



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

May 12, 2022
8:00 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: May 12, 2022 / 8:00 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Nazarian, Alpert, Greer, Vice Chair Nystrom, Chair Millan

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: James Burnley, Vince Damasse, Jason Dyogi, Debby Dunn, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Michael Hensley, Ilene Knebel, Tristan Malabanan, Ruben Morales, Rob 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.

Public Comment: Email from Helen Abe was read into the record.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of March 10, 2022 Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Greer, SECONDED by Vice Chair Nystrom to approve the Minutes as presented (5/0).

AYES: Commissioners Nazarian, Alpert, Greer, Vice Chair Nystrom, Chair Millan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

Dr. Barry Pressman presented information from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) regarding water conservation and the State Water Project Dependent areas, including an update regarding the low water surplus and drought management. A Water Shortage Emergency Condition has been declared and an Emergency Water Conservation Program approved in April 2022.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Organics Update

Solid Waste Manager James Burnley reported on SB1383 and the goal to reduce organics in the landfill. He presented information on the City's efforts to collect organics and food recovery programs. Collection of multifamily organics will begin in July 2022. The Commission commented and provided feedback.

NEW BUSINESS

3. 2022 Public Health Goals Report

Water Quality Specialist Jason Dyogi presented the Public Health Goals Report (PHG). The presentation indicated all of the previous detected constituents that were above the non-enforceable goals. An explanation and comparison table was provided to demonstrate the differences between the non-enforceable goals versus the enforceable maximum contaminant level standards set by the regulating bodies. It was concluded that the City's drinking water meets all of the California State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency's standards in order to protect public health. Several questions and answers followed after the presentation.

The Commission took a break at 10:05 AM

The Commission returned at 10:17 AM

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Nazarian, SECONDED by Vice Chair Nystrom that the Public Works Commission approve the City of Beverly Hills 2022 Public Health Goals Report and recommend it be forwarded to City Council for approval (5/0).

AYES: Commissioners Nazarian, Alpert, Greer, Vice Chair Nystrom, Chair Millan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

CARRIED

4. Best Practices – Food Waste Management

Deputy Director of Public Works Michael Hensley Introduced Central Storeroom Supervisor Ruben Morales who presented a report on Food Waste Management. He highlighted France as a country that wastes less than the average country in the European Union and has been proactive in legislation and tax breaks to incentivize participation. In California, Senate Bill 1383, taking effect in 2022, requires 20% of edible food be recovered. Continued collaboration between food producers, government and non-government agencies, will be necessary to reduce food waste. The Commission commented and provided feedback.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS

5. Foothill Water treatment Plant Update/La Brea Subarea Update

Water Resources Manager/Operations Vince Damasse gave a brief follow up on the Water Treatment Plant and its operation, and Project Manager Tristan Malabanan gave an update of the La Brea Subarea Project and the projected timeline. The Commission inquired about concerns with water sampling as well as delays with parts delivery and power installation.

6. Water Efficiency Update

Public Works Director Shana Epstein commented about communicating the current water situation and diversifying our water portfolio. Water Conservation Administrator Debby Dunn reported on the severity of the drought and drought declaration actions currently being taken. Her recommendations include watering twice a week, per BH City Code, checking for leaks in running toilets and signing up for water tracker. Deputy Director of Public Works Michel Hensley updated the Commission on the improvements and proactive actions with our Facilities, Fleet and Parks Operations. The Commission inquired about enforcement of water violations.

7. Capital Projects Update

Public Works Director Shana Epstein relayed information about the Cabrillo Reservoir Project's public engagement beginning when the project is defined through the environmental review process. Responding to a Commissioner inquiry, to report uneven sidewalks/sidewalk concerns, call Public Works Customer Service at 310-285.2467 or send photos to AskPW@beverlyhills.org. Project Manager Samer Elayyan made further comment about sidewalk concerns during active construction. Utilities General Manager Rob Welch responded to an inquiry about Metro and the Canon Drive closure.

8. Specific Information and Department Updates

An inquiry about the Water Fund Financial Statement was answered by staff.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

9. Chair's Report

- The Chair made brief comments.
- A recommendation was made to implement electronic devices in the Commission Room/at the dais to save on paper usage.
- The Commission suggested a future report on water use of upcoming large commercial projects.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Director's Report

- Director of Public Works Shana Epstein reviewed upcoming events including an All Commissioner Training on May 16, Public Works Day at the Farmers Market on May 22 and the CAAP Community Meeting on May 25.
- The Public Works Department was recently presented a City Council Proclamation recognizing National Public Works Week.
- Fire Hydrant Flushing will be taking place and completed by June 1.

ADJOURNMENT

Date/Time: May 12, 2022 / 10:21 AM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9TH DAY of JUNE, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Millan", written over a horizontal line.

John Millan, Chair

Link to May Public Works Commission Video:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=58&clip_id=8544

Link to May Public Works Commission Meeting Transcript:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/TranscriptViewer.php?view_id=58&clip_id=8544