

MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC FACILITIES, RECREATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024
CITY HALL COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, 1ST FLOOR
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

6:30 P.M. – REGULAR MEETING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE PUBLIC FACILITIES, RECREATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE GATHER AND THAT IS CURRENTLY KNOWN AS THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD IS THE OCCUPIED, UNCEDED, SEIZED TERRITORY OF THE GABRIELEÑO TONGVA AND GABRIELEÑO KIZH PEOPLES. (PRONOUNCED “KEECH”)

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Solomon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Chair Solomon.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Payton (she/her);
Commissioner Mason (he/him);
Commissioner Krishna (she/her);
Vice Chair Karliss (he/him); and
Chair Solomon (he/him)

ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (she/her); and
Commissioner Ragno (he/him).

ALSO PRESENT: Helen Collins, Facilities and Field Services
Division Manager; Debbie Gonzalez,
Administrative Coordinator; Stephanie
Martinez, Recreation Services Division
Manager.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Erickson.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the February 14, 2024, Agenda.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mason – Y

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Vice Chair Karliss – Y

Chair Solomon – Y

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes of the prior Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting dated January 10, 2024.

Motion by Chair Solomon and seconded by Vice Chair Karliss. Motion passes with 2 abstentions noted below.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mason – ABSTAIN

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – ABSTAIN

Vice Chair Karliss – Y

Chair Solomon – Y

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kimberly Winick, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concern with accessibility and availability of seating in the locker rooms at the West Hollywood Aquatic & Recreation Center. Kimberly suggested alternate configurations to the lockers and seating area.

Georgia Van Cuylenburg, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about the locker rooms at the West Hollywood Aquatic & Recreation Center and expressed concern with the current configuration.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed dislike on being timed when providing public comment. Michael commented on the city website in regard to public meetings and pointed out that it is not clear if the meetings are taking place that evening.

John Erickson, WEST HOLLYWOOD, Mayor Erickson expressed his gratitude for the hard work the commission and staff do on a daily basis. Mayor Erickson advised the members of the public to direct any comments or concerns they may have to the commission secretary, Debbie Gonzalez. Erickson wished everyone a Happy Valentines Day.

Patrick Shandruck, WEST HOLLYWOOD, submitted a public comment via e-mail regarding the locker rooms at the West Hollywood Aquatic & Recreation Center.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. OVERVIEW OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an overview of the City's capital projects within their purview and led by the Facilities and Field Services Division.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

Approved as part of the Agenda Approval, Item 3.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. PROPOSED CHANGES TO DOG PARK REGULATIONS

SUBJECT: The Commission will consider recommending the adoption of the Los Angeles County Code, Title 17.04.412 Dog Off-Leash Area Rules and Regulations and adding a definition for a dog off-leash area.

Staff introduced the item and provided background information as outlined in the staff report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Wojtkielewicz, WEST HOLLYWOOD, asked the Commission to place the vaccination rule high on the list. Michael expressed that there is a lack of advertisement of the city's dog parks.

Todd Silver, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concern with the dog park patron's lack of etiquette and the lack of enforcement of the dog park rules. Todd expressed concern for the safety of small dogs when large dogs are present.

Betsy Leibson, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concern with the dog park patron's lack of etiquette and the lack of enforcement of the dog park rules.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mason spoke of the importance of establishing rules and regulations for the dog parks. He agrees that that there needs to be better enforcement of the rules. Mason emphasized the need for accountability. He shared his experience in witnessing incidents involving dogs off leash.

Commissioner Payton expressed the need for better oversight of the rules and regulations at the dog parks. She commented on the need to post the rules where it is visible.

Commissioner Krishna expressed that she would like to see better enforcement of the rules and regulations of the dog park rules. She stressed the need to post the rules to bring more awareness of what the rules are.

Vice Chair Karliss agrees with Commissioner Mason's comments regarding the need for complete rules and regulations. Having complete rules and regulations can lead to better enforcement. Karliss commented on item F regarding displaying a dog license and expressed never seeing a dog license on dogs while at the dog park. He suggested moving the language regarding communicable diseases from item F to item G. He commented on item H and shared that large dogs entering small dog parks is a bigger issue than small dogs entering large dog parks. He suggested lowering the weight limit in item N. Karliss suggested removing the language about "digging" in item Q since the dog parks will all have dog turf.

Chair Solomon commented that the current signs at the West Hollywood Dog Park reference an old LA County code and need to be updated. Solomon recommended amending the language in item F regarding displaying a dog license. He commented on the weight limits in item N and how it could potentially be difficult to enforce them. Solomon would like the Code Enforcement team to be present when the final recommendation goes to City Council.

Commissioner Mason disagrees with lowering the weight limits in item N. He agrees with the Vice Chair's comments to rearrange the language in item F and G. He agrees with the Chair's comments regarding item F and amending the language about displaying dog licenses.

The Commission deliberated regarding the weight limits in item N.

MOTION 1: Chair Solomon made a motion to approve the Dog Off-Leash Area Rules and Regulations absent of Item N, pending further discussion, and revise the verbiage in Item F and Item G to read as follows:

- 1) Item F - Dogs without a valid and current County or city-issued dog license are not permitted to use the Dog Off-Leash Areas. Dog guardians must have the valid and current dog license available to present when asked. Dogs must be current on vaccinations and licensing.**
- 2) Item G - Dogs that are sick or injured are not permitted in Dog Off-Leash Areas. Unlicensed dogs or dogs with communicable diseases are not allowed at any time.**

The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Karliss, and approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mason – Y
Commissioner Payton – Y
Commissioner Krishna – Y
Vice Chair Karliss – Y
Chair Solomon – Y

MOTION 2: Chair Solomon made a motion recommending that staff review Item N and provide a recommendation on weight limits to determine large dogs from small dogs, to include in the final recommendation to the City Council to adopt the Los Angeles County Code, Title 17.04.412 Dog Off-Leash Area Rules, and Regulations.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mason, and approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mason – Y
Commissioner Payton – Y
Commissioner Krishna – Y
Vice Chair Karliss – Y
Chair Solomon – Y

B. PRESENTATION OF UPCOMING PROJECTS AT PLUMMER PARK

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive a presentation of upcoming projects at Plummer Park.

Staff introduced the item and provided a timeline of the projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Wojtkielewicz, WEST HOLLYWOOD, suggested naming the Plummer Park dog park area after Francisca Perez who previously owned that part of the land. Additionally, he suggested using the garden area to pay homage to the Tongva Nation.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Chair Solomon would like to schedule the Pro Shop Community meeting.

ACTION: Receive and file.

- 9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.
- 10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR – None.
- 11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Stephanie Martinez announced that the new Rec Reader is out and Spring 2024 class registrations have commenced. She will be back in April with an update on the 2 seasons. She shared that she spoke with the members of the public that had comments regarding the Aquatic & Recreation Center locker rooms and the Dog Park constituents that had concerns. She shared that Recreation staff in charge of the community garden program will be sending a status update to those who have expressed interest.

Helen Collins provided an update on the Holloway project and the 8120 Santa Monica Blvd project.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Wojtkielewicz, WEST HOLLYWOOD, made comments about the lack of concern from the Commission on building code deviations on capital projects. Michael expressed concern with life safety in city buildings.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR FOR AGENDA PREP & COMMISSION ITEMS TRACKER

Vice Chair Karliss made a motion to add (1) look ahead calendar item to discuss possible solutions to the concerns regarding accessibility and availability of seating at the Aquatic & Recreation Center locker rooms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Payton.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mason – ABSTAIN

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Vice Chair Karliss – Y

Chair Solomon – Y

Chair Solomon provided an update on the Budget Standing Subcommittee meeting that took place on January 22, 2024.

Commissioner Payton inquired about the Fountain Subcommittee. She asked about the Kings Road Park Playground Ad Hoc. She shared that she was recently appointed to the Library Commission with the LA County.

Vice Chair Karliss requested an update on the meeting room space concerns at the Log Cabin. Staff shared that there have been subsequent meetings with members of the West Hollywood Recovery Center to reach an agreement. The item will be going to council on March 4, 2024 with the proposed design concept. Karliss asked if any action was taken on the Melrose Gathering Space discussion at the City Council Closed Session meeting. Staff did not have anything to report.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. to its next regular meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall Community Meeting Room, 1st Floor, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

ATTACHMENT A: E-mail Correspondence – Public Comment

ATTACHMENT B: Los Angeles County Code, Title 17.04.412 Dog Off-Leash Area Rules, and Regulations.

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Debbie Gonzalez

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Debbie Gonzalez, Recording Secretary

DocuSigned by:

Andrew C Solomon

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Andrew Solomon, Chair

From: [Patrick Shandrick](#)
To: [Debbie Gonzalez](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Pool Facilities
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 2:18:31 PM

You don't often get email from patrickshandrick@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION - EXTERNAL SENDER. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear ~~Public Safety Commission~~, Public Facilities, Recreation and Infrastructure Commission

Many of my friends and neighbors go to the pool for the Water Fitness workout classes. Cortez and the instructors do a terrific job getting people motivated and moving, while meeting everyone where they are at in regards to their fitness level. These classes have also been an important community builder amongst a diverse group of regulars and newcomers alike.

There is concern about the ease of use of the locker rooms. The quarters are small and tight without a lot of seating. I am pretty able bodied, so I don't have trouble balancing on one leg and leaning against the wall to get dry and dressed. However, it is a challenge for some of the older adults or those taking the classes for physical therapy purposes.

I hope you can look at solutions that provide more seating and useful functionality. Someone has mentioned taking out lockers along the small wall (which go unused) and putting a bench on that wall. That seems like a terrific start.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to our City.
Patrick Shandrick
Rangely Ave, West Hollywood, 90048

Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 17.04.412 Dog Off-Leash Area Rules, and Regulations

17.04.412 Dog Off-Leash Area Rules and Regulations.

It shall be a violation of this section to violate any of the following rules and regulations:

- A. Dogs are not permitted to be in the Dog Off-Leash Area except during the hours that it is open, as posted on the premises.
- B. Dogs are not permitted to be in the Dog Off-Leash Area when it is closed as posted for maintenance.
- C. Dogs must be accompanied by persons responsible for the dog who are 18 years old or older. A person responsible for the dog is legally responsible and liable for any injury caused by the dog.
- D. Children under the age of six years old are not permitted in the Dog Off-Leash Areas. Children 6 to 17 years of age must be accompanied and supervised by an adult (18 years of age or older) while in the Dog Off-Leash Areas.
- E. Dogs under the age of four months are not permitted in the Dog Off-Leash Areas.
- F. Dogs not displaying a valid and current County- or city-issued dog license are not permitted to use the Dog Off-Leash Areas. Dogs must be current on vaccinations and licensing. Unlicensed dogs or dogs with communicable diseases are not allowed at any time.
- G. Dogs that are sick or injured are not permitted in Dog Off-Leash Areas.
- H. All dogs using Dog Off-Leash Areas must be neutered or spayed.
- I. No more than three dogs are allowed per person responsible in attendance in the Dog Off-Leash Area.
- J. Dogs exhibiting aggressive or other behavior that jeopardizes human or animal safety are not permitted and are to be immediately removed.
- K. Any dog(s) which has been declared vicious or potentially dangerous, pursuant to Chapter 10.37 of the County Code, or any dog that has been declared "vicious," "dangerous," "potentially dangerous," or a "public nuisance," or an attack dog, guard dog or sentry dog, as defined in California Health and Safety Code section 121875 et seq., is not permitted to enter or remain.
- L. Nothing in this section shall prohibit law enforcement personnel from being accompanied by a trained police dog or military working dog at any County park.
- M. If a dog injures a person or another dog, the person responsible for the dog shall immediately provide his/her name and address and the dog owner's name and address, if different, as well as any insurance information requested by or on behalf of the injured person, or by any County employee and shall file a report with the County within five days.
- N. Large dogs (over 35 pounds) are permitted only in designated large dog areas, and small dogs (under 35 pounds) are permitted only in designated small dog areas.
- O. A person responsible for a dog shall remove dog feces and shall dispose of it in waste containers for that purpose. It is the responsibility of each person responsible for a dog(s) to supervise and clean up after his/her dog(s) to ensure a clean and orderly Dog Off-Leash Area.
- P. A person responsible for a dog must remain with his/her dog(s) in Dog Off-Leash Areas, must keep his/her dog(s) in sight at all times, and must keep his/her dog(s) under voice control at all times.

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- Q. A person responsible for a dog must stop his/her dog(s) from digging. Any holes created by his/her dog(s) must be filled.
 - R. A person responsible for a dog shall comply with all rules governing the parks and relevant parking regulations.
 - S. When not secured within the enclosure of a Dog Off-Leash Area, every dog shall at all times be restrained by a leash no more than six feet in length, held in the hand of a person capable of controlling and actually controlling the dog.
 - T. No person shall harass, tease, or incite any dog in any way in any Dog Off-Leash Area, including, but not limited to, verbal or physical gestures or throwing of objects.
 - U. Dog Off-Leash Areas are non-smoking facilities. Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarette products, is prohibited in Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - V. No food (for people or dogs) is allowed in Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - W. No glass containers are allowed in Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - X. No toys (except toss toys, such as balls and frisbees) are allowed in Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - Y. Spiked collars on dogs are not permitted in any Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - Z. Bicycles, rollerblades, roller skates, skateboards, strollers, and similar items are not permitted in any Dog Off-Leash Areas. Wheelchairs and other aids for the disabled are permitted.
 - AA. Dog trainers may not use any Dog Off-Leash Area to conduct business.
 - BB. No person shall play any team sport, including, but not limited to, football, baseball, soccer, rugby, and volleyball, within Dog Off-Leash Areas.
 - CC. Anyone who abandons an animal anywhere, including a Dog Off-Leash Area, is subject to a \$500 fine and/or up to six months in jail (California Penal Code section 597s).
 - DD. Use of Dog Off-Leash Areas by any person responsible for a dog shall constitute implied consent of that person to all regulations and shall constitute a waiver of liability to the County and an agreement to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its officials, and employees for any injury or damage caused by a dog within such Dog Off-Leash Area when the dog is not on a leash.
 - EE. Other Regulations. The Director may approve additional administrative regulations relating to the use of any Dog Off-Leash Area not inconsistent with this chapter and shall cause those regulations to be posted prominently within the Dog Off-Leash Area.

(Ord. 2017-0020 § 4, 2017.)