MINUTES

DATE:	June 6, 2011
TO:	Iron Horse Corridor Advisory Committee
FROM:	Carrie Ricci, Public Works Department
SUBJECT:	Record of May 18, 2011 meeting

The following is a record of the Iron Horse Corridor Advisory Committee meeting on May 18, 2011.

Members present: Paul Eykamp, Stan Hansen, Lesley Hunt, Rosanne Nieto, Christy Slye, Stewart Proctor, and Dave Hudson

Staff present: Carrie Ricci, Joe Yee, and Rich Shimano, Public Works Department; Laura Case, Supervisor Mitchoff's Office; Yvonne Papeman, EBRPD; Maureen Toms, Redevelopment Agency

Public present: Peter Duncan and Jim Hunt, Walden District Improvement Association; Eric Woodyard, PG&E; Don Mount, Colony Park Neighbors Association; Dan Boatwright, Castle Companies

1. **Open the meeting:** Meeting called to order at 4:35 p.m.

2. **Public Comment (Items not listed on the agenda):**

3. **Approval of February 2, 2011 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes with no changes. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. **Eagle Scout Project Proposal:** This item will be moved to the August 2011 meeting.

5. **Contra Costa Centre Wayfinding Sign Project:** Maureen Toms with the Redevelopment Agency presented a wayfinding sign project in the Contra Costa Centre area. Five signs would be located in the Iron Horse Corridor. The project is anticipated to be advertised this fall and completed by the end of the year. The committee unanimously approved that this project should move forward.

6. **PG&E Trimming and Removal:** Eric Woodyard, PG&E Forester presented to the committee PG&E's practices of reviewing all of their power lines annually to assess what trees need to be trimmed or removed. They trim for compliance and growth. PG&E wants to work with customers and can offer tree vouchers for residents to purchase new trees. Customers with tree concerns can call 1-800-PGE-5000. Transmission lines that are 2,000 volts and above are under new federal regulations. Tall growing trees under transmission lines must be removed. PG&E can offer trees for County planting projects instead of using vouchers. They have certified arborists on staff and advise on specific trees species for County planting projects near power lines.

7. **Iron Horse Corridor Tree Planting Policy:** Walden District Improvement Association and Colony Park Neighbors Association made the following recommended changes to the tree planting policy:

   - ✓ "Any tree which is cut down or badly damaged by an agent of the County without those conditions being fulfilled will be replaced and maintained by the County for 3 years." The committee agreed and approved this wording.

   - ✓ "Cages to remain in place until trunk diameter at 3' above grade reaches a minimum of 3" at which time the sponsor removes the cages." The committee requested that staff research this and use diameter at breast height (dbh) as the standard and consult others on what they recommend as the standard. It was also suggested that when the trees reach the established standard, the tree cages will come off. When a tree is stalled and will never mature, the Iron Horse Corridor Manager in consultation with the committee will make the determination to remove cages.

   - ✓ Another suggested change for protecting volunteer trees is the requirement that the trees are far enough apart so that additional mowing will not be needed between the trees. (Current standard is approximately 18-23 feet to accommodate the mower.)

   - ✓ Staff will make revisions to the policy and bring it back to the next advisory committee meeting.

8. **Castle Companies Landscaping Proposal:** Dan Boatwright with Castle Companies presented a plan at the February Committee meeting to develop a condominium and live/work unit complex on the north east side of Norris Canyon Road adjacent to the IHC. The plan includes landscaping in the Iron Horse Corridor, adjacent to the complex. Dan presented the revised landscaping plan based on suggestions from the last committee meeting. The committee unanimously approved that the landscaping project move forward.

9. **Review IHC Trust Fund Fiscal Year Reports and budget for 2010-11:** Staff reviewed the current budget information. Committee Member Eykamp requested that the committee have a broader discussion about the budget at the August committee meeting.

10. **Reports from Committee Members and Staff:** Staff reviewed the current list of IHC staff projects and their status. Committee Member Christy Slye reminded all committee members that they should walk the trail for their area and look for possible volunteer trees and take pictures.

11. **Consider agenda topics and date for the next meeting:** The date was set for Wednesday, August 10, 2011 at Brookview.

    - Eagle Scout Proposal
    - IHC Tree Planting Policy
    - IHC Budget
    - Grant Fund Matching Guidelines

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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