



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**  
Room 280A  
455 North Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

April 18, 2018  
8:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: April 18, 2018 / 8:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Alpert, Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair Felsenthal

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Gilbert Borboa, Colonel Burnley, Vincent Chee, Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Michael Hensley, Ilene Knebel, Chad Lynn, Mandana Motahari, Derek Nguyen, Robert Welch.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

Speakers: Sheila Morovati  
Lauren Meister, City of West Hollywood Councilmember

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By Order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as amended.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the special meeting of February 8, 2018.

The Minutes were approved by the Commission's verbal unanimous approval.

2. Consideration of the Minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2018.

The Minutes were approved by the Commission's verbal unanimous approval.

**REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

**Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies**

- Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director Barry Pressman
  - Dr. Pressman reported on the vote for the California Water Fix (Tunneling Project).

- The Conservation Plan was passed with monetary incentives for removing turf and replacing with live plants. There are also rebates for replacement of some household appliances.
- Dr. Pressman also discussed various lawsuits that have been filed with respect to this project.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the reclamation project.
- The Commission inquired about the cost and possible reimbursement of the cost for the tunnels.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS**

3. Capital Improvement & Major Projects

Acting City Engineer Robert Welch updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items in the Commission packet. The Maple Well project is in the testing phase. Pump Station #8 design is completed and bids will be taken in May. Insurance is being reviewed for the oil well plugging project. The curb ramp project is nearing completion at the Beverly/Beverwil/Olympic intersection. The budget was identified for this project

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the lane closures on Wilshire on Section 1.
- The Commission inquired about the permits for the venting for the oil well plugging project and the possible emissions. The oil well pressure was also discussed as well as the funding for the cleanup project.
- The Commission asked about the EIR will be started for the La Brea Sub Area.
- There was a brief discussion with regard to the pavement repairs in West Hollywood related to Beverly Hills Water. Funds are from the Water Enterprise Fund.

4. Hollywood Basin Wells Pre-Treatment Testing Update

Assistant Director Gil Borboa, Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse and Carollo Project Manager Adam Zacheis gave a brief report on the completion of the pilot testing and treatment plan enhancements that will address the constituents. A report will be available next month and will address scheduling and costs to rehabilitate the plant. The Maple Wells were both tested separately and various combinations of the wells were tested. Raw water quality and brine were discussed.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the details of the report that will be presented.

5. Burton Way Median Green Streets and Water Efficient Landscape Design – Project Update

Project Manager Derek Nguyen presented background on the project to the Commission. He reviewed the Green Streets Policy adopted in June 2015 as well as the Governor's Executive Orders in 2015 and 2016 to reduce water waste and improve efficiency. The area was identified as a potential site for a green street project opportunity. The initial concept was much smaller than the projected plans to date. The plantings on the medians were described in detail as well as the project cost analysis, including irrigation. If approved, the design, bidding and award of contract will allow for the project to begin in

Page 2 of 5

late 2019. The staff recommendation is to move forward with the design as presented as well as the Public Works Commission recommend to the City Council to implement Phase 1.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about legal requirements to implement Phase 2 of the project as well as the cost difference between Phase 1 and Phase 2.
- The Commission inquired about the heat exchange with rocks and their impact due to the lack of turf, and the possibility of the irrigation water becoming stagnant.
- The Commission inquired about the funding for this project due to the federal mandate and the possibility of the funding coming from rate increases instead of taxes to cover the costs.

Staff also relayed that the plants chosen are low profile and will not distract drivers.

There was further discussion to clarify which part of the project was for conservation and which was for the MS/4 Contribution.

Motion:            MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Greer to grant preliminary approval of the Phase 1 design subject to review of Community input. (5-0).

AYES:             Commissioners Alpert, Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair Felsenthal

ABSTAIN:        None

NOES:            None

CARRIED

The Commission took a break at 10:11 a.m.

The Commission returned at 10:22 a.m.

#### 6. La Cienega Park & Frank Fenton Field Stormwater Infiltration and Groundwater Recharge Feasibility Assessment – Project Update

Project Manager Derek Nguyen presented this item. The area has been identified as a signature regional project due to its proximity to both the City of Los Angeles and West Hollywood. It also contains three large areas for possible stormwater capturing to take place. Main components of the project were described as well as the consultants investigation result so far. Staff and representatives from Los Angeles and West Hollywood met in April 2018 and made a collective recommendation to divert to sanitary sewers. Another informational update will be scheduled in June 2018.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about to the water that goes into the LA Sanitary Sewer system.
- There was further comment about the regional project and our gaining credit towards our requirement.

7. Debris Management Plan

Senior Management Analyst Michael Hensley and Solid Waste manager James Burnley presented the Commission with an updated draft of the Debris Management Plan. Staff discussed reimbursements and recent revisions. This plan will become part of the larger plan to be submitted to City Council later in the year. In a recent Ad Hoc Meeting, it was discussed to have two firms available in the case of a large scale debris clean up. The first will be in charge of the removal portion, the second is a monitoring firm that will handle documentation. Also an offsite location will be identified for storage and the homeowner's permission will be obtained before removal.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed specifics in the plan including documenting for FEMA reimbursements.
- The Commission asked about the timeline for the final formalization of the plan.

**NEW BUSINESS**

8. Water Conservation Ordinance Update: Title 9, Chapter 4, Article 2 – Water use Efficiency Regulations

Assistant Director of Public Works Gil Borboa and Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni reported on the Article 2 modifications to the Water Conservation Ordinance. Changes have been delayed due to waiting for the finalization of the Governor's Executive order on the ordinance. Staff recommends approval by the Public Works Commission, presenting to the Public Works Liaison and then presenting to City Council.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented and suggested alternate language in the ordinance on various items.
- Staff will make the changes and re-present to the Ad hoc Committee.

9. Chair Felsenthal's Request for Discussion Regarding Water Conservation Policies

Chair Felsenthal posed the question to the Commission if they should be more proactive with regard to meeting our goals with water conservation. There was a discussion about reasonable and allowable water usage and how to monitor.

---

**PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS**

10. Water Efficiency Update

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni discussed the water efficiency public outreach efforts and sub metering. A sub metering ordinance will be developed and proposed. Article 3 amendments of the Water Conservation Ordinance will be discussed in the future after rates are veted.

11. Specific Information and Department Update

This report transmits answers to questions that have been raised at previous Public Works Commission meetings, information regarding upcoming items for the City Council meeting, an update on the Department's Master Plans, a financial statement for the Water Enterprise Fund and a Will Serve status update for development projects. And Street Tree Care Brochures.

- No comments.

12. Project Administration Updates

City Architect Mandana Motahari briefed the Commission on the Coldwater Canyon park playground renovation.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

13. Chair's Report

Chair Felsenthal commented on the topics for the May Commission meeting where it is expected there will be a discussion on water rates. In addition the Carollo report will be presented and well as the LED report.

Mayor's Cabinet Meeting notes were contained in the packet.

- No comments.

Comments from Commissioners.

- None.

Ad Hoc Committee Updates

- None.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

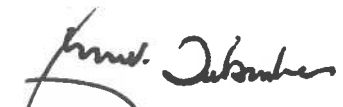
14. Director's Report

Public Works Director Shana Epstein reported on the following: Status Updates, Net Present Value of Water Productions, Cost of Service Study, The Backbone, Noticing, Upcoming Events/Earth Day and Meeting Dates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time April 18, 2018 / 12:00 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY of MAY, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerrold Felsenthal, Chair