



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

September 14, 2017
8:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: September 14, 2017 / 8:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Greer, Shalowitz, Vice Chair Felsenthal,
Chair Wolfe
Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Aronberg
Staff Present: Vincent Chee, Mark Cuneo, Vince Damasse, Josette
Descalzo, Shana Epstein, Ilene Knebel, Erick Lee, Trish
Rhay, Caitlin Sims

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: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 10, 2017.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Shalowitz, SECONDED by
Commissioner Greer to approve the minutes as presented
(4-0).

AYES: Commissioners Greer, Shalowitz, Vice Chair Felsenthal,
Chair Wolfe

NOES: None

CARRIED

2. Consideration of the Minutes of the special meeting of August 30, 2017.

By verbal confirmation, the Commission approved the minutes for the special meeting of August 30, 2017.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

- Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director
 - Dr. Wunderlich reported on the Bay Delta Tunnel Project. Metropolitan Water District will be voting in October whether or not to participate. Dr. Wunderlich described the sources of water for Southern California and the current environmental distress of the Delta. The tunnels will provide an alternate means of conveyance; the water would go under the Delta, not through it. The river flows would not be distorted by the tunnels.
 - Southern California imports about half its water from the State Water Project and the Colorado River. Dr. Wunderlich presented both pros and cons for the overall venture.
 - Dr. Wunderlich commented briefly on recent allegations of misappropriation of funds by some agricultural agencies.
 - The timeline for the project can be up to twenty years.
 - Dr. Wunderlich also commented about climate change impacts on our water supply, the cost of water per acre foot and suggested the city diversify its water supply.
 - This item will be presented at City Council on September 19, 2017.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Capital Improvement & Major Projects

City Engineer Mark Cuneo update the Commission on the following items in the Commission packet; the Maple Wells, Cabrillo Reservoir Project, La Brea Subarea – Central Basin Development, RO Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation, Pump Station No. 8 Rehabilitation, North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction, Purple Line Subway Extension – Metro, Citywide Street Resurfacing, and Traffic Signal Modification and Curb Ramp Replacement – W. Olympic Blvd. /Beverwil Drive/Beverly Drive.

Commissioner comments:

- Commission commented about the capacity of the Cabrillo Reservoir. Mr. Cuneo relayed that this will be addressed in the technical memo currently being prepared.
- The sidewalk maintenance project is no longer listed due to the next phase of this project will be completed by the street maintenance crew. It is no longer a Capital Project. The Commission will be apprised if there is further information to be updated.
- The Commission gave positive comments about the progression of the Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction and Metro Projects.

4. Grant Update

Planning and Research Analyst Michelle Tse gave an overview of grants that were applied for and their outcomes and future grant opportunities. In addition, she reviewed specific grant allocations, their criteria and eligibility requirements. A consultant will be hired to assist with securing grants

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired if there were available grants for the current bike lane project. Ms. Tse will report back to the Commission on its feasibility.
- The Commission requested a follow-up on what areas that the Department would have the greatest chance to obtain grants and how this will be accomplished.

The Commission took a break at 9:37 a.m.

The Commission reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

5. Hollywood Basin Wells Scale Pre-Treatment Testing Update

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse provided a brief overview of the testing process and the next steps.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about water quality. Staff responded that monthly samples are being taken to be analyzed and levels are acceptable.

6. Water Enterprise Plan (WEP) Re-evaluation

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse reported on the re-evaluation of the WEP and the best options moving forward. Mr. Damasse projected having a technical memo generated by Psomas by the October Commission Meeting.

Commissioner comments:

- As the WEP is re-evaluated, the Commission requested to see specific action items that relate to our community included as well as check the projects already identified and continue to re-check the assumptions.

7. Sustainability Plan Update Report

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Program Manager Josette Descalzo provided an update on projects that have been implemented. For the future, staff suggested evaluating all programs and policies and to develop a reporting program, possibly focused on Public Works.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented that many items contained in the plan are the norm today and questioned if there is a need to continue updating.

Speaker: Steven Weinglass

The Commission agreed that any formal management of this plan should be done with City Council direction.

8. Community Choice Aggregation

Senior Management Analyst Caitlin Sims gave an update about the program, the risks and benefits. Ms. Sims also addressed concerns City Council had after an overview was presented. Anticipated rates were reviewed as well as bill comparisons with Sonoma Clean Power and Marin Clean Energy Programs.

Speakers: Interim Executive Director Bill Carnahan of Los Angeles Community Clean Energy (LACCE), Bob Wunderlich; Gary Gero, Chief Sustainability Officer for Los Angeles County.

Motion: MOVED by Chair Wolfe that the Public Works Commission recommend to the City Council that the City of Beverly Hills joins the LACCE at this time (2-2).

AYES: Commissioners Greer, Chair Wolfe

NOES: Commissioner Shalowitz, Vice Chair Felsenthal

FAILED

9. Matrix Report Implementation

Assistant Director Trish Rhay provided an update for the implementation of the plan since being presented to City Council.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about various line items in the Matrix Report.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Energy Leader Partnership Program/Westside Energy Partnership

- Information only. No discussion.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS

11. Water Conservation Update

- Information only. No discussion.

12. Moody's Bond Rating

- Information only. Commission commented about one item being a lower rating due to being a smaller system.

13. 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, an update on the collection of water capacity fees and water supply fees, and a financial statement for the Water Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2016-17.

- Information only. Commission requested an update on the tax credits received from the local CNG production on site and commented on the financial statement included in this item.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

14. Chair's Report

- Comments from the Commissioners
- Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates
 - No discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

15. Report from Director

- Public Works Director Shana Epstein reported that outreach for the proposed water rate increase consists of a flyer being mailed, two Town Hall Meetings, other community group meetings and attendance at every Commission Meeting to answer questions.
 - Upcoming Events – Hazardous Waste Roundup will be held on Saturday, September 16.
 - Meeting Dates

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: September 14, 2017 / 12:20 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY of OCTOBER, 2017



Jeff Wolfe, Chair