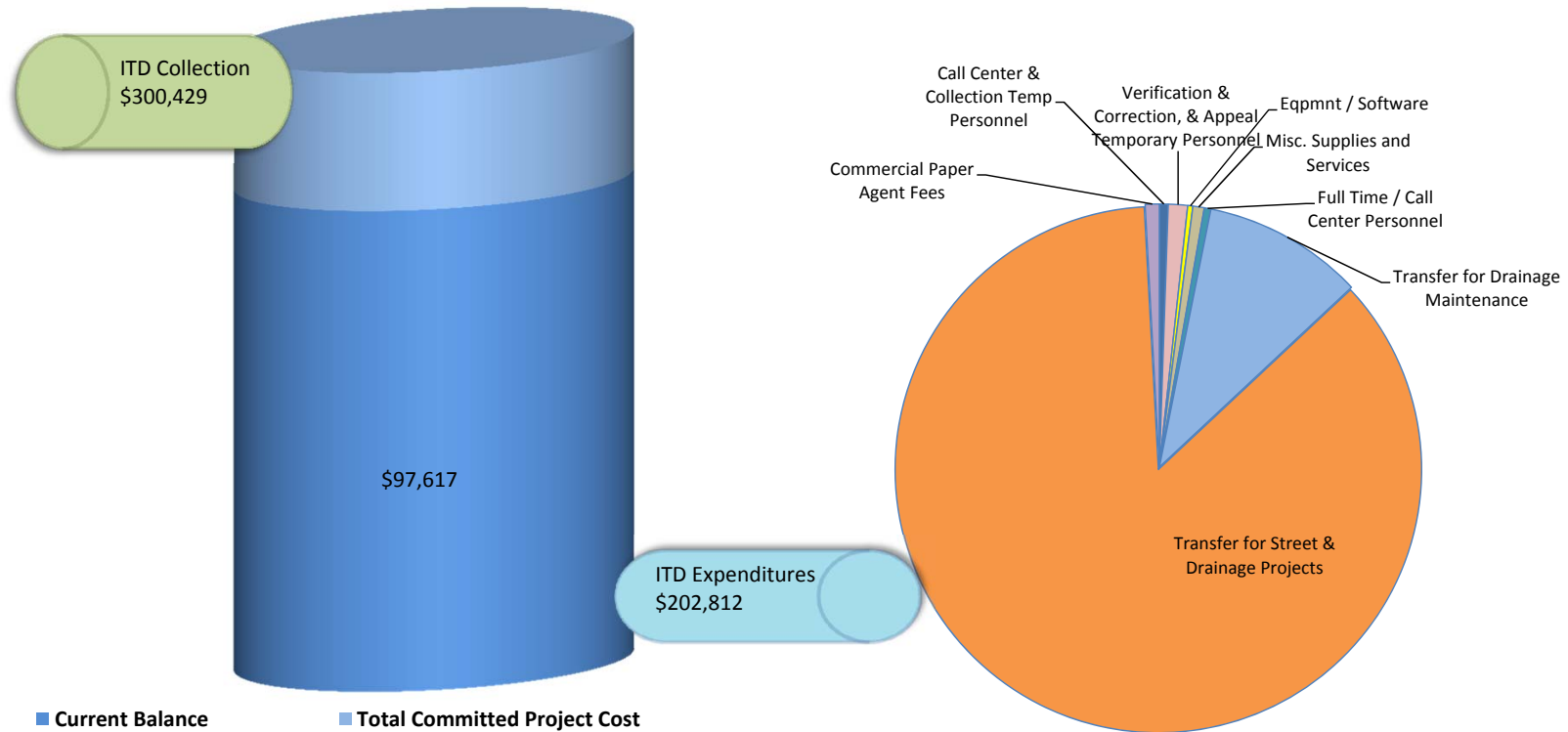
October 28, 2014

- Workshop on _____

November, 18, 2014 (Nov. & Dec. meetings combined)

- Workshop on _____
- Timeline for January release of FY 16-25 "5+5 Year Plan"
 - January 22, 2015 (tentative) – Release of Internal Draft FY 16-25 "5+5" to RHAC
 - January 28, 2015 – RHAC discussion on Draft FY 16-25 "5+5"
 - Feb/March – CIP District Town Hall meetings/Public Comment Period

**Drainage Utility
Inception to Date (ITD) Collections / Expenditures
(\$ in Thousands)
(As of March 31, 2014)**



Note: Currently committed project costs total \$125.6 Million.