



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

August 10, 2017  
8:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: August 10, 2017 / 8:04 am

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Tony Antich, Craig Crowder, Vince Damasse, Shana Epstein, Ilene Knebel, Erick Lee, Chad Lynn, Trish Rhay

**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 amended.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2017.

Motion: MOVED by Vice Chairperson Felsenthal, SECONDED by Commissioner Aronberg to approve the minutes as amended (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

**REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

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

- Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director
  - Dr. Wunderlich reported that Dr. Barry Pressman was chosen as the new MWD Director, for an initial five year term; after that, current

PWC Chair Jeff Wolfe will be taking over the directorship for the next five years.

- Since the July Public Works Commission meeting, there have been no new MWD meetings. The August Meeting is traditionally scheduled in conjunction with the release of property valuation information by the County Assessor's Office. The property value information is used to set each of the members voting percentage for the coming year and is also used by Metropolitan to assess its property tax rate for the component of Metropolitan's revenue that comes from property tax.
- Dr. Wunderlich discussed the relevance of the Metropolitan vote with regard to the approval of the water tunnel projects.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **2. Capital Improvement & Major Projects**

Acting City Engineer Tony Antich introduced the item. The following Capital Improvement Projects are detailed 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, Sidewalk Maintenance Inventory and Traffic Signal Modification and Curb Ramp Replacement – W. Olympic Blvd. /Beverwil Drive/Beverly Drive.

A detailed report was provided on the Santa Monica Blvd project. This coming week, the traffic pattern will be altered, with work taking place between Canon and Alpine. There has been coordination with the B.O.L.D. program to ensure a successful community event.

Commissioner comments:

- It was suggested, to help traffic flow in the area, to have a left turn arrow at the west bound intersection of Santa Monica Blvd. and Beverly Blvd.
- The Commission inquired when the feasibility study from the Cabrillo Reservoir will be available.
- The Commission expressed interest in engaging with staff in the initial review process on select projects as well as the development of the Capital Budget from the beginning of the year.
- The Commission is also interested in having a diversion element in the system so the aquifer can be recharged.
- The Commission suggested a possible future Agenda item with regard to Pump Station 8.
- There was a request to review the paving schedule for accuracy.

Staff will continue to refine the format of this report.

### **3. Fleet Services Overview and Accomplishments**

Fleet Manager Craig Crowder presented a PowerPoint about the Fleet Program for the City of Beverly Hills.

He provided a description of the fleet operation, the vehicle inventory, regulatory concerns from various agencies, an example of a replacement analysis for a vehicle, the vehicle procurement process as well as some recent grant opportunities and fleet center highlights and recent recognitions.

Staff is currently working on receiving tax credits for natural gas we have produced from the (Compressed Natural Gas) CNG Station. A CNG Fuel Credits and renewable natural gas item will be agendaized at a future meeting for further discussion.

Public Comment: Chuck Alpert

Commissioner comments:

- Concerned with getting tax credits for CNG Fuel.
- Commented about mileage and repair of CNG trucks.
- Concerned with timing of grant reimbursements.
- Kudos were given to the Fleet Division for their past and recent accomplishments.

The Commission took a break at 9:25 a.m.  
The Commission reconvened at 9:35 a.m.

#### **4. Hollywood Basin Wells Scale Pre-Treatment Testing Update**

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse provided a brief overview and advised the Commission of the ultimate goals. Staff may have pictures and a detailed update by Carollo by next month's meeting. We are currently on budget for the project.

Commissioner comments:

- Asked about type of rehabilitation being done on Well #5.
- Concerned with future access to the site.
- Commission would like to be made aware of differences with estimates/costs.
- Commission would like to have other forms of testing done simultaneously.
- Commission commented about green sand filters and their possible location in the current PO Plant.
- Commission commented on the communication of updates so it is easier to understand when there are modifications.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **5. Public Works Bidding**

Acting City Engineer Tony Antich reported on the bidding practices for the City of Beverly Hills and the bidding practices of other agencies. He advised that rules of public bidding are different in different cities. The purpose of a public bidding process is to discourage favoritism and fraud, not to get the lowest price. He reviewed the procedure and criteria for bidding, the prevailing wage requirements, and factors or perceptions of why Public Projects can cost more than Private Projects.

Commissioner comments:

- Commission commented that the water projects seem to be over budget and might need further analysis.
- Commission commented about incentives and liquidated damages and the use of them in our process.

## 6. Metro Purple Line Extension

Project Manager Robert Welch provided a project overview and status update for Sections #1 and #2 of the Purple Line Project.

- Section #1 includes the Wilshire/La Cienega Station and Section #2 is the Wilshire/Rodeo Station.
- Traffic detours and weekend closures with regard to decking installation were discussed.
- There has been city-wide coordination for the street closures.
- Utility relocation work was also outlined.
- Community Outreach efforts were reviewed.

Commissioner comments:

- Commission commented about having more than one portal opening for the metro stations.
- Commission is concerned with time that the construction can take place. There is an independent compliance monitor on site. If there are questions, the Metro hotline number can be called for further information.
- Noise monitors are also present to assure compliance.
- Commission suggested live stream cameras for residents to track progress of project and/or traffic.

## 7. 2017 Conflict of Interest

Motion:                      MOVED by Chairperson Wolfe, SECONDED by Commissioner Shalowitz to approve the 2017 Conflict of Interest Code which requires that each local agency adopt a Conflict of Interest Code and determine which positions within the agency are subject to the Code (5-0).

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

NOES:                         None

CARRIED

## 8. Schedule of Orientation Tours and Dates

Public Works Director Shana Epstein reviewed the suggested tours for orientation of the Public Works Commissioners.

Public Comment:        Chuck Alpert

Commissioner comments:

- Commission suggested the tours take place on a regularly scheduled Commission Meeting day or directly after a Commission Meeting.
- Consider a tour of all the reservoirs in one tour.

Staff advised the August 30 Orientation Tour would take place. The other tours dates will be reassessed.

## **PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS**

### **9. Water Conservation Update**

- No discussion.

### **10. Specific Information and Department Update**

The report provided transmitted responses to questions posed at prior Commission meetings, a synopsis of the Department's items for the most recently completed and upcoming City Council meetings and an update on the status of the Department's master plans.

- No discussion.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

### **11. Chair's Report**

- Report from Liaison Meeting
  - Chair Wolfe reported on the recent City Council Liaison Meeting where a recommendation will be brought to City Council for a not to exceed 3% increase for the next five years.
  - Also briefly discussed Well #5. There was agreement that items such as that should be brought forward to the Commission prior to going to Council
- Comments from the Commissioners
  - Commissioner commented that there may have been a test well at the Robertson Yard and asked for updated information about the water quality in that area.
  - Commission requested an update on the street light project. Staff reported there might be financing assistance from SCE available.
  - Commission also asked for a comment on the environmental working groups for water quality.
  - Commission reminded staff to set meeting for review of comments about the (Preliminary Design Report) PDR.
  - Development in West Hollywood and the current will serve process is in conflict with Beverly Hills' desire to increase to self-reliance of its local water supply.
  - Commission recommends budgeting for a grant writer.
  - Proposed a future Agenda item about the cleanup of the Sand Pit and Coffee Bean sites.
  - Suggestion to look at a 9900 Wilshire Blvd. project payment and advise what percentage is allocatable to us.
  - Commission asked to coordinate with Southern California Edison to attend Quarterly Meeting and relay input from customers on power outages.
- Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates
  - No discussion.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

### **12. Report from Director**

- Public Works Director Shana Epstein discussed the solid waste assignment to Athens and extension allowing us to negotiate. They are required to follow the current agreement with Recology ensuring price and service standards.
- Brief discussion about a recent LA Times article and a difficult transition with Athens in the City of Los Angeles.
- Commission suggests getting multiple bids for future solid waste assignments.
- Dollars at Work Campaign is going to Branding Committee for further review.

Public Works Commission Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 10, 2017

- Rates item will go before City Council on September 5, 2017.
- Upcoming Events
  - Event list is in packet.
  - Kudos to Public Works staff for their participation in the B.O.L.D. events.
- Meeting Dates

**ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time: August 10, 2017 / 11:37 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY of AUGUST, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Wolfe, Chair