



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

Room 280A
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

In-Person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

January 12, 2023
8:00 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: January 12, 2023 / 8:00 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo, Manu Dhaliwal, Debby Dunn, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Ilene Knebel, Tristan Malabanan, Rob Welch

PRESENTATION

City Staff was recognized for their assistance with the Holiday Décor Program.

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 Speaker: Public comment was heard from David Gingold.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Greer to amend the Agenda as requested by staff (4/0).

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

CARRIED

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes

Consideration of Minutes of the Public Works Commission regular meeting of December 8, 2022.

2. A Resolution of the Public Works Commission of the City of Beverly Hills Continuing to Authorize Public Meetings to Be Held via Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(E) and Making Findings and Determinations Regarding the Same

Comment: Recent legislation was adopted allowing the Public Works Commission to continue virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency subject to certain conditions, and the proposed resolution implements the necessary requirements.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Greer to approve the Consent Calendar items as presented (4/0).

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

NOES:

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director Dr. Barry Pressman presented updates on the hydrologic conditions concerning the water shortage emergency in light of the recent bomb cyclones. The commission asked about various methods of retaining water from the recent storms and issues with the Colorado River's lessening water levels.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Update on the Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Use, Sale, and Distribution of Single-Use Plastic and Polystyrene (Styrofoam) Goods and Materials (Item was taken out of order – after TAB 4)

At the request of Chair Nystrom, staff re-presented this item from last month's meeting. Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Manager Josette Descalzo provided updates on the ordinance and staff outreach efforts to restaurants in Beverly Hills. The commission commented and inquired about focusing on banning polystyrene goods first, then single use plastic later.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Monthly Educational Speaker Series – Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Item was taken out of order – after REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES)

Utilities Director Rob Welch introduced Joe McDermott, P.E., the Director of Engineering and External Affairs at the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD). He presented an overview of the flow restriction program used for drought responses in the Las Virgenes water district, including flow restriction devices with penalties and reduced individual water budgets. The commission commented and asked about the program and restrictions.

Public Speaker: Public comment was heard from David Gingold.

The commission took a break at 9:43 AM.

The commission returned from break at 9:53 AM.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS

5. La Brea Subarea Update

Water Resources/Operations Manager Vince Damasse and Project Manager Tristan Malabanan provided an update on the construction of LCW-1. The final inspection was completed in December 2022. The commission asked about city use of the Hollywood Wells and for updates on the two new wells approved at La Cienega Park.

6. Water Efficiency Update

Utilities Director Rob Welch introduced Water Conservation Administrator Debby Dunn, noting it would be her last presentation to the commission and thanked her for her efforts while working for the city. She provided an update on the drought and weather predictions for 2023. The commission thanked her for her work and wished her luck on her next endeavor.

7. Capital Projects Update

Engineering Services Manager Samer Elayyan provided an update on the reservoir management system and the Burton Way median green streets project. He then introduced Associate Project Manager Manu Dhaliwal, who presented an update on the Robertson Boulevard sidewalk improvement project. The commission asked about the implementation of the reservoir management system and parking on Robertson.

8. Specific Information and Department Updates

Public Works Director Shana Epstein answered questions on the Water Fund financial statement for the first quarter of FY 2022-23 (July 2022 to September 2023). The commission asked about some specifics of the financial statement.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

9. Chair's Report

Chair Nystrom provided updates on the Mayor's Cabinet meeting from November 14, 2022 and noted that her intention for the educational speaker series in 2023 is to focus on environmental awareness.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Director's Report

Public Works Director Shana Epstein announced that Earth Day will be celebrated on April 23rd with a return to a citywide celebration with shredding and composting. Future meeting dates were also discussed. The commission requested quarterly reports about the water treatment plant.

ADJOURNMENT

Date/Time: January 12, 2023 / 11:01 AM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9TH DAY of FEBRUARY, 2023



Wendy Nystrom, Chair

Public Works Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2023

Link to January Public Works Commission Video:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/player/clip/8968?view_id=58&redirect=true&h=3a13b523abff9ebe408eafd1ed8f660

Link to January Public Works Commission Meeting Transcript:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/TranscriptViewer.php?view_id=58&clip_id=8968