



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**

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

In-person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

**HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Monday, October 30, 2023  
4:00 p.m.

**OPEN MEETING**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Helena Rosenthal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Baker, Chang, and Rosenthal, Vice Chair Felsenthal, Chair Hilborne

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Fire Chief Gregory Barton, Deputy Fire Chief Alfred Poirier, Fire Battalion Chief David Perusse, Senior Policy and Management Administrator, Public Safety, Gabriella Yap, EMS Administrator Sean Stokes, Fire Captain Ettore Berardinelli, Fire Captain Geoffrey Ertel, Firefighter/Engineer Melissa Hillis, Police Lieutenant Reginald Evans, Transportation Planner Jessie Holzer-Carpenter, Human Services Administrator Christopher Paulson, Director of Public Works Shana Epstein, Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo, Project Operations Specialist Gabriel Mier, and Commission Secretary Karen Gutierrez

**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.

David Gingold provided public comment on a non-agenda item.

Health and Safety Commission Special Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2023

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda.

By order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as presented.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **1. Consideration of minutes from the Health and Safety Commission regular meeting on August 28, 2023.**

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Chang, SECONDED by Commissioner Baker to approve the minutes as presented (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Baker, Chang, Rosenthal, Vice Chair Felsenthal, Chair Hilborne

ABSENT: None

NOES: None

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

- Beverly Hills Unified School District – Beverly Hills Unified School District representative, Rachelle Marcus, shared slides highlighting a new text notification platform where students can anonymously report safety concerns; ordinance 5-6-1311 BHMC; various events and trainings; safe routes to school maps; and the grand opening of the Bulldog Aid Wellness Center.
- Beverly Hills Fire Department– A-Shift Battalion Chief David Perusse spoke on fire incidents and response metrics. He presented the department's year-to-year comparable metrics for August 2022 and August 2023, and September 2022 and September 2023, on various categories. He also highlighted significant events such as structure fires and physical rescue, a 16-day Strike Team for Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) at Siskiyou County. No red flag warnings.
- Beverly Hills Police Department – Police Lieutenant Reginald Evans provided an update on Police Department metrics, statistics, and activities. He presented the department's month-to-month comparable metrics on several categories, between August 2023, July 2023, and October 2023. He also spoke about the upcoming community outreach events such as pizza with a cop, Citizen's Police Academy graduation and Etch and Catch catalytic converters.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **2. Quarterly Active Transportation Programs Update**

Information on active mobility to advance a safe and healthy Beverly Hills.

Health and Safety Commission Special Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2023

Transportation Planner Jessie Holzer-Carpenter addressed the Commission regarding the information provided in the packet. Packet information included bicycle infrastructure, Slow Streets pilot program, Safe Routes to School Program, new and enhanced pedestrian crossings, Le Doux Corridor Mobility Study, and the 2023 transportation safety campaign.

David Gingold submitted a speaker card to provide public comment but was not in attendance to speak during the public comment portion of the item.

The Commission took a recess from 5:08pm to 5:16pm.

**3. Update on the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) – Adaptation Measures**

A progress update on the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan for the City of Beverly Hills.

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo gave a summary of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan process. Josette spoke about priority adaptation measures for heat mitigation and increased safety/resilience, wildfire mitigation, and climate hazards/resilience benefits in capital improvement planning and building design. He also highlighted Health and Safety Commission adaptation measures such as to create a communitywide climate change education program; increase community member participation in emergency notification and preparedness systems; create evacuation procedures for vulnerable populations; develop a heat emergency response appendix to the Emergency Operations Plan.

David Gingold provided public comment.

**4. Beverly Hills Day of Wellness Update**

Provides a final update on the Beverly Hills Day of Wellness mental health event in collaboration with the Human Relations and Recreation and Parks Commissions.

Human Services Administrator Christopher Paulson spoke on the Beverly Hills Day of Wellness event at the Roxbury Park on September 10, 2023. The event included indoor and outdoor installations of numerous wellness activities and a variety of vendors. This was a collaborative effort from the Human Relations Commission, Health and Safety Commission, and Recreations and Parks Commission. The Health and Safety Commission expressed gratitude to staff for their efforts in organizing a successful event.

David Gingold provided public comment.

**5. Moment of Mindfulness**

Vice Chair Erica Felsenthal, PhD, will lead the Commission in a Moment of Mindfulness.

Vice Chair Felsenthal referenced articles contained in the packet, which coincided with suicide prevention and awareness, which the Commission honored this month. She led the Commission in a breathing exercise to engage the senses and relieve stress.

David Gingold provided public comment.

Health and Safety Commission Special Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2023

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **6. National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month**

A presentation on prevalence, early detection, and new treatments of Alzheimer's Disease in honor of Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month held in November.

Program & Education Manager Yael Wyte, MSW, with the California Southland Chapter, Alzheimer's Association, provided a presentation. Types of dementia include Alzheimer's, vascular, Lewy body, frontotemporal, Huntington's, and mixed dementia from more than one cause. Some warning signs include memory loss that disrupts daily life; difficulty completing familiar tasks; confusion with time or place; and decreased or poor judgement. More information can be found at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org), or to talk to a dementia expert via the free 24/7 Helpline, call 800.272.3900. Confidential support.

### **7. Mosquito Abatement and Prevention Tips**

A presentation on mosquitoes and how to take action to protect yourself from bites.

Heather Teodoro, Public Education Specialist, from the Los Angeles County West Vector Control District spoke about mosquitoes, West Nile Virus activity in Los Angeles County, and breeding sources. Tips on protection from mosquitoes included dump and drain items that hold water; scrub and clean vases, saucers, and other containers before storage; discard or cover unused storage containers; maintain door and window screens; and use EPA registered repellent while outdoors and follow the label instructions.

David Gingold provided public comment.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

None

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

The Commission presented certificates of recognition to staff as a thank you for their commitment to the Health and Safety Commission. Certificates were awarded to:

- Fire Chief Greg Barton
- Deputy Fire Chief Alfred Poirier
- Senior Policy and Management Administrator, Public Safety, Gabriella Yap
- EMS Administrator Sean Stokes
- Fire Administrator Michael Liongson
- Executive Assistant I Karen Gutierrez
- Secretary Roger Askin
- Project Operations Specialist Gabriel Mier
- Chair's Report
  - Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights – August 14, 2023
  - Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights – September 18, 2023
    - Chair Hilborne attended the Mayor's Cabinet meetings. Highlights of the meetings were included in the packet for Commissioners to read.

Health and Safety Commission Special Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2023

- Commissioner Items
  - Vice Chair Felsenthal spoke on having mosquito buckets in the City.
  - Commissioner Baker commented on rain gutters and mosquitoes.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

- Director's Report
  - Staff shared information on upcoming events.
- Health and Safety Related Supplemental Information:
  1. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Newsletter September 2023
  2. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Newsletter October 2023
  3. Smoking and Tobacco Quarterly Information
  4. Social Media and Youth Mental Health
  5. How Youth can Protect Themselves from Bullying
  6. How to Prevent Cyberbullying
  7. Breast Cancer: Symptoms, Causes, Risk Factors, and Prevention
    - Health and safety related supplemental information was included in the packet for Commissioners to read.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time: October 30, 2023 / 7:07 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023

Lee Hilborne  
Lee Hilborne, Chair