



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Video Teleconference

The Beverly Hills Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Community Advisory Committee

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

2:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date / Time: January 26, 2022, 2022 / 2:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

CAAP Community Advisory Committee members Myra Lurie, Alissa Roston, Sharon Ignarro, Lisa Schwartz, Wendy Nystrom, Sharona Nazarian, Erica Felsenthal, Lee Hilborne, Myra Demeter, Peter Ostroff, Sandra Aronberg, Linda Newmark, Ariel Ouziel, Rene Jones, and Susan Kimura.

City Staff & Consultants: Director of Public Works Shana Epstein, Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Program Manager Josette Descalzo, Senior Management Analyst Melissa Gomez, Utilities General Manager Robert Welch, Solid Waster Manager Colonel James Burnley, CivicSpark Fellow Tory Brewster, Athens Services- Gary Clifford, Riel Johnson, and Jennifer Masterson.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public were allowed to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

Speakers: None

1) APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 19, 2021 AND NOVEMBER 30, 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

Motion: MOVED by Peter Ostroff, SECONDED by Lee Hilborne to approve the Resolution as presented (14/0).

AYES: All members of the Committee verbally approved the Resolution.

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

CARRIED

2) A RESOLUTION OF THE CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AUTHORIZING PUBLIC



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MEETINGS TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(E) AND MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE SAME

Motion: MOVED by Lee Hilborne, SECONDED by Peter Ostroff to approve the Resolution as presented (15/0).

AYES: All members of the Committee verbally approved the Resolution.

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

CARRIED

3) BEVERLY HILLS SENIOR TRANSIT SERVICE

Martha Eros, Transportation Planner, and Daren Grilley, City Engineer, provided background information on the Beverly Hills Senior Transit Program.

Beverly Hills Senior Transit Program and Trolley Service

- Senior Dial-A-Ride program
 - Free transportation service is available for Beverly Hills residents 62+ years and disabled persons of all ages. The program is free and by appointment only for medical, recreation, and shopping. The shuttle operates Monday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm. There is a fleet of 3 shuttles and two passenger vans that are ADA compliant.
- Propane Alternative Fuel
 - Vehicles operate under a propane alternative fuel which is listed in the 1990 Clean Air Act and the National Energy Policy Act of 1992. The propane autogas exhaust creates 60 to 70 percent less smog-producing hydrocarbons than gasoline.
- Beverly Hills Trolley
 - The City owns two gas-powered vehicles. The Trolleys are used for special events. The vehicles have a 20-year life cycle, and the model year is 2009.

Transit Services Offered By Local Jurisdictions

- Culver City Downtown Circulator
 - Culver City runs a bus system that is fare-based. The service connects the Arts District with the City center and Sony Pictures Studios. The shuttle service operates weekdays 7 am-10 pm and from 10 am-10 pm on weekends. The shuttles are electric, low-floor shuttles.
- City of West Hollywood
 - The City of West Hollywood runs several transportation services. There is a shuttle service that is a free fixed route. The shuttle service runs Monday-



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Saturday, 9 am-5:30 pm. The shuttle circulates every 30 minutes and runs on compressed natural gas (CNG). A commuter service connects to the Hollywood/Highland Metro station. The per-hour service for the commuter is every 15 minutes. The commuter service operates weekdays from 7 am-10 am and Monday-Saturday from 5 pm-8 pm.

- City of Los Angeles LADOT
 - The City of Los Angeles offers a fixed route service called Dash. There are 32 fixed routes in LA neighborhoods. The fare for DASH is 50 cents (general); 25 cents (senior/disabled). The fixed-route service operates daily, 6 am-9pm. The frequency of the service varies by route but typically runs every 7-30 minutes. The vehicles are a combination of CNG, propane, battery-electric fleet.
- LACMTA-METRO
 - LA County Metro offers fixed-route services. The service charges 35 cents (senior/disabled) and \$1.75 (general) with discounts for students. There is a mixed fuel fleet.
 - Additionally, there is an on-demand pilot service called Metro Micro that operates in specific areas of the county . The service operates from 6 am-10 pm, and the fare is \$1 per ride.

Fare System

- Free vs. Fare System
 - Pros
 - Free
 - Attract ridership
 - Decrease single vehicle trips
 - Passenger convenience
 - Positive customer relations
 - Eliminate farebox-related disputes
 - Subsidize cost with grant funds
 - Fare
 - Contribute toward the cost of operations
 - Value the service
 - Cons
 - Free
 - Available funding
 - High subsidy per passenger/ride
 - Crowding
 - Vandalism
 - Increased security/maintenance costs
 - Fare
 - Detract passengers
 - Farebox disputes



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Current Planning Efforts

- The City is evaluating shuttle and micro transit options, which requires consideration of vehicle types and power options like electric and alternative energy. Additionally, the City is looking into evaluating infrastructure needs and educating the community.

Questions from the Committee

- Can the Committee receive information about increased mobility for biking within the City?
- Who pays for the Dial-A-Ride service?
 - Local return funds fund the service. Gasoline sales taxes generate local return funds. Local return funds are administered through the metropolitan transportation authority, the regional transportation authority. The City receives a percentage based on per capita.
- Who is the target market for transportation services? It might be worth investigating high trafficked areas of the City like schools.
- What are the COVID regulations?
 - For the senior/disabled person transportation program, masks are mandatory in vehicles. Occupancy was reduced from 20 people per vehicle to 5 people per vehicle. Seats and rows are blocked off in vehicles for social distancing. Air filters are being changed and monitored, and vehicles are being cleaned every night.
- Is the City considering utilizing a transportation service to take residents to the metro?
 - The City is considering a micro-transit system or a dial a ride service.
- What was ridership like before COVID?
 - The service provided approximately 800 trip per month pre-pandemic. Due to COVID, ridership decreased approximately 75 percent..
- What does funding look like for other programs?
 - West Hollywood uses local return funds and federal funds. Culver City uses local return funds, state and federal funds.

Public Comment

- Steve Mayor: The Metro/Micro transit is increasing their fares per ride. Increased price in gas is not increasing public transit ridership. Planning for a bike hub should start soon.

4) **SOLID WASTE PROGRAM & WASTE STREAM PROCESS**

Colonel James Burnley, Solid Waste Manager, and Athens Services, Gary Clifford, Riel Johnson, Jennifer Masterson, provided background information on the Beverly Hills Solid Waste Program & Waste Steam Process.

Solid Waste Program – Overview



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The City's Solid Waste Program consists of four subprograms: Residential, Alley Maintenance, Commercial, and Conservation. The solid waste program manages the City's Commercial and Residential solid waste processing through a franchise agreement with Athens services.

Solid Waste Program – Residential/Commercial

The solid waste program utilizes renewable natural gas, renewable diesel, and gas-fueled equipment. The program provides single and multi-family container collection and alley maintenance services. The commercial collection service consists of commercial businesses such as retail stores, restaurants, office and medical buildings, schools, and hotels. Roll-off and temporary bin services are provided to residential and commercial businesses.

Solid Waste Program Services and Goals

The City offers two-stream organic and mixed waste services. Organic waste is collected from green bins and mixed waste from gray or black bins. Additionally, solid waste conservation produced community outreach and education to encourage conservation and diversion of solid waste from landfills. The goals for the solid waste program include disposal reduction through collection separation, promoting food recovery/donation, and continuing to promote composting.

Athens Services

Athens recently had a Crown Recycling services grand reopening. The Crown Recycling Facility has the highest diversion rate in LA County; it is an enclosed facility that reduces dust, noise, and odor and eliminates stormwater impacts. Athens will be utilizing the Optical Sorting System to increase recovery rates. Additionally, Athens is in the process of finalizing non-recoverable plastics into fuel for coal plants. The organic screw press compresses organics to be sold and used for fuel.

Near-Zero CNG Fleet

- Athens will operate the latest technology near-zero emission fleet.
- Athens fleet will be fueled with Renewable CNG.
- Athens is transitioning from +41 Carbon Intensity Renewable Landfill Gas to ~400 California Dairy renewable natural gas.
- Athens annually improves the new fleet and R-CNG consumption for the fleet.

Question from the Committee

- Can the City supply more bins in areas where there is overflow issues?
 - There is limited space to place additional containers in the multi-family area. As a result the City provides 2 to 3 times a week collection in the multi-family areas.
 - The City will be working with multi-family properties to find space for placement of the organic waste containers to service their property. How is hazardous waste filtered out?



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- Athens has a presort system, and all other hazardous waste is sorted out before being hauled out by another company. Materials are sorted and sold back to the marketplace, and radioactive waste is monitored and sorted out of the waste system.
- How is organic diversion changing from the Cities previous Organic Waste Programs?
 - The State is mandating a statewide Organic Waste Program that prevents more organic waste from entering the waste stream.
- Does food contamination prevent recycling food-soiled materials?
 - There is a wet-dry system. Wet organics will be placed in the green bins, and dry materials will be placed in mixed waste bins. Food soiled materials will be recycled with a different grade.

Comments from the Committee

- Members of the Committee that would like to tour Athens should tell City of Beverly Hills Staff.
- If Athens has any tips on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, they should send that information to the Committee.

5) SETTING THE NEXT MEETING DATE

Staff is working to find a regularly scheduled meeting date. The meeting date will be finalized through email.

6) CHAIRS REPORT

The Co-Chairs met with ad-hoc committees, and notes were compiled. The transportation ad-hoc group discussed increasing bike lanes and safety.

7) DIRECTORS REPORT

Shana Epstein, Director of the Public Work Department, informed members of the Committee that data and information are being compiled from the Ad-Hoc discussions. Consultants will provide more framework and details about ideas brought up during the Ad-Hoc Discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time:

January 26, 2022/ 3:40 PM