

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
MINUTES – STUDY SESSION
July 19, 2016
2:30 p.m.
City Council Chamber**

PRESENT: Mayor Mirisch
Councilmember Bosse
Councilmember Gold
Councilmember Reims
Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager
Laurence Wiener, City Attorney
Megan Roach, Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager
Mark Cuneo, City Engineer
Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation
Sandra Spagnoli, Chief of Police
Ryan Gohlich, Assistant Director of Community Development/City Planner

ABSENT: Vice Mayor Krasne

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

A – DIRECTION

1. Recommendation from Chamber of Commerce Liaison Committee Regarding the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Scope of Work and Funding Request from the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce and Civic Association

Provides a recommendation for the Chamber's FY 2016-2017 scope of work for business development services.

Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Megan Roach introduced the item and noted the reason for the decrease in the funding request. She introduced Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce (BHCC) CEO Todd Johnson who reviewed the BHCC's FY 16-17 Work Plan Proposal. BHCC Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs Blair Schlecter reviewed the BHCC's previous and proposed upcoming programs. BHCC Director of Membership and Sponsorship Charisse Older presented the FY 16-17 proposed Business Programming and Services and proposed Events and Marketing items. Mr. Schlecter spoke on the BHCC's economic development new initiatives and closed the presentation with a brief overview on the time frame and cost of each proposal.

Speaking:

1. Marcia Hobbs, Beverly Hills Courier

Mr. Schlecter, Ms. Older and Mr. Johnson answered Council questions about the proposed programs. City Manager Mahdi Aluzri and Ms. Roach provided clarification on questions related to the BHCC's proposed pamphlet and Santa Monica Blvd. Outreach Plan. Mr. Johnson confirmed that the funding request will not be used to fund overhead or salaries.

Council approved the request.

2. Request by Mayor Mirisch to Discuss Establishing an Ordinance that Would Prohibit Buildings from Being Demolished Prior to Approval of a Replacement Project for the Site

First Agendized June 21, 2016

At the City Council's June 6, 2016 meeting, a member of the public requested that the City adopt an ordinance that would prohibit buildings from being demolished prior to approval of a replacement project for the site. Based on the comments received, the Mayor requested that the item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Item not discussed.

3. North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project

This is to provide an update on the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project and staff's plans to bring forward for City Council's consideration the award of both a construction contract and a construction management professional services agreement and amend the existing agreement with Psomas at the July 19, 2016 City Council meeting. Staff will also present to the Council the construction phasing and traffic mitigation options and seek appropriate direction from the Council on adopting a plan.

City Engineer Mark Cuneo spoke on the processes used to award a construction contract and hire a construction management service for the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project. He also spoke on the need to amend the City's existing agreement with Psomas to increase the consideration for design services related to the project. Mr. Cuneo presented staff's recommendation to award the construction bid to Griffith Company and to enter into an agreement with Berg & Associates for management services.

Mr. Cuneo presented the next steps for the preconstruction planning phase and pointed out that the plans were discussed with Mayor Mirisch and Councilmember Gold at the Ad Hoc meeting held on July 6, 2016.

City Attorney Laurence Wiener spoke on insurance requirements, liability and statutes of limitation on latent and patent defects. Councilmember Bosse expressed her concerns regarding the process and asked staff to involve the residents and business community prior to bringing the plan for approval before the Commissions for review. Deputy Director of Transportation Aaron Kunz spoke on plans for community meetings. City Manager Mahdi Aluzri confirmed that the community will be able to provide feedback via the City's website.

Council agreed to move forward with the proposal.

4. Police Department Strategic Plan, Hiring Practices and Recruitment Update

Provides an update on the Police Department's strategic plan, hiring practices and recruitment efforts.

Chief of Police Sandra Spagnoli provided a brief update on the Police Department's Strategic Plan, Succession Plan and Recruitment Planning. She spoke on staffing needs and its influence on the Strategic Plan and on the need to incorporate the Succession Plan into the Strategic Plan process. Chief Spagnoli explained the improvements made to the recruitment process and announced that with the exception of three positions, all vacancies have been filled.

Council thanked Chief Spagnoli and congratulated her on the Police Department's progress.

5. Update on the Demolition and Public Right-of-Way Use Permit for the Demolition and Clearing of All Buildings and Existing Improvements at 8471-8485 Wilshire Blvd., 14 N. La Cienega Blvd., 111 Gale Dr., 8401 Wilshire Blvd., and 8421 Wilshire Blvd. for Future Construction and Laydown Locations for Section 1 of the Westside Subway Extension Project

This item provides an update on the schedule for the demolition and clearing of all buildings and existing improvements associated with the La Cienega Subway Station.

City Engineer Mark Cuneo provided a brief background, presented the demolition locations and activities, and reviewed the demolition equipment. He spoke on the impacts and mitigation measures that were previously recognized/approved by Council. Mr. Cuneo noted the change in the Metro Work Plan timeline and reviewed the coordination efforts that have been made with the Saban Theater and other neighboring businesses in the area. Mr. Cuneo concluded by presenting staff's recommendation for Council consideration to issue the permits consistent with the updated work plan/schedule: 1.) 50 working days schedule 2.) No work on High Holy Days and public holidays and 3.) Commence September 1, 2016.

Speaking:

1. Karen Buresh, Temple of the Arts at the Saban Theater

Councilmember Bosse asked that the time frame not exceed the permitted working day schedule. Mayor Mirisch added that the working days should be consecutive and that if exceeded, the City needs the ability to shut down the construction. City Attorney Laurence Wiener pointed out that the Migratory Bird Act and inclement weather may impact the timeline.

Metro Purple Line Extension Sr. Third Party Administrator Nell Mardirosian spoke on the anticipated date when work will be concluded and LA Metro Construction Relations, Purple Line Extension Manager Kasey Shuda spoke on moving the nested birds.

Council agreed to move forward with the recommendation and to include a provision regarding inclement weather.

6. Request by Mayor Mirisch to Consider a Resolution of the Council of the City of Beverly Hills in Support of the California Death Penalty Repeal Initiative ("The Justice That Works Act of 2016")

Per a request by Mayor Mirisch, this item seeks City Council support for the state ballot initiative known as "The Justice That Works Act of 2016." The measure, which is on the November 2016 ballot, would repeal the state death penalty and replace the maximum punishment for murder with life in prison without possibility of parole. It would apply retroactively to those already sentenced to death.

Item not discussed.

7. Request by Mayor Mirisch for City Council Review of the Planning Commission's Decision Approving a Conditional Use Permit and Minor Accommodation to Allow the Construction of a New Three-Story Commercial Building Located at 9206 and 9212 Olympic Boulevard

On July 14, 2016, the Planning Commission approved an application for a Conditional Use Permit and Minor Accommodation located at 9206 and 9212 Olympic. Mayor Mirisch has requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Mayor Mirisch introduced the item and explained his reason for requesting to include the item on the Study Session agenda. Assistant Director of Community Development/City Planner Ryan Gohlich provided a brief presentation.

Mayor Mirisch read a letter into record from Mr. Steve Mayer then called up applicant co-founder and president of ETCO Homes Afshin Etebar to speak. City Attorney Laurence Wiener clarified that the purpose of the request is to decide whether or not Council agrees to place the Planning Commission's decision before Council for review. Mr. Gohlich spoke on the Planning Commission meetings that led to the final decision.

Council agreed not to call up the decision before Council for review.

B – ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

None.

C – INFORMATION

8. Dine Equity Franchise Restaurant Owners Group - Events on Rodeo Drive

Information from the Dine Equity Franchise Restaurant Owners Group and the Conference and Visitors Bureau to conduct events on North Rodeo Drive in September 2016; also includes letter of support from the Rodeo Drive Committee.

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 5:12 pm to the Closed Session to discuss items that are identified on the agenda that has been prepared for the meeting.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted
this 16th day of August, 2016



BYRON POPE, City Clerk

JOHN A. MIRISCH, MAYOR

This meeting was televised on City of Beverly Hills Municipal Government Television Access,
BHN/10, Time Warner Cable.