

**MINUTES
JOINT MEETING of
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
and PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
FEBRUARY 15, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL,
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Wayland.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
Commissioner Schmidt led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. Reminder to Speak Clearly Into Microphone and to Turn Off All Cellular Phones and Pagers

The Commissioners and public were reminded to speak clearly into their microphones to accommodate the public record tapes and the hearing-impaired.

C. Roll Call

Commissioners present:
David Eichman, Steven Greene, Lindsey Horvath, Scott Schmidt,
Leon Shparaga, David Warren, Steve Wayland
Samuel Borelli, Chris Clarkin, Norma Kemper, Marcy Norton,
Desiree Sol

Commissioners absent:
Sofia Komskaya, Ruth Williams

Staff present:
Melissa Antol, Long Range and Mobility Planning Manager
Oscar Delgado, Department of Public Works Director
Jackie Rocco, Parking Operations Manager
Don Norte, Parking Services Officer
Walter Davis, Neighborhood Traffic Management Program
Specialist
Lauren Langer, City Attorney's Office
Danny Casillas, Administrative Specialist III

- D. Approval of the Agenda of the February 15, 2012 joint meeting of the Transportation Commission and Public Safety Commission with the following change;
Public Safety Commission to adjourn after item V.A.
Motion: Schmidt Second: Borelli
All ayes.

Motion passed.

- E. Approval of Minutes
Motion: Approve minutes, Commission meeting of January 18, 2012 with the following corrections;
Page 5: Add "historical number" to Commissioner Eichman's question.
Page 7: Confirm who made comment about the flat rate. (Greene)
Page 9: Change Fountain to Fairfax in Schmidt's statement' item.
Page 10: Change "falsely" to "prematurely" in Warren's statement.
Page 12: change "West Knoll" to "Westmount" in Eichman's item.

Moved: Warren Second: Eichman
Aye: David Eichman, Steven Greene, Scott Schmidt, David Warren, Steve Wayland

Abstain: Lindsey Horvath, Leon Shparaga,
Motion passed.

- F. Approval of Minutes, Public Safety Commission meeting of **January 9, 2012.**

Moved: Borelli Second: Norton
All Ayes:

Motion passed.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

No items.

III. ITEMS FROM PUBLIC

Michael Arrigo, WEST HOLLYWOOD, re-introduced himself.

Cathy Blaivas, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about traffic issues on Doheny, Lexington/Gardner and Plummer Park.
Stephanie J. Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about Plummer Park and traffic issues at Doheny.
Randall Derrick, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about Parking at Fairfax/Norton and opening cul-de-sacs in the City.
Rick Watts, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about crosswalks

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

No items.

V. COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

A. Unsignalized Pedestrian Crosswalk Design Treatments

Staff report and presentation from Walter Davis

Commissioner Wayland asked about the yield markings at crosswalks.

Commissioner Warren asked about their placement.

Walter Davis explained that the yield marks, where drivers are to stop for crosswalks, are set back from the crosswalk to allow for better visibility.

Commissioner Horvath asked if there were statistics on the effectiveness of the yield marks.

Walter Davis replied that there are no statistics at this time.

Commissioner Kemper commented that she felt the distance between crosswalks was too close at Santa Monica Boulevard and West Knoll Drive.

Commissioner Borelli asked if yield markings would be required at crosswalks where the HAWK is installed.

Walter Davis replied that they would not be because yield markings are only used at unsignalized crosswalks.

Commissioner Sol suggested providing more light at pedestrian refuges.

Commissioner Clarkin commented that the yield marks seem to be effective on Sunset Boulevard.

Commissioner Eichman interjected that there are problems during peak hour traffic.

Commissioner Clarkin suggested that there needs to be education about pushing the button at pedestrian activated crosswalks.

Walter Davis said that staff is currently working on it.

Commissioner Schmidt suggested having a phone number on the push button signs to call if the signal is not operating properly.

Commissioner Wayland asked what the differences between the HAWK and the current system are.

Walter Davis replied explaining the differences.

Commissioner Horvath wondered if the test areas of the HAWK were as heavily populated as West Hollywood. She expressed concern about their effectiveness in a highly urbanized area like West Hollywood.

Walter Davis explained that he is providing information about what systems are available, and not necessarily recommending any particular system.

Commissioner Greene asked for the differences between the HAWK and PELICAN systems.

Walter Davis explained.

Commissioner Wayland reviewed the yield marking placement and reminded the Commission about the Crosswalk Policy that has been adopted.

Commissioner Sol commented that she felt there were too many signs already and adding more for pedestrian awareness could be problematic.

Commissioner Clarkin encouraged the Transportation Commission to utilize the Public Safety Commission on education and outreach for pedestrian and crosswalk awareness.

Commissioner Kemper agreed and thanked the commission.

Commissioner Norton agreed and thanked the commission, as well.

Commissioner Borelli reminded the commission about problematic foliage, stated that the Santa Monica Boulevard/Westmount crosswalk is not as bad as others in the City and said he would like to see enhanced lighting on Sunset Boulevard.

Commissioner Eichman said that the Commissions should recognize that each crosswalk is different and that there is not one clear solution. He added that testing and lighting are key.

Commissioner Warren suggested focusing on the less traversed crosswalks where drivers are not used to stopping. He added that Staff should let the commissions know what is happening as crosswalks are improved.

Commissioner Greene commented that pedestrians in the Santa Monica Boulevard/Westmount crosswalk were less likely to be hit because of congestion in the area. He added that improper foliage and lighting are problematic.

Commissioner Schmidt thanked the Public Safety Commission for their input and pointed out that pedestrian crosswalk improvements are part of the General Plan Implementation. He asked staff for a priority list.

Melissa Antol replied that staff is still in the process of forming that list.

Commissioner Horvath stated that she thinks flashing lights are effective. She suggested looking to other, similar cities to see what might work in our environment. She agreed that there are many signs in the City and that the suggested haiku project may be confusing. She added that testing and outreach are very important.

Kevin Burton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke IN FAVOR of Staff report recommendations.

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke IN FAVOR of Staff report recommendations.

Cathy Blaivas, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke IN FAVOR of Staff report recommendations.

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:37 p.m., until the next meeting on March 12, 2012, 6:30 p.m., at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA. 90069

B. Parking Credits Program Ordinance

Staff report by Don Norte.

Commissioner Schmidt asked how in-lieu-fees would be done away with.

Oscar Delgado stated that they would be eliminated district by district as the program expands.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if there is a mechanism to determine when credits outnumber spaces.

Lauren Langer explained how the City will not issue more parking credits than can be accommodated with available parking spaces.

Commissioner Wayland asked for more clarification.
Oscar Delgado explained further concluding that the program is based on actual, and not theoretical, availability.

Commissioner Greene thanked Staff for their work.

Commissioner Warren questioned language on page 50.

Lauren Langer explained that the language allows for flexibility on private lots.

Commissioner Shparaga asked what happens when private lots close.

Lauren Langer explained that there are long-term commitments required on private lots.

Oscar Delgado added that all the spaces involved in the pilot program are City owned.

Commissioner Warren stated that he is uncomfortable with the language on page 50 being general.

Commissioner Horvath asked if it is possible to determine a threshold that limits the program's dependence on privately owned parking spaces.

Jackie Rocco replied that there is a cushion built-in.

Commissioner Warren commented that a six month evaluation may not be necessary for smaller districts.

Commissioner Schmidt asked how many credits have been given.

Oscar Delgado replied about 200.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if the Abbey had 150 of them.

Oscar Delgado replied that the Abbey does not hold quite that many, as there are three ways that they are meeting their parking requirements. He explained.

Motion: recommend that the City Council introduce for first reading, Ordinance No. 12-_____ "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD CREATING A PARKING CREDITS PROGRAM AND DESIGNATING PARKING CREDITS DISTRICTS".

Moved: Eichman Second: Horvath

Ayes: Eichman, Greene, Horvath, Shparaga, Warren, Wayland

Nays: Schmidt

Abstentions:

Motion passed.

C. Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Regarding the Standards for Bicycle Parking

Staff report from Michael Barney

Commissioner Schmidt asked if these standards would only apply to new properties.

Michael Barney confirmed that they would.

Kevin Burton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke IN FAVOR of Staff report recommendations.

Commissioner Wayland asked what the advantage of rooms vs. lockers for cost is.

Melissa Antol explained the options.

Commissioner Wayland confirmed that more bikes would fit in a cage than in lockers.

Commissioner Horvath thanked Kevin Burton for his comments and said that the education component is very important.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned how affordable housing goals would be affected as well as reducing parking requirements based on bike spaces provided.

Commissioner Warren asked for clarification of language concerning garage/lots.

Michael Barney explained.

Commissioner Warren asked what the equivalent of 5% in the City of Santa Monica is.

Michael Barney replied that he used the City of Glendale as a model which almost matches West Hollywood.

Commissioner Warren asked what the difference of non-residential vs. commercial is.

Michael Barney explained.

Commissioner Warren asked for statistics for new developments that are four units or less.

Michael Barney said that there are very few.

Commissioner Wayland said that it is good to see the City paving the way for bikes.

VI. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

No items.

VIII. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR: Items removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion are considered at this time.

IX. LIAISON REPORT

No report.

X. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Antol

- List of bike projects approved.

XI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Eichman

- Distracted pedestrians and bicyclists
- Fairfax not on crosswalk list

Greene

- Video screen at West Hollywood Gateway+

Schmidt

- Roxbury crosswalk blinking
- Santa Monica Boulevard/San Vicente middle lane
- Bike lanes

Horvath

- LAUSD redistricting Fairfax High

Warren

- San Vicente bike lanes
- Commission work plan+

Wayland

- Sharrows details

XII. ITEMS FROM PUBLIC

Rick Watts, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about handicapped crosswalk enhancements

XIII. ADJOURNMENT


Action: The Transportation Commission adjourned at 9:45 p.m. until the next meeting on March 21, 2012, 7:00 p.m., at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA. 90069

Moved: Warren Second: Schmidt

All ayes.

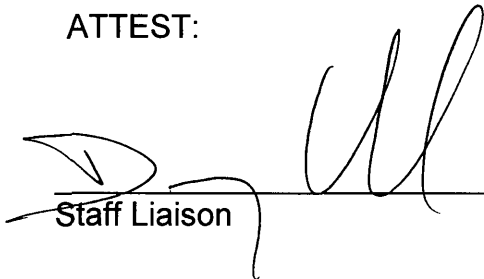
Motion passed.

**APPROVED BY MOTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION THIS
21ST DAY OF MARCH 2011.**



Chair

ATTEST:


Staff Liaison