



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Room 280A

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

October 10, 2019
8:00 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: October 10, 2019 / 8:01 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CIVILITY STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Chair Aronberg
Commissioners Absent: Vice Chair Greer
Staff Present: Gil Borboa, Vincent Chee, Vince Damasse, Josette Descalzo,
Samer Elayyan, Shana Epstein, Daren Grilley, Michael Hensley,
Ilene Knebel, Michelle Tse

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.

Speaker: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of August 30, 2019, Public Works Commission special meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Felsenthal, SECONDED by
Commissioner Alpert to adopt the minutes as presented (4/0).

AYES: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Chair Aronberg
NOES: None

CARRIED

2. Consideration of September 12, 2019, Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal to adopt the minutes as amended (4/0).

AYES: Commissioners Alpert, Felsenthal, Wolfe, Chair Aronberg
NOES: None

CARRIED

Item #3 was heard prior to Reports from Priority Agencies.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Capital Projects Update

City Engineer Daren Grilley updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items. Specifically updated were the Oil Well Plugging Project, Metro Purple Line Extension Project - Section #1 and Section #2 and the Crosswalk Maintenance Update.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the air monitoring results and reporting after the recent flare at the oil well and requested additional information on this topic.
- The Commission commented on the increased budget for the oil well project.
- The Commission commented on the format of the CIP report and asked for clarification on some terminology.
- The Commission questioned staff about the materials used in the crosswalk maintenance, the Metro scoping meeting comments and the inclusion of the comments from that meeting.
- The Commission asked for follow up on the fan noise mitigation efforts.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

MWD Board member Dr. Pressman reported about rebates for cisterns and rain barrels from the Metropolitan Water District. He also conveyed a concern for the biological opinion concerning the Delta and how much water can be removed to serve both the State Water Project and the Federal Central Valley Project; the concern being that a pending federal opinion or directive to increase flow to the Central Valley Project may result in a reduction of water available to the State Water Project.

Speaker: Dr. Woodrow Clark II, PhD.

Item #5 was heard prior to item #4.

5. Sustainability Workshop Series

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo introduced the new lecture series that will begin in January 2020. He described the speakers and their topics that are currently scheduled, the advertising and outreach.

Speaker: Dr. Woodrow Clark II, PhD.

Audience comments from Wendy Nystrom, Scott Redston and Diane Forte.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about the format of the lecture series and inquired as to a follow up report to the Commission at the conclusion of the series.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Diane Forte, Government Relations Manager for Southern California Edison, reported on SCE's plans to mitigate and prevent wildfire. She presented the Wildfire Mitigation Plan, which includes installing insulated wires, high tech cameras, situational weather stations and enhancing the public safety power shutoff program.

Speaker: Dr. Woodrow Clark II, PhD., Steve Wineglass

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired as to why SCE decided on mass shutoffs.
- The Commission reported on an article describing a gel substance to prevent wildfires.

4. Foothill Water Treatment Plant Update/La Brea Subarea Update

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa presented this item with Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse. The activities for the Water Treatment Plant over the past month were reviewed including focus on the design. The La Brea Subarea CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) document review commentary period will end on October 23, 2019. The schedule for this project was reviewed as well, noting the progress, permitting concerns and evaluation of potential real estate locations for well sites.

Commissioner comments:

- The Ad Hoc reported on their latest meeting noting staff's primary focus is to complete the Water Treatment Plant on time, on budget and on schedule, within the existing footprint of the building without using the observation room. There was further discussion about future use of the observation room.
- The RFP for the oxidation media filters had been released. It is hoped they will secure the precise dimensions of the vessels based on the RFP. Currently estimates are being used.
- The design will not include a raw water blow down system due to having a main flushing and sand separator system.
- Ad Hoc members encouraged a brine treatment system but staff relayed it would not be included in the design due to its impact on the budget and possible delays. Also, staff believes it is prudent to defer the design of a brine treatment system until the actual brine flow and strength can be determined from the operation of the treatment plant. The Ad Hoc asked to reconsider the inclusion of this system on the basis of water efficiency. The long term goal is sustainability, more important than the short term economics.

Item #7 was heard prior to item #6.

7. Asset Management System

Planning and Research Analyst Michelle Tse reported on the progress of the implementation of the system.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the budget for the project and the status of the inventory system and its completion date.

- The Commission suggested getting periodic updates about the project and encouraged highlighting the benefits previously outlined in the matrix report.

6. Fiscal Year 2018/19 Performance Measures

Senior Management Analyst Michael Hensley presented the 2019 Fiscal Year End results and notable improvements from 2018.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented on the safety issues in the report and suggested a future presentation about safe driving training in the organization.
- The Commission asked about budget variance of contracts.
- The Commission inquired about the means that the customer service comments are gathered.
- The Commission discussed the format of the report and made some suggestions for further clarification.

8. Legislative Quarterly Update

Planning and Research Analyst Michelle Tse reported on pending legislation that is relevant to public works.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the city's stand on a legislation regarding prevailing wage.

The Commission took a break at 10:06 AM.

The Commission returned at 10:15 AM.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Cool Pavements

City Engineer Daren Grilley presented a report with Associate Project Manager Manu Dhaliwal on the reasons for implementing cool pavements, materials used, examples of Los Angeles projects and the environmental impact. This project is not recommended for Beverly Hills at this time, but staff will continue to monitor pilot projects and the development of materials.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission is concerned that using a sealant may hinder the absorption of water through the pavement and agrees with the recommendation to wait and observe this project in other areas.

10. Water Loss Audit

Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa presented this item. This audit is an annual regulatory requirement. Non-revenue water is water that is produced and lost before reaching the customer. Industry standard strives to keep non-revenue water below 10%. Water agencies aspire to be at 0% water loss, which is not realistic. The audit shows where are water is going, what information we have and how we can improve to bring the number down. The validity score is the overall trustworthiness of the data.

Speaker: Wendy Nystrom

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired if we can identify how much water has been lost through water main breaks.

11. Commissioners Role

The Commission discussed the perceived role of where it is appropriate or not appropriate for the Commission to provide input or offer advice. The Municipal Code was reviewed as to the definition of the roles of the Commission.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS

12. Water Efficiency Update

No comments.

13. Specific Information and Department Updates

No comments.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

14. Chair's Report

Both Commissioners and staff will continue to work toward open and respectful communications.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

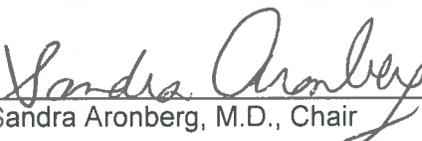
15. Director's Report

Director Epstein encouraged attendance at the upcoming Community Meeting for the Urban Forest Management Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: October 10, 2019 / 12:02 PM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14TH DAY of NOVEMBER, 2019



Sandra Aronberg, M.D., Chair