



## **Mayor's Cabinet Meeting**

### **MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Monday, September 13, 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: September 13, 2021 / 5:00 PM

#### **1. Welcome**

- Mayor Bob Wunderlich called the meeting to order.

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

- None

#### **3. Report from Commission Chairperson**

- Architectural Commission – James Matson
  - Seven projects were reviewed at the last Commission meeting:
    - Front yard fence and gates at 332-336 N. Oakhurst Dr.
    - Façade and signage renovation for Jaeger-LeCoultre at 430 N. Rodeo Dr.
    - Modernization of first two floors and painting of entire building at the Maybourne Hotel at 225 N. Cañon Dr.
    - Proposal of new signage for the Fendi building at 201 N. Rodeo Dr.
    - Office building renovation at 328 S. Beverly Dr.
    - Project review for a new building at 315 N. Beverly Dr.; three story commercial building with offices, retail space and a potential open-air dining terrace on the third floor.
    - Approved new restaurant Ververie Café and Teahouse at 9737 S. Santa Monica Blvd.
  - Jon & Vinny's Restaurant on Bedford Dr. will be reviewed at the next Commission meeting.
- Arts and Culture Commission – Liliana Filipovic
  - Review of the Arts and Culture Expansion Initiative and development of the new Citywide Arts and Culture Plan.

- Commission approved proposal for an art installation by artist Alex Israel at 136 El Camino Dr. as part of the City's Fine Art Obligation associated with this property.
  - Commission approved the Public Art Program presented by National Fitness Campaign of their Outdoor Fitness Court Design featuring artist Jean-Michel Basquiat.
  - Staff from Los Angeles Metro Arts & Design updated the Commission on the art program for the Westside Purple Extension Project, Wilshire/La Cienega Station and the Wilshire/Rodeo Station.
  - Discussed art conservation of the Alexander Lieberman project located on the Burton Way median as a top priority to receive maintenance; Fine Arts Public Art Ad Hoc recommends waiting for completion of construction on Burton Way before beginning maintenance.
  - Recommendation by the Arts and Culture Commission and Recreation and Parks Commission of the relocation of artwork 'One More Time', currently located to the front of City Hall, was not approved by the City Council.
  - The '*Sing for Hope Pianos*' public art project has concluded, and was a huge success.
  - 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 'Concerts on Cañon' series concluded on Thursday, 9/9. All recordings of previous concerts are available to view on the City's website.
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- Charitable Solicitations Commission – Steven Smith
    - The Charitable Solicitations Commission did not hold a meeting in August; next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 9/15.
  
  - Cultural Heritage Commission – Craig Corman
    - The Commission held a Special Meeting concerning the Paul Trousdale Estate at 1010 Hillcrest Road where a decision was made to move forward with obtaining a full Historic Assessment Report on the property. The full report is expected to be sent to the Commission in October.
  
  - Design Review Commission – Barry Bernstein
    - Vice Chair Bernstein had nothing new to report since the last meeting.
  
  - Health & Safety Commission – Cathy Baker
    - Commission's theme for the month is "Water Safety and Conservation"
    - Heard updates from priority agencies:
      - BHUSD discussed the opening of schools, safety protocols for COVID-19, and announced the hiring of a new Principal and Vice Principal.
      - BHPD reported on the Police Explorer Program, the assigned unit dedicated to the homeless population in the City, quality of life topics such as traffic nuisances and resident noise complaints,

- addressed facemasks and enforcement, and discussed the department's Police Academy Field Training and Hiring Program.
- BHFD discussed incidents and response metrics, strike team and deployment assignments, structure fires, and the wildland fire deployment system Rapid Extraction Module Support Team.
- Commissioner Erica Felsenthal led the Commission in a moment of mindfulness focusing on the topic of mindful hydration.
- The Commission honored EMS Administrator Sean Stokes for spearheading the initiative of the Beverly Hills Nurse Practitioner Program.
- Emergency Management Manager Meena Janmohamed presented a smoking and tobacco monthly informational update and presentation on the Covid-19 pandemic; the Commission was updated on the current tobacco hardship exemption application, the recent grant opportunity for the cessation program and options for reporting a concern or violations. Three valuable resources provided during the presentation are as follows:
  - To schedule a Covid-19 vaccination, visit: [www.myturn.ca.gov](http://www.myturn.ca.gov) or call 833-540-0473
  - For access to your digital proof of vaccination, visit: [www.myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov)
  - The City's hotline remains open at 310-550-4680.
- Participated in a pro-health intermission during the Commission meeting called the 'Seventh Inning Stretch' to focus participants on the need to stay active during long meetings with stretch relief.
- Chair Baker presented the 2021 Conflict of Interest Code for review; motion carried 5-0 to adopt Code as presented.
- Assistant Director of Public Works and Utilities Gilbert Borboa and Water Quality Specialist Jason Dyogi provided a presentation on the 2020 Water Quality Report for the City of Beverly Hills. The City met all United States EPA and State-level drinking water health standards for calendar year 2020.
- Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni spoke on water conservation and ways to increase water efficiency. Highlights included the Stage 3 Water Conservation Program, the Water Leak Program, and Water Wise Landscaping suggestions.
- Information was shared regarding the upcoming 'Just In Case Community Outreach Walk and Introductory Meeting' as well as the importance of suicide prevention awareness during the month of September.
- Human Relations Commission – Ori Blumenfeld
  - The Commission and City Council will be recognizing the 2021 Embrace Civility Award nominee on October 26. This award celebrates and recognizes individuals or groups in the community who exemplify one or more of the following attributes:
    - Acts as a role model of positive behavior
    - Takes a stand in support of respect and responsible actions
    - Promotes positive neighbor to neighbor relations

This year the Commission received its greatest number of nominations to date; the Commission will be reviewing all of the nominations and determining the finalists at their upcoming meeting.

- The Commission will be declaring October as Civility Month posting banners and posters throughout the City to remind the community of their Civility Mission; Commissioners will be distributing Civility Pins to community members who are demonstrating acts of civility.
- Planning Commission – Andy Licht
  - The Commission passed an ordinance to recommend City Council amend in lieu parking for restaurants and private training facilities in the Business Triangle as a way to ease restrictions and encourage more restaurants and business in the area.
  - Commission changed notification requirements broadening the requirement to notify neighbors of various projects.
  - Amendments were approved for the mixed-use retail and residential project at 9908 Santa Monica Blvd.
  - Commission denied the application for a Historic Incentive Permit for 910 N. Bedford Dr.
  - 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 Council updated the current Inclusionary Housing Ordinance; the Planning Commission is creating a broader Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, which will encourage developers to develop buildings with affordable housing.
- Public Works Commission – Chuck Alpert
  - The Public Works Commission reviewed the Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory and Forecast for the City. The Inventory will be the basis for the Climate Change Management Plan.
  - Commission also reviewed and discussed a draft Urban Forest Management Plan that will come back to the Commission at the October meeting; there were several controversial elements to the Plan, including:
    - Replace certain palm trees in the City with trees with more expansive canopies.
    - Recommend regulation of trees on private property.
    - Moving away from a monoculture tree species per street, diversifying the trees on each street.
  - Received a report on the new daytime street sweeping schedule for the southern portion of the City. Daytime street sweeping will slowly expand throughout the City.
  - The water treatment plant is slowly moving towards being functional and operational; testing of all individual equipment has been completed. Next focus will be testing on the entire facility, on a 7-day basis followed by a 30-day basis. Currently working on a permit from the State to operate the facility; target operational date is January 2022.

- Commenced drilling of a pilot well at the sand pit site, that if successful, would place a second possible well at the La Brea sub-area that would be an important source of ground water for the treatment plant.
- The Commission is urging all to conserve water; the MWD has announced a supply alert to all its members due to the drought, not only in California, but throughout the West. The Governor has called for 15% voluntary reduction from last year's usage, however the City had used slightly more water than it did in August 2020.
- The City Council will consider a proposed disposable food ware accessories upon request ordinance at the 9/21 Study Session.
- The Commission will be hosting the Annual Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Roundup on Saturday, 9/25 from 9am to 3pm on West 3rd St. between Foothill Rd. & Civic Center Dr. It is open to all L.A. County residents. Additional information is available at: <http://ladpw.org/epd/hhw/default>
- Recreation & Parks Commission – Susan Mishler
  - The school year has begun with Adventure Camp and Preschool programs returning to Horace Mann, Hawthorne and Beverly Vista.
  - Youth enrichment programs are being offered virtually, as well as in person; the City's aquatic program has also returned in person with successful programs being offered in the newly renovated Beverly Hills Swim Gym.
  - Roxbury and La Cienega Community Parks are open for registered participants in youth, adult and senior programs.
  - Youth soccer AYSO has begun its fall season with practices being held at both City and District fields.
  - The Stay and Play Programs begin 9/29 for early childhood development programs for caregivers and children, by reservation only.
  - Job Now and Vet Now are free online expert help for job seekers, veterans and their families available on the library's website.
  - Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library are now accepting donations of books; please call 310-288-2234 for a scheduled drop off time.
  - The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Greystone Mansion and Gardens officially being declared a City of Beverly Hills park will be on 9/19. The event is free, however reservations are still required and may be made at: [www.beverlyhills.org/BHRec](http://www.beverlyhills.org/BHRec)
  - The Beverly Hills Farmer Market continues to flourish.
  - The public art project "*Sing for Hope Pianos*" concluded on 9/6; the pianos have been donated and delivered to their permanent homes.
- Rent Stabilization Commission – Lou Milkowski
  - At the 9/13 meeting, the Commission will discuss whether to sunset the following moratoriums City Council has previously imposed:
    - Evictions for non-payment of rent where the tenant was financially impacted by Covid-19
    - No fault evictions
    - Annual rent increases

- Continued discussion regarding relocation fee amounts in connection with no fault evictions.
- Traffic & Parking Commission – Nooshin Meshkaty
  - The Commission reviewed the proposed San Vicente Bike Lane, a Class II bike lane that would run along the City limits south of Burton to the City limits north of Wilshire. If approved, the bike lane would be installed early next year.
  - The final draft for the Connect Beverly Hills Streetscape Plan and Design Standards for Wilshire and La Cienega will be considered by City Council approval at the 9/14 City Council meeting.
  - The Roxbury protected bicycle lane is also being presented to Council on 9/14; the design for the one-year pilot project will be presented for approval. If approved, the project will be installed this fall.

#### **4. Mayor's Report**

- The Mayor highlighted the following items:
  - Tomorrow is the last day of the election cycle.
  - The Council will be discussing a rebranding of the My Beverly Hills Program, a program trying to promote people to patronize local businesses.
  - Council will receive a presentation of the Beverly Hills Experience, an app that allows you conduct self-guided tours throughout Beverly Hills and provides information on points of interest.
  - Council will receive an additional presentation from Next Beverly Hills about 'First Thursdays', a program in which a night of special activities may be planned to promote and increase patronage of businesses on the first Thursday of every month.
  - Council will be consideration of additional rooftop dining in the Business Triangle area.
  - Council will be presented with the Connect Beverly Hills Project, as well as the Roxbury Park protected bike lane, and the San Vicente Bike Lane.
  - There will be renewed focus on traffic safety and traffic noise by BHPD to try to mitigate such issues.
  - The selection of the next Police Chief continues.
  - The process of developing an RFP for a restructured Internal Auditor's Office is ongoing.
  - The State of the City Address will take place at Greystone Mansion and Gardens on 10/7.
  - 'Wellness Wednesdays' events include total body conditioning on 9/15; yoga class on 9/29; a non-formal Wellness Wednesday event participating in Walk to the Schools on 10/6; Pickleball and lawn bowling will be scheduled for 10/13 and 10/27.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time:

September 13, 2021 / 6:17 PM