

*Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 (2021-22) and Government Code section 54953 this Meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual public participation.*

- |          |                   |                               |
|----------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| PRESENT: | Laurie Beale      | Chair                         |
|          | John Erwin        | Vice Chair                    |
|          | Ian Gaffney       | Board Member                  |
|          | Robert Nava       | Board Member                  |
|          | Jan Goldman       | Board Member                  |
|          | Joe Ingrassia     | Board Member                  |
| ABSENT:  | Doug Rogers       | Board Member                  |
| STAFF:   | Greg Kwolek       | Public Works Director         |
|          | Eric Riddiough    | City Engineer                 |
|          | Janeen Burlingame | Management Analyst            |
|          | Derek Hanson      | Engineering Technician        |
|          | Paul Amico        | WRF Program Manager (Carollo) |
|          | John Rogers       | GHD Engineering               |
|          | Emily Creel       | SWCA Environmental Consultant |

**ESTABLISH QUORUM, CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM with all Board members in attendance except for Board member Doug Rogers.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<https://youtu.be/dEaSI1tbzqQ?t=220>

Greg Kwolek introduced Engineering Technician Derek Hanson, who provided a brief report on the Arbor Day event.

Greg Kwolek announced new tour dates for the new Water Reclamation Facility. The information is located on the City’s website and social media.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

<https://youtu.be/dEaSI1tbzqQ?t=487>

The public comment period was opened.

Betty Winholtz, Morro Bay resident, stated her appreciation for the workshop on the Highway 1/41 intersection at Main, noting signalization is still her preference as she's not convinced there's safety involved with the roundabout. She also noted concern with the cost difference and project timing between the two options.

The public comment period was closed.

**A. BUSINESS ITEMS**

A-1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 19, 2023, PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

<https://youtu.be/dEaSI1tbzqQ?t=672>

Laurie Beale asked staff if the minutes should have reflected the new Chair and Vice-Chair. If so, she would like the minutes to be corrected.

Janeen Burlingame stated the correction would be made once the vote for the approval was made.

The public comment period was opened, and seeing none, the public comment period was closed.

MOTION: John Erwin moved to approve the minutes with corrections noted. The motion was seconded by Robert Nava and carried 5-0 with Jan Goldman abstaining.

A-2 CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF DESIGN ALTERNATIVE FOR INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT STATE ROUTE 41, STATE ROUTE 1, AND MAIN STREET  
<https://youtu.be/dEaSI1tbzqQ?t=810>

Greg Kwolek thanked Morro Bay High School and their staff for hosting the meeting at their location. Greg also thanked AGP Video for bringing and setting up their equipment.

Greg Kwolek introduced John Rogers, consulting manager for GHD Consultants, who would be providing part of the presentation, Emily Creel from SWCA Environmental Consultants, who worked on the environmental portion of the presentation, John DiNunzio from the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) who has investments in the project, and a representative from Caltrans who has a portion of the project on their right of way, noting they would be able to answer questions.

The staff report was then presented by Greg Kwolek, John Rogers, and Emily Creel.

Discussion, comments, and questions amongst Board members and staff.

John Rogers answered questions from the Board members.

The public comment period was opened.

Morro Bay resident stated there is a fourth plan, the Red Davis plan he felt would be better that closes three of the ramps at the intersection, leaving the ramp coming from the north, and safer for pedestrians as only have to cross one street.

Paul Donnelly, Morro Bay resident, commented that the City doesn't have the money to invest in a roundabout and is concerned about the cost for a roundabout. He stated concerns about pedestrian safety, suggesting using a phased dedicated pedestrians only system like in Waikiki or Las Vegas where all traffic is stopped for pedestrian crossing and would be safer.

Nancy Bast, Morro Bay resident, asked if property would have to be purchased for the roundabout option and what would that cost be, and what is the legal issue with removing cultural remains. She prefers the signal instead of the roundabout. Nancy also stated her concerns with the cost as well as semi-trucks making the turns in the roundabout.

Clarissa Almoz, Morro Bay High School Senior, stated her concerns regarding the roundabout and intersection given the volume of cars and pedestrians in such a small space, noting cars use the pedestrian crosswalks in the current roundabout for yielding creating issues. She stated a signal would take less time to install and cost significantly less. She believes the signal would be ethical, effective and safer for the community.

Ava Pathy, Morro Bay High School Senior, disagrees roundabouts are safer for pedestrians, noting for student and adult drivers, yielding is an option that you don't have to do though you should. She believes it's not the best option, noting removing crosswalks does not help pedestrian safety.

Bill Martony, Morro Bay resident, stated he doesn't like roundabouts, noting they are very user friendly for cars but terrible for pedestrians. He feels the signal would be more economical and would be safer for pedestrians noting they would know when to go and when to stop.

Linda Winters, Morro Bay resident, lives near the intersection and provided her concerns about the intersection especially when school begins/ends, and at commuting hours noting there is no safe way to exit the mobile home park where she and others live. She prefers the roundabout noting traffic calming using speed bumps approaching the roundabout to slow vehicles before they get to the intersection would make it safer.

Judy Setting, former Morro Bay student and resident of Morro Bay, stated she has observed the high school students crossing the intersection during lunch time. She recommended a safe tunnel or overpass be placed at the intersection for the safety of the students. She noted signals would slow students down and provide much needed safety and make traffic run smoothly.

John DiNunzio, Transportation Planner with SLOCOG, talked about the road to zero concept initiative at the state and federal level that revolves around the safe systems approach noting at a regional level SLOCOG will be working to develop a road to zero safety policy with the Board of Supervisors, local cities, County Public Health, and public works. He notes as community planners, we cannot control the error on the roads a driver's decisions, but we can control road speeds, the design of the roads, and ways to help to educate how to use the roadways.

Peggy Mandeville, Morro Bay resident, supported moving forward with the roundabout for safety and operational reasons. She recommended the southbound off ramps be evaluated as part of the roundabout design and traffic simulation to show how the intersection would operate with vehicles and pedestrians in the morning, at noon, and after school.

Doug Hill, Morro Bay resident, would like the Board to recommend the roundabout option to the City Council. He stated in the long run it would be cheaper and there were numerous studies which support pedestrian safety.

Margaret Carmen, Morro Bay resident, stated her concerns about having a roundabout noting there's not enough room for larger vehicles, feeling unsure when approaching, and pedestrian safety. She wanted to know if driver's tests include driving in a roundabout and the statistics on rear end accidents in a roundabout. She supports having a traffic signal but noted if a roundabout is put in, to have better signage for drivers approaching the intersection.

A parent of two Morro Bay high school students stated she was in favor of the roundabout, and stated she feels it was much safer.

The public comment period was closed.

Discussion, comments and questions amongst Board members and staff.

MOTION: John Erwin moved to recommend City Council select the roundabout option subject to evaluating the Red Davis plan or redirecting of the north bound off ramp towards Errol Street. The motion died for lack of a second.

Laurie Beale moved to recommend City Council select the roundabout option without the condition aforementioned. The motion was seconded by Ian Gaffney.

Discussion and deliberation between the Board members.

The motion passed 4-2 by roll call vote with Board members Ingraffia and Erwin voting no.

The Board took a break and reconvened at 7:53PM.

A-3 REVIEW OF WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY PROGRAM (WRF) FISCAL YEAR 22-23 Q3  
WRF QUARTERLY REPORT AND CONTRACT AMENDMENTS  
<https://youtu.be/dEaSI1tbzqQ?t=8793>

Greg Kwolek introduced the item and introduced Paul Amico who presented the staff report.

Discussion, comments and questions amongst Board members and staff.

The public comment period was opened.

Betty Winholtz, Morro Bay resident, stated it seemed we don't have money left over as we have not finished the IPR, noting we do not know what that will cost or what wells will be dug, and if there are delays due to completing state requirements and testing before completing the IPR. She wanted to know if Cogstone would still be needed if we are still digging wells.

Discussion, comments and questions amongst Board members and staff.

Greg Kwolek asked the Board members if they had specific questions, they would want him to pass to the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM. The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 5:30 PM.

Recorded by:

Gina Arias  
Administrative Technician