



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 14, 2019  
8:00 AM

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: March 14, 2019 / 8:01 AM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Gil Borboa, Vince Damasse, Jason Dyogi, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Daren Grilley, Ilene Knebel, Chad Lynn, Tristan Malabanan, Mandana Motahari, Ken Pfalzgraf

**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: Scott Redston, David Gingold

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of February 13, 2019, Public Works Commission special meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Vice Chair Greer to adopt the minutes as presented (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

2. Consideration of February 14, 2019, Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Wolfe, SECONDED by Commissioner Alpert to adopt the minutes as amended (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

**REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

Dr. Pressman was not in attendance. Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa, gave a brief overview of the most recent Metropolitan Water District Meeting, the local water conditions, the drought contingency plan, the legislation that may be changing the voting at Metropolitan and a brief comment about the Oroville Dam repair.

Director Epstein introduced new employees; Associate Project Managers Martin Nunes, Manu Dhaliwal and Christine Chung, and Systems Integrator Hal Bodkin.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS**

3. Capital Projects Update

City Engineer Daren Grilley updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items. Specifically updated were the Oil Well Plugging Project and the Civic Center Drive Reforestation Project.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the completion of Pump Station #8 and the timeline for the water main replacement on Coldwater Canyon.
- The Commission also asked about the LED Street light replacement project and Santa Monica Boulevard funding reports.
- The Commission asked if funds left over from specific projects could be reallocated to other Capital Projects.
- There was a discussion about our support for joint regional projects.
- There was a brief discussion about the La Cienega Stormwater Project.

4. Foothill Water Treatment Plant Update/La Brea Subarea Update

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa, Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse, and Project Managers Samer Elayyan and Tristan Malabanan, gave updates on the projects. A diagram was presented identifying potential La Brea Subarea well locations.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed potential liabilities and delays with the Water Treatment project.
- It was suggested to have an Ad Hoc meeting on the topic.
- The Commission commented on the consultant contract with Hazen & Sawyer for the design and the pipeline alignment.
- The Commission commented on the next steps after the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf Site is developed.

Commissioner Greer left the meeting at 9:20 AM.

#### 5. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa, reported on the advice of the City Attorney to withdraw from the MOU for the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the unadjudicated portion of the Central Basin.

#### Commissioner comments:

- There was a brief discussion about the benefits of the withdrawal.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe that the Public Works Commission approve the withdrawal of the City of Beverly Hills from the Memorandum of Understanding for implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the unadjudicated portion of the Central Basin (4-0).

AYES: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

#### CARRIED

#### 6. 100 Block El Camino Ficus Tree Replacement (Taken out of order)

Urban Forest Manager Ken Pfalzgraf reported on the petition presented to remove and replace the trees on the 100 Block of El Camino Drive.

Speakers: Marlene Gonzalez, Lauren Fishkin, Steve Mayer

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented on the trees that have been chosen for the replacement and their cost.
- The Commission suggested the zone of contact be expanded for the dissemination of the ballot information.
- The Commission suggested including the option on the ballot to have the Ficus Trees remain.
- The Commission asked about liability and previous trip/fall claims.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe that the Public Works Commission accept the Staff Technical Report into the record, direct the staff to ballot the property owners of the 100 block of El Camino to determine the desired tree planting theme and corresponding tree planting options plus adding an additional item on the ballot which states "keep the current trees," direct staff upon receiving the requisite 50% plus response to the ballot, to report back to the Commission with the final staff recommendation for approval prior to presenting to City Council, and direct staff to reach out to the residents of the 200 and 300 blocks of South El Camino regarding any proposed changes (4-0).

AYES: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

CARRIED

The Commission took a break at 10:02 AM  
The Commission returned at 10:12 AM

**NEW BUSINESS**

7. Update on Community Video Security Program

City Engineer Daren Grilley gave a brief overview of the report previously presented to City Council.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commissioners asked about crime reduction statistics at the locations of the security cameras.

**PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS**

8. Water Efficiency Update

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa, reported on the progress in extracting the data to complete the analysis from the December Metropolitan Water Main leak.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about the water conservation due to the reduced usage of irrigation after the recent rainfall.

10. Specific Information and Department Updates

Staff answered questions from last month's meeting about the West Hollywood Developments and lead testing at the schools.

Commissioner comments:

- It was suggested to add the Will Serve Letter details as a future agenda item.
- The Commission inquired about setting up a schedule for lead testing at the school sites.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

11. Chair's Report

Comments from Commissioners:

- Commissioner Alpert reviewed the recent Oil Well and Solid Waste Ad Hoc Meetings, the possibility of a basin re-charge ordinance and incentives to install additional meters.
- Commissioner Felsenthal commented on the Emergency Water item being presented at an upcoming meeting, the future of the solid waste contract and the allocation of resources for irrigation meters.
- Commissioner Wolfe reported that the subject/costs of landscape meters had been previously discussed in an Ad Hoc meeting.

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF


### 12. Director's report

- There will be more information in the future about the solid waste contract.
- The most recent Liaison Meeting topics were reviewed. Information was presented about the Water Supply Fees, the Anti-Graffiti Campaign and the Fiber-to-the Premise Interface with Information Technology and Public Works.
- There was a brief discussion about the response from Metropolitan for the December Water Main Break.
- Director Epstein reminded the Commission that there cannot be action taken on an information only item. If the Commission would like to take action, then the request can be agendized at the next meeting.
- Upcoming events were reviewed.

## ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: March 14, 2019 / 11:21 AM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY of APRIL, 2019

  
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Sandra Aronberg, M.D., Chair