

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
PARKING AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
December 04, 2014**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 4th day of December, 2014, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: King, Lipps, Nicholson, Fournier and Apostol.  
Absent: None.  
Staff Present: Traffic Engineer Zandvliet, Management Analyst Madrid,  
Community Development Director Marisa Lunstedt.  
Clerk: Kozak.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**12/04/14-1 September 25, 2014**

Approved with no corrections.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lipps moved to approve the Parking and Public Improvements Commission minutes of September 25, 2014. The motion was seconded by Chair Nicholson and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**D. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Chair Nicholson opened the Audience Participation (3-Minute Limit)

**Stephanie Robins, 1805 Herrin Ave., of the Friends of Polliwog Park,** thanked the Commission for the opportunity to be heard and then welcomed and congratulated Traffic Engineer Zandvliet on becoming a full time employee of the City. She stated she was a member of the Friends of Polliwog Park which is a neighborhood organization dedicated to preserving the original character of the park for the community. She said her concerns were about the increasing traffic around the M.B.M.S., she felt the residents have waited long enough for a solution to the traffic problem. She urged the Commission to bring the issue to the table in a timely matter and use the Mobility Plan along with input from the residents to find a creative solution.

Chair Nicholson closed the Audience Participation.

## **E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **12/04/14-2 Welcome and Introduction of New City Staff**

Management Analyst Madrid introduced the new Community Development Director Marisa Lunstedt.

Director Marisa Lunstedt said she was very pleased to be at the meeting and to be with the City. She stated staff had made a lot of accomplishments and that Nhung and Erik had done a tremendous amount of work on the Mobility Plan and she was excited to see it through.

Management Analyst Madrid then made the announcement that Erik Zandvliet was now a full time employee of the City and he will be the new staff liaison to the Commissioners and their main contact. Management Analyst Madrid stated that this would be her last meeting, but, she would be back with special projects in the future.

Chair Nicholson thanked Management Analyst Madrid for everything she had done for the Commission by keeping them prepared and helping to run the meetings. Chair Nicholson said what a delight it was to work with her.

Chair Nicholson then welcomed Erik Zandvliet.

Commissioner Fournier thanked Nhung for her service on a job well done.

### **12/04/14-3 Draft Mobility Plan Presentation**

Management Analyst Madrid gave a brief introduction about the process behind the Mobility Plan which the City has been working on for about a year. She explained it included public workshops and stakeholder meetings as well as presentations of the Plan to the City Council. She said the meetings were instrumental in obtaining input from the community on the best way to update this chapter in the General Plan.

Management Analyst Madrid stated that staff is asking the Commission to receive the presentation and provide a public forum for comment and to discuss the plan and provide input to the City Council. She explained that all the input will be summarized and provided to the Planning Commission and then forwarded to the City Council for final approval.

Management Analyst Madrid then introduced the Consultants that worked on the Mobility Plan, Gary Hamrick, Project Manager with Iteris, Inc. and Michael Kennedy, with Fehr & Peers.

Gary Hamrick gave his presentation on the Draft Mobility Plan.

Michael Kennedy gave his presentation on the Draft Mobility Plan.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet wrote down some of the Commissioners ideas and questions during the presentations. During the presentation, the Commissioners made the following comments related to the Draft Goals and Policies:

- Re: Policy 1-1.9: Develop a strategy/policy to remove unpermitted encroachments and dedicate land for multi-modal travel. (Nicholson)
- Re: Goal 1-2: Develop measures to keep speeds down on local residential streets and discourage traffic diversion from collector to local streets. (Lipps)
- Enhance traffic flow on arterial streets to reduce cut through traffic on local streets. (Lipps)
- Re: Goal 1-3: Avoid removal of curb parking for bike lanes (King)
- Re: Policy 1-3.1: Implement demand-based parking meter rates to manage parking supply (Lipps)
- Add Policy 1-1.9 to enhance street parking when developers dedicate land and make improvements to parkway areas. (Nicholson)
- Concerned about making property owners use private property for wider sidewalks (Apostol)

Chair Nicholson opened the Audience Participation.

### **Audience Participation**

**Dan Constant, Manhattan Beach Resident**, said the Mobility Plan presentation was very helpful in addressing some of the real issues in the City. He said one thing that was not mentioned was lighting and signage. He stated that our City is dark at night and that is directly related to mobility whether you are walking, biking or driving. He hoped the City would look at adding lighting and signage to the study and implementation. He stated he liked the idea of widening the sidewalks downtown. He said the Rosecrans Avenue/Sepulveda Boulevard needed more enforcement. He said he also liked the idea of linking up the Village and the greenbelt. He felt the Valley Drive/Ardmore Avenue greenbelt crossings need improvement to make them safer and suggested bringing in an urban designer to help solve some of the issues that the greenbelt has.

**Julian Katz, Hermosa Beach Resident and the President of the South Bay Bicycle Coalition**, said he wanted to see the implementation of the Bicycle Plans including a Veterans Parkway bike route. He encouraged interconnection of the bikeways to other cities, particularly on Artesia Boulevard at Meadows Avenue and Prospect Avenue. He supported bike corrals.

**Lauren Nakano, Hermosa Beach Resident, Beach Cities Health District**, said she was very excited that the Mobility Plan was moving forward, since it had been two years. She felt it is important to adopt a stand-alone Living Streets Policy because it helps with funding through grants and it allows changes without having to enact the General Plan. She asked the Commission to strongly encourage the City Council to move forward.

**Stephanie Robins, 1805 Herrin Ave.**, commented that the intersection of Manhattan Beach Boulevard and Harkness Street is dark, and needs lighting and crosswalk beacons or signals.

**Mary Jo Ford, 762 14th Street**, said she is a member of the Livability Committee. She explained that better lighting is very important. She also stated that trees and foliage need to be maintained along streets and sidewalks for safer walking and biking.

**Steve De Bates, Manhattan Beach Resident**, sent e-mail correspondence in regard to the Mobility Plan. He wrote that we need to be more efficient when driving our automobiles and there needs to be improvement on the traffic signal synchronization.

**Gary McAulay, Manhattan Beach Resident**, sent e-mail correspondence in regard to the Mobility Plan. He commented that the City should accommodate all modes of transportation and make them safer by not allowing encroachments on the public right of way.

Chair Nicholson closed the Audience Participation.

### **Commission Discussion**

Chair Nicholson commented that he agreed that there needs to be better lighting throughout the city.

Commissioner Apostol said there were a lot of great ideas that could be adopted and implemented, but he felt some of them were cost prohibitive and asked who is responsible for the cost and the budget.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet answered that once projects are added to the Capital Improvement Program list, staff looks for possible funding and grants to move forward with the improvements.

Commissioner Apostol asked what can be done about some of the stop signs that drivers just don't obey, and asked about speed humps and speed cushions.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet answered that there are several different traffic calming measures that can be used, and explained the difference between humps and cushions.

Commissioner Fournier thought that all the comments and ideas were terrific and he said he feels the public's pain because some of these items have been discussed for two years and have not been implemented yet.

Commissioner Apostol suggested acting on the low-hanging fruit and to regularly agendaize those projects that can be implemented quickly and at low cost.

Commissioner King commented on the large expense of putting the bike path up in the greenbelt path area instead of on Valley Drive or Ardmore Avenue. He stated it needs to be coordinated with the Veterans Parkway Master Plan.

Commissioner Lipps recommended longer parking restriction times on Sepulveda Boulevard to improve traffic flow. He also suggested an energy efficient type dial a ride service that all ages could use, not just seniors, to help get some of the cars off the road. Commissioner King noted that a shuttle from the North End to Downtown might be cost-prohibitive.

Commissioner Lipps asked why some of the public parking lots were closed after 8:00 p.m. He felt that it would help get some of the cars off the streets by allowing people to park in the lots after 8:00 p.m.

Lt. Harrod of the Manhattan Beach Police Department answered that the lots were closed for security reasons. He added that in some of the lots the residents can get overnight parking permits from the city. Lt. Harrod also described the City's bike enforcement program.

All the Commissioners agreed that they want to move forward in a timely matter with the implementation of the approved items within the Mobility Plan.

## **F. OTHER ITEMS**

### **12/04/14-4 Commission Items**

Chair Nicholson stated he read an e-mail correspondence from a resident about traffic signal synchronization and asked who is responsible for that.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet answered that L.A. County and Caltrans are responsible for signal coordination on behalf of the City. Traffic Engineer Zandvliet said that he works with the County to keep the system updated.

Chair Nicholson said he heard Traffic Engineer Zandvliet comment that the Manhattan Beach Middle School (M.B.M.S.) was the next school to come up for the safety study.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet confirmed that the City Council gave approval to begin school area safety study for M.B.M.S. He said the City has already obtained input from the Principal and received grants for certain school area improvements.

Commissioner Fournier asked about the original need, schedule and cost of the consultants for their work on the Mobility Plan.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet stated that the update was initiated about two years ago because the City did not have in-house staff who were experts on Mobility Plan concepts.

Management Analyst Madrid stated that the contract cost for the consultant companies was a total of \$146,000.

**12/04/14-5 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Reports: Receive and File.**

Received and Filed.

**12/04/14-6 Staff Follow-up Items**

Management Analyst Madrid explained that for this special meeting the start time was 6:00 p.m., but in order for regular meetings to be held at 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m., the City Council would have to approve the change. She said it would go to the City Council on the 16th of January.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **8:30 p.m.** to the regular Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting on Thursday, January 22, 2015, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.