

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1997  
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Guarriello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Carol Rodriguez led the Pledge.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Councilmembers - Heilman, Koretz, Prang, Martin and Mayor Guarriello.

ABSENT: Councilmembers - None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Makinney, City Attorney Jenkins, City Clerk Love and Assistant City Clerk Thompson.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mayor Guarriello stated staff requested the addition of an Urgency Item to the Consent Calendar, as Item 2.O titled "PROPOSED RESOLUTION REQUESTING, APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST." This item was brought to the attention to the City after the November 3, 1997 City Council Agenda was posted, and the Council needs to take action on this Item before its next meeting. The Council may add this item by a 4/5<sup>th</sup> vote.

**ACTION: Add Urgency Item to the Consent Calendar as Item 2.O. Motion Mayor Pro Tem Martin, seconded by Councilmember Heilman and unanimously carried.**

Councilmember Heilman requested Item 2.H. be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.

Councilmember Prang requested Item 2.L be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin requested that Item 4.D. and 5.B. be considered together.

**ACTION: Approve the Agenda as amended. Motion Councilmember Prang, seconded by Councilmember Heilman and unanimously carried.**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Guarriello thanked all the staff for the great Halloween event.

Mayor Guarriello wished Donna Saur, resident of West Hollywood, Happy Birthday.

Mayor Guarriello presented a commendation to Regina Front who presented the City with a check in the amount of \$10,000. for the Lynn M. Front Memorial Tennis Camp

Councilmember Prang presented a Rainbow Key Award to David Merrill for his outstanding work in the Lesbian and Gay community.

Councilmember Heilman announced that he had a commendation for Susan Pinkus for her membership on the Women's Advisory Council, and wished her the same success as a Commissioner on the Public Facilities Commission.

Councilmember Heilman commended the West Hollywood Sheriff's Department and the Special Task Force for their work on the "jogging bandit" case.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin announced he will be making an appointment to the Planning Commission this evening and his appointment will be Liz Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin announced that the City will celebrate Veteran's Day on Monday, November 10 and recognized: Budd Kops (U.S. Airforce, WWII & Korea), Richard Banta (Army Veteran - WWII), Stan Lothridge (Navy, WWII) and Lt. Governor Gray Davis (Vietnam) as West Hollywood residents and veterans.

Budd Kops thanked the City Council and commented about being a veteran in West Hollywood.

## **1. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

BUDD KOPS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, read a statement regarding Soldiers, and asked the City Council to take care of the business of West Hollywood.

JOHN DURAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of Item 4.D. and 5.B. He also announced that West Hollywood Chorale will be performing on December 7th at the Wilshire Methodist Church. He also announced they have also been invited to sing at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on December 24.

DIANNE BENNETT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against noise such as barking dogs, motorcycles, boom boxes, honking of horns, etc. She provided an overview of her thoughts on the development of Santa Monica Blvd.

MICHELE LIPKIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated her concern about the traffic on Palm Avenue. She asked about the installation of speed humps or stop signs on Palm.

JUDY MAYO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, commended the City Council on recognizing Veteran's.

She asked the City Council to include women in all recognition made by the City Council.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated she had spoken about the behavior of advertisement murals on the sides of buildings. She complained about the noticing of the Community Development Directors agenda which did not specify the full content of one of the issues.

CAROL RODRIQUEZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about item 2.M. indicating she is not sure this is a good program, and stated the SCPA has the "Pets for People Program."

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Prang congratulated the West Hollywood Chorale on their invitation to perform at the Dorothy Chandler. He noted that the Department of Transportation is working on a Pilot Program for possible stop signs on Palm Avenue. Councilmember Prang asked for a report on the Melrose curb extensions and also a report on construction trucks in residential areas, near Sweetzer, relative to enforcement, etc. He commented on Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles and stated he would bring an item before the City Council that asks staff to investigate several areas of incentives and/or partnerships with fuel companies and taxi cab companies.

Councilmember Heilman concurred with Mayor Guarriello on the success of Halloween. He also responded that there is currently traffic counters on Palm and requested that Michele Lipkin speak to either Lucy Dyke, Transportation Manager or Dennis Woods, Associate Transportation Planner, regarding the Palm Avenue study and the process. He responded to Dianne Bennett's comments regarding noise, and asked the City Manager could give the City Council a report regarding the efforts of noise reduction.

Councilmember Koretz added his comments to the Halloween and he also noted the carnival was very well done. He commented on the pilot program on Palm Avenue in regards in the four-way stops. He wished Gus Gardner a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin sent out Birthday greetings to Janet Siegel on the Senior Advisory Council. He thanked staff for the third Santa Monica Boulevard Visioning meeting which was a great success. He also requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Honorable Walter Capps and Michael Nicola.

Mayor Guarriello indicated that he will be bringing an agenda item before the City Council on November 17, 1997, which will request the Council to consider a Veteran's Memorial.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:** City Manager Makinney recognized Mr. Curtis Brown, Recreation Services Administrator, who provided a report on the Halloween Event and the Pool Locker Room project.

Mr. Brown thanked Lloyd Long, Human Services Director. He also acknowledged thanked

several Departments and employees. He especially thanked Beth Sazama for her work. He reported there were over 250,000 people in attendance and the Sheriff's Department report five incidents.

Mr. Brown also provided a report regarding the pool project. The plans will be ready in 30-45 days and they expect the completed locker rooms to be done in April.

City Manager Makinney introduced Lucy Dyke, Transportation Manager, who provided a report on the removal of the Melrose extensions indicating that the removal would cost \$65,000 as well as pay back of a \$75,000 grant.

Councilmember Prang inquired whether everyone is clear that the City Council direction is to remove the extensions. He asked staff to come back with the removal of one extension at a time.

City Manager Makinney indicated that this item will be coming back in the mid year budget review. He also provided an update on comments made regarding the removal of a ficus tree and indicated that the individual has stated he had a permit from Cal Trans, the City has requested proof of that permit.

**FISCAL IMPACT ON CONSENT CALENDAR:** Assistant City Clerk Thompson stated the fiscal impact of the November 3, 1997 Consent Calendar, as amended, is \$42,596. in expenditures and \$13,000. in potential revenues.

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**ACTION: Approve items 2.A., B., C., D., E., F., G., I., J., K., M., N., and O. Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Prang and unanimously carried.**

**A. POSTING OF AGENDA:**

The agenda for the meeting of Monday, November 3, 1997 was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the Sheriff's Station and at the West Hollywood Library on October 31, 1997.

**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file. Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**B. WAIVER OF FURTHER READING:**

**RECOMMENDATION: After the City Attorney has read the title of any ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived. Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**C. DEMAND REGISTER NO. 353, RESOLUTION NO. 97-1806:**

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve Demand Register No. 353 and adopt Resolution No. 97-1806, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE**

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD ALLOWING AND APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF DEMANDS ON DEMAND REGISTER NO. 353." **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**D. ORDINANCE NO. 97-508 (2nd Reading), AMENDING THE PREFERENTIAL PARKING PROVISIONS OF THE TRAFFIC CODE BY IMPLEMENTING PREFERENTIAL PARKING REGULATIONS ON CRESCENT HEIGHTS BOULEVARD BETWEEN FOUNTAIN AVENUE AND SUNSET BOULEVARD AND AMENDING THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE:**

RECOMMENDATION: Waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 97-508, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AMENDING THE PREFERENTIAL PARKING PROVISIONS OF THE TRAFFIC CODE BY IMPLEMENTING PREFERENTIAL PARKING REGULATIONS ON CRESCENT HEIGHTS BOULEVARD BETWEEN FOUNTAIN AVENUE AND SUNSET BOULEVARD AND AMENDING THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE." **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**E. ORDINANCE NO. 97-509 (2nd Reading), AMENDING THE PREFERENTIAL PARKING PROVISIONS OF THE TRAFFIC CODE BY IMPLEMENTING PREFERENTIAL PARKING REGULATIONS ON DICKS STREET BETWEEN HILLDALE AVENUE AND DOHENY DRIVE AND AMENDING THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE:**

RECOMMENDATION: Waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 97-509, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AMENDING THE PREFERENTIAL PARKING PROVISIONS OF THE TRAFFIC CODE BY IMPLEMENTING PREFERENTIAL PARKING REGULATIONS ON DICKS STREET, BETWEEN HILLDALE AVENUE AND DOHENY DRIVE, AND AMENDING THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE." **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**F. COMMISSION AND ADVISORY BOARD ACTION REPORTS:**

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file Action Reports from the Planning Commission of October 16, 1997; Transportation Commission of October 15, 1997; Disabilities Advisory Council of October 8, 1997; Women's Advisory Council of October 23, 1997; Fine Arts Advisory Board of October 24, 1997; and Cultural Heritage Advisory Board of October 27, 1997. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**G. APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CEDARS-SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:**

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Approve a professional services contract with Cedars-Sinai in an amount not to exceed \$8,500.00 for Employee Assistance Program services from November 1, 1997 through October 31, 1998; and, 2) Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**H. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR HOLIDAY BANNERS AND FLAGS FOR SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD:**

This item was removed from the Consent Calendar and appears under Excluded Consent Calendar following New Business Items.

**I. PROPOSED RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION'S SPECIAL COMMUNITY FUND-RAISER:**

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 97-1807, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD IN SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION'S SPECIAL COMMUNITY FUND-RAISER." **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**J. FISCAL YEAR 1996-97 STREET PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROGRAM NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR CIP 9704:**

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the work of Sully-Miller Contracting Co. for the Fiscal Year 1996-97 Street Pavement Rehabilitation Program CIP No. 9704, and authorize the following: 1) Filing of a Notice of Completion by the City Engineer; 2) Final payment at the end of the 35-day lien period; and, 3) Release of the Performance Bond and Payment Bond. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**K. DISABILITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL RESIGNATION:**

RECOMMENDATION: Accept with regret the resignation of Pamela Komac. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**L. APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF LARRABEE STREET, SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD AND HILLDALE AVENUE FOR THE 1998 MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION:**

This item was removed from the Consent Calendar and appears under Excluded Consent Calendar following New Business Items.

**M. SPAY AND NEUTER PROGRAM:**

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Direct staff to develop a proposal to offer spay/neuter discounts for the pets of West Hollywood residents; and, 2) report findings to Council, including a proposed outline for the program and the associated costs at their regular meeting on January 5, 1998. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**N. APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WILDAN ASSOCIATES TO DEVELOP A CONCEPT LEVEL COST STUDY OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ROADWAY ENHANCEMENTS TO SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD:**

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Wildan Associates, in an amount not to exceed \$13,000.00, for preparation of a cost study of possible future roadway enhancements for Santa Monica Boulevard. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**O. (URGENCY ITEM) PROPOSED RESOLUTION REQUESTING, APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST:**

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Adopt Resolution No. 97-1808, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD REQUESTING, APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST;" and 2) Authorize the execution of the amended agreement. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**A. ESTABLISH A FEE TO REINSPECT TAXICABS:**

Assistant City Clerk Thompson stated a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the West Hollywood Independent on October 22 and 29, 1997.

Dennis Woods, Associate Transportation Planner, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

Mayor Guarriello opened the Public Hearing and no speakers coming forward, closed the Public Hearing.

**ACTION:** Adopt Resolution No. 97 -1809 "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR REINSPECTING TAXICABS AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 97-1793, WHICH ESTABLISHED FEES FOR SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997-98."

**Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Mayor Guarriello and unanimously carried.**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. WEST HOLLYWOOD CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, FISCAL YEAR 1997-98 CONTRACT FOR SERVICES AND FIRST QUARTER REPORT:**

Alison Maxwell, Development Specialist, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

Ms. Elaine Mutchnik, Chairmember of Board, introduced Brad Burlingame, as the new President, who provided a report to the City Council.

**ACTION:** 1) Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the West Hollywood Marketing Corporation (d.b.a. West Hollywood Convention and Visitors Bureau) to set forth a scope of activities and budget for the Fiscal Year 1997-98; and 2) Receive and file the quarterly report for the West Hollywood Convention and Visitors Bureau for the quarter ending September 1997.

**Motion Councilmember Prang, seconded by Councilmember Heilman and unanimously carried.**

**B. FISCAL YEAR 1996-97 ANNUAL REPORT AND FIRST QUARTER REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997-98 SUBMITTED BY WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION:**

Lester Burg, Development Specialist, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

ANSON SNYDER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about some of the work which the Housing Corporation is accomplishing.

PAUL ZIMMERMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION, introduced some of the staff at the Housing Corporation. He outlined the mission of the Housing Corporation. Mr. Zimmerman provided an overview of the activities of the Housing Corporation and an update of projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin asked about the status of the two buildings, on the Palm Avenue site, which were originally going to be preserved.

Mr. Zimmerman responded that the structures were substantially rotted. The buildings were disassembled and will be restored after completion of the parking structure on that site.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated her agreement with comments



made by Mr. Zimmerman regarding historical buildings.

**ACTION:** Receive and file.

**Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Prang and unanimously carried.**

**C. DIRECT APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:**

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tempore Martin appointed Liz Anderson to the Planning Commission, effective November 3, 1997, to fill an unexpired term ending May 31, 1999.

**4. D. DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES OF CITY CONTRACTORS;**

Leah Archibald, Deputy to Councilmember Koretz, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

**AND**

**5. B. DIRECTION TO STAFF TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF CHANGING BENEFIT PROVIDERS IN ORDER TO OFFER A COMPLETE AND EQUITABLE DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS PACKAGE FOR THE DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF ALL ELIGIBLE CITY EMPLOYEES:**

Rich Ryan, Deputy to Mayor Pro Tempore Martin, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

Councilmember Heilman thanked staff for bringing this forward. The City has always been supportive of equal benefits for domestic partnerships. The preliminary report needs to be clear on specific benefits for both spouses and domestic partners.

Councilmember Koretz indicated that this is part of the reason it has taken some time for this item to come forward. We obviously have to move in that direction.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin concurred with Councilmember Heilman's comments. There needs to be a good faith effort to be equitable for domestic partners.

Councilmember Heilman asked if a benefits consultant could be brought in to do an assessment of all the benefits. He also suggested a working group comprised of members of the various bargaining units.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin asked City Manager Makinney to return to the City Council the cost of a benefit consultant and an agreement to do the analysis.

**4.D. ACTION:** 1) Direct staff to examine domestic partner benefits packages offered by other public agencies such as the Cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco to determine how they are able to offer domestic partners of employees health and retirement benefits; 2) Upon development of a preliminary domestic partner benefits package for City employees, (after completion of a survey of available health insurance and retirement benefit options) draft an ordinance requiring contractors to offer full benefits to domestic partners of their employees; 3) Notify City contractors of the pending contracting proposal and ask for their input; and, 4) Present the draft ordinance requiring contractors to provide domestic partner benefits to their own employees and the contractors' responses for Council consideration before June 30, 1998.

**AND**

**5.B. ACTION:** 1) Direct City staff to report back to Council with a complete accounting of the discrepancies that exist between the benefits provided to the spouses of City employees and those provided to the domestic partners of City employees; 2) Direct City staff to research and bring back to City Council a report of the domestic partnership benefits packages provided by other public agencies in California such as, the City of San Francisco, the City of Los Angeles and the L.A. Unified School District, along with a complete report of how they provide for such domestic partner benefits as health insurance, retirement, long-term disability and supplemental cancer coverage; 3) Direct City staff to notify all City employee bargaining units of the Council's desire to make appropriate changes to coverage providers, where necessary, in order to provide a complete and equitable domestic partnership benefits package; 4) Direct City staff to research and bring back to Council a report on the possibilities of the City adjoining and participating in other public agencies benefits coverage plans in order to provide a complete and equitable domestic partnership benefits package. This may include the possibility of separating the domestic partners coverage portion of the employee benefits program by allowing City employees and their domestic partners to "opt out" of the City's provider plan to join an alternate provider which allows for DP coverage; 5) Direct Human Resources Department staff to report back to the City Council with all initial reports no later than the second City Council Meeting in March, 1998. It is hoped that a viable solution to the problem of the discrepancies that now exist in the City's benefit program will be put into place no later than June 30, 1999; and, 6) Direct staff to "meet and confer" with the City's bargaining units regarding the Council's desire to notify the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of the potential possibility of the City to find alternative insurance providers if a provision for the coverage domestic partnership benefits is not approved by the State by January 31, 1999. Upon approval by the City's bargaining units, notify those PERS covered Cities

and government agencies, where appropriate, of the City's desire that the State will allow for the provision of DP benefits for its PERS participants.

**AND**

**OTHER ACTION:** Direct the City Manager to return to the City Council in 60 days with the cost and a proposed agreement for a benefits consultant to assist with the project.

**Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Koretz and unanimously carried.**

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. AN ITEM TO PROHIBIT THE MTA AND OTHER COMMERCIAL TRANSIT VEHICLE OPERATORS FROM OPERATING DIESEL-FUELED VEHICLES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF WEST HOLLYWOOD:**

Councilmember Koretz, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

BUDD KOPS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against this item and suggested the Council adopt a resolution to work with the MTA.

RICK HITTINGER, LONG BEACH, serves as the Southern Manager for the MTA. He stated that the Authority is committed to clean air, and the MTA is largest operator of alternative fueled buses in the World. The alcohol based fuel experience has not been a good one. The cost of the ethanol/methanol fuel engines and is about \$16,000. higher than a diesel fuel engine. He outlined the aggressive approach to CNG.

LINDA WADE, LOS ANGELES, Executive Director of the Coalition of Clean Air. She stated her support for the elimination of the use of diesel fuel in the City of West Hollywood and stated their support for the phase out of the use of diesel fuel in the City.

DAN LEVY, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated his support for cleaner air in the City of West Hollywood. He indicated that there was supposed to be additional landscaping, repair to the wall and double pane windows to be installed in the surrounding buildings.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against the item. She stated this was not a practical matter.

Councilmember Koretz added that there were a number of recommendations made by the Detroit Diesel Company including recommendations to properly maintain the vehicles.

Councilmember Prang stated his support for the recommendation and perhaps it will serve as a wakeup call to the MTA.

Mayor Guarriello indicated he will support any law that will improve the air. He asked for a legal analysis from the City Attorney; how we would enforce the Ordinance; what is the cost of enforcing this Ordinance; and what are we going to say to the residents in six years when there are still diesel busses in the City.

Councilmember Heilman indicated he supports the idea behind this item but also has to acknowledge the MTA situation. Secondly, he would like to get rid of the MTA lot. However, the recommendation is not legal as we do not have the legal authority to make them move. We do not have the legal authority to remove the authority to operate diesel fuel or diesel fueled vehicles. He suggested adopting a Resolution that would call for the MTA to reduce or eliminate diesel fueled vehicles and ask the MTA to enter into negotiations to re-locate the facility.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin indicated that the recommendation brought forth tonight is reasonable. However, it is unclear if we have the authority to move the MTA lot, but we could certainly open negotiations with MTA. He stressed that the MTA better keep their promises regarding the improvements to be made to the facility and to the neighbors.

Councilmember Prang indicated that a prior resolution was adopted and was distributed to appropriate officials and the MTA, and to date they have not heard anything.

Councilmember Heilman suggested a representative from the City Attorney's office meet with the Task Force, early on, and provide the Task Force any legal restraints in advance of the Task Force making and deliberating recommendations.

**ACTION:** 1) Create a Task Force comprised of environmental experts, community members, the Bus Riders' Union and a representative from the MTA, to come up with a reasonable timeline for the phase out of the operation, maintenance, servicing, storage at the MTA bus yard. The Task Force should also consider other areas in the City would want to regulate "diesel" beyond the MTA site. As part of the Task Force's set of issues he would suggest it look at relocating the MTA site. The Task Force would bring back recommendations to

the City Council which would be sent to the City Attorney to draft an ordinance;  
2) Direct the City Manager to conduct an analysis of the current and future city fleet to ensure that it meets all alternative fuel guidelines and every effort is made to use and purchase alternatively fueled vehicles.

**Motion Councilmember Koretz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martin and unanimously carried.**

**B. DIRECTION TO STAFF TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF CHANGING BENEFIT PROVIDERS IN ORDER TO OFFER A COMPLETE AND EQUITABLE DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS PACKAGE FOR THE DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF ALL ELIGIBLE CITY EMPLOYEES:**

*This item was considered with agenda item 4.D.*

**EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**H. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR HOLIDAY BANNERS AND FLAGS FOR SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD:**

Sharon Perlstein, City Engineer provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

Councilmember Heilman stated that the banner installation was inconsistent with previous Council direction to install lighting.

**ACTION:** 1) Accept the bid dated October 27, 1997 submitted by Gold Graphics; and, 2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Gold Graphics, in the amount of \$13,616.77 for the fabrication and installation of holiday banners and flags for Santa Monica Boulevard.

**Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Mayor Guarriello and unanimously carried.**

**L. APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF LARRABEE STREET, SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD AND HILLDALE AVENUE FOR THE 1998 MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION:**

Rich Ryan, Council Deputy provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

Councilmember Prang indicated that he pulled this item not due to opposition but simply to recognize another special event. He outlined a few concerns relative to the impact on the neighborhood.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin stated his concerns that if this event continues to get

larger the City must ask itself if it is practical to maintain this event.

Councilmember Heilman stated the Special Events Coordinator will be responsible for the coordination of the event. He also suggested that staff investigate if there was a way to incorporate some of the other locations in the City, such as the Clubs on Sunset.

**ACTION:** 1) Approve the closure of Larrabee Street, San Vicente Boulevard and Hilldale Avenue on February 24, 1997 and direct staff of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Recreation Division and the Public Safety Division to work with the Mardi Gras 1997 Committee to implement all street closures; and 2) Direct appropriate City staff and the Mardi Gras 1997 Committee to coordinate the notification, in a timely manner, of all businesses and residents that will be impacted by the upcoming Mardi Gras event and of the impending street closures.

**Motion Mayor Pro Tem Martin, seconded by mayor Guarriello and unanimously carried.**

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

CAROLYN HAIRSTON and LINDA GLEDHILL, LOS ANGELES, representing the American Diabetes Association announced the American Diabetes Association event on November 13, 1997 called the Celebrity Waiters Dinner at the Pacific Design Center.

EFFIE REUVENI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, thanked Councilmember Prang for bringing up the curb extensions. He stated his support for the removal of the curb extensions.

BRUCE TRAUB, WEST HOLLYWOOD, suggested the removal of the very successful pooper scooper station near his house. He thanked Mayor Guarriello for the installation of the station. He commented on the removal of the curb extensions. He also indicated that the bollards on Almont were not removed.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, commented on the appearance and maintenance of the auditorium. She suggested that task forces be reduced.

#### **6. LEGISLATIVE:**

##### **A. AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE III, CHAPTER II, PART A-1, SECTIONS 3205 AND 3207, OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE REGULATION OF TAXICABS:**

Dennis Woods, Associate Transportation Planner, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated November 3, 1997.

**ACTION:** Introduce on the first reading Ordinance No. 97-510 "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AMENDING ARTICLE III, CHAPTER II, PART A-1, SECTIONS 3205 AND 3207 OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE REGULATION OF TAXICABS."

**Motion Councilmember Heilman, seconded by Councilmember Prang and unanimously carried.**

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Prang indicated that he received two noise complaints from Westmount Residents which were near the KIIS-FM stage. He also commented on the personal attacks against Councilmembers.

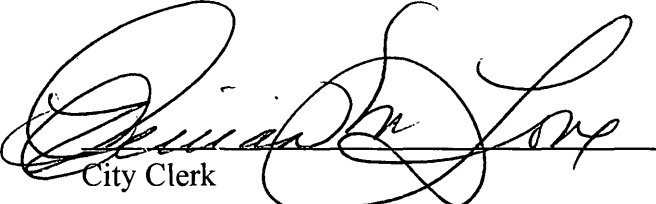
Mayor Pro Tem Martin responded to comments made by Jeanne Dobrin. He also commented that the City Council specifically did not remove the bollards from Almont because cars were not hitting them. Lastly, he asked for contributions of can goods or money to Good Neighbors.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The City Council adjourned at 9:45 p.m. in memory of Honorable Walter Capps and Mr. Mike Nicola to their next regular meeting on Monday, November 17, 1997 at 7:00 P.M. at West Hollywood Park, 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1997.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk