

MINUTES  
MALIBU PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 27, 2019  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM  
3:30 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Palmer called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

PRESENT: Chair James Palmer, Vice Chair Scott Dittrich and Commissioner Lance Simmens

ABSENT: Commissioners Paul Grisanti and Brian Merrick

ALSO PRESENT: Rob DuBoux, Public Works Director; Adam Chase, Assistant Public Works Director; Arthur Aladjajian, Public Works Superintendent; and Julie Walker, Administrative Assistant

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Simmens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION Chair Palmer moved and Vice Chair Dittrich seconded a motion to approve the agenda, hearing Item No. 4.A. prior to Item No. 1.A. The motion carried 3-0, Commissioners Grisanti and Merrick absent.

**REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA**

Administrative Assistant Walker reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on February 22, 2019.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

**CONSENSUS**

By consensus, the Commission continued the election of Chair and Vice Chair to the March 27, 2019 Regular meeting.

**ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 1.B. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Simmens expressed his gratitude for being appointed to the Public Works Commission. He further stated that he would be extensively involved in topics such as undergrounding of utility lines, discussions with Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 29 regarding water flow in the City of Malibu, and Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) safety measures. He suggested the parking of cars should be moved inland and a shuttle service utilized to ease traffic on PCH.

Vice Chair Dittrich stated the City of Laguna Beach employed the use of goats and goat herders for brush control.

Chair Palmer expressed his interest in continued talks with Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 29. He expressed interest in green endeavors on the City's behalf, such as solar power that was part of the City Hall Solar Power Project. In response to Chair Palmer, Public Works Director DuBoux stated that a map of the City's storm drainage system had already been distributed to the Public Works Commission. He further explained that a master drainage plan was being formulated. He also stated the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works had a website that outlines the storm drain systems within the County, including the City of Malibu.

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux stated the signal at the intersection of Webb Way and Civic Center Way was part of the Whole Foods, La Paz, and Sycamore Village Development projects. These projects, including the traffic signal, were approved by the Planning Commission and City Council. He explained capital projects were presented to the Public Works Commission on a monthly basis, and plans to construct the signal had been spoken of during previous Public Works Commission meetings. He stated the City's traffic consultant determined there was not enough room to install a roundabout at the intersection of Webb Way and Civic Center Way. Assistant Public Works Director Chase further explained the cost to construct a roundabout was approximately three times more than a signal light.

**ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION Commissioner Simmens moved and Chair Palmer seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried 3-0, Commissioners Grisanti and Merrick absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

A. Previously Discussed Items

None.

B. New Items

1. Approval of Minutes – October 24, 2018 and January 23, 2019

Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Works Commission regular meetings of October 24, 2018 and January 23, 2019.

**ITEM 3      OLD BUSINESS**

A.      Capital Improvements Projects Status Report

Staff recommendation: Receive and file report on the status of the City's current and upcoming Capital Improvements Projects.

Assistant Public Works Director Chase presented the report. He announced Caltrans would host a community meeting on March 26, 2019, to discuss a proposed crosswalk in front of Malibu Seafood restaurant on PCH.

In response to Commissioner Simmens, Assistant Public Works Director Chase explained the crosswalk was proposed to include an advanced Flashing Beacon 300 feet before the crosswalk and a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at the crosswalk that would flash red when in use. He stated the PCH Signal Synchronization Project would be connected to the Caltrans Traffic Management Center and timing of the lights would be synchronized by Caltrans. He further explained the City was looking into a live feed video of the signals to be transmitted to the City's proposed Traffic Operations Center (TOC).

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux explained the existing generator at City Hall would back up power to essential facilities if the power were to go out.

B.      Update on Street Maintenance Work

Staff recommendation: Receive and file report on the status of Street Maintenance Work.

Public Works Superintendent Aladjadjian presented the Commission with a report on street maintenance activities. He stated the ban on plastic sandbags had been reinstated.

In response to Commissioner Simmens, Public Works Superintendent Aladjadjian explained plastic sandbags lasted longer than burlap sandbags, however they were not good for the environment and, as such, had been banned from use within City limits. He further stated Caltrans had many sandbags on PCH and had started to replace them with burlap bags. Public Works Director DuBoux added the City's Public Works Department maintenance crews had been picking up deteriorated sandbags.

Assistant Public Works Director Chase stated Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency for the storm events between January and February 2019, which would aid in the City's recovery of funds spent on storm cleanup efforts.

In response to Chair Palmer, Public Works Superintendent Aladjajian stated a majority of the mud and debris had been cleared from the roadway shoulders after the last rain event.

**ITEM 4      NEW BUSINESS**

A.      Landslide Maintenance Assessment Districts Update

Staff recommendation: Receive an update and file report on the City's Landslide Maintenance Assessment Districts.

Assistant Public Works Director Adam Chase introduced Matt Pollard, David Thornhill, and Seth Gray of Fugro Consultants, Inc.

Mr. Pollard presented the report and provided a presentation on the City's Big Rock Mesa Assessment District No. 98-1, Malibu Road Assessment District No. 98-2, and Calle Del Barco Assessment District No. 98-3 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

In response to Chair Palmer, Mr. Pollard stated the presentation would discuss the dewatering wells from all three districts. Public Works Director DuBoux explained the assessment districts were formed to help neighborhoods in landslide areas to lower the groundwater levels to make the areas more stable. He stated assessment revenues were collected by the Los Angeles County Tax Collector on an annual basis in order to pay for the operation and maintenance of the assessment districts.

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Mr. Pollard stated dewatering wells were not located on PCH. He explained repairs to the dewatering system increased the longevity of the wells. Public Works Director DuBoux further explained a portion of the assessments collected funds for capital improvements, including replacement of equipment.

In response to Chair Palmer, Public Works Director DuBoux clarified funding for the dewatering wells in the Big Rock Mesa Assessment District 98-1 was from the assessments.

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux stated approximately \$100,000 was budgeted for capital improvements for the Big Rock Mesa Assessment District annually.

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Mr. Pollard explained the cost of repairing a dewatering well was approximately \$15,000 and the cost of replacing a well was approximately \$50,000.

## CONSENSUS

By consensus, the Public Works Commission granted a request to allow for Public Discussion on the Big Rock Mesa Assessment District No. 98-1.

Oliver Fortis deferred his time to Terry Davis.

Jeff Grier deferred his time to Terry Davis.

Terry Davis, President of the Big Rock Mesa Property Owners Association discussed her concern regarding the increase of groundwater levels in the PCH area. She explained she had urged residents to cease watering their landscapes during the recent storm events. She expressed her support of the idea of using goats to control brush. She also expressed concern regarding the aging underground pipes, citing that it was difficult to identify leaking pipes. She expressed her interest in working more closely with the City on budgetary decisions.

Public Works Director DuBoux explained \$100,000 of the Big Rock Mesa Assessment District's budget was set aside for the potential repair of a drainage ditch located outside the assessment district boundaries. He further explained he would appreciate more public feedback on a possible better use of those funds. He stated an increase in funding could be accomplished by creating a revised assessment district.

Colin Drummund deferred his time to Eugene Michael.

Eugene Michael expressed concern about the aging infrastructure in the Big Rock Mesa Assessment District No. 98-1. He circulated a report he wrote for the property owners. He expressed a concern about overwatering within the district.

In response to Vice Chair Dittrich, Mr. Michael stated the cracks in the aging infrastructure around the periphery of the landslide area suggested a safety factor.

In response to Chair Palmer, Mr. Michael explained dewatering was crucial to help with the stabilization of the slide area.

Mr. Pollard presented a report on the Malibu Road Assessment District No. 98-2 and Calle Del Barco Assessment District No. 98-3.

## ADJOURNMENT

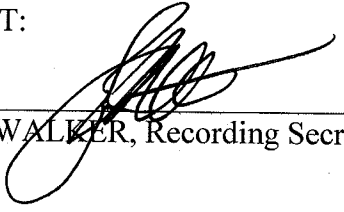
**MOTION** At 6:20 p.m., Commissioner Simmens moved and Chair Palmer seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried 3-0, Commissioners Merrick and Grisanti absent.

Approved and adopted by the Public Works Commission of the  
City of Malibu on March 27, 2019



SCOTT DITTRICH, Vice Chair

ATTEST:



JULIE WALKER, Recording Secretary