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UNTIL APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 4, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Small called the special meeting of the City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Thomas Small, Mayor
Meghan Sahli-Wells, Vice Mayor
Göran Eriksson, Council Member
Alex Fisch, Council Member
Daniel Lee, Council Member

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Closed Session

The City Council recessed to Closed Session to consider the following item:

CS-1 Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
Re: Brentwood Residents Coalition, et al. v. City of Los Angeles (The Boring Company, LAMTA, Culver City, et al., Real Parties in Interest)
Case No. BS173523
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

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Regular Session

Mayor Small reconvened the meeting of the City Council at 7:09 p.m. with all Council Members present.

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by David Voncannon.

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Report on Action Taken in Closed Session

Mayor Small indicated nothing to report out of Closed Session.

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Community Announcements by City Council Members/Information Items from Staff

Council Member Fisch announced a community meeting on June 20 regarding the Inglewood Oil Field Specific Plan Project to discuss next steps; he shared numbers from the Homeless Count; and he thanked staff and City partners for their work to address the issue.

Council Member Eriksson announced an e-waste and file shredding event on June 9 at Syd Kronenthal Park.

Vice Mayor Sahli-Wells announced Sidewalk CPR on June 5 at Fire Station 1; the Culver City Unified School District Free Summer Lunch program at La Ballona Elementary School Monday through Friday from June 18 - July 27; and the Police Department Community Meeting on Immigration on June 14.

Mayor Small reported attending the Los Angeles Business Council's LA Architecture Awards; discussed awards won; and he asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Fred Machado.

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Joint Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Small invited public comment and discussed procedures for public speaking.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Beverly Newton, Culver City Garden Club, invited everyone to the 65th Annual Culver City Garden Show on June 9-10.

Vice Mayor Sahli-Wells suggested that a commendation be prepared for the event.

Dr. Janet Hoult discussed the recent proclamation to the Historical Society; announced a Poetry Reading and Book Launch for the Culver City Centennial Poetry Collection on June 9 at the Senior Center with all proceeds going to the Historical Society; discussed her service on the Disability Advisory Committee; and she encouraged everyone to vote on June 5.

Ron Smoire expressed concern regarding the short term rentals item to be considered at the June 11 City Council meeting; discussed attempts by the City to get revenue from companies; he wanted to see full airing on both sides of the issue; and felt that all Council Members should go on the record as to whether they agree with short term rentals or not.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER FISCH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

CC - Interview of Applicants in Consideration of Appointment to Various Commissions Boards, and Committees.

Mayor Small invited public input.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Marla Koosed spoke in support of the reappointment of Zoltan Pali to the Cultural Affairs Commission.

John Kuechle requested consideration for reappointment to the Civil Service Commission; discussed the principal job of the Commission; an upcoming pre-hearing conference; job specifications; and adjustments to Civil Service Rules.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Kuechle and Council Members regarding additional responsibilities the Civil Service Commission could take on; previous duties of the Civil Service Commission; changes to the City Charter; and functions under the responsibility of the City Manager.

Roberta Sergant expressed her desire to serve on the Cultural Affairs Commission; provided background on herself; discussed the importance of working together with schools; and appealing to the youth.

Ed Baughan expressed interest in serving on the Civil Service Commission; provided background on himself; discussed proper application of the civil service rules; his participation in the civil service process; and, responding to inquiry, he indicated that he had retired from the City seven years ago.

Robert Combs discussed his desire to serve on the Cultural Affairs Commission; provided background on himself including his work experience and skills, responding to inquiry he discussed his work at the Art Institute of Chicago and his experience working with children within the arts context; and he clarified that while he had not actually applied for the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission, Civil Service Commission or the Finance Advisory Committee, he was interested in them due to his applicable experience, noting

that he would be eligible to serve as the resident representative on the Finance Advisory Committee.

Shannon Theus indicated an interest in serving on the Cultural Affairs Commission; provided background on herself and her experience; discussed digital arts; transmedia; the digital perspective; her participation in meetings; support from former Cultural Affairs Commissioner, Ronnie Jayne; responding to inquiry, she discussed poetry and hosting open mics in Culver City; and she distributed examples of her work for Council Members to peruse.

Mayor Small noted that the Cultural Affairs Foundation is another group that, while no longer under the purview of Culver City, allows for another opportunity to participate.

Zoltan Pali provided background on himself; asked to be reappointed to the Cultural Affairs Commission; discussed his work on the Commission; and he requested additional resources be given to support Christine Byers.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Pali and Council Members regarding hiring an additional employee to help Christine Byers; Historic Preservation; underutilization of properties; providing incentives; and increasing community involvement in appreciation of cultural treasures.

Sandra Aispuro expressed a desire to serve on the Cultural Affairs Commission and she provided background on herself.

Responding to inquiry, Ms. Aispuro described her arts experience noting her desire to volunteer and be a part of the community.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding speaking procedures for those who have applied for multiple bodies.

Kay Heineman indicated her desire to be reappointed to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission and she discussed her accomplishments and work on the Commission.

Andrew Furuto provided background on himself and indicated his desire to serve on the Planning Commission first and the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission second.

Responding to inquiry, Mr. Furuto discussed his background playing sports; pressing issues regarding development in Culver City; and preserving the unique nature of the City.

VK Shah indicated his desire to serve on the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission and he provided background on himself.

Dr. Khin Khin Gyi indicated her desire to serve on the Planning Commission or the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC); provided background on herself; discussed being a team player; her review of Commission meetings online; best practices; traffic issues crossing Overland; and responding to inquiry, discussed emerging trends, Transit Oriented Development (TOD), and low and moderate income housing.

Dayna Sayles requested reappointment to the Planning Commission; discussed her experience and accomplishments serving on the Commission; and she provided background on herself.

Peter Capone-Newton indicated that he currently serves on the Committee on Homelessness; stated his desire to serve on the Planning Commission; provided background on himself; and discussed issues of affordable housing.

Responding to inquiry, Mr. Capone-Newton discussed policy positions for affordable housing; allowing neighborhoods to evolve over time; changes to zoning; health of the community; expertise applicable to the General Plan Update; and support for Health and Wellness as a separate element as well as sprinkling it throughout the General Plan.

Dan O'Brien discussed his efforts to serve on the Planning Commission; his experiences volunteering in Culver City; serving the community as a Planning Commissioner; and he indicated that he would email the rest of his comments to Council Members.

Connie Seidman indicated her desire to serve on the BPAC; she provided background on herself; and she suggested things she might advocate for if appointed.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Seidman and Council Members regarding serving as a resident vs. as a business owner; the

cost of bike share; concern with electric scooters; signage for access to the bike path; and available positions on the BPAC.

Norman Palley explained his reasons for wanting to serve on the BPAC; provided background on himself; reported attending BPAC meetings; discussed work to make the City safer; and stated he would like to withdraw his application from the Planning Commission.

Garrett Hunter provided background on himself; discussed his interest in serving on the BPAC; disruptive technologies; road diets; and making the City a safer place for bicycles and pedestrians.

Anne Diga Jacobsen discussed her reasons for wanting to serve on the BPAC and on the Homelessness Committee; provided background on her experience; discussed her desire to enhance safety protocols; increased signage; the need for blue light emergency phones; the homeless student population at West Los Angeles College; and, responding to inquiry, she indicated that serving on the BPAC was her first choice.

Art Nomura reported sending email to Council Members regarding his desire to serve on the BPAC; provided background on himself; discussed traffic vs. livability; and things he felt the BPAC should be doing.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Nomura and Council Members regarding his commitment to walking and cycling; the downtown area; the Stoneview Nature Center in Blair Hills; volunteer activities in Culver City; and use of Mr. Nomura's documentary and teaching skills.

Andrew Leist discussed work done by the BPAC and requested reappointment.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Leist and Council Members regarding ways to find solutions more efficiently; battery powered mobility devices; prioritization of projects; and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP).

David Metzler discussed his reasons for wanting to serve on the BPAC; provided background on himself; discussed issues facing the Committee; and stated that he would like to withdraw his application from the Planning Commission.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Metzler and Council Members regarding integration of new technology; education; coordination with vendors; and ways to address public frustration.

Robert Kempken provided background on himself; discussed his motivation for wanting to serve on the BPAC; making it easier for people to give up their cars; serving as a resident representative; the update to the BPMP; multi-modal mobility; changes in transportation in Santa Monica; his goal to address the last mile problem; and providing a safe environment.

Michelle Weiner indicated her desire to be reappointed to the BPAC; provided background on herself and her applicable experience; discussed problem solving; Complete Streets; addressing the first and last mile issue; the need for more education; community input; she suggested a film series depicting multi modal transportation from all over the world; and she discussed her goals for the BPAC.

George Montgomery indicated his desire to serve on the BPAC; provided background on himself; discussed his experience with electric scooters; creating options for all modes of transportation; and coming up with solutions to complex problems.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Montgomery and Council Members regarding the local lane; limited right of way; livability for Culver City; and evolving ideas of change.

Jay Garacochea thanked the City Council for the opportunity to serve and asked to be reappointed to the West Vector Control Board; he noted that there would be a booth at Fiesta La Ballona; and he suggested that the City email notifications be sent quarterly.

Council Members thanked Mr. Garacochea for his service and for his informative emails.

Dr. Jay Shery indicated his desire to continue work on the Disability Advisory Committee; discussed accomplishments and work done on the Committee; the self-assessment for the ADA Accessibility Program; the Sidewalk Accessibility Survey; the Community Development Block Grant program; and he suggested that the City Council look at the bylaws and consider

replacing members who have not been living up to their commitment.

Discussion ensued between Dr. Shery, staff and Council Members regarding bylaws; Member attendance; effective participation in the Committee; ensuring that parks and playground equipment are accessible for people with autism; addressing disabilities that are not physical; use of fiber chips in the park; use of existing applicants to fill positions once more positions become open; and the Kids Carnival.

Carmen Ibarra indicated her desire to serve on the Disability Advisory Committee; provided background on herself; discussed social determinants of health; and the Achievable Foundation.

Vice Chair Sahli-Wells discussed the Achievable Foundation and the Culver Needs Committee.

Lisette Palley indicated interest in serving on the Disability Advisory Committee or on the Committee on Homelessness; she provided background on herself; discussed applicable experience; education; Police Department training; improving communication; encouraging inclusion of all people; universal design; environmental access; and experience with the homeless.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Palley and Council Members regarding overlapping experience with homelessness and disability; Police Department training; and increasing awareness and resources.

John Varsano expressed interest in serving on the Committee on Homelessness; provided background on himself; discussed the role of the Committee; solutions; results rather than recommendations; and Measure H.

Dale Larson indicated interest in serving on the Committee on Homelessness or on the Landlord Tenant Mediation Board (LTMB); thanked the City Council for the appointment process; discussed the Finance Advisory Committee; he provided background on himself; and, responding to inquiry, indicated that he is not a business owner.

John Helyar indicated his interest in serving on the Committee on Homelessness; provided background on himself;

discussed his applicable experience; working for regional solutions; available resources; making a difference; and the decline in numbers county-wide.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Helyar and Council Members regarding differences in needs in Los Angeles vs. in Culver City; placing the focus on housing; outreach services; taking a regional approach; increases in senior homelessness; and the lack of senior specific programs.

John Flynn indicated his desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness and provided background on himself.

Mark Lipman discussed his desire to serve on the Committee on Homelessness; provided background on himself; discussed the stigma attached to homelessness; and potential solutions.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Lipman and Council Members regarding concern with a lack of housing focused solutions; taking a different approach than larger municipalities; scattered housing; encouraging people to house the homeless rather than renting out to Airbnb; and City support.

Kim Ayres indicated her desire to serve on the Fiesta La Ballona Committee; provided background on herself; and discussed what she could bring to the Committee.

Judie McAskill indicated her desire to serve on the Fiesta La Ballona Committee and provided background on herself.

Sky Schear indicated that she wanted to serve on the Fiesta La Ballona Committee; noted that she had attended meetings of the Committee; discussed current issues being focused on by the Committee; and the importance of bringing visitors into the community.

Lisa Marie Parker Desai reported previously applying to the Committee; provided background on herself; discussed her meeting attendance; and her suggestion to use rooms in Veterans Auditorium for a drop-in kids camp.

Lizet Alvarez indicated her desire to serve on the Fiesta La Ballona Planning Committee; provided background on herself; discussed active participation; goals for the Committee; future marketing and outreach efforts; the potential for a Fiesta La Ballona app; creation of a social media strategy

for the event; and, responding to inquiry, she indicated that there was room for improvement in the size of the Biergarten.

Debbie Hamme indicated that she was applying for the Member-at-Large position of the LTMB; provided background on herself; and discussed responsibilities as a Committee Member.

Maria Stone indicated that she was applying for the Member-at-Large position on the LTMB; provided background on herself; discussed facilitation of a fair process; and the goal of bringing people together.

Keith Jones indicated his desire to serve in the Member-at-Large position on the LTMB and he provided background on himself.

Deborah Drezner indicated her desire to serve as the Landlord Representative on the LTMB; provided background on herself; discussed her understanding of the duties; format of mediation; and what she hoped to accomplish.

Doug Osborne indicated his desire to serve as a Member-at-Large on the LTMB and he provided background on himself.

Rhonda Wolf Koss indicated that she wanted to serve in the Member-at-Large position on the LTMB; provided background on herself; and discussed finding creative solutions to problems.

Leonardo Wilborn thanked the City Council for the opportunity to serve on the LTMB and he requested reappointment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that Ron Bassilian had applied for LTMB but had to leave before being called to speak.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding next steps in the process; an additional opportunity on June 25 for those who did not get a chance to speak; training on June 28; additional opportunities to volunteer; the difficulty of the choice; and appreciation to all those who applied.

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Recess/Reconvene

Mayor Small called a brief recess from 10:59 p.m. to 11:05 p.m.

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Item A-2

CC - (1) Discussion of Providing New Council Members an Opportunity to Make Appointments to the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC); and (2) Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

Mayor Small invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Ken Mand expressed concern with the rushed nature of the process and the size of the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC); he discussed defining responsibilities; robust community outreach; and he felt it important to discuss defining how the GPAC is going to operate.

Gabby Monzon, City Clerk Specialist, read comments into the record submitted by:

Laura Stuart
Denise Renteria
Jeff Cooper

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding consultant selection; clarification that adding members would have no bearing on the timeline; being inclusionary vs. exclusionary; representation from both the previous City Council and the new City Council; making sure voices are heard; retaining input from appointees by previous Council Members; working around the size of the Committee; the importance of facilitation and a well-defined process; fair incorporation of opinions; frustration with the February 12, 2018 City Council meeting; subcommittee recommendations;

concern with division and those who do not want to see the process succeed; the importance of outreach and moving forward expeditiously; reconstituting the Committee if there are efforts to create political conflict; getting a wide range of viewpoints to provide input; clarification that the appointees are not bound to reflect the agenda of those who appointed them; concern with changing to a parliamentary system; concern with having too many people; the responsibility of the Committee to do the best job for the residents of the City; other opportunities to bring in people for other entities; concern with making the Committee less valuable and less relevant; addressing scheduling issues; representation; clarification that the Committee is an advisory body and their recommendations are not binding; creation of an Executive Committee within the GPAC consisting of one person within the three chosen by each Council Member; ensuring that the GPAC is truly representative of the community and not just populated by people who always show up at City Council meetings; achieving additional demographic and racial diversity; comfort with messiness with public outreach; technical committees; professional experts; creation of a separate group focused on outreach; finding a core group to provide guidance about goals, policies, programs and objectives of the General Plan; acknowledgement that there is no clear number that is ideal for the process; experiences of other cities; pros and cons of different situations; making operating guidelines and responsibilities clear; diagramming the roles and responsibilities of the Committees; understanding the flow of decision making; creation of protocol and procedures; making sure that panels are mixed with experts and community members; community based research; agreement that the larger the number, the more difficult the task; the hierarchy of priorities; the importance of providing a voice for the new Council Members; Council Member experience with different bodies that have a large number of Members; bridging the gap between expertise and residents; concern with ethnic, geographic and financial diversity; and concern with politics and the dismissal of the subcommittee recommendations.

Council Member Eriksson moved to keep the number of Committee Members to 15, with extra consideration given to new Council Members when the expert and outreach committees are constituted.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding maintaining functionality of the Committee; regular milestones to monitor progress; agreement that vacated positions be filled appointees by new Council Members; concern with the process becoming bogged down; and concern with advice that comes from the Committee being at odds with the City Council.

Patricia Bijvoet noted challenges of a larger group; discussed her experience with the BPAC; concern with the cut and dried nature of taking a vote; missing the subtleties of the issues; and not being afraid of working in a larger group.

Ken Mand felt that there was not much difference between 15 and 21 people; noted the importance of proper management of the meetings and the process; and suggested having a smaller group within the larger group set agendas.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding a suggestion to start the group with 15 Members and add the other 6 Members if there are any issues; concern with having something hanging over the GPAC and showing a lack of confidence in the body; the importance of taking away uncertainty; and concern with creating incentives.

George Montgomery expressed support for giving the new Council Members the chance to appoint three people each; he discussed other successful bodies with a large number of participants; and the original subcommittee recommendation.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the tipping point; the need for a quorum; clarification that the GPAC is a Brown Act body; the feeling that the group would be driving the process; the role of the facilitator to report out; and respect for the previous City Council.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SMALL THAT THE CITY COUNCIL STAY WITH THE ORIGINAL NUMBER OF 15 MEMBERS ON THE GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ERIKSSON, SMALL
NOES: FISCH, LEE, SAHLI-WELLS

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding timing of the appointments; Brown Act Training; Form 700; and the need for any appointees to step down from any Boards or Commissions or Committees they may serve on.

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR SAHLI-WELLS AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEE THAT THE TWO NEW MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL EACH APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: FISCH, LEE, SAHLI-WELLS, SMALL
NOES: ERIKSSON

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Small invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Items from Council Members

Council Member Fisch congratulated Brett and Traci LeBondi on the birth of their child.

MOVED BY MAYOR SMALL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT WHEN THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED, THAT IT BE ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF FRED MACHADO.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 12:29 a.m., Tuesday, June 5, 2018 the City Council adjourned in memory of Fred Machado to June 11, 2018.

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Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council
Culver City, California

THOMAS SMALL
MAYOR of Culver City, California