

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MINUTES
MONDAY MAY 20, 2024
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK PUBLIC MEETING ROOM - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
625 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD**

6:00 P.M. – REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Erickson called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Barbara Bane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmember Heilman, Councilmember Meister, Councilmember Shyne, Vice Mayor Byers, and Mayor Erickson.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Wilson, City Attorney Langer, City Clerk Crowder, and Assistant City Clerk Morales.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA:

City Attorney Langer reported that the City Council convened the Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. and no members of the public spoke under Public Comment. She noted that the City Council discussed the one item of business listed on the posted agenda and took no reportable action. The Closed Session concluded at 5:45 p.m.

***Councilmember Heilman arrived at 6:10 p.m. He was in attendance for the Closed Session meeting.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Assistant City Clerk Morales noted that Item 3.B. was continued to June 10, 2024 as indicated on the posted agenda.

Councilmember Meister requested that Items 6.A., 6.B., and 6.C. be moved to the Consent Calendar as Items 2.W., 2.X., and 2.Y., respectively.

Councilmember Shyne requested that Items 6.F. and 6.G. be moved to the Consent Calendar as Items 2.Z. and 2.AA., respectively.

Councilmember Heilman requested that Items 2.M. and 2.R. be moved to the Excluded Consent Calendar.

Motion by Vice Mayor Byers, seconded by Councilmember Shyne, and approved (5/0).

LEVINE ACT DISCLOSURES: None.

City Council Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2024
Page 2

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS:

Mayor Erickson requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Sam Rubin, Sheryl Goldwasser, and Ed Deaton.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Erickson presented a Proclamation to Combat Antisemitism Movement and the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month.

Councilmember Meister presented a Proclamation to Democrats for the Protection of Animals and Dr. Taime Bryant in support of the City's glue trap ban.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

GENEVIEVE MORRILL, PRESIDENT/CEO OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, thanked the City Council for their support of Items 6.A. and 6.B. She also spoke in support of the minimum wage extension, the amended cannabis ordinance, the timeline extension of the Out Zones, and in opposition of the vacancy tax Item.

SCOTT SCHMIDT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Item 2.B.

CATHY BLAIVAS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Item 2.K. She also spoke about the removal of parking along Willoughby.

KIMBERLY WINICK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Item 2.R.

DAVID NASH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Item 2.V.

GREG RANG, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Item 6.B.

MIKIE FRIEDMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the meeting about the Gardner/Vista/Willoughby bike lanes and loss of parking.

SARAH ADOLPHSON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on behalf of the Human Services Commission and shared mental health resources available to the community as part of Mental Health Awareness Month.

MICHAEL NUTALL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding his goal of picking up trash while he is out on walks.

GEORGE NICKLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the meeting about the Gardner/Vista/Willoughby bike lanes and lack of communication by the City.

RAMESSES II SETEPENRE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding various issues in the City.

City Council Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2024
Page 3

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

City Manager David Wilson thanked the public for their comments regarding the Willoughby, Vista/Gardner, and Kings Road Street design concept plan, shared information on upcoming events, and noted that the City launched WeHo Loves Locals in partnership with Visit West Hollywood. He concluded his comments by announcing the upcoming WeHo Pride festivities.

Councilmember Meister inquired about Mr. Schmidt’s comments under Public Comment regarding Item 4.A. on the May 6th City Council meeting. City Attorney Langer responded. Mayor Erickson shared that additional direction can be given to staff during Councilmember comments.

FISCAL IMPACT ON CONSENT CALENDAR:

Assistant City Clerk Morales stated that the Fiscal Impact on the Consent Calendar with the removal of Items 2.M. and 2.R. and the addition of Items 6.A.,6.B.,6.C.,6.F., and 6.G. was \$1,776,788 in expenditures, \$227,433 in revenues, and (\$750) in waived fees.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

2.A.,B.,C.,D.,E.,F.,G.,H.,I.,J.,K.,L.,N.,O.,P.,Q.,S.,T.,U.,V.,W.,X.,Y.,Z.,AA. Motion by Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Mayor Erickson, and approved (5/0).

2.A. POSTING OF AGENDA:

SUBJECT: The agenda for the meeting of Monday, May 20, 2024 was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the Sheriff’s Station, and at the West Hollywood Library on Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

SUBJECT: The City Council is requested to approve the minutes of the prior Council meeting.

ACTION: Approved the minutes of May 6, 2024. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.C. APPROVAL OF DEMAND REGISTER NO. 949 [L. QUIJANO, C. CORRALES, S. HERNANDEZ]:

SUBJECT: The City Council shall receive the Demand Register for period ending May 10, 2024 pursuant to Sections 37201 to 37210 of the Government Code of the State of California.

ACTION: Approved Demand Register No. 949 and adopt Resolution No. 24-039, “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD ALLOWING AND APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF DEMANDS ON DEMAND REGISTER NO. 949”. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

- 2.D. CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION [J. JIMENEZ, M. CROWDER]:**
SUBJECT: The City Council is receiving notification that the City's third-party administrator Carl Warren & Co. has denied two (2) Claims for Damage from Isaac Soleyman and Mireia Villanova.
ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**
- 2.E. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 24-13 (2ND READING) "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 5.130, SECTION 5.130.020, OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING MINIMUM WAGE PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS" [M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:**
SUBJECT: The City Council will waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 24-13, amending Chapter 5.130, Section 5.130.020, of the West Hollywood Municipal Code regarding minimum wage payment requirements.
ACTION: Waived further reading and adopted Ordinance No. 24-13: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 5.130, SECTION 5.130.020, OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING MINIMUM WAGE PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS". **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**
- 2.F. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 24-14 (2ND READING) "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 3.20.040, OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING ANNUAL CPI INCREASES TO THE LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE" [M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:**
SUBJECT: The City Council will waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 24-14, amending section 3.20.040, of the West Hollywood Municipal Code regarding annual CPI increases to the living wage ordinance.
ACTION: Waived further reading and adopted Ordinance No. 24-14: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 3.20.040, OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING ANNUAL CPI INCREASES TO THE LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE". **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**
- 2.G. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 24-15 (2ND READING) "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AMENDING SECTION 5.70.035 (APPLICATION PERIOD, SCORING, AND REVIEW) OF CHAPTER 5.70 (CANNABIS USES) OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE AND AMENDING CHAPTER 3.36 (BUSINESS LICENSE TAX) OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL**

CODE TO CREATE A TEMPORARY TAX REBATE FOR ALL CANNABIS BUSINESSES” [M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 24-15, amending Section 5.70.035 (application period, scoring, and review) of Chapter 5.70 (cannabis use) of the West Hollywood Municipal Code and amending Chapter 3.36 (business license tax) of the West Hollywood Municipal Code to create a temporary tax rebate for all cannabis businesses.

ACTION: Waived further reading and adopted Ordinance No. 24-15: “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AMENDING SECTION 5.70.035 (APPLICATION PERIOD, SCORING, AND REVIEW) OF CHAPTER 5.70 (CANNABIS USES) OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE AND AMENDING CHAPTER 3.36 (BUSINESS LICENSE TAX) OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE TO CREATE A TEMPORARY TAX REBATE FOR ALL CANNABIS BUSINESSES”. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.H. COMMISSION AND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SYNOPSES [M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will receive Synopses from the Business License Commission, Rent Stabilization Commission, and the Russian Speaking Advisory Board regarding actions taken at their recent meetings.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.I. TREASURER’S REPORT FOR MARCH 2024 [L. QUIJANO, C. CORRALES, K. BARENG, S. STEPHENS]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will receive the Treasurer’s Reports for the month ended March 2024 pursuant to Section 53646 of the Government Code of the State of California.

ACTION: Received and filed the March 2024 Treasurer’s Report.

2.J. CHANGE THE SECOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE IN AUGUST [J. JIMENEZ, M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving a change to the August City Council meeting dates from August 19, 2024 to August 26, 2024.

ACTION: Rescheduled the August 19, 2024 City Council meeting to August 26, 2024. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.K. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION BY-LAWS CHANGING THE MEETING DATE [J. JIMENEZ, M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving an amendment to the Public Safety Commission’s By-Laws changing their meeting date from the 2nd Monday of the month to the 4th Monday of the month.

ACTION: Amended Section 2.1 of the Public Safety Commission By-Laws changing their meeting date from the 2nd Monday of the month to the 4th Monday of the month. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.L. APPROVE PARKING VALIDATIONS FOR CITY'S HARVEY MILK DAY EVENT [L. BIERY, R. EHEMANN, M. CHE]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving a waiver of parking fees for attendees of the City's Harvey Milk Day event on May 22, 2024.

ACTION: Authorized 3-hours of validated parking for event participants at the West Hollywood Park 5-Story parking structure. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.M. CITY HISTORIAN LAUREATE PROGRAM [S. SHYNE, J. ERICKSON, J. SCHARE, S. LUNN]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving the City Historian Laureate Program and directing staff to issue an application for the program.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Excluded Consent Calendar.

2.N. REPROGRAMMING OF SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT SAVINGS [C. SCHROEDER, D. MURRAY, M. ULLOA]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will receive a report on social service contracts and consider a reallocation to augment critical social services programming.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for services with Bet Tzedek Legal Services by \$401,503 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$722,706; 2) Approved Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for services with Healthcare in Action to increase the agreement by \$51,918 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$619,235; and 3) Authorized the City Manager or designee to execute all documents incident to the Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.O. AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH NEXTECH SYSTEMS, INC. FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM AND RELATED EQUIPMENT [S. CAMPBELL, J. GILMOUR, R. GARLAND]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider amending the Agreement for Services with Nextech Systems, Inc. for traffic signal system and related equipment to increase the not-to-exceed amount and extend the Agreement.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with Nextech Services, Inc. to increase the amount of the agreement by \$75,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$150,000 and to extend the agreement to June 30, 2026; and 2) Authorized the City Manager or designee to execute documents incident to the Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.P. AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH DUDEK FOR CEQA ANALYSIS FOR THE SUNSET ARTS & ADVERTISING PROGRAM AMENDMENTS [L. BIERY, B. LEAGUE, J. DAVIS]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Services with Dudek to provide environmental review (CEQA) services for the Sunset Arts & Advertising Program (SAAP) policy amendment project.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Services with Dudek to provide environmental review services for the Sunset Arts & Advertising Program policy amendment project for an increased amount of \$34,680.00 and a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$96,556.00 to cover the costs of providing additional services; and 2) Authorized the City Manager or designee to execute all documents incident to the Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.Q. AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH LEHRER ARCHITECTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES AT THE LOG CABIN [L. BIERY, B. LEAGUE, A. BARTLE]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Services with Lehrer Architects to provide architectural and engineering services for the Log Cabin site located at 617-621 N. Robertson Boulevard.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Services with Lehrer Architects to provide architectural and engineering services at the Log Cabin for an increased amount of \$198,187 and a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,035,095; and 2) Authorized the City Manager or designee to execute all documents incident to the Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.R. AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH FAIRBANK, MASLIN, MAULLIN, METZ & ASSOCIATES (FM3) TO CONDUCT A QUALITATIVE SURVEY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMERCIAL BUSINESS TENANTS, COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS, AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROKERS REGARDING A POTENTIAL LOCAL BALLOT INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL VACANCY TAX [L. BIERY, T. COYNE]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approval of an Agreement for Services with Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3) to conduct a qualitative survey comprising focus groups and interviews with West Hollywood commercial business tenants, commercial property owners, and commercial real estate brokers regarding a potential local ballot initiative to establish a commercial vacancy tax.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Excluded Consent Calendar.

2.S. APPROVAL OF A 2024-2029 GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY TO PROVIDE VARIOUS CONTRACT SERVICES [J. JIMENEZ, M. CROWDER, N. MCCLINTON]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving a five-year General Services Agreement with Los Angeles County to provide a variety of contract services as needed by the City of West Hollywood.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved the General Services Agreement with Los Angeles County for a five-year period, which allows the City to enter into agreements for specific services with the County. There is no dollar amount associated with the General Services Agreement, as the funds would be associated with the subsequent agreements for specific services as detailed in the attachment to the Agreement; and 2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.T. APPROVAL OF A 2024-2029 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES [D. RIVAS, V. ADOMAITIS]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving a five year contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control to provide comprehensive animal control services for the City of West Hollywood.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved a Municipal Services Agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control for a five year period, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$350,000 (\$70,000 per year), to provide comprehensive animal control services; and 2) Authorized the City Manager to execute all documents related to this Agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.U. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS FOR SERVICES FOR AS-NEEDED EVENT PLANNING SERVICES [Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approval of Agreements for Services for as-needed event planning services in support of events within the purview of the Community and Legislative Affairs Division.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved the Agreement for Services with Lee Andrews Group, Inc. for up to \$150,000 with an expiration date of June 30, 2025, with up to three one-year renewal options; 2) Approved the Agreement for Services with The Perfect Event, Inc. for up to \$150,000 with an expiration date of June 30, 2025, with up to three one-year renewal options; 3) Approved the Agreement for Services with Utopia Worldwide Inc. for up to \$150,000 with an expiration date of June 30, 2025, with up to three one-year renewal options; 4) Approved the Agreement for Services with Zynger Events for up to \$150,000 with an expiration date of June 30,

2025, with up to three one-year renewal options; and 5) Authorized the City Manager or designee to sign and execute all documents related to these Agreements. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.V. EXTENSION OF DEADLINE BY TEN DAYS TO REMOVE OR CONVERT TEMPORARY OUTZONES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY TO PERMANENT OUTDOOR DINING [D. WILSON, J. ROCCO, N. MARICICH, J. ALKIRE, B. GALAN, S. CAMPBELL, J. GILMOUR, L. BIERY]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider extending the deadline by ten (10) days to remove or convert temporary OUTZones in the public right-of-way to permitted permanent outdoor dining.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved the outlined proposal to extend by ten (10) days the deadline to convert temporary OUTZones in the public right-of-way to permanent outdoor dining, and for OUTZones subject to Ordinance 24-11 until all required permits can be approved by the City; and 2) Adopt ed Resolution No. 24-040: "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE DATE BY WHICH TEMPORARY OUTDOOR DINING AREAS SHALL CONVERT TO PERMANENT OUTDOOR DINING." **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.W. (6.A.) CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUNSET STRIP BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO LEVY AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will initiate preliminary proceedings regarding the establishment of the Sunset Strip Business Improvement District (District) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Preliminary steps include the consideration of approval of the District annual report and adoption of a Resolution of Intention to Levy an Assessment for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and scheduling a Public Hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTIONS: 1) Adopted Resolution No. 24-041: "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD TO THE SUNSET STRIP BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AN ASSESSMENT AGAINST BUSINESSES WITHIN THE SUNSET STRIP BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING"; and 2) Directed staff to notice a Public Hearing to be held on June 10, 2024, to hear protests or objections to the District's proposed assessment and activities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.X. (6.B.) CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD TO THE WEST HOLLYWOOD DESIGN DISTRICT AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO LEVY AN

ASSESSMENT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will initiate preliminary proceedings regarding the establishment of the West Hollywood Design District (District) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Preliminary steps include the consideration of approval of the District annual report and adoption of a Resolution of Intention to Levy an Assessment for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and scheduling a Public Hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTIONS: 1) Adopted Resolution No. 24-042: “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD TO THE WEST HOLLYWOOD DESIGN DISTRICT, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AN ASSESSMENT AGAINST BUSINESSES WITHIN THE WEST HOLLYWOOD DESIGN DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING”; and 2) Directed staff to notice a Public Hearing to be held on June 10, 2024, to hear protests or objections to the District’s proposed assessment and activities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.Y. (6.C.) LEVY OF ANNUAL ASSESSMENT FOR SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION, S. CAMPBELL, J. GILMOUR]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider adopting a Resolution of Intention for the Proposed Levy of Assessments for the Santa Monica Boulevard Maintenance District (District) for fiscal year 2024-2025 which will provide for holiday decorations; and set a public hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTIONS: 1) Adopted Resolution No. 24-043: “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD APPROVING THE REPORT OF THE ENGINEER, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING”; and 2) Directed staff to notice a public hearing to be held on June 10, 2024, to hear protests or objections to the District’s proposed assessment and activities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.Z. (6.F.) ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF AN OUTDOOR ICE RINK IN WEST HOLLYWOOD [J. HEILMAN, J. ERICKSON, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider directing staff to assess the feasibility of having an outdoor ice rink open to the public in West Hollywood Park in December 2024. The feasibility assessment will include projected costs, timeline, and logistical considerations.

ACTIONS: 1) Directed staff to assess the feasibility of having an outdoor ice rink in West Hollywood Park in December 2024, including issuing a Request for Qualifications to solicit necessary information from qualified vendors about location suitability, projected costs, timeline, and logistical considerations; and 2) Directed staff to return to the City Council within 60 days with an update. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

2.AA. (6.G.) DEVELOP A PILOT FILMMAKERS GRANT AS PART OF THE ARTS GRANTS PROGRAM [J. ERICKSON, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO, L. BIERY, R. EHEMANN, E. ANGELOFF]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider directing staff to develop a pilot filmmakers grant as part of the City's Arts Grants Program.

ACTIONS: 1) Directed staff to develop a three-year pilot filmmakers grant as part of the City's Arts Grants Program, with the first round of applications opening in 2025 for funding in 2026; 2) Directed staff to budget \$10,000 annually for FY 2026, FY 2027, and FY 2028 as part of the pilot program; and 3) Directed staff to return to Council with a review of the pilot program and recommendations for creating a permanent grant category. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

3.A. USER FEE STUDY AND PROPOSED FEE RESOLUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 [L. QUIJANO, A. RUIZ, C. DUNCAN]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will hold a public hearing, consider all pertinent testimony, and consider adopting a resolution establishing fees and charges for certain services provided by the City of West Hollywood for Fiscal Year 2024-25. The City Council will also receive and file the updated User Fee Model prepared by Willdan Financial Services.

Mayor Erickson opened the Public Hearing.

Assistant City Clerk Morales noted that this Public Hearing was noticed as required by law.

Director of Finance & Technology Services Lorena Quijano provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated May 20, 2024.

No members of the public came forward to speak.

Councilmember Meister inquired about the in-lieu fees for the City's inclusionary housing program as well as the amount we charge for 24-hour tour bus parking. Tony Thrasher with the City's consultant, Willdan Financial Services, provided information on the in-lieu fees. Parking Manager Vince Guarino responded to the fees for 24-hour tour bus parking.

The public hearing was closed.

ACTIONS: 1) The City Council held a public hearing, considered all pertinent testimony, and adopted Resolution No. 24-044: "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD ADOPTING FEES AND CHARGES FOR CERTAIN SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD;" and 2) Received and file the Updated User Fee Model prepared by Willdan Financial Services; and 2) Directed staff to review the City's in-lieu fees for Inclusionary Units (is it 10 units or 7 units) as well as the 24-hour tour bus parking fees. **Motion by Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Meister, and approved (5/0).**

3.B. REQUEST TO REPLACE A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED STATIC BILLBOARD WITH A NEW FULL MOTION ANIMATION OFF-SITE ADVERTISING BILLBOARD ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 8497-8499 SUNSET BOULEVARD [L. BIERY, B. LEAGUE, N. MARICICH, J. ALKIRE, J. DAVIS, R. ABRAMSON]:

SUBJECT: Staff requests that City Council continue the Public Hearing to June 10, 2024.

ACTION: Continued the Public Hearing to June 10, 2024.

4. LEGISLATIVE: None.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

5.A. WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY PLAYHOUSE PROJECT DESIGN AND BUDGET UPDATE [J. ROCCO, R. ABRAMSON, M. BARKER, L. BIERY, R. EHEMANN, E. ANGELOFF]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will receive an update on the design and latest estimated budget for the West Hollywood City Playhouse project and approve staff proceeding with preparing drawings and documents for construction.

Urban Design and Architecture Studio Manager Ric Abramson provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated May 20, 2024. Project Architect Michael Barker presented a PowerPoint presentation.

The following member of the public came forward to speak:

BARBARA BAIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

Councilmember Shyne and Vice Mayor Byers provided comments as the Subcommittee members.

Councilmember Heilman thanked staff for adding context on the evolution of the project and expressed concerns with the increase in the project

cost. He requested more frequent check-ins with the City Council if the scope and cost of the project increases. City Manager Wilson indicated that staff is providing quarterly updates to the City Council on Capital Improvement Projects.

The City Council discussed the proposed bulb out briefly; however, this will be brought to the City Council at a future meeting for formal consideration.

ACTIONS: 1) Received an update on the design of the West Hollywood City Playhouse and the project's estimated budget; and 2) Approved staff moving forward with the design development and construction documents phases, preparing a bid package, and returning to the Council with a recommendation regarding the award of a construction contract. **Motion by Vice Mayor Byers, seconded by Councilmember Heilman, and approved (5/0).**

6. NEW BUSINESS:

6.A. CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUNSET STRIP BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO LEVY AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will initiate preliminary proceedings regarding the establishment of the Sunset Strip Business Improvement District (District) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Preliminary steps include the consideration of approval of the District annual report and adoption of a Resolution of Intention to Levy an Assessment for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and scheduling a Public Hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

6.B. CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD TO THE WEST HOLLYWOOD DESIGN DISTRICT AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO LEVY AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will initiate preliminary proceedings regarding the establishment of the West Hollywood Design District (District) for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Preliminary steps include the consideration of approval of the District annual report and adoption of a Resolution of Intention to Levy an Assessment for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and scheduling a Public Hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

6.C. LEVY OF ANNUAL ASSESSMENT FOR SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 [L. BIERY, T. COYNE, D. PURIFICACION, S. CAMPBELL, J. GILMOUR]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider adopting a Resolution of Intention for the Proposed Levy of Assessments for the Santa Monica Boulevard Maintenance District (District) for fiscal year 2024-2025 which will provide for holiday decorations; and set a public hearing for June 10, 2024.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

6.D. COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR PROJECTS REQUESTING DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS [L. MEISTER, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider directing staff to enhance the community outreach requirements for new projects seeking development agreements to include additional noticing and a community meeting.

Councilmember Meister provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated May 20, 2024.

The following members of the public came forward to speak:

ROBERT STELOFF, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

MISCHKE BUTLER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

DAWNA ZEEMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

DONALD FREY, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GAIL SANES, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GREGORY RUTCHICK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GEORGE NICKLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

KIMBERLY WINICK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

CATHY BLAIVAS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

JAMIE FRANCIS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about the lack of affordable housing in the City.

Councilmember Heilman requested that a list of projects subjected to the Zone Text Amendment be included in the report at the time the Item is presented to the City Council for their consideration.

ACTIONS: 1) Directed staff to draft a Zone Text Amendment to: a. Require new projects seeking development agreements to require noticing within a 1,000-foot radius, rather than the standard 500-foot radius currently required, b. Require a neighborhood meeting with residents within a 1,000-foot radius of any project seeking a development agreement, including stand-alone billboards, before any City meetings are held; and 2) Directed staff to consider new ways to inform the community about upcoming Design Review Subcommittee meetings. **Motion by Councilmember Meister, seconded by Councilmember Heilman, and approved (5/0).**

6.E. BUILDER'S REMEDY PROJECTS [J. HEILMAN, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO]:

SUBJECT: This item directs staff to provide the City Council with regular updates on pending Builder's Remedy applications in the City of West Hollywood and to provide the City Council with a comprehensive plan for addressing these proposed projects.

Councilmember Heilman provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated May 20, 2024.

The following members of the public came forward to speak:

CANDACE WELLS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

FRANK AFARI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

MICHAEL VIOLANDI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

OLGA URMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

MICHAEL URMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

BRAD CERF, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

JOHNNY NICOLORO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding low-income renters and the challenges they face.

MANA KHAFAP, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding low-income renters and environmental challenges.

ROBERT STELOFF, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

MISCHKE BUTLER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the late submission of the City's Housing Element which allowed the Builders Remedy applications.

JUDY SCHWARTZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

DONALD FREY, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

DAWNA ZEEMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GAIL SANES, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GREGORY RUTCHIK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

CHRIS GALLAGHER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

GEORGE NICKLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

ZEKIAH N. WRIGHT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of Items 1 & 4 in the recommendations.

ANDREW SOLOMON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition to the Item.

KIMBERLY WINICK, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on behalf of West Hollywood West Residents Association to highlight the options available to the City.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item.

MIKIE FRIEDMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the neighbors that came to speak this evening.

NIK ROYBAL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the Item and quoted Governor Newsom "localism is determinism".

The following individuals submitted Citizen Position Slips in support of the Item: Cathy Blaivas and Chris Rosario.

Councilmember Heilman clarified that this Item was not requesting that the City Attorney or City staff violate the law.

Councilmember Meister spoke in support of the Item.

Vice Mayor Byers quoted HCD Director Gustavo Velasquez. She voiced her opposition to the Item and noted that the City was not on track to reach its RHNA numbers.

Councilmember Shyne spoke regarding the delay in the City's submission of its Housing Element. She shared what the City is currently doing to address Builders Remedy and indicated her support for Items 2 and 4.

Mayor Erickson asked the City Attorney to clarify if the City Council approved the Item at tonight's meeting, would it lose its pro-housing designation. City Attorney Langer responded. He also inquired about residential proposed units. Director of Community Development Nick Maricich responded. He inquired about the CEQA analysis. Planning Manager Jennifer Alkire responded. He further inquired about the status of the City's RHNA goals. Mr. Maricich responded.

ACTIONS: 1) Directed staff to provide the City Council with regular updates on the status pending Builder's Remedy applications in the City of West Hollywood with regard to environmental review; 2) Directed staff and the City Attorney to work with the City's lobbyist to develop and implement a lobbying campaign in Sacramento to exempt the City from current Builder's Remedy proposals based on the City's track record of supporting and encouraging affordable housing; 3) Directed the City Attorney and City staff to research and to provide the City Council with all available options to address specific Builder's Remedy projects; and 4) Directed staff to meet with each entity proposing Builder's Remedy projects to determine potential opportunities to negotiate alternative compromise paths to provide housing in a manner that is more in line with City goals while avoiding costly and time-consuming challenges if no resolutions are available through other avenues. **Motion by Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Meister, and approved noting the "no" vote of Vice Mayor Byers (4/1).**

***The City Council took a recess at 9:20 p.m. and returned at 9:28 p.m.*

6.F. ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF AN OUTDOOR ICE RINK IN WEST HOLLYWOOD [J. HEILMAN, J. ERICKSON, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider directing staff to assess the feasibility of having an outdoor ice rink open to the public in West Hollywood Park in December 2024. The feasibility assessment will include projected costs, timeline, and logistical considerations.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

6.G. DEVELOP A PILOT FILMMAKERS GRANT AS PART OF THE ARTS GRANTS PROGRAM [J. ERICKSON, Y. QUARKER, A. LOVANO, J. DEL TORO, L. BIERY, R. EHEMANN, E. ANGELOFF]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider directing staff to develop a pilot filmmakers grant as part of the City's Arts Grants Program.

ACTION: This Item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

6.H. APPROVE A TRAVEL STIPEND FOR LAUREATE POSITIONS SERVING THE CITY [J. ERICKSON, L. BIERY, R. EHEMANN]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider the allocation of a travel stipend for Laureate positions serving the city including the City Poet Laureate, Drag Laureate.

Councilmember Heilman requested further clarification on the reasoning for providing a travel budget, especially since the City Council recently approved an increase to their stipends.

Mayor Erickson provided his intentions for placing this Item on the agenda.

Councilmember Meister requested that staff return with a list of potential conferences, places, etc.

ACTIONS: 1) Increased the City Poet Laureate stipend by \$5,000 for a total of \$20,000; 2) Increased the Drag Laureate stipend by \$5,000 for a total of \$20,000; and 3) Directed staff to return with a list of events, conferences, and meetings for the Council to pre-authorize related to City Laureate travel. **Motion by Mayor Erickson, seconded by Councilmember Shyne and approved (5/0).**

6.I. APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCILMEMBERS TO THE SAN VICENTE STREETScape AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE [J. JIMENEZ, M. CROWDER, L. MORALES]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider appointing two (2) Councilmembers to the San Vicente Streetscape Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

ACTION: The City Council appointed Mayor Erickson and Vice Mayor Byers as Subcommittee Members to the San Vicente Streetscape Ad Hoc Subcommittee. **This Item was approved by consensus.**

EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

2.M. CITY HISTORIAN LAUREATE PROGRAM [S. SHYNE, J. ERICKSON, J. SCHARE, S. LUNN]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approving the City Historian Laureate Program and directing staff to issue an application for the program.

Councilmember Heilman inquired about the City archivist and requested an overview of the duties assigned to the Historian Laureate. Director of Communications Joshua Schare responded to his inquiry.

Councilmember Heilman requested an update on the City's archivist and that staff provide a report back with a scope work for the Historian Laureate. Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann provided a response to the City's archivist and Mr. Schare indicated staff would return with an item to further clarify the scope of work for the Historian Laureate.

ACTIONS: 1) Approved the City Historian Laureate Program; 2) Directed staff to issue an application for the Program; and 3) Directed staff to return to City Council in fall 2024 with an assessment of applications and a recommendation for next steps for the Program. **Motion by Councilmember Shyne, seconded by Mayor Erickson, and approved (5/0).**

2.R. AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH FAIRBANK, MASLIN, MAULLIN, METZ & ASSOCIATES (FM3) TO CONDUCT A QUALITATIVE SURVEY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMERCIAL BUSINESS TENANTS, COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS, AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROKERS REGARDING A POTENTIAL LOCAL BALLOT INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL VACANCY TAX [L. BIERY, T. COYNE]:

SUBJECT: The City Council will consider approval of an Agreement for Services with Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3) to conduct a qualitative survey comprising focus groups and interviews with West Hollywood commercial business tenants, commercial property owners, and commercial real estate brokers regarding a potential local ballot initiative to establish a commercial vacancy tax.

Vice Mayor Byers requested further clarification on the survey.

Councilmember Heilman echoed Vice Mayor Byers' comments and shared that the quality of tenants was also important.

The following member of the public came forward to speak:

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the cost as well as the potential responses.

Councilmember Meister shared her recollection of the previous Council discussion.

Councilmember Heilman asked that Director of Economic Development Laura Biery share the scope of work for FM3.

Mayor Erickson spoke in opposition to the Item.

Vice Mayor Byers inquired if the Economic Study answers the questions about the root cause or another mechanism rather than entering a contract with FM3. Ms. Biery responded.

City Council Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2024
Page 20

Councilmember Heilman proposed that staff return with a modified scope of services, since there isn't a desire to place this on the November ballot. He noted his opposition to a vacancy tax.

Councilmember Meister inquired if staff planned to speak with property owners. Ms. Biery responded.

The City Council direct staff to return with a mechanism to gather information concerning commercial vacancies.

ACTION: Directed staff to return with an item outlining the mechanism(s) staff will use to gather information on the root cause of the commercial vacancies.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding various items on tonight's agenda as well as upcoming City events.

ANDREW SOLOMON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the City's RHNA numbers.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORTS:

Councilmember Meister thanked Lauren Langer and Hernan for their work on the glue trap ban ordinance, requested staff consider holding a City Council Meeting on August 1st to address affordable housing units, and suggested staff return with an item to expand Emerald Villages scope of services in their contract. She reported her attendance at the Rainbow and Dog Public Art Dedication and World Dog Day, participated and cochaired a Climate Action Advisory Board meeting organized by Assemblymember Zbur, and invited the community to attend various upcoming City events and meetings. Furthermore, she commented on concerns with the change in scheduling of the Public Safety and Human Preservation Commission meetings and requested staff analyze a comparison of RHNA numbers with other cities.

Councilmember Shyne reported her attendance at the Rainbow Neon Dog Public Art Dedication and World Dog Day and requested staff provide a list/calendar of all City and Co-Sponsored Pride events to the City Council.

Councilmember Heilman requested a report back on parking validation for Harvey Milk Day event listed as Item 2.L., requested staff make sure that we have staff or pool of experts who can help evaluate proposals relating to Item 6.G., and requested an update from the City Manager on the automated parking garage. He reported his attendance to the various Russian Speaking community events and thanked staff and Russian Speaking Advisory Board Members for their collaboration.

Vice Mayor Byers reported her attendance to the Contract Cities Association Municipal Seminar and the Russian Speaking community events. She thanked Councilmember

City Council Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2024
Page 21

Heilman for his contribution to the Mishka festival, thanked all participants for their civic engagement and wished everyone a happy and safe Pride celebration.

Mayor Erickson reported his attendance at the California Behavioral Health meeting, took a tour of the Covenant House, the Hepatitis C Forum, WEHO Reads Asian Diaspora event, lunch with Russian Speaking World War II Veterans, the Finance and Budget subcommittee, the Art installation at Hart Park, Rainbow Neon Dog Public Art Dedication, World Dog Day, Saturday at Plummer Park event, the Vander Pump Dog Foundation Day event, Jewish Political Affairs Conference, the California Contract Cities Association Municipal Seminar, the 23rd Annual Mishka festival, and welcomed the Urban Library CEO. The Mayor thanked his colleagues for supporting Items 6.H., 6.G., and 6.FI. on the agenda, concurred with Councilmember Meister on the pride guide and pride calendar events, announced the Pride kick off on Harvey Milk Day, and wished all a safe Pride celebration. He gave a shout out to Ripon, Wisconsin on the approval of their first pride proclamation and reminded the community about the Vista/Gardner/Willoughby community meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The City Council adjourned at 10:12 P.M. in memory of Sam Rubin, Sheryl Goldwasser, and Ed Deaton to its next regular meeting, which will be on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room - Council Chambers.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at an adjourned regular meeting held this 10th day of June, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmember:	Heilman, Meister, Shyne, Vice Mayor Byers, and Mayor Erickson.
NOES:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSENT:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Councilmember:	None.

DocuSigned by:
JOHN ERICKSON
EB6D9C509E21436...

JOHN M. ERICKSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Melissa Crowder
2072ACE2525D489...

MELISSA CROWDER, CITY CLERK