

Synopsis of NEPCO Meeting 12 September 2020

This synopsis is intended to provide the highlights of the NEPCO General Membership meeting to all residents of NEPCO member Homeowner Associations. Full minutes & presentations at www.nepco.org. The meeting was a Zoom video conference.

Board Elections in November: NEPCO Board elections will occur at the November NEPCO meeting. Any individual from a NEPCO member HOA who is interested in a nomination to the Board should contact Greg Lynd at president@nepco.org or Bob Swedenburg at secretary@nepco.org.

Road Maintenance and Improvement Program in El Paso County: Greg introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Scot Cuthbertson, Executive Director of El Paso County Department of Public Works. He began his presentation with an overview of the responsibilities of the Department of Public Works. In the area of roads, his department is responsible for highway operations, chip sealing, asphalt maintenance, grading, drainage, reclamation, signs, signals, striping, mowing sweeping, snow removal and fleet services. In El Paso County there are 2324 lane miles of paved road and 2082 lane miles of gravel road. The department's objectives are to preserve and extend the life of paved roads and to maintain current roadway operations.

He explained the road review process. Start with a \$10 million per year fiscal constraint. Committee reviews road segments and removes segments as necessary. Proposed capital projects; Proposed development; Proposed utilities. Committee creates logical segments, adding and removing segments as necessary. Inspect roads to verify rehabilitation, adding and removing as necessary. Select the most cost effective roads within the budget, typically around \$4 million. Finalize Draft List. Highway Advisory Commission review and endorsement. Board of County Commissioner's resolution.

The metric for maintenance of roads is the Pavement Quality Index (PQI). It has a scale of 0-100.

- If PQI < 20, the pavement has failed.
- The goal for local roads is PQI > 50; today 71% of local roads have a PQI > 50.
- The goal for collector roads is PQI > 65; today 70% of collector roads have PQI > 65.
- The goal for arterial roads is PQI > 70; today 83% of arterial roads have PQI > 70.
- Overall average for roads in the county is PQI = 68.
- Of 2324 lane miles of paved roads, 653 lane miles do not meet the minimum PQI.
- PQI data on all county roads will be available on the DPW web site by Oct 1, 2020.

He described three budget scenarios for road maintenance:

- Maintaining status quo of roads with current budget of \$10M/year requires \$120M for next 10 years, applying a 4% annual increase.
- Maintaining a PQI = 68 requires \$210M/year for next 10 years.
- Providing zero deficiencies in 10 years requires \$364M for next 10 years.

He then described the current road maintenance program for 2020.

He described the status of some local road construction projects:

- Beacon Lite Road will be completed in 2022.
- Hwy 105 improvements will be completed in 2022.
- The Struthers Road and Northgate Road drainage project to I-25 will be completed in 2023.

He reminded all the HOA attendees that they can submit requests for road work at

www.citizenconnect.elpasoco.com. The site allows you to attach a photo of the road problem, and if you include your email address you will receive a notice when the work is completed. In response to a question on funding shortfalls, he stated that the average annual tax from homeowners for El Paso County roads and bridges was \$7.33 per year. One mile of new roadway costs about \$1.5M per lane mile.

More details of his presentation are at www.nepco.org Meeting Presentations.