



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

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

In-Person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

March 3, 2023
8:00 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: March 3, 2023 / 8:00 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER HOMAYOON "MARK" NEHORAY

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessie Holzer Carpenter, Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo, Cole Duffy, Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Daren Grilley

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 Wendy Klenk, Tiffany Paige, Laurei Velkei, Diana Zogran, and Jerry Clarke.

Public Comment: Emails from Lisa Colacurcio, Patricia S., GT, and Andrew Nachshon Dzedulionis were read into the record.

Motion: MOVED by Vice Chair Alpert, SECONDED by Chair Nystrom to include the Robertson Blvd Tree Removal Project on the next meeting's agenda (4/1).

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

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Millan, SECONDED by Vice Chair Alpert to amend the Agenda as requested by staff (5/0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

MWD Director Dr. Barry Pressman provided an update from the Metropolitan Water District on the contract agreement process for the division of water from the Colorado River between seven states including California, and the nation of Mexico. The Commission asked about the impact of recent storms on the Colorado basin.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes

Consideration of Minutes of the Public Works Commission regular meeting of February 9, 2023.

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.

Tab 2 was pulled due to the Governor's emergency order expiring on February 28, 2023.

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

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

CONTINUED BUSINESS

4. Monthly Education Speaker Series – Envision (Taken after the Consent Calendar)

Public Works Director Shana Epstein introduced guest speaker Anna Servay, Sustainability Specialist at Burns & McDonnell. She gave a presentation on the Envision infrastructure framework, which is designed to maximize the environmental, social, and economic benefits

of assets. She highlighted the benefits of following the framework and provided examples of projects that followed it. The Commission asked about how the public would notice that a project follows the Envision framework, and if Envision is used in other countries beyond the United States.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS

3. Progress Update to the Wastewater Ordinance Amendment

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo presented the latest draft of the proposed amendment to the wastewater ordinance. Per feedback from the Commission, the language requiring a permit for general sewer maintenance and the language requiring CCTV lateral inspection on new and large remodel projects has been removed. The Commission provided further feedback on the updated amendment and asked about the sewer system's interaction with outside city systems. Staff also cited improvements in documenting and checking locations regarding sewer management.

The commission took a break at 9:39 AM.

The commission returned from break at 9:50 AM.

5. La Brea Subarea Update

Water Resources/Operations Manager Vince Damasse and Engineering Services Manager Samer Elayyan answered questions from the Commission about supply chain delays affecting the delivery of the mechanical valve dashpot to LCW-1 and lab results from the sandpit. They announced that the city has received the DDW permit amendment and the next step is to disinfect the transmission main and well, which is tentatively scheduled for early March 2023.

6. Water Efficiency Update

Public Works Director Shana Epstein responded to questions from the Commission and relayed that residents do not need to water their lawns for the next several weeks after the recent storm activity.

7. Capital Projects Update

Engineering Services Manager Samer Elayyan provided an update on the Coldwater Canyon water main replacement project. Construction is projected to last until April 2024. He also provided an update on the Robertson Blvd sidewalk enhancement project. Trees will be replaced on a block-by-block basis. The Commission asked about the trees chosen as replacement and outreach efforts to the community regarding the project. Staff explained the door-to-door and noticing efforts taken by the Public Works Department and suggested looking at the trees on Spalding Drive North of Olympic to see what the trees will look like when mature. The Commission also inquired about concerns with the Coldwater Canyon Project and Burton Way change order and timeline.

8. Specific Information and Department Updates

Chair Nystrom noted that delivery of CAAP to other commissions would be delayed by a month.

9. Chair's Report

Chair Nystrom attended the most recent Mayor's Cabinet meeting where January and February 2023 highlights were discussed. She stressed the importance of being water wise and the upcoming ordinances, regarding Styrofoam and plastics.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

Vice Chair Alpert expressed his disappointment that the Commission cannot respond to the public regarding the Robertson Blvd tree replacement project until this part of the meeting, but noted it was an opportunity to learn how to improve communication with the public. He also announced that he would be contacting the Council with his opinion on the surplus designation of the Foothill yard. The Commission welcomed Commissioner Mark Nehoray.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

None.

10. Director's Report

Public Works Director Shana Epstein provided updates on upcoming events. Public Works will be at the Farmer's Market on March 5th to hand out organic waste pails. The April commission meeting will be attended by Utilities Manager Rob Welch, who will be filling in for Director Epstein in her absence. She provided an update on how Public Works handled resident needs during the recent thunderstorms, including sandbags, downed trees, and leaks. Transportation Planner Jessie Holzer Carpenter provided an update to the commission on the Complete Streets Plan and its relation to CAAP. The Commission asked about the plan's involvement with the Metro Purple Line construction and how to deal with the issue of cars cruising around Rodeo Drive. City Engineer/Assistant Director Daren Grilley reported that city police are enforcing noise violations from vehicles with modified mufflers and drivers are being encouraged to utilize city parking garages. Also discussed was the proposed microtransit system, parklets and biker safety.

ADJOURNMENT

Date/Time: March 3, 2023 / 10:37 AM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13TH DAY of APRIL, 2023



Wendy Nystrom, Chair

Link to March Public Works Commission Video:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/player/clip/9050?view_id=58&redirect=true&h=c834e15f8eee7a6f3aae1a9a6c9ce94

Link to March Public Works Commission Meeting Transcript:

https://beverlyhills.granicus.com/TranscriptViewer.php?view_id=58&clip_id=9050