

MINUTES  
MALIBU PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2021  
TELECONFERENCED – VARIOUS LOCATIONS  
3:30 P.M.

**The following meeting was held pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Merrick called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Brian Merrick; Vice Chair Lance Simmens; and Commissioners Scott Dittrich, Wade Major, and James Palmer

ALSO PRESENT: Rob DuBoux, Public Works Director; Assistant Public Works Director Spayd; Travis Hart, Public Works Superintendent; Jesse Bobbett, Community Services Director; Kristin Riesgo, Community Services Deputy Director; Brandie Ayala, Senior Administrative Assistant; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Major led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Commissioner Dittrich moved and Commissioner Palmer seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Senior Administrative Assistant Ayala reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on February 23, 2021.

CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Merrick called for nominations for Chair.

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Commissioner Dittrich stated the current Chair and Vice Chair had only been in office for a few months and should be allowed to continue to serve.

**MOTION** Commissioner Dittrich moved that the current Chair and Vice Chair terms be extended for four months before holding the election.

Vice Chair Simmens agreed with Commissioner Dittrich. He stated he would be willing to continue as Vice Chair if Chair Merrick was willing to continue to serve.

Senior Administrative Assistant Ayala stated the Commission's bylaws indicated the election should be held every February. She stated the procedure had been delayed in 2020 by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Dittrich stated the annual election was intended to allow for all Commissioners to have the experience of holding an office.

Commissioner Dittrich withdrew his motion.

**MOTION** Commissioner Dittrich moved and Vice Chair Simmens seconded a motion to continue the Election of Chair and Vice Chair to the May 26, 2021 Regular meeting. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 1.B. STAFF UPDATES**

Public Works Director DuBoux introduced new Assistant Public Works Director Spayd. He stated Assistant Public Works Director Spayd would eventually be presenting the reports to the Commission.

In response to Vice Chair Simmens, Public Works Director DuBoux confirmed a Joint Special Meeting with the Public Safety Commission was scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. He stated parking, installation of traffic signs on Corral Canyon, and information regarding an upcoming speed survey and speed data in Point Dume were tentatively scheduled to be on the agenda.

Vice Chair Simmens stated the Public Works Commission should have a stronger role in decisions about parking moving forward.

Commissioner Dittrich agreed with Vice Chair Simmens. He recommended each Commissioner discuss the issue with their appointing Councilmember.

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In response to Vice Chair Simmens, Public Works Director DuBoux stated assignments for each commission were determined by the City Council.

In response to Commissioner Major, Senior Administrative Assistant Ayala discussed the process and timeline for development of commission assignments.

Commissioner Palmer discussed prior requests for discussion of farmers market parking in the City lot.

Vice Chair Simmens requested the history of the parking issue be presented.

Public Works Superintendent Hart discussed routine maintenance completed in the past month, including trash pickup, vegetation maintenance, storm drain cleaning and sign maintenance. He stated Caltrans was picking up litter along Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and also completed temporary fixes of potholes on PCH at Malibu Canyon Road and Webb Way. He stated permanent repair was scheduled in upcoming months. He discussed a water line upgrade project along Malibu Canyon Road as part of the Case project. He discussed a fire in the Malibu Knolls area on Sunday, February 28. Commissioner Palmer stated it was very near his home and he appreciated how quickly the fire was controlled. In response to Commissioner Palmer, Public Works Superintendent Hart stated the cause of the fire was unknown.

Chair Merrick asked what the plan was for trash cans in Point Dume near bus stops that were no longer in use. Public Works Superintendent Hart stated staff is considering leaving the trash bins due to the high visitor and pedestrian traffic in the Point Dume area, or possibly relocating them to other needed locations.

Commissioner Palmer discussed trash accumulating near Cross Creek Road and PCH. Public Works Superintendent Hart stated it was not City property and he would investigate and contact whoever was responsible for clearing that area.

Vice Chair Simmens asked if the Point Dume trash cans are not needed could they be relocated to other areas in the City that needed them. Public Works Superintendent Hart mentioned that it could be a possibility, however staff is considering leaving them in place due to the high visitor and pedestrian traffic in the Point Dume area. Public Works Superintendent Hart also stated that multiple agencies with jurisdiction have trash cans throughout the City.

#### ITEM 1.C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Palmer requested an update on the drain near Bayshore. Public Works Director DuBoux stated he did not have information to provide at this time.

Commissioner Dittrich stated he had participated in the Big Rock discussion at City Council meetings and with Big Rock residents. He stated he was upset about the number

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of waivers issued for rebuilds and other projects. He stated the City was putting itself at great risk with its handling of the Big Rock issues.

Commissioner Major disclosed he was a Big Rock resident. He suggested there needed to be better coordination between the Planning and Public Works Departments regarding Big Rock. He stated discussions had included a possible limited sewer system that would require a new CI. He stated there was confusion about who would connect to and pay for the old and new CI. He stated opposing theories were being discussed without ever achieving consensus. He suggested a joint meeting of the Planning and Public Works Commissions. He stated a clear path should be determined for waivers or variances.

Public Works Director DuBoux asked if a presentation on the Public Works role and Planning Department' roles would be helpful. He suggested a discussion of how Public Works handled development projects, such as the project in Big Rock, be placed on an agenda. Commissioner Major stated that would be helpful to both residents and the City Council.

ITEM 2      CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION      Commissioner Palmer moved and Vice Chair Simmens seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- A.      Previously Discussed Items  
None.
  
- B.      New Items
  - 1.      Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2021  
Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Safety Commission Regular meeting of January 27, 2021.

ITEM 3      OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 4      NEW BUSINESS

- A.      Capital Improvement Projects and Disaster Recovery Projects Status Report  
Staff recommendation: Receive and file report on the status of the City's current and upcoming Capital Improvements Projects and Disaster Recovery Projects.

Public Works Director DuBoux presented the report. He stated the PCH Median Project design and agreements were being finalized with Caltrans. He stated a

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construction management proposal was being drafted. He stated staff met with Caltrans today regarding the PCH Signal Synchronization project. He stated construction of the Synchronization project and the Median project would be done together. He stated staff discussed details of the Westward Beach Road Improvements Project with Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors staff. He stated Civic Center Water Treatment Facility Phase 2 (CCWTF2) meetings about creating easements for collection systems were held with property owners in Serra and Malibu Colony. He stated the project was still on schedule for construction to start about one year from now. He stated minor tweaks were made to plans for the Malibu Park Drainage Improvements Project and the project would go out to bid next week.

Public Works Superintendent Hart presented the report on Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) in construction. He stated the City Hall Roof Replacement would begin in about one month. He stated Bluffs Park Workout Station equipment was due last week, but the contractor had not confirmed an expected delivery date. He stated staff hoped the project would be completed before the next Commission meeting. He stated base section of asphalt pavement connecting Phase 2 of the Civic Center Way Improvements was done, and temporary striping and traffic loops were in place. He stated it was anticipated the road would be opened next week while work continued, including irrigation and landscaping. He stated intermittent lane closures would be necessary.

In response to Chair Merrick, Public Works Superintendent Hart discussed traffic using the cut-through road during the closure of Civic Center Way. He stated traffic was different since the pandemic and traffic apps now showed the road as closed. Chair Merrick expressed concern about continued heavy traffic in an area with two schools. He suggested the City might want to install calming measures in the future. Public Works Director DuBoux agreed with Public Works Superintendent Hart that it was difficult to determine the impacts at this time due to COVID-light traffic. He agreed traffic calming in the future might be a good idea. Public Works Superintendent Hart stated he had discussions with the Assistant to the Principal of Webster Elementary School who indicated in-school classes may begin March 17.

Commissioner Major confirmed that Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) schools were scheduled to return to on-campus learning on March 17. He stated Our Lady of Malibu (OLM) School had in-person school for the past few months. He stated heavier traffic should be anticipated in April through June. Public Works Superintendent Hart stated he would continue discussions with the contractor.

In response to Commissioner Dittrich, Public Works Superintendent Hart explained how and why temporary and permanent surfacing were used. He stated the final paving would be 1.5-inch asphalt rubber hot mix that extended gutter-to-

gutter. In response to Commissioner Dittrich, Public Works Director DuBoux discussed the time required for full cure of the asphalt.

In response to Commissioner Major, Public Works Director DuBoux requested he and Public Works Superintendent Hart be included in the email chain from SMMUSD regarding school schedule changes.

Vice Chair Simmens asked when the ribbon cutting would be scheduled for the new bike lane on Civic Center Way. Public Works Director DuBoux stated there would be an event scheduled and Commissioners would be invited. Vice Chair Simmens stated the cycling community was very excited about the new lane.

Public Works Director DuBoux stated the Annual Street Maintenance Project would begin soon. He discussed Disaster Projects currently under design. He stated the City suggested to FEMA and CalOES that wood materials used for the Latigo Canyon Road retaining wall be replaced with a non-combustible, concrete material. He stated design for the stabilization of the slope from Trancas Canyon Park to Malibu West was expected to be completed within the next month.

B. Permanent Skate Park

Staff recommendation: Review and provide feedback regarding the Permanent Skate Park Project at Malibu Bluffs Park.

Community Services Director Bobbett offered a presentation with the report. He provided an overview of the project explaining what was currently on the property and what was proposed for the permanent skate park. He explained how public input was incorporated in the design process. He stated the permanent skate park would be 12,500 square feet, which was considered a small to medium skate park. He stated landscaping in the presentation was not exactly how the final park would appear. He stated the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed in great detail what features would be included. He stated they were clear in wanting natural shade options instead of shade structures in seating areas. He stated the project was approaching the end of the design process. He stated the process had gone very well, despite the challenges of conducting all public input virtually. He stated final approval by the City Council was scheduled for May 2021. He stated once funding was secured, the project could move to construction with a goal to open in mid- to late-2022.

Chair Merrick stated he spoke with many residents who had been vocal about the skate park. He stated most feedback was very positive regarding the look and features of the design. He stated a few commented that it would be nice to incorporate a pump track around the skate park. Community Services Director Bobbett explained what a pump track was and that it was usually used by BMX bike riders. Chair Merrick stated many pump tracks were being built around the City and could be used by skateboards or bikes. Community Services Director

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Bobbett discussed the limitations included in the environmental impact report (EIR) when the property was donated to the City. He stated a pump track would take away from the square footage. He stated a pump track would be high on the list for inclusion in any potential expansion proposed in the future. He discussed two pump tracks at Conejo Valley Recreation and Park District. He discussed maintenance required and the differences between concrete or dirt pump tracks.

Commissioner Major stated the design looked beautiful. He asked why picnic tables were limited to one area. Community Services Director Bobbett discussed the slope of the area. He stated it was important to provide a safe zone for parents. He stated trees were proposed far enough away from the skate area to avoid leaves or other debris dropping into the skate area. He stated the design was intended to reduce hazards and limit where parents would be walking. Commissioner Major expressed concern about whether there were sufficient water fountains and restrooms for the park. Community Services Director Bobbett stated there was currently no wastewater connection to the skate park area. He stated staff was working to increase the number of water fountains. He stated there had not yet been any issues related to the distance from the temporary skate park to existing restroom facilities.

Vice Chair Simmens stated the design looked amazing and would be very good for the community. He suggested consulting the kids about what would be best for them. He commended Community Services Director Bobbett and Community Services staff.

Commissioner Dittrich agreed with Vice Chair Simmens that what was presented looked great. He asked what material was used for the benches. Community Services Director Bobbett stated the Parks and Recreation Commission had suggested the benches be made of concrete so they would be less likely to be damaged or moved. Commissioner Dittrich suggested skaters would be more likely to use the restrooms if they were accessible by a narrow path from the skate park. Community Services Director Bobbett stated the focus was on safety and they would try to fit that in, if possible.

Don Schmitz expressed appreciation for the thought used in the design. He stated the youth had a lot of input. He stated he represented the Case Property residential development. He stated the original EIR stated the permanent skate park would be completely below grade. He stated they had requested a copy of grading plans but were rebuffed by the City, which stated the project design was not yet complete. He stated they wanted to review and confirm everything was below grade before it went to the Planning Commission. He discussed graffiti on the walls and vagrancy in Malibu parks. He requested the City manage the park to prevent vandalism.

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Scott Gillen, Case Property, commended Community Services Director Bobbett. He stated they wanted to be sure all guidelines were followed. He stated the presentation looked great.

Community Services Director Bobbett stated staff was working on obtaining AutoCAD documents, but they were not yet received by the City. He stated the documents would be provided prior to the project going to the Planning Commission. He stated staff were onsite at all times the skate park was open, but the graffiti occurred overnight. He stated the City would take any graffiti down as quickly as possible. He stated the City requested the Sheriff's Department patrol the park at night.

Commissioner Major asked if there was any surface treatment that would make it easier to clean graffiti without damaging the skate park. Community Services Director Bobbett stated there were coatings available, but they changed the look of the wall. He discussed materials used in the skate park and materials often used to mark up or tag the park. He stated self-policing was common in skate parks, so he expected the skaters to work with the City.

Chair Merrick asked if the skate park utilized the wall as a boundary or if the City would install a fence near it. Community Services Director Bobbett stated fencing was not currently in the plan but could be explored.

Commissioner Dittrich asked if the City considered installing a video surveillance system. Community Services Director Bobbett stated cameras were considered by the Parks and Recreation Commission, but privacy issues had to be taken into account.

Chair Merrick thanked Community Services Director Bobbett for the presentation and all the work done on the project.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 5:11 p.m., Chair Merrick adjourned the meeting.

Approved and adopted by the Public Works Commission of the City of Malibu on \_\_\_\_\_.

DocuSigned by:  
*Brian Merrick* 4/6/2021 | 10:13 PDT  
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BRIAN MERRICK, Chair

ATTEST:

*Brandie Ayala*  
BRANDIE AYALA, Senior Administrative Assistant