

**MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
FEBRUARY 19, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER,
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD, ROOMS 5 AND 6,
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90069**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Horvath.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
Rob Winrader 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, Amy Walia-Fazio, Steven Greene, Lindsey Horvath, David Warren, Steve Wayland

Commissioners absent:

Misti Cooper

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

Chris Corrao, Associate Planner

Rob Winrader, Taxi Specialist

Joe Spencer, Consultant

Danny Casillas, Administrative Specialist III

- D. Approval of the Agenda of February 19, 2014, Transportation Commission meeting.

Motion: Greene Second: Eichman

All ayes.

Motion passed.

- E. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve minutes, Commission meeting of January 15, 2014 with the following corrections;

Page 3: remove "suspect" from Greene's comment

Page 5: add "Beverly Hills" to Eichman's item

Moved: Eichman Second: Warren

Aye: David Eichman, Steven Greene, Lindsey Horvath, David Warren, Steve Wayland

Abstain:

Motion passed.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

No items.

3. ITEMS FROM PUBLIC

Bob Burke, WEST HOLLYWOOD, identified himself as the Public Safety Commission liaison.

Bob Bergstein, WEST HOLLYWOOD, requested left turn arrows at Genesee/Santa Monica Boulevard and San Vicente/Clark.

4. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

No items.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

No item

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Preferential Parking District 1 Regulations

Staff report from Don Norte and Joe Spencer.

Scott Schmidt, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke WITH CONCERNS REGARDING Staff report recommendations.

Commissioner Greene found the report to be thorough and suggested opening up the item for public discussion at another meeting.

Commissioner Warren asked why average demand is considered versus peak demand.

Joe Spencer explained the standards in effort to get a clearer picture of what the situation actually is and what the standard tends to be.

Commissioner Warren confirmed that staff is not suggesting an increase in C Parking Permit issuance.

Joe Spencer gave a brief history of the C Parking Permit and explained how it is intended to work.

Commissioner Warren asked why people are cheating/misusing permits.

Jackie Rocco explained the daily temporary guest permits program and pointed out potential abuses.

Oscar Delgado added that night time abuse of the temporary permits is not an issue.

Commissioner Warren asked if staff felt it was an indication of problems with daytime employee parking.

Jackie Rocco replied it may be, but the problems seem to be isolated, so staff would prefer to find effective solutions for the problem rather than making sweeping changes for the entire district.

Commissioner Eichman asked for an explanation of the Parking Permit process.

Don Norte explained.

Commissioner Eichman clarified the limit on the temporary permits and clarified that there was no recommendation to address the issue.

Joe Spencer explained his reason for no recommendation, then advised staff to confer and find a realistic balance.

Commissioner Eichman asked if staff considered charging money for the temporary permits.

Jackie Rocco replied that the idea will be discussed with the Parking Subcommittee.

Commissioner Horvath confirmed that the 400 per month limit applied only to day passes. She agreed with Commissioner Greene about getting input from the public. She also confirmed that the item is driven proactively by staff and not neighborhood concerns.

- Motion:
1. Receive and file the report submitted by Spencer Consulting Services.
 2. Recommend the Parking Subcommittee evaluate Current policies related to entitlement of parking passes and develop recommendations with staff to curb concerns of permit abuse identified in the list of recommendations from the Spencer Consulting report.
 3. Present recommendations from the Parking Subcommittee to the Transportation Commission at a date to be determined.

Moved: Eichman Second: Wayland

Ayes: David Eichman, Steven Greene, Lindsey Horvath, David Warren, Steve Wayland

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion passed.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

8. OLD BUSINESS

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

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. Uber/Mobile Ride-Sharing Apps Presentation

Chris Corrao gave a brief presentation explaining the ride sharing programs.

William Rouse, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about taxi cab regulations and lack of regulation for ride sharing.

Commissioner Walia-Fazio mentioned a New York Times article indicating that taxi drivers are switching to being shared ride drivers. She asked if there was any such information for West Hollywood drivers.

Melissa Antol replied that there is no information, yet.

Commissioner Eichman asked what the difference between Uber, Lyft and Sidecar are.

Chris Corrao said they are, basically, the same.

Commissioner Eichman asked if all three companies cars are personally owned by the drivers.

Chris Corrao replied they are, but that is changing a little with the introduction of more luxury cars.

Commissioner Walia-Fazio asked if there is any regulation.

Chris Corrao summarized the information and said that the City Council will form a task force on Sharing Economies, which will include these companies and others like them.

Commissioner Greene asked how the item came about.

Melissa Antol replied that the Commission requested an informational presentation.

Commissioner Wayland said that he feels that as a community, a taxi service has been created and should be protected from unregulated competition.

Commissioner Warren stated that he feels that the City has no power to regulate since the CPUC has stepped in. He said the real issue for the Commission is to have staff report how it is affecting the current taxi industry and how to assist them.

Commissioner Eichman agreed with Commissioner Warren. He asked if there was a lawsuit in process.

Chris Corrao said that he isn't aware of one from the City of West Hollywood, but there are several from various other cities and private companies.

Commissioner Eichman expressed concern about insurance issues with the shared ride company drivers. He requested that the Commission be kept apprised of the economic impact of the companies.

Jackie Rocco explained the Cease and Desist letters.

Rob Winrader stated that the number of new taxi drivers has dropped dramatically. He said that he did a field check with the sheriffs and it was a mess. Staff has worked very hard regulating the number of taxis in the small city, but with the shared rides, it is a free for all.

Commissioner Walia-Fazio asked if ride share drivers may park at taxi stands..

Jackie Rocco said that they are not and that prohibition is enforced.

William Rouse added information on motions pending at the PUC.

Commissioner Horvath said that she doesn't feel that the decision is a forgone conclusion with the PUC and that an impact can still be made. She encouraged the Commission to take action that can be on record.

B. Automated Parking Garage Construction/Alternative Mode Incentive Program

Oscar Delgado, Rick D'Amato and Dan Adams gave a presentation on the Automated Parking Garage Construction. Chris Corrao presented the Alternative Mode Incentive Program.

Commissioner Walia-Fazio stated that the new parking structure looks great and appreciated the information. She encouraged staff to pursue a bike sharing program, including helmets.

Commissioner Greene summarized the evolution of the plans for the parking structure. He said there seems to be a narrowing of the northbound lane on Sweetzer during construction. He shared concerns about other construction impacts, including where outside of the city trucks will be staging.

Dan Adams addressed some of Commissioner Greene's concerns.

Commissioner Warren said he is fascinated by statistics on how employees will travel to work. He asked what modes the MTA Transit pass covers and how the price was so low.

Melissa Antol explained.

Commissioner Eichman asked about issues with car alarms. He encouraged use of public transportation for all. He asked about a car share program.

Commissioner Horvath questioned sign and advertising placement. She said she'll be glad to see all of the elements come together.

C. Antol

- Joint meeting with City Council dates- May 3 or 5 or April 12 or 28
- Field Trip dates- May 17 or 18
- Connected Vehicles Presentation

11. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Greene

- Preference for agendaized discussion on Ride-Sharing Programs which includes all concerned parties.
- Melrose Triangle EIR and Bike Lane

Wayland

- Welcomes discussion with Ride-Sharing Companies

Warren

- Traffic Assist Officers item

- Valet Fee item
- Next Bus app item
- Flashing Beacon item

Horvath

- Why Ride Share item not agendized as formal discussion

12. ITEMS FROM PUBLIC

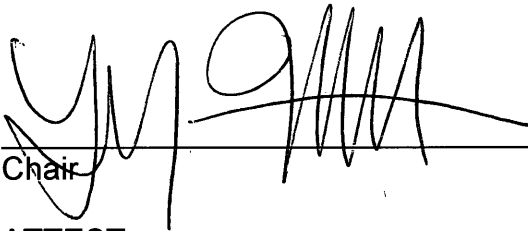
No items

13. ADJOURNMENT

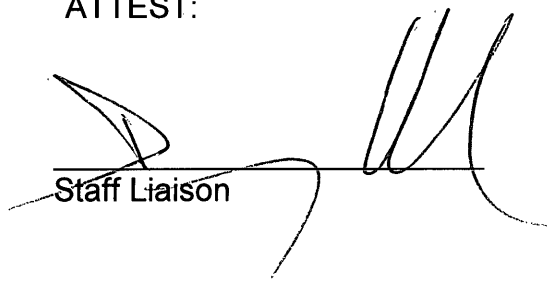
Action: The Transportation Commission adjourned at 9:20 p.m. until the next meeting on March 19, 2014, 7:00 p.m., at Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, Rooms 5 and 6, West Hollywood, California 90069

Moved: Greene Second: Warren
All ayes.
Motion passed.

APPROVED BY MOTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION THIS
19TH DAY OF MARCH 2014.


Chair

ATTEST:


Staff Liaison