



## **Mayor's Cabinet Meeting**

### **MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Monday, October 11, 2021  
5:00 PM

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference/video conference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate by listening to the meeting at: <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/cabinet> Passcode: 90210 or by phone at 1-866-899-4679, Access Code: 757-376-845 and offer comment through email at: [mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org](mailto:mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org)

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date / Time: October 11, 2021 / 5:00 PM

#### **1. Welcome**

- Mayor Bob Wunderlich called the meeting to order.

#### **2. Public Comment**

- None

#### **3. Resolution of the Beverly Hills Mayor's Cabinet authorizing public meetings to be held via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3)**

- Chief Communications Officer Keith Sterling read the resolution pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) into record; Mayor Wunderlich moved to pass the resolution, with Rent Stabilization Commissioner Lou Milkowski seconding the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **4. Report from Commission Chairperson**

- Architectural Commission – James Matson
  - The following items were reviewed at the last Commission meeting:
    - Conditionally approved fencing for a multi-family residential project at 332-336 N. Oakhurst Dr.; will be reviewed by City Council.
    - Jon & Vinny's Restaurant at 454-456 N. Bedford Dr.
    - Sign accommodation for Bellacures at 241 S. Beverly Dr.
    - Sign accommodation revision for Bank of America at 9454 Wilshire Blvd.

- Construction barricade request for an office project at 9000 Wilshire Blvd.
  - Façade modification for Loro Piana at 313-315 N. Rodeo Dr.
  - Façade modification for Balenciaga at 459 N. Rodeo Dr.
  - Addition of an interior security grille for Leor Beverly Hills at 225 N. Cañon Dr.
  - Construction barricade request for Saint Laurent at 328 N. Rodeo Dr.
  - Façade modification request by Saks Fifth Avenue for the former Barney's building at 9570 Wilshire Blvd. that will become a part of Saks.
  - Sign accommodation by Tactical Fleet Dealership at 8833 Wilshire Blvd.
- Arts and Culture Commission – Deborah Frank
    - City staff is working with '*LA Frieze*', a renowned traveling art fair, that will be hosted by Beverly Hills from 02/17/22 – 02/20/22; they will be submitting proposals to City Council of public art installations in Beverly Gardens Park and an activation at Greystone.
    - The artwork in Beverly Gardens Park is scheduled to be cleaned in October, just in time for the art show.
    - The '*Sing for Hope Pianos*' public art project concluded on 9/6 and all sixteen pianos have been delivered to their permanent homes, which are schools in Los Angeles in underserved communities.
    - The Arts and Culture Commission is continuing to offer arts and culture workshops for the fall session both virtually and in person running through mid-December, details may be found on the City's website.
    - The Beverly Hills Art Show will take place in Beverly Gardens Park the weekend of 10/16-10/17 from 10am – 5pm.
    - Commissioners inquired on the artwork located on Burton Way that are currently covered; Director of Community Services, Jenny Rogers, explained that the artwork on Burton Way is currently fenced and will only be wrapped for a short duration of time when the median project activity comes very close to the art pieces.
  - Charitable Solicitations Commission – Steven Smith
    - Considered twenty (20) permits, mostly for in-person events to take place in the near future in the City, all from IRS 501(c)(3) approved organizations.
    - Reviewed nine (9) financial statements from charities for completed permits.
    - Captain Albanese will be replacing former Assistant Police Chief Marc Coopwood as the Commission Liaison.

- Cultural Heritage Commission – Craig Corman
  - The Cultural Heritage Commission has not held a meeting since the last Mayor's Cabinet meeting on 9/13; the next meeting for the Cultural Heritage Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, 10/13.
- Design Review Commission – Sandy Pressman
  - Heard a presentation of the Urban Forest Management Plan on the future of the greening of Beverly Hills regarding what will remain and what may possibly change that may affect the streetscape of Beverly Hills.
  - Reviewed a request for a design review permit for a home at 115 N. Wetherly Dr.; permit was approved unanimously.
- Health & Safety Commission – Cathy Baker
  - Commission's theme for the month is "Mindfulness and Brain Heath"
  - Heard updates from priority agencies:
    - BHUSD Board Member Mary Wells reported on Suicide Prevention Month, COVID metrics, testing and vaccination as well as modified quarantine.
    - BHPD Sergeant Jessie Perez reported on executive shared crime metrics and response times and spoke on the Neighborhood Watch and '*Just in Case BH*' programs.
    - BHFD Battalion Chief Timothy Hayes discussed incidents and response metrics, strike team and deployment assignments, as well as structure fires.
  - Mindfulness Senior Teacher and Practitioner, Lisa Kring, led the Commission in a moment of mindfulness participating in an extended mindful meditation for this month's topic of brain health and memory.
  - During the bi-monthly Employee Recognition Program, the Commission honored Community Development Supervising Plan Engineer Arlen Eskandari for his work with soft-story building safety and retrofitting.
  - Management Analyst Gabrielle Ressa presented a smoking and tobacco monthly informational update on the current hardship exemption application, offered smoking cessation resources and shared that sidewalk decals are scheduled to be placed in the Business Triangle.
  - Emergency Management Manager Meena Janmohamed presented the following items to the Commission:
    - COVID-19 metrics and recommendations
    - Discussed the current Health Order and the City's continued response to the pandemic
    - The City's hotline remains open at 310-550-4680
    - Please report vaccination fraud at: [www.oag.ca.gov/report](http://www.oag.ca.gov/report)
  - Personal Trainer and Certified Massage Therapist Justin Arevalo led the Commission in the 'Seventh Inning Stretch', a pro-health intermission during the Commission meeting, providing a short

demonstration video, which addressed the positive aspects of stretch relief.

- Health and Safety Commissioner and Clinical Neuropsychologist Erika Felsenfeld presented on brain health and memory.
  - Staff announced Mayor Wunderlich's Wellness Wednesday series.
  - Emergency Management Manager Meena Janmohamed presented on the status of the citywide outdoor warning siren system, which would provide another tool to notify the community of an emergency or disaster information.
  - Emergency Management Manager Meena Janmohamed also discussed emergency preparedness and the Great California Shakeout Drill, encouraging all to practice the Drop, Cover and Hold method during the Shakeout Drill scheduled on 10/21 at 10:21am.
  - For the Chair's Report, Chair Baker included the following:
    - Invited community members to volunteer for the CERT callout team which assists with hydration, red flag patrol and looking for out for downed wires during a disaster.
    - Shared information about the upcoming Just In case BH community outreach walk and introductory meeting for Zone 5, which will take place on 11/5.
  - Commissioner Felsenfeld expressed face masking concerns in conjunction with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) youth soccer program in Beverly Hills.
  - The Commission is encouraging all to get a flu shot soon.
  - For updates on travel advisories and police activity, you may sign up for Nixle by texting 2888-777 to BEVHILLS or BEVHILLSPD; during a disaster you may register on the American Red Cross Safe and Well website so people know you are safe.
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- Human Relations Commission – Ori Blumenfeld
    - The Commission has declared October as Civility Month and will be posting civility challenges on social media, please follow @communitylifebh to participate.
    - Commissioners, Ranger and Ambassadors will be distributing Civility Pins to community members who are demonstrating acts of civility.
    - The Homeless Outreach Team's expanded hours have been very well received in the community; the Team can be reached at 310-487-0313.
    - The Beverly Hills Ambassadors offer safety, hospitality and outreach services in the Business Triangle and on South Beverly Dr., 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; they may be reached at 424-302-1487.
    - Community Services Park Rangers have become an integral part of the City's homeless outreach efforts, working very closely with the Outreach Team, Human Services staff and the ambassadors; the Park Rangers recently formed their Bike Patrol Team, patrolling and outreaching individuals in all City parks and facilities.

- Planning Commission – Andy Licht
  - The Commission passed a resolution for 9908 Santa Monica Blvd., commonly known as the Friar's Club.
  - The Environmental Impact Report for the LVMH Hotel project will be discussed at the Planning Commission Special Meeting scheduled on 10/28 at 7pm.
  - The Planning Commission discussed inclusionary housing, suggesting creating incentives for developers to build projects with affordable housing, rather than creating mandates. The Commission is recommending an ordinance to City Council regarding Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.
- Public Works Commission – Chuck Alpert
  - The Public Works Commission recommended approval of the Santa Monica Basin Ground Water Sustainability Plan; it will now be brought before the City Council for approval.
  - Monthly staff reports were heard on the status of the water treatment plant; target operational date is January 2022.
  - Commission reports that the City continues to use water at a greater rate than in 2020. For the month of September, the City used 27-acre ft. more than last year; an acre-foot is approximately 326,000 gallons. The Commission reminds residents that it is no longer summer, and to reset your sprinklers to two days a week.
  - The Commission will consider the Urban Forest Management Plan at their next meeting on 11/10.
  - Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni is presenting a program '*Learn How to Reduce Water While Beautifying Your Yard*'; two dates remain: Tuesday, 10/26, from 12pm -1:30; Saturday, 11/20, from 9am-10:30am; programs will take place at Virginia Robinson Gardens, to participate, RSVP by email at: [info@robinsongardens.org](mailto:info@robinsongardens.org) or by calling 310-550-2068.
- Recreation & Parks Commission – Susan Mishler
  - Several youth theater programs have returned to in person programming; the City's new aquatics program vendor is eagerly preparing for the fall season.
  - Adult softball playoffs started last week; the season will be concluding this week.
  - There are now in person senior programs at Roxbury Park, which are gradually increasing in attendance.
  - The 'Wellness Wednesdays' fitness and activity program at Roxbury Park with Mayor Wunderlich on 10/13 will feature lawn bowling.
  - The Library is holding several interactive Virtual Author Talks.
  - The Stay and Play Program and Storytime continue through the end of the month.
  - The 2021 Fall Art Show, featuring 125 artists, will take place on the weekend of 10/16-10/17 from 10am-5pm.

- The Beverly Hills Market continues to flourish; a senior high-risk shopping hour continues to be offered.
- Rent Stabilization Commission – Lou Milkowski
  - At the 9/26 meeting, the Commission passed a resolution, which coincides with the State legislation, that will go to City Council on 10/26 to revoke the following moratoriums City Council had previously imposed:
    - Evictions for non-payment of rent where the tenant was financially impacted by Covid-19
    - No fault evictions
    - Annual rent increases
  - The Commission is considering amendments regarding relocation fees in regards to no fault evictions.
- Traffic & Parking Commission – Nooshin Meshkaty
  - The Commission reviewed the conceptual design of proposed bike lanes on Spalding Dr. between Wilshire Blvd. and Olympic.
  - The Commission reviewed a proposed Neighborhood Traffic Calming Toolbox, a resource for residents that would assist in identifying traffic-calming options to address traffic-related concerns; staff will develop program guidelines and return to the Commission in 2-3 months for follow up.
  - At their 9/14 meeting, City Council approved installation of a one-year pilot project on Roxbury Dr. for southbound Class IV protected bike lanes and northbound Class II bike lanes; staff is in the process of finalizing the design and anticipates installing the project in fall 2021.
  - Provided updates regarding collaborations with neighboring cities on programs to address crosswalk signals.
  - Petitions are currently being processed for speed bumps to be installed at the following locations:
    - 1800 block of Carla Ridge
    - 100 block of N. Hamilton
    - 200 block of S. Crescent Dr.

## 5. Mayor's Report

- The Mayor highlighted the following items:
- Today was Innovations Day, a day dedicated to employees, to provide updates on the status of the City, recognize City staff, and provide training opportunities.
- City Council will be discussing inclusionary housing at the 10/12 meeting.
- Several City Council members and City staff will be travelling to New York to participate in business attraction events.

- First Thursdays began this month, a program the first Thursday of every month where participating businesses, restaurants, retailers will offer discounts, giveaways to try to bring energy to the City,
- The Mayor encourages everyone to come out and participate in lawn bowling, which will be featured at this week's Wellness Wednesday program on 10/13; Pickleball is scheduled for 10/27.
- The City will be receiving an award for the Beverly Gardens Park Restoration on 10/27.
- The selection of the next Police Chief should be announced in approximately one month.
- The vaccination exemption statistics for BHFD are as follows:
  - 25 staff applied for exemptions, 6 were denied;
  - Of the 6 who were denied, 5 subsequently were vaccinated;
  - 1 person is on temporary leave due to not being vaccinated;
  - Of the other 19, one had an approved permanent medical exemption; the other 18 have a mixture of temporary exemptions for medical and religious reasons and will be reviewed again.
- The latest edition of 'The Bob Pod' is available which discusses the operations of the Wallis and highlights the upcoming season; 'The Bob Pod' can be found at: [www.beverlyhills.org/bobpod](http://www.beverlyhills.org/bobpod) and also on the City's social media sites.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time: October 11, 2021 / 6:21 PM