

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
PARKING AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
December 03, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission of the City of Manhattan Beach, California was held on December 03, 2020 at the hour of 6:02pm., via Zoom Call.

B. PLEDGE TO FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Apostol, Kirschenbaum, Paralusz, Murillo, and Chair Franklin
Absent: None
Staff Present: Traffic Engineer Erik Zandvliet, Director of Community Development Carrie Tai
Clerks: Fel Cortez

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

12/03/20-1 Regular Meeting – December 05, 2019

Commissioner Kirschenbaum pointed out typographical error in minutes to be corrected.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (**Paralusz/Murillo**) to approve the minutes with corrections.

AYES: Paralusz, Murillo, and Chair Franklin
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Apostol, Kirschenbaum
ABSENT: None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-minute Limit)

Chair Franklin opened Audience Participation.

No Audience Participation.

Chair Franklin closed audience participation.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

12/03/20-2 Reorganization of New Chair/Vice Chair

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet gave background on the role of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission and summarized the process of reorganizing the Chair and Vice Chair seats.

MOTION: **Chair Franklin** made a motion (**Kirschenbaum – seconded**) to appoint **Commissioner Apostol** to Vice Chair and **Commissioner Murillo** to Chair.

AYES: Apostol, Kirschenbaum, Paralusz, Murillo, and Chair Franklin
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Commissioner Murillo deferred to **Commissioner Franklin** to continue presiding over the meeting.

12/03/20-3 Discussion of Work Plan Topics for Upcoming Joint Session with Parking and Public Improvements Commission/City Council

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet summarized the staff report to discuss possible work plan items for the upcoming joint session with City Council on January 20, 2021. Items already on the Work Plan to be discussed include updating the City's Parking Codes, working with neighboring cities to develop regulations for shared mobility devices (i.e. e-scooters, e-bicycles, etc.), and reviewing and

recommending policies for local transportation options (i.e. private or fixed route shuttles, ride sharing networks, micro-mobility, etc.). **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** requested that the commissioners discuss possible work plan items to be added to the list.

Chair Franklin opened the discussion for possible Work Plan items to the commissioners.

Commissioner Kirschenbaum asked for clarification on whether parking for e-scooters falls under the purview of the PPIC. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded that the PPIC would have an opportunity to recommend how and where e-scooters should be parked at the time those regulations are developed.

Commissioner Apostol stated that he heard the outdoor dining areas in the city had been repurposed or the public to use as seating, and asked if there had been any talks about these areas continuing as outdoor dining/seating, post COVID-19. He stated his support on the matter. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded that the Long-Term Outdoor Dining subcommittee is looking at long-term solutions to provide permanent outdoor seating in the Downtown-area and in other parts of the city. **Commissioner Paralusz** agreed with the suggestion to add this item to the work plan. She asked for clarification on the orders in place regarding downtown gathering of people outside of one's household. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded that he would give more detail on that matter during staff updates.

Commissioner Kirschenbaum stated his concern that outdoor dining areas increase the maximum restaurant capacity, which in turn, increase the overall parking demand. He asked if we should encourage rideshare services/taxi cabs or other means to take the pressure off parking. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** concurred and stated this is a reason to make it part of the work plan.

Commissioner Murillo agreed with Commissioner Apostol's assessment of outdoor dining and further asked if there have been any complaints or major impacts to parking because of outdoor dining. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated that parking demand and traffic is currently lower due to the pandemic. Residents are generally in favor of temporary outdoor dining as it keeps the restaurants open and helps generate business for retail as well. He further stated that there could be long-term adverse impacts, post COVID-19, when traffic and parking return to prior levels.

Chair Franklin concurred that he is also in favor of the Commissioner Apostol's Work Plan suggestion. He asked staff about the Downtown Specific Plan and whether it could be used as a resource for this consideration. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated yes, and gave some examples from the Specific Plan that would be applicable.

Commissioner Apostol asked if a formal vote is required to elevate possible items to the Work Plan agenda. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** clarified the process that the possible Work Plan topics will be discussed at the January Joint City Council/PPIC meeting. **Commissioner Apostol** asked if staff wanted the commissioners to agree what needs to be put on the work plan. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded that all that is needed is a consensus on items.

Chair Franklin suggested that sub-compact parking be included in the Work Plan as well as other changes to parking infrastructure. He suggested that parallel parking spaces be converted into perpendicular parking spaces and to invest in some parking kiosks in-lieu of parking meters in certain parts of the city. **Chair Franklin** also asked if the parking garage underneath City Hall is open parking after 5:00p.m. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded yes. **Chair Franklin** asked if there were any current studies regarding utilization of this parking garage. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated that his comments will be included in an update to the Downtown Parking Study, which is already included in the Work Plan.

Chair Franklin asked who owns the Upper/Lower Pier Lots. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded the Upper Pier Lot is owned by the County and the Lower Pier Lot is owned by the State, but both are maintained by the City. **Chair Franklin** asked if it would be possible to have them converted to a multi-level parking structure. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated a multi-level parking structure could definitely be possible and has ideas that would not impact the view.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet gave further clarification on the process of adding items to the Work Plan and how they will be discussed at the Joint Meeting.

Chair Franklin closed General Business

G. OTHER ITEMS

12/03/20-4 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Reports: Receive and File

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet gave background on the Revenue and Expenditure Report and the impact of the pandemic on revenues. Discussion followed.

Received and filed

Chair Franklin stepped away from meeting temporarily for personal reasons.

12/03/20-5 Staff Updates

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet summarized the citywide crosswalk enhancement study that was approved by City Council In January 2020 and added to Capital Improvement Project list. He also discussed operational changes that have occurred due to the pandemic, including the majority of City Staff currently working from home and implementation of the online permitting system. The City Council and City Manager have issued emergency orders and approved programs to assist businesses and restaurants to continue to operate.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet stated that the City is under County health orders that prohibit outdoor dining. Recently, the task force assigned to outdoor dining agreed to convert those outdoor dining areas to public space in response to the health orders.

Commissioner Apostol asked if the protective barricades were at the City's expense or private owners. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated that the private owners paid for the barricades.

Commissioner Kirschenbaum asked if the Manhattan Beach Police Department was brought into the discussion concerning transient usage of the converted to public spaces. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** stated that MBPD will be enforcing this issue and added that signage would be posted to prohibit overnight sleeping or loitering in these areas.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet gave updates on construction at the Manhattan Village Shopping Center, the Skechers Headquarters, and the vacant lot at the corner of Manhattan Beach Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard, which would be getting a credit union and coffee shop. Additionally, a senior living complex is currently in the planning process and the City's resurfacing project on Rosecrans Avenue is nearing completion.

12/03/20-6 Commissioner Items

Commissioner Murillo asked if there was further consideration for a crosswalk at 12th St at Highland Avenue. **Traffic Engineer Zandvliet** responded yes and gave details concerning the project as well as other intersections where crosswalks are being considered. Discussion followed.

Traffic Engineer Zandvliet informed **Commissioner Kirschenbaum** that he would receive follow-up Commissioner Training. **Commissioner Murillo** requested to be included in the training.

Commissioner Apostol asked about the date of the Joint meeting with the City Council. **Director of Community Development Carrie Tai** stated the Joint City Council/Planning Commission/Parking and Public Improvements Commission will be held on January 20, 2021.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18p.m. to the regular Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting on January 28, 2020 at 6:00p.m. via ZOOM Call.