

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
December 15, 2005 – 7:30 A.M.
Chamber Building, 6th Floor Conference Room
117 East Colorado Boulevard

SPECIAL MEETING WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL ANTONOVICH

OPENING: Mayor Bogaard called the special meeting with Supervisor Michael Antonovich to order at 7:52 a.m.

ROLL CALL:
Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Steve Madison (Absent)
Councilmember Victor Gordo (Absent)
Councilmember Steve Haderlein (Absent)
Councilmember Chris Holden
Councilmember Paul Little
Councilmember Joyce Streater
Councilmember Sidney F. Tyler

Staff:

City Manager Cynthia Kurtz
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Jane L. Rodriguez

The Mayor welcomed Supervisor Antonovich and members of his staff.

PROBLEM ALCOHOL OUTLETS LEGISLATION

Police Chief Bernard Melekian provided a briefing on SB 148 – Alcoholic Beverages: Licensing Restrictions, involving the regulation of liquor outlets in incorporated cities, thanked Supervisor Antonovich for his ongoing assistance in this matter, introduced Commander Marilyn Diaz as the City's lead in efforts to pursue adoption of this legislation, and noted that a series of public meetings on the bill were being planned for Spring 2006.

Supervisor Antonovich provided information on liquor store licensing in the unincorporated Los Angeles County area of Altadena that is currently being redeveloped. He commented on problems involved with the siting of group homes and the need to assist cities with legislation to regulate this type of use.

Councilmember Streater described problems with established liquor stores in Altadena and along the City's boundaries, stressed the critical need for adoption of SB 148, and reported on a recent public hearing held in Pasadena regarding the bill.

POSSIBLE NEW JUVENILE MENTAL HEALTH COURT IN PASADENA UPDATE

Police Chief Bernard Melekian reported on the rationale for the establishment of a juvenile mental health court in the City and the City's proposal for a model that could be used in the County of Los Angeles, and thanked the Supervisor's staff for their assistance in this process. The Chief addressed some of the concerns that had been raised in regards to the need to deal with juvenile crime issues while also providing some type of intervention for those juveniles who could be serviced through use of a mental health court.

Ms. Kathryn Barger-Leibrich, Chief Deputy for Supervisor Antonovich, indicated that assistance would be provided to City staff in development of the juvenile court model and in working with the court system and City to solve any concerns that may be offered as objections to the model.

Ms. Alisa Dunn, Mental Health Director for County of Los Angeles, distributed a brochure on the County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health's Mental Health Court Program, which assists mentally ill adults in the criminal justice system.

PERCHLORATE CLEAN-UP PROJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND TIMELINE

The Mayor provided a brief historical overview of the clean-up project for contaminated wells in Northwest Pasadena; and commended Phyllis Currie, General Manager of Water and Power Department, and Scott Rasmussen, Assistant City Attorney, for their work in negotiating the agreement for the perchlorate clean-up project.

Ms. Currie reported on various terms of the agreement that had been reached between the City and the California Institute of Technology regarding the funding of the Monk Hill Perchlorate Treatment System; distributed a handout of information on the project's scope, significant milestones, and schedules; and responded to questions.

CITY RECOVERY OF FINES AND FEES IN CRIMINAL CASES

The Mayor introduced the agenda item.

Ms. Connie Orozco, City Prosecutor, provided a briefing on the internal audit conducted by the City on the collection of State code and City ordinance fines/fees from the County of Los Angeles on behalf of the City Prosecutor's Office; and distributed and reviewed a memorandum from the Audit Committee dated October 19, 2005 that contained information

on the audit process, findings, conclusions, recommendations, and management comments. Ms. Orozco expressed strong concerns regarding the lack of adequate documentation from the County/court system resulting in the City's inability to track monies owed the City, the lack of a breakdown on the payment for fines/fees returned to the City, and errors discovered in the County's accounting practices; noted that other County prosecutors' offices had reported similar problems and concerns with the fines/fees recovery system; and responded to questions.

Ms. Lisa Pedote, City Auditor, outlined problems with the documentation provided to the City that does not identify the sources of the monies being received, and with the difficulties in matching monies owed with monies received resulting from the gap in time between receipt of the documentation and the payment.

Supervisor Antonovich offered his staff's assistance in working with the County and Court system on the problems that have been identified.

Mr. Dardy Chen, Los Angeles County Superior Court representative, provided a brief background on the process for disseminating portions of various fines/fees that are collected to designated entities, and acknowledged the complexity of the fines/fees collection process. He agreed that the Court needs to work with the City and the County in addressing the errors that have occurred and the concerns that have been cited in the City's internal audit, and stated the Court will assist the City in working through these issues.

HAHAMONGNA PARK: PLANNING FOR NEWLY ACQUIRED METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT PROPERTY AND COORDINATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF SPORTS FIELDS

The Mayor provided background on the Hahamongna Park Master Plan and the purchase of additional property from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) that is to be incorporated into the park, and distributed maps of the expansion area and proposed Sycamore Grove sports field.

Mr. Martin Pastucha, Director of Public Works Department, described the planning and environmental process with proposed timeframe to be followed in conjunction with development of the park site and the additional property acquired from WMD. Mr. Pastucha outlined funding for the sports field and responded to questions. He suggested the County assist the City by cleaning up the debris in the area behind the dam and hauling this material to the Hahamongna Park site to act as fill for the sports field area.

Supervisor Antonovich requested that residents of La Cañada and Altadena be provided the opportunity to provide comments and input during the planning and review process for the park.

Councilmember Streator outlined the City's planning process for new sports fields in the park area and the new planning process for the additional property that is to be integrated into the park.

Mr. Dave Pilker, P.E., Head of City Services, Programs Development Division for County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, indicated the County would work with the City on the debris hauling proposal outlined by Mr. Pastucha.

Ms. Emily Stork, Rose Bowl Riders representative, expressed appreciation to the City and County for supporting equestrian use in the park, and expressed support for the positive impacts that will result from the City's purchase of the additional property from the County for the park.

Mr. Don Rogers, Pasadena Audubon Society representative, expressed concerns regarding the need to protect the natural habitat in the park, especially the oak trees.

GOLD LINE FOOTHILL EXTENSION UPDATE

The Mayor discussed the focus of the corridor cities' efforts to place the Gold Line Foothill Extension project in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) long-range plan, the need to address the issue of changing the basis for ascertaining a ridership projection, and the concern for resolving governance issues on the extension project.

Mr. Michael Cano, Transportation Deputy for County of Los Angeles, updated Council on the issue involving the model being used by the MTA in arriving at a ridership projection for the extension project, the reciprocity issue and process for passing funds through MTA for the extension project, and collaboration with MTA and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) on the setting of the MTA's long-range plan so that the extension project is included in the plan. Mr. Cano indicated that steps were being discussed on moving forward with the legislative change that would alter the governance structure for the extension project.

Councilmember Little expanded on the ridership model issue and the increased level of competition for monies for transportation projects.

The Mayor cautioned that the corridor cities were satisfied with the current status that had been achieved on the governance issue and requested the County to keep in touch with the corridor cities on any plan to move forward with a legislative change that might jeopardize this status.

Supervisor Antonovich discussed a strategy to enlist the support of officials in the County of San Bernardino as this relates to accessing the Ontario Airport and park and rides near the counties' border and a proposal for both counties to pursue project funds for the extension project. He also commented on the impact of the City of Los Angeles' continued pursuit of the construction of a subway from Wilshire Boulevard to Santa Monica on available funds for the extension project, on the need to keep state and federal legislators involved in transit development in the County, and on the need to pursue the addition of another seat on the MTA Board which would represent the interests of other cities in the County (independent, contract, and League of Cities).

DISCUSSION ON ZONING RULES AND ENTITLEMENTS ON "BOUNDARY PROPERTIES"

Councilmember Little discussed problems with compatibility between the City's and County's zoning rules and the possible need to review design guidelines, and expressed appreciation to County staff for their efforts in meeting with City residents about concerns regarding various projects.

Mr. Sorin Alexanian, Supervising Regional Planner for County of Los Angeles, provided an overview of zoning rules applied to projects in Altadena and other border areas, described "transition" problems that can occur on border properties, and proposed a process to involve the affected communities in discussions of possible solutions to the issues that have been raised by residents.

Mr. Bob Kneisel, Pasadena Neighborhood Coalition, expressed support for the efforts undertaken by the County in addressing the City residents' concerns.

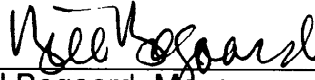
CLOSING COMMENTS

Supervisor Antonovich thanked all those who were involved in the approval of Proposition A on the November 2004 ballot, and noted the positive impacts this approval will have on the future State budget process.

The Mayor thanked the Supervisor and his staff for their work on behalf of the City.

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:52 a.m.



Bill Bogaard, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:



City Clerk