

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD JOINT MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Monday, March 18, 1996  
West Hollywood Park Auditorium**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Heilman and Chair David Eichman called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Councilmembers: Guarriello, Land, Martin, Koretz, Mayor Heilman.  
Commissioners: Hart, Hewitt, Shay, Siegel, Smith, Strudler, Eichman.  
ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Brotzman, City Attorney Jenkins, Director of Transportation English, Parking Manager Rhodes, City Clerk Love, and Assistant City Clerk Thompson.

3. **COMMISSION INTRODUCTIONS:** Each of the Commissioners introduced themselves.

4. **NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC ISSUES:**

A. **NEW DEVELOPMENT AND THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ROLE:**

Joan English, Transportation and Public Works Director, provided an overview of the history of the responsibilities of the Transportation Commission. She indicated that the Transportation Commission should be in the loop on projects and there was a suggestion that two members of the Transportation Commission sit on the Design Review Subcommittee of the Planning Commission.

Chair Eichman stated the Commission is only approached when there is a problem, and they have to deal with the neighbors afterwards. He indicated the Commission is trying to be more proactive.

Commissioner Shay indicated that they had never reviewed every project but they did review the major projects, they would like to set three or four criteria as a threshold to review the major projects.

Councilmember Land supported the idea of the Transportation Commissioners serving on the Design Review Subcommittee of the Planning Commission. She asked if there could also be some mechanism to trigger looking at remodels and projects which include intensification of use.

Commissioner Siegel stated that there is a lot of concern on the Commission relative to the intensification of uses. In addition, she stated that perhaps some consideration should be given to "Grandfathered uses".

Councilmember Martin stated that the 'Grandfathering' issue should be revisited and should be referred to Community Development Department.

Mayor Heilman stated we have to strike some balance and asked Ms. English how this would work.

Ms. English responded that if the Council approves this in concept then the Commission will go back and work out the details, gather input from the Planning Commission and the Community Development Department and return to Council for approval.

**B. GRANDFATHERED USES: NEED FOR BETTER REVIEW MECHANISMS WHEN "INTENSIFICATION" OF USE TAKES PLACE.**

Joan English, Transportation and Public Works Director, stated that the Planning Commission indicated this is something the Transportation Commission need to work together on. The City Attorney's Office should also be included as there are some legal issues that need to be addressed.

Commissioner Strudler brought up the issue of cumulative impact. He asked if there is anyway to put it into the formula.

Ms. English responded that projects which get Environmental Review do take into consideration cumulative impact of all projects. It is the projects that do not get full environmental review that do not get this consideration.

Mayor Heilman asked staff to look at projects that are likely to be approved, but are not yet approved, and consider the impacts of transportation and parking.

Councilmember Land also asked staff to look at re-use of projects.

**5. PARKING:**

**A. SHARED USE OF OPEN LOTS NEXT TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES DURING EVENING HOURS.**

Ms. English provided background information including overlays and intensification of use in the evening. She indicated we are looking at a balance, to use as much shared parking as possible but not as a detriment to the neighborhood.

Councilmember Guarriello stated he does not agree with shared parking for commercial and residential.

Mayor Heilman summarized that perhaps the Commission should come up with recommendations on how we should treat those lots and what kind of standards should be imposed, and should there be a differential between residential and commercial zoned properties.

Councilmember Land indicated we are at a time when we are re-evaluating our policies and direction. We have always encouraged shared parking, but as we review it, this may not be the proper direction.

Mayor Heilman stated we will have to look at (1) legalities of share parking and land use, and (2) developing protection levels due to shared parking that should be provided for residents.

Commissioner Siegel stated that you get into a situation on which is the lesser of two evils. She would like to see it done on a case-by-case basis.

Councilmember Guarriello indicated that some situations are inherited from the County and need to be rectified

Commissioner Shay stated he does not recall ever approving such a lot. He indicated there is a need to develop some other subjective criteria, other than the fact someone would be negatively impact. He asked Council for recommendations.

Ms. English stated that most of these decisions are made by the Director and do not go to the Commission.

Mayor Heilman stated that perhaps the Commission should recommend to the Council that each item be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and evaluate each of the possible impacts.

**B. PERMIT PARKING STUDY: PRESENTATION BY CONSULTANT AND DISCUSSION.**

Janis Rhodes, Parking Manager, introduced Joe Spencer.

Joe Spencer, Spencer Consulting Services, provided an overview of the report, "A Comprehensive Review of Permit Parking in the City of West Hollywood." He also outlined how the information was gathered and the recommendations of the report.

Mayor Heilman thanked Mr. Spencer for a very thorough report. It is the most comprehensive report the City has ever had. He asked for immediate reactions from the Commission or the Council.

Commissioner Eichman asked what the impacts are between using a hanging sticker versus a bumper sticker.

Mr. Spencer responded that the overuse of hanging tags make its very difficult to identify counterfeit and misuse.

Commissioner Shay indicated he has a question which is a policy issue relative to the percentage and the quality of life issue of the decline of crime in permit parking districts.

Commissioner Siegel stated her concern about combining districts.

Mayor Heilman responded that these issues are part of the follow-up to this report which the Commission will be exploring.

Commissioner Strudler asked what are the advantages of combining districts.

Mr. Spencer responded there are advantages in the managing of the parking districts. He indicated that this would simplify the program without diminishing the benefits of the districts.

Councilmember Martin stated one issue that perhaps should be considered is that short trips are being made. The issue of combining districts is a serious, one which requires further investigation and discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Koretz stated there has been a steady decline of towing. He would like to know why this is happening. Secondly, he has gotten requests from Realtors regarding temporary permits when showing property.

Ms. Rhodes stated there has been a slight decrease in towing, as we have far better collection policies and fewer vehicles have more than five tickets which would trigger a towing. She also indicated that tying up enforcement staff waiting for tow truck, limits the resources of the staff to enforce parking violators.

Mayor Heilman stated there needs to be a consistent policy. The Commission was directed to look at the towaway issue and that towaway needs to be enforced. He asked that the towing policy and the number or volume of towing be reviewed and brought back before the Council.

Councilmember Land added that she would like the Commission to look at developing specific criteria for staff if they are to be given the authority to decide about towaway in specific districts. She also directed the Commission to look at why only fifteen percent of the Commercial permits are being used and why the program is not working. She would like to see abuse and deployment review by the Commission. Enforcement is critical.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

JOYCE HUNDAL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated her concern about a recommendation in the report relative to commercial districts. She stated combining commercial and residential permit parking would destroy permit parking.

CARL KRONIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated he is concerned about the abuses to the parking permit program of commercial using residential permits, and blocking driveways.

GEORGE AFFOLTER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated that with this parking discussion the pedestrian has been forgotten.

YOKO GIVEN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated there are numerous parking problems on Bonner Drive and is not in favor combining commercial and residential districts.

ANDY GIVEN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated he disagrees with combining districts. He also spoke against combining commercial and residential districts.

LUIS MARQUEZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, he commented about lack of parking due to the combining of districts near the PDC and the cost of the changes.

BRAD KEISTLER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated that if there is not that much use of commercial parking permits then why increase it. He is not in favor of combining commercial and residential.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated her support for the bumper sticker, much easier for enforcement. She would also like to see the cost of tickets be addressed. She stated there are still parking problems in the West Hollywood Park lot. She commended the consultant on the study.

DONALD DE LUCCIO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, he was in support of combining Districts 1 and 2. There is too much commercial parking in District 1.

**7. COUNCILMEMBER AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

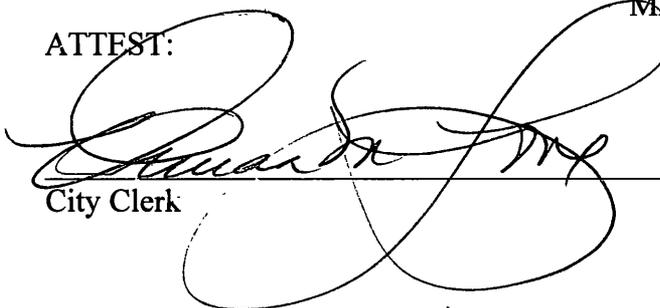
Mayor Heilman asked everyone to keep an open mind.

Councilmember Guarriello thanked Mr. Spencer for an excellent report.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:** The City Council adjourned at 7:35 p.m. to its Regular Meeting.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 15TH DAY OF APRIL, 1996.

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

  
MAYOR