



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

September 12, 2019
8:00 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: September 12, 2019 / 8:01AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CIVILITY STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Gil Borboa, Manu Dhaliwal, Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Daren Grilley, Michael Hensley, Ilene Knebel, Tristan Malabanan, Kenneth Pfalzgraf, Robert Welch.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items 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: David Gingold

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of August 8, 2019, Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Felsenthal, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe to adopt the minutes as presented (5/0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Assistant Director Gil Borboa reported on issues the Metropolitan Water District is currently working on including a pilot program to fund direct use stormwater capture programs. The Commission was provided with the most recent News Release and Board Report/Action on this topic.

Comments from Commissioners:

- The Commission commented about the geology of our area and the potential for water being able to return to the aquifer.
- The Commission inquired about grant funding opportunities.

Item #5, the 100 Block El Camino Ficus Street Tree Master Plan, was heard ahead of items 2, 3 and 4.

5. 100 Block El Camino Ficus Street Tree Master Plan

Urban Forest Manager Ken Pfalzgraf provided an update on tree replacement in the 100 block of El Camino Drive, including the process outlined in the Street Tree Master Plan to remove and replace trees. The ballot was sent out and responses were received.

Speakers: Michael Eadie, Wally Marks, Allen Vance, David Gingold, Marlene Gonzales, Woodrow Clark

Director Epstein summarized a support letter from the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Aronberg reviewed email correspondence from Steve Mayer.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission suggested topics to be added to the report prior to being presented to City Council and requested all communications be included in the report.
- The Commission asked about the selection process of the replacement trees and requested clarification about the cost, possible toxicity, maintenance issues, watering demands and potential fire danger of the replacement trees.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Felsenthal, SECONDED by Vice Chair Greer to acknowledge the results of the balloting of property owners of the 100 block of El Camino regarding the removal and replacement of the Ficus Trees in response to a petition presented by a majority of the property owners (5/0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Wolfe, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal that the Public Works Commission directs staff to seek City Council approval for the project with the requested additional information (5/0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Capital Projects Update

Engineering Manager Robert Welch highlighted projects from the report including the Oil Well Plugging and the Metro Section 2 Project, specifically the Cañon Drive cul de sac. There was a reminder about the September 19 public scoping meeting for the North Portal.

Comments from Commissioners:

- The Commission commended staff for arranging the tours of the oil well site and briefly discussed the location of the air quality monitors.
- The Commission inquired about a worker who was injured during the recent flare incident at the oil well and praised the response from the emergency workers. There were some additional follow up questions related to fire safety systems and placement of air quality monitors that will be answered at a future Commission Meeting.
- Comments were also made about the Sunset Reservoir Project and the budget of the La Cienega/Frank Fenton Field Stormwater Project. There was also a request for an update/summary of the video inspections for the stormwater and drain rehabilitation, and the water main leak on La Cienega was discussed.
- The Commission commented and made suggestions about the formatting of the Capital Projects Update report.
- The Commission requested clarification on the Coldwater Water Main Project.
- The Commission requested updates for the Fiber to the Premise Project.

The Commission took a break at 9:42 AM.

The Commission returned at 9:53 AM.

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

Assistant Director Gil Borboa presented a PowerPoint presentation prepared for an upcoming City Council Meeting. Additionally the schematic layout for the Water Treatment Plant was reviewed. Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse gave a progress update of the Water Treatment Plant and the La Brea Subarea.

The Water Efficiency Ad Hoc, comprised of Commissioners Felsenthal and Alpert, reported in detail on their recent meeting.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed some differences regarding dates indicated on the slides vs. their memory of when certain events occurred.
- The Commission disagreed with the graphic representation showing we get 80% of our water from Met (including the conservation number in the overall water portfolio) when it is in actuality 100%.
- The Commission inquired about the filtration systems being proposed for use in the water treatment plant.
- The layout/design for the Water Treatment Plant was discussed at length with a recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee that additional consideration be given to expanding the plant into the observation room so as to allow for better future space management in the event additional filtration or other forms of water treatment are required.

4. Sustainability Workshop Series in 2020 (This item was moved to the October Commission Meeting)

6. Fiscal Year 2018/19 Performance Measures (This item was moved to the October Commission Meeting)

NEW BUSINESS

7. Conflict of Interest

Motion: MOVED by Chair Aronberg, SECONDED by Commissioner Wolfe to approve the 2019 Annual 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 Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Vice Chair Greer, Chair Aronberg

NOES: None

CARRIED

8. Cool Pavements (This item was moved to the October Commission Meeting)

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS

9. Water Efficiency Update

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni gave a brief update on the water conservation efforts in the City and information gathered at a recently attended data collaborative conference.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the methods used to track water conservation.

10. Specific Information and Department Updates

No comments.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

11. Chair's Report

- Chair Aronberg passed along positive comments made at the Mayor's Cabinet meeting about the efficient response of Public Works Staff to the recent water main breaks.
- Commissioner Alpert commented about vehicular safety of Public Works Employees.
- Commissioner Felsenthal requested status on two issues; irrigation meters and emergency water storage.
- The Commission requested to discuss Commission Roles at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF


12. Director's Report

Director Epstein updated the Commission on upcoming events.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: September 12, 2019 / 11:55 AM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY of OCTOBER, 2019



Sandra Aronberg, M.D., Chair