

**MINUTES
PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021
TELECONFERENCE**

6:30 P.M. – REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Polachek called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Block; Commissioner Isaacs;
Commissioner Karliss; Commissioner Solomon;
Commissioner Torres (arrived at 6:39 P.M.); Vice
Chair Mason; Chair Polachek.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Helen Collins, Facilities and Field Services Division
Manager; Ric Abramson, Urban Design and
Architecture Studio Manager; Christina Sarkees, Sr.
Project Management Supervisor; Rebecca Ehemann,
Arts Division Acting Manager; Erin Hamant, Senior
Administrative Analyst; and Debbie Gonzalez,
Administrative Coordinator.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- led by Commissioner Block.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the May 12, 2021 Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Isaacs, seconded by Commissioner Karliss, and approved unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes, dated April 14, 2021, of the prior Public Facilities Commission meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Karliss, seconded by Vice Chair Mason, and approved unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Block announced that this will be his last meeting and shared a few words of appreciation for the Commission.

Commissioner Isaacs bid farewell to Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Karliss bid farewell to Commissioner Block and thanked him for his hard work specifically on the Green City Awards. Commissioner Karliss gave kudos to staff for the great work on the Urban Forestry & Biodiversity Symposium and the Tree Planting event. He suggested adding an additional annual greening activity event.

Vice Chair Mason shared that he was unable to attend the Tree Planting event but is looking forward to next year's event.

Commissioner Solomon bid farewell to Commissioner Block. He went on to thank staff for a great Tree Planting event.

Commissioner Torres bid farewell to Commissioner Block.

Chair Polachek bid farewell to Commissioner Block and thanked him for his contributions to the Commission. She spoke regarding the Urban Forestry & Biodiversity Symposium and encouraged everyone that did not attend to view the recording that is posted on YouTube.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR - None.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. ARTS DIVISION UPDATE

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive a presentation from Arts Division staff about art exhibitions and initiatives scheduled for 2021 and consider approving two proposed sites for a temporary art exhibition and permanent art exhibition.

Staff introduced the item and provided a presentation.

Commissioner Torres asked how the information regarding the art installations will be disseminated. Staff stated that they will use the City's social media platforms and website. Commissioner Torres inquired about future opportunities for artists. Staff stated that there was a call to artists last fall for artist opportunities.

Commissioner Solomon spoke about the electronic billboard on Sunset Blvd and asked what type of feedback has been received. Staff does not have that information as the program is still new.

Vice Chair Mason spoke about the Neon Dog installation and expressed concern with interference with accessibility features that are being implemented as part of the Hart Park improvements. Staff shared that they are working closely with the staff in charge of that project to ensure there is no interference. Vice Chair Mason spoke in favor of the Garden Trees installation.

Commissioner Karliss spoke in favor of the Neon Dog installation. He expressed concern with the Garden Trees installation and spoke against covering up trees.

Commissioner Isaacs spoke regarding artwork that reflects diversity. She asked what happens to previous artwork that has been on exhibit. Staff stated that the artwork is posted on social media platforms and is also archived and available on the City website.

Commissioner Block expressed concern with the location of the Garden Trees installation on Santa Monica and Westbourne.

Commissioner Torres requested background information on the Garden Trees installation. Staff provided information on the art installation.

Chair Polachek requested information on how the Garden Trees artwork will be attached to the trees. Staff provided information on the installation of the artwork.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Mason to approve staff's recommendation.

A friendly amendment was made by Commissioner Torres to include that the trees are not affected by the installation of the artwork. The friendly amendment was accepted.

ACTION 1: Approve the site, a traffic median at Santa Monica Boulevard at Westbourne Drive, for the temporary art exhibition titled "Garden Trees" by Tim Devlin, with the caveat that the installation of the artwork does not affect the trees. **Motion by Vice Chair Mason, Seconded by Commissioner Torres.**

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Block – NO
Commissioner Isaacs – YES
Commissioner Karliss – NO
Commissioner Solomon – NO
Commissioner Torres– YES
Vice Chair Mason – YES
Chair Polachek – YES

ACTION 2: Approve the site, the Sunset Boulevard entrance at Hart Park, for the permanent art exhibition titled "Neon Dog," with the caveat that the final Hart Park design will take into consideration the location of the sign. **Motion by Commissioner Karliss, Seconded by Commissioner Block.**

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Block – YES
Commissioner Isaacs – YES
Commissioner Karliss – YES
Commissioner Solomon – YES
Commissioner Torres– YES
Vice Chair Mason – YES
Chair Polachek – YES

B. WILLIAM S. HART PARK SITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

SUBJECT: The Public Facilities Commission will receive an update on the community outreach efforts and the conceptual design plans for site accessibility and amenity upgrades at William S. Hart Park.

Staff introduced the item and provided a presentation (Attachment A).

Commissioner Block inquired about benches and bicycle rails along the pathway. Staff shared that there are areas along the pathway to accommodate for seating and that bicycle rails will also be considered as part of the amenities during design development.

Commissioner Isaacs spoke in favor of staff's recommendation regarding the accessible pathways. Commissioner Isaacs spoke in favor of the artificial turf and the shade components.

Commissioner Karliss spoke in favor of the artificial turf and staff's recommendation regarding the accessible pathway.

Vice Chair Mason stressed the importance of accessibility. Vice Chair Mason spoke in favor of staff's recommendation regarding the accessible pathway and the artificial turf.

Commissioner Solomon inquired about the feedback that was received from the Disability Advisory Board (DAB) regarding accessibility. Staff shared feedback and recommendations that were provided by DAB. Solomon spoke in favor of staff's recommendation regarding the accessible pathway.

Commissioner Torres spoke in favor of the artificial turf.

Chair Polachek expressed concern with the ramp being used by skateboarders.

Commissioner Solomon provided comments regarding the rideshare drop-off location, the visibility of the park, and the aids memorial.

Commissioner Karliss spoke about the event space and expressed concern with the impact it could have on residents.

MARK KEMBLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against the wood chips in the dog park. He expressed concern with having the big dog park and small dog park together. He spoke about having events at the park.

ANDREW CAMPBELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in favor of having performance spaces in the park. He spoke in favor of having new fencing along the Sunset Strip.

HELEN SANDERS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concern with parking if there were to be special events at the park. She spoke about the dog park configurations and expressed concern with noise.

Commissioner Block spoke in favor of the overhead lighting.

Commissioner Isaacs spoke in favor of staff's recommendations. She spoke in favor of the shade components.

Commissioner Karliss spoke in favor of the design enhancements. He spoke about the stairs and driveway access. He spoke in favor of the landscape art.

Commissioner Solomon provided comments about the art garden. Commissioner Solomon spoke regarding the plaque dedicated to William S. Hart.

Commissioner Torres spoke in favor of the design enhancements. She spoke in favor of having an outdoor space for events.

Chair Polachek spoke regarding the elevator and the maintenance associated with it. She spoke in favor of the overlook design concept. She also spoke about the dog park design and spoke in favor of having artificial turf.

ACTION 1: Approve staff's recommendation for accessible access pathways. Motion by Vice Chair Mason, Seconded by Commissioner Solomon.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Block – YES

Commissioner Isaacs – YES

Commissioner Karliss – YES

Commissioner Solomon – YES

Commissioner Torres– YES

Vice Chair Mason – YES

Chair Polachek – YES

ACTION 2: Approve staff's recommendation to switch to dog-friendly synthetic turf. Motion by Commissioner Torres, Seconded by Commissioner Isaacs.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Block – NO

Commissioner Isaacs – YES
Commissioner Karliss – YES
Commissioner Solomon – YES
Commissioner Torres– YES
Vice Chair Mason – YES
Chair Polachek – YES

C. UPDATE TO STANDING COMMITTEES, AD HOC COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUP & STANDING LIAISON APPOINTMENTS

SUBJECT: The Commission will review its list of Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, Working Groups, and Standing Liaisons and make adjustments and appointments, as required.

ACTION: Accept the changes made to the Committee Roster with the exception of the Standing Liaison Appointments which was tabled. **Motion by Chair Polachek, Seconded by Vice Chair Mason.**

Updates to the appointments are as follows:

- Greening West Hollywood Standing Committee – Chair Polachek, Commissioner Karliss, and Commissioner Torres.
- Heritage Tree Standing Committee – Chair Polachek, Commissioner Isaacs, and Commissioner Karliss.
- Memorial, Tribute Trees & Plaques Standing Committee – Chair Polachek.
- Naming Standing Committee - Chair Polachek.
- Kings Road Park Playground Ad Hoc Committee – Vice Chair Mason, Commissioner Solomon, and Commissioner Torres.
- Pet Memorial Ad Hoc Committee – Commissioner Isaacs, Commissioner Karliss, and Commissioner Solomon.
- Design District Streetscape Master Plan Working Group – Commissioner Torres (primary) and Vice Chair Mason (alternate).
- Parks and Recreation Rules and Guidelines Focus Group – Vice Chair Mason.
- Romaine St. Greening Working Group – Commissioner Torres (primary) and Commissioner Solomon (deputy).

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Block – YES
Commissioner Isaacs – YES
Commissioner Karliss – YES
Commissioner Solomon – YES
Commissioner Torres– YES
Vice Chair Mason – YES
Chair Polachek – YES

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR – None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff spoke about upcoming items that will be coming to the Commission.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Torres wished Commissioner Block the best of luck in his future endeavors.

Commissioner Solomon bid farewell to Commissioner Block. He spoke about school outreach for the Green City Awards. Commissioner Solomon spoke regarding the restroom closures at Plummer Park.

Vice Chair Mason spoke about having more special events like the Tree Planting event. He spoke about the Plummer Park improvements.

Commissioner Karliss bid farewell to Commissioner Block.

Commissioner Isaacs bid farewell to Commissioner Block. She spoke about the Tree Planting event.

Commissioner Block thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work and service to the City.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Facilities Commission meeting adjourned at 10:14 P.M. to its next Regular meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. via Teleconference.*

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Debbie Gonzalez

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Debbie Gonzalez, Recording Secretary

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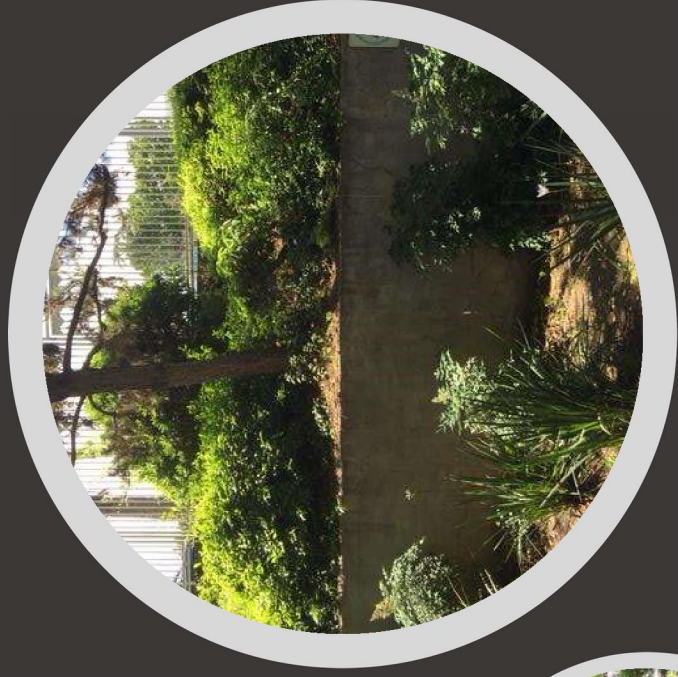
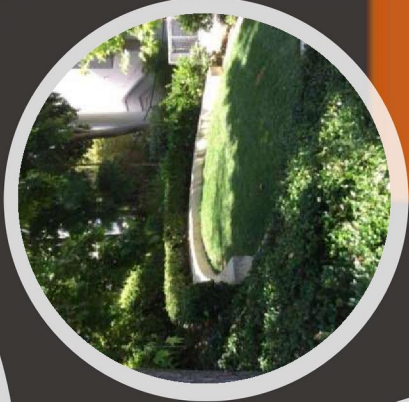
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Elaine Polachek, Chair

Attachment A – William S. Hart Park Site Improvement Presentation

ATTACHMENT A



City of West Hollywood Public Facilities Commission **Hart Park Site Improvements** May 12, 2021

Presenters:
Christina Sarkees, AIA
Ric. Abramson, FAIA
Urban Design + Architecture Studio



Hart Park Site Improvements - CITY COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

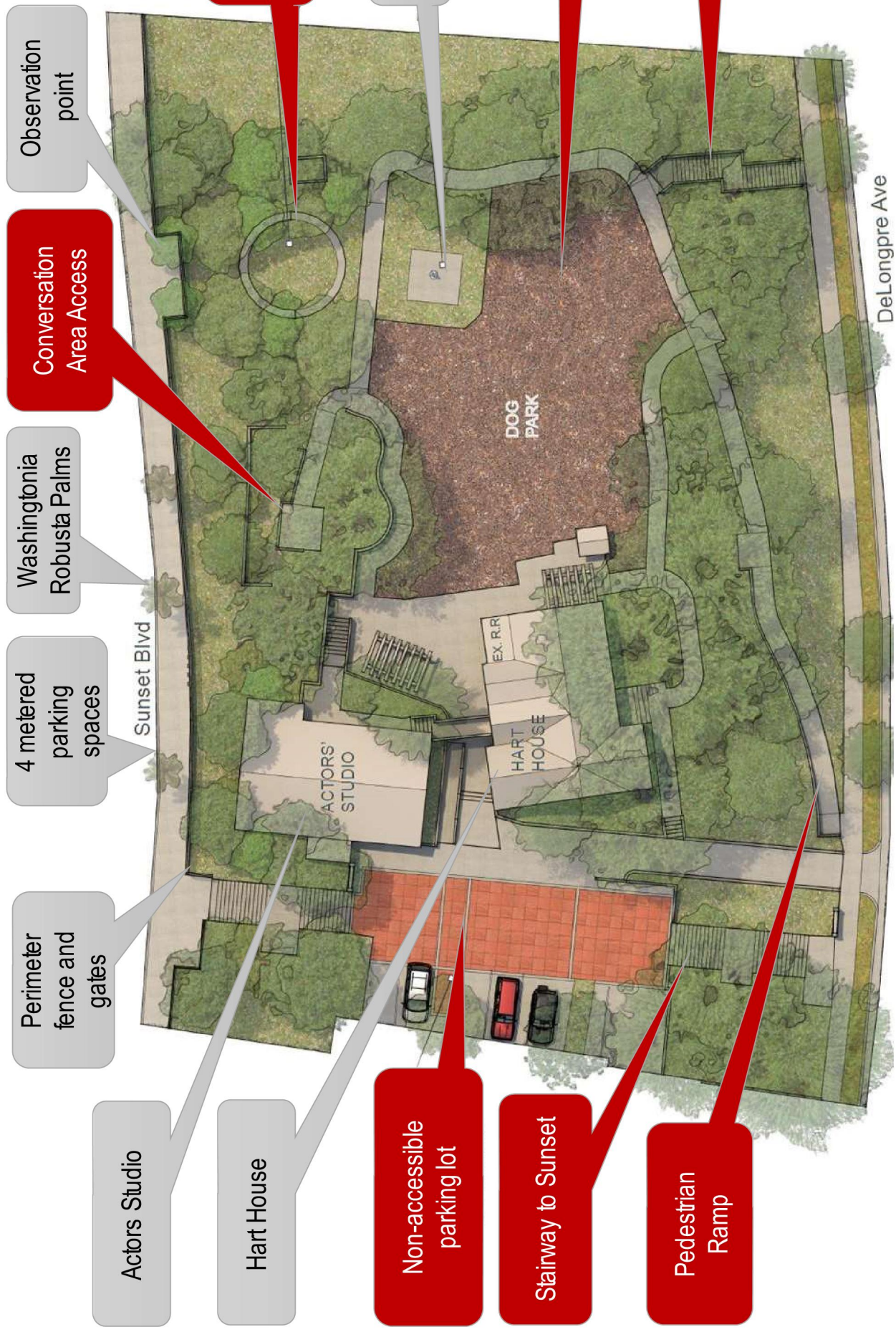
In 2019, the West Hollywood City Council approved a 35-year lease agreement with the City of Los Angeles.

City Council Directive

- **Develop an improvement plan** to include accessibility, parking, dog park improvements, and historical aspects within the park;
- **Replace the existing wood chips** with synthetic turf;
- **Present recommendations** to the Public Facilities Commission for review.



Hart Park Site Improvements - EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS



Observation point

Conversation Area Access

Washingtonia Robusta Palms

4 metered parking spaces

Perimeter fence and gates

Actors Studio

Hart House

Non-accessible parking lot

Stairway to Sunset

Pedestrian Ramp

Sunset Blvd

DeLongpre Ave

ACTORS STUDIO

HART HOUSE

EX. R.R.

DOG PARK

Hart Park Site Improvements - PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Public Facilities Ad Hoc Committee
- Pop Up Events at Hart Park, West Hollywood Park and Plummer Park
- Disability Advisory Board & other Community Group Meetings



Hart Park Site Improvements - COMMUNITY INPUT

Key public feedback on what is important for a park as a whole:

- Cleanliness
- Safety
- Maintenance
- Ease of Access

Key public feedback on what is important for a successful dog park area:

- Cleanliness/Maintenance
- Shaded Areas
- Dog Area Surface Material
- Human/Dog Drinking Water
- Size of Dog Play Area

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

HART PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Dog Park Amenities

How important are the following items for a successful dog park? Select the items that are the MOST important to you. (Choose five)

Are there issues related to dog parks that concern you? (choose all that apply)

Size of Dog Play Area	Cleanliness
Benches for People	Dog Conflicts
Cleanliness/Maintenance	Proximity to Homes
Surface Material (Artificial Turf)	Maintenance
Fence Height	Noise
Security Lighting	User Fees
Walkable Location	Dogs Getting Loose
Parking Close to Site	Pooping/Compost
Human/Dog Water Fountain	Repurposed Use of Bad Space
Access to Restrooms	Views Away From the Park
Improve Small/Large Dog Play	Accessibility
Shaded Areas	Safety
Other: Please Explain	Noise of the Above
	Other: Please Explain

