

**MINUTES  
REEDLEY STREETSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 16, 1999**

The agenda for the Streetscape Maintenance Committee Meeting of November 16, 1999, was duly posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

A regular meeting of the Streetscape Maintenance Committee was held November 16, 1999, in the Reedley City Hall Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

Members Present: Jan Minami, Dale Melville, Richard Bedoian.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Viau, Public Works Supervisor; and Kay Pierce, Secretary.

Others Present: Steve Loeffler of Loeffler Landscape Maintenance.

C. Bedoian moved, C. Minami seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 14, 1999. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORT ON MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY**

A. Steve Loeffler of Loeffler Landscape Maintenance reported that the irrigation of the streetscape district has been cut back to two days for six minutes.

Dale Melville asked Steve Loeffler if he was able to keep up with the watering during the summer because of the concern stated earlier in the year regarding slow watering into the pots in some areas? Steve Loeffler responded that they were able to keep up, however, the potting soil is a light medium for summer and to keep the pots properly watered, the trees had to be kept wet whether the trees needed the water or not. If the potting soil is changed, the pots will retain moisture for a longer period of time and the water spilling over the gutter wouldn't be so severe.

Staff asked if the potting soil is going to be changed? Steve Loeffler replied that the soil is going to be changed very soon. Steve also reported that 10 to 12 flats of flowers were planted before Fiesta to replace those that had died off. Water was shut down Thursday before the parade so that no water would be in the gutter.

Jan Minami asked what the schedule was for tree replacement on "G" Street between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets? Steve Loeffler replied that he wouldn't be able to get to the tree removal until Christmas due to a prior commitment. He added that Purviance Tree Service would not be available for the tree removal until after the first of the year. The Committee agreed that after January 1 would be alright for the tree replacement. Steve Loeffler stated that he would schedule the removal of the 14 trees between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets with Purviance Tree Service.

Steve Loeffler asked for some direction from the Committee as to pruning of the crepe myrtle trees. The Committee stated that they wanted very minimal thinning of the crepe myrtle, but no heavy pruning.

### OLD BUSINESS

A. Dale Melville stated that the chemical Pam Melville uses to remove gum from the sidewalks is called "Energine" and has been purchased this chemical in pint containers at approximately \$3.00 per pint. She takes the first layer of gum off with a putty knife and then pours the Energine on this spot. There is some discoloration on the sidewalk, but it is not very noticeable. He stated the gum removal is very labor intensive.

Superintendent Jeff Viau asked if anyone every tried to use acetone on the gum? None of the Committee members have tried acetone. Superintendent Viau stated that acetone will "eat up" most plastics and should work on the gum and would be cheaper to use.

Jan Minami stated there is talk of doing a hotdog roast and scrub-the-sidewalk-day, but no date has been set. It would possibly be in the spring of 2000.

Dale Melville suggested using community service workers for he gum removal. Superintendent Viau stated that many of these workers are not very reliable and require too much supervision. He added the Police Chief is working on another program which would use trustees from the Fresno County jail and Public Works could use some of these individuals. Dale Melville added that each business owner should be responsible for removing the gum in front of their business.

Richard Bedoian added that if the Committee could present a solution or chemical to the business owners, most of the owners would agree to work together to remove the gum from the sidewalk area. Jan Minami agreed that if the Committee does some research on a type of product to use, purchases the product for the business owners telling them they will have to provide their own tools, and coordinate a time where all business owner's will be working outside on a pre-arranged date, many of the businesses will cooperate. Once the sidewalk is clean, everyone will be more inclined to keep the sidewalks cleaned up so that annual and semi-annual events that are planned for downtown can be carried out without requiring a lot of cleaning up of the downtown area.

Jeff Viau suggested picking out an area of sidewalk to experiment on because it is cold this time of year and much of the gum can be scraped off first before applying either acetone or lacquer thinner would work best. Energine is usually used in carpeting cleaning and might not work well on concrete.

B. Richard Bedoian asked if any new information has surfaced regarding repair of the downtown clock. Jan Minami stated that a gentlemen named Orville Fast, a jeweler from Dinuba, has been contacted and is in the process of closing up his store in Dinuba, but is interested in trying to fix the clock after he closes down his business after the first of January. Mr. Fast feels that the clock can be cleaned and made serviceable as is without putting much money into it. Joy

Schuman has the key to the clock at this point and she will be asked to make several copies of this key so that a copy can be given to Jeff Viau and he will be responsible for winding the clock.

C. Jan Minami asked staff if any decision have been made regarding the light standards from Fowler. Jeff Viau replied that he has been told that Fowler will probably keep the balance of the lights for future projects. Jeff will double check with Fowler.

Richard Bedoian stated that staff was supposed to send a letter to Fowler letting them know that Reedley is interested in obtaining their light standards if they decide to sell them.

D. Jan Minami asked staff if the smaller pots downtown have been anchored to the sidewalk so that they cannot be stolen or knocked over. Staff replied that if the vandalism happens again, the pots will be anchored down. It was suggested to ask the citizen volunteers to walk a beat downtown on Friday and Saturday nights to deter vandals from knocking over the pots. Richard Bedoian stated that the volunteers do check downtown businesses at night to make sure doors are locked.

Jan Minami thanked Superintendent for removing the grease spot on the sidewalk in front of her business.

E. Dale Melville asked about the skateboarding stenciling on the sidewalk, whether the stenciling is going to be replaced in green or white when it wears off. Superintendent Jeff Viau stated that the stenciling will not be reapplied when it wears off.

Jan Minami stated that the Police Chief came to an RDA meeting and stated that the skateboarding issue will be approached by the School Resource Officer telling the students to be aware of the no skateboarding ordinance.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Steve Loeffler asked about a report in the Reedley Exponent stating that the downtown area was interested in having a theme for the downtown area. The Committee members stated that they had not heard anything about this issue.

B. The Committee members did tell Loeffler Landscaping that the tree lights would be installed on the downtown streetscape trees in the next couple of weeks, so if any additional pruning is needed, he should do it now.

### **COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS** - None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m. The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2000..

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**Richard Bedoian, Chairman**  
**Streetscape Maintenance Committee**

**ATTEST:**

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**Michael Olmos, Secretary**