

MINUTES
MALIBU PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2020
TELECONFERENCED – VARIOUS LOCATIONS
3:30 P.M.

The following meeting was held pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Merrick called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Brian Merrick; Vice Chair Lance Simmens; and Commissioners Scott Dittrich, Paul Grisanti, and James Palmer

ALSO PRESENT: Rob DuBoux, Public Works Director; Travis Hart, Public Works Superintendent; Brandie Ayala, Senior Administrative Assistant; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Dittrich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Commissioner Grisanti moved and Commissioner Dittrich seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Senior Administrative Assistant Ayala reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on December 4, 2020.

ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 1.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Works Superintendent Hart discussed utility work throughout the City, including a Southern California Gas Company project on Malibu Canyon Road and Verizon projects on Malibu Canyon Road and Heathercliff Road.

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Public Works Director DuBoux announced Adam Chase resigned effective last Friday. He stated the City was currently recruiting his replacement.

ITEM 1.C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Dittrich stated he was communicating with Jo Drummond from Big Rock. He stated she told him there was one house with earth movement and a well that was not working, both claims disputed by the City. He stated many Big Rock residents were trying to stop the building of a new home.

Vice Chair Simmens asked how the discrepancy could be resolved. Commissioner Grisanti stated the homeowners association characterized this as a small group of homeowners. He stated engineers determined the movement was nearly imperceptible. Public Works Director DuBoux stated he agreed with Commissioner Grisanti and that all data had been presented to the property owners and City Council. He stated the City Council requested a staff report on slope stability and development in Big Rock, which would be presented by the Environmental Sustainability Department in the near future.

Commissioner Grisanti discussed ongoing issues brought up by Big Rock homeowners.

Commissioner Palmer commended City crews working on Malibu Canyon in the Malibu Knolls area. He requested an update on two pipes that broke on Malibu Road and damaged some homes. Public Works Superintendent Hart discussed a vehicle accident on Pacific Coast Highway near Puerco Canyon that sheared a hydrant, which led to the two water main leaks at the weakest locations in the pipe. He stated the stated Los Angeles County Waterworks District 29 (District 29) was working with homeowners on damage claims.

Chair Merrick stated the recent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) in Point Dume was brutal. He stated the City needs better communication with Southern California Edison (SCE) to reduce the amount of time with no power. He questioned why SCE turned off that area only and not other areas. He expressed frustration with how long it took for SCE to restore power service after the danger passed.

Commissioner Grisanti stated upper portion of the Cuthbert Circuit was in Latigo Canyon.

Commissioner Dittrich discussed the unusual wind patterns that day. He stated different sections had no wind while others not far away had extremely high wind activity.

In response to Vice Chair Simmens, Public Works Director DuBoux confirmed the decisions related to PSPS were made solely by SCE. He discussed notifications to the City regarding the potential of a PSPS and updates received throughout the incident. He stated all equipment had to be inspected for safety prior to re-energizing the circuit.

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ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Vice Chair Simmens moved and Commissioner Grisanti seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- A. Previously Discussed Items
None.

- B. New Items
 - 1. Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2020
Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Works Commission Special meeting of November 12, 2020.

ITEM 3 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 4 NEW BUSINESS

- A. Capital Improvement Projects and Disaster Recovery Projects Status Report
Staff recommendation: Receive and file report on the status of the City's current and upcoming Capital Improvements Projects and Disaster Recovery Projects.

Public Works Director DuBoux presented the report. He discussed the schedule for the PCH Median Improvements Project. He stated construction would not start until after the summer construction hiatus. He stated the PCH Median Improvements and PCH Signal Synchronization Projects may be under construction at the same time. He stated staff was working with Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors to secure easements for the Westward Beach Road Improvements project. He stated construction on these projects were being tentatively scheduled to begin in the fall to avoid having to stop midway for the summer construction hiatus.

In response to Commissioner Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux stated the 10-foot wide path on PCH to Westward Beach would be shared by pedestrians and cyclists. He stated it would include locking bike racks.

Chair Merrick discussed road issues in the Westward Beach area, including parked vehicles and pedestrians crossing. He stated the project will protect the pedestrians and cyclists and will also make it difficult for RVs to park there. He stated there was some opposition to the project voiced at a recent Council meeting. He stated this project would provide safety improvements to a heavily used beach area.

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Commissioner Dittrich suggested someone from the Commission make a report at an upcoming City Council meeting to provide the Council with an update on the Commission's review of the project.

Public Works Director DuBoux stated the assessment engineer was contracted for the Civic Center Water Treatment Facility (CCWTF). He announced the coastal development permit (CDP) would go to the Planning Commission in February. He stated staff continued its work to complete the application before the deadline for State funding.

In response to Commissioner Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux stated the study of the CCWTF efficiency would not be conducted until it was time to consider whether Phase 3 would be required. In response to Commissioner Grisanti, Public Works Director DuBoux stated it would probably be near mid-2025.

Public Works Superintendent Hart provided updates on the Capital Improvement Projects. He stated the Storm Drain Trash Screens project was completed quickly. In response to Commissioner Grisanti, Public Works Director DuBoux stated the City Hall Roof Replacement Project was expected to take approximately one month. Public Works Superintendent Hart stated half of the retaining wall piles and three catch basins in the Civic Center Way Improvements Project were completed. He stated work was expected to be done by the end of December to allow for opening one section of the street. He discussed water line issues and Red Flag Warnings that caused some delays. He stated some residents near De Ville Way had viewed the work and stated they were excited to be able to walk from De Ville to PCH. He stated the contractor expected to begin installing speed humps in Point Dume next week and hoped to be done before Christmas. He stated the Guardrail Replacement Project was expected to be completed by the end of the month.

Chair Merrick discussed repair to the hillside along Birdview Avenue. Public Works Director DuBoux stated that was included with disaster projects pending FEMA paperwork completion.

Public Works Director DuBoux presented updates on the disaster projects. He stated the design engineer was preparing documents to go out to bid in spring or summer 2021 for construction to begin in the fall. He stated a series of steel plates were currently holding up the roadway on Latigo Canyon Road. He stated it had been proposed to use fire-resistant materials and begin repairs in the spring. He discussed two projects at Trancas Park to repair the septic system and repair the slope east of Trancas Canyon Road toward the concrete flood control channel that were both damaged in the Woolsey Fire.

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In response to Commissioner Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux stated there had been no communication from Caltrans regarding a crosswalk by Malibu Seafood. He confirmed Caltrans did not have City approval for the crosswalk.

In response to Commissioner Grisanti, Public Works Director DuBoux discussed District 29's relocation of a water line on the land side of PCH near Trancas Creek as part of the bridge replacement project. He stated there were signs on eastbound PCH from Latigo Shores alerting about Caltrans pavement repair and resurfacing work.

Commissioner Dittrich asked if the right turn lane on northbound PCH at Webb Way could be extended. Public Works Director DuBoux staff would investigate it with Caltrans. Commissioner Dittrich stated it was dangerous because motorists turned into the parking lane before approaching the marked right turn lane.

CONSENSUS

By consensus, the Commission received and filed the report on the status of the City's current and upcoming Capital Improvements Projects and Disaster Recovery Projects.

B. Parking Restrictions along Pacific Coast Highway

Staff recommendation: Receive and file report on the status of the City's efforts on parking restrictions along Pacific Coast Highway.

Public Works Director DuBoux presented the report. He stated it took several months of negotiations with the California Coastal Commission (CCC) before parking restrictions were approved for the Tunas Beach area. He stated the staggered parking zones on either side of PCH required parked vehicles to be moved during the night. He stated the restrictions greatly helped with the problem of long-term RV parking.

Commissioner Dittrich stated the new restrictions provided a noticeable improvement with the RV problem. He stated the same occurred when parking was restricted east of Topanga.

Public Works Director DuBoux stated the RVs moved to Corral Canyon Beach and Zuma Beach, but the new restrictions at those locations resulted in fewer RVs parking there. He stated there was no parking permitted on the land side of PCH near Zuma Beach, so parking zones were established from Trancas Canyon Road to the 30200 block of PCH and from there to Busch Drive. He stated the City received very good feedback about the improvements. He stated the City also coordinated with the Sheriff's Department and VOP to conduct sweeps and issue citations. He said the City was monitoring Latigo Shore Drive to Corral Canyon for potential no parking zones if the RVs relocated there. He stated he was working with the Planning Department on an emergency CDP to post 24-hour No Parking

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signs on various locations on PCH. He stated the new County Stay at Home Order was also used in support of new parking restrictions.

Commissioner Grisanti thanked staff for the quick response on properties between Corral Canyon and Latigo Shores. He stated residents were grateful.

In response to Vice Chair Simmens, Public Works Director DuBoux explained the 10-day appeal period after a CDP was issued. He stated there was no appeal of the CDP.

Commissioner Dittrich requested clarification of the No Parking period. Public Works Director DuBoux stated parking was restricted between Puerco Canyon Road and Corral Canyon road, and there was no parking at all from Corral Canyon Road to Latigo Shore Drive. Commissioner Dittrich asked if restricting parking by vehicle size could get through CCC. Public Works Director DuBoux stated he was working with Acting Planning Director Mollica on that.

Chair Merrick stated Huntington Beach had restrictions based on vehicle height that was approved by CCC. Commissioner Dittrich stated Santa Monica also had height restrictions. Chair Merrick stated Santa Monica did not have to get CCC approval.

Commissioner Dittrich stated early morning parking was also a continuing problem. Public Works Director DuBoux stated parking meters might help with that issue. He stated both CCC and Caltrans would have to agree on parking meters. Commissioner Dittrich stated the large vehicles prevented visitor parking.

Chair Merrick stated many RVs had moved to PCH between Nicholas Beach and Leo Carillo Beach. Public Works Director DuBoux stated that area was included in the emergency waiver.

Commissioner Palmer stated there was still no parking near the Farmers Market.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 4:48 p.m., Commissioner Dittrich moved and Vice Chair Simmens seconded a motion to adjourn. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

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Approved and adopted by the Public Works Commission of the City
of Malibu on January 27, 2021.

DocuSigned by:
brian merrick 2/2/2021 | 11:51 PST
BRIAN MERRICK, Chair

ATTEST:

Brandie Ayala

BRANDIE AYALA, Senior Administrative Assistant