

City of Manhattan Beach

1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

5:00 PM

CALL AND NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION

City Council Chambers

City Council Special Meeting

Mayor David Lesser
Mayor Pro Tem Amy Howorth
Councilmember Steve Napolitano
Councilmember Nancy Hersman
Councilmember Richard Montgomery

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A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

At 5:00 PM, Mayor Lesser called the meeting to order.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Lesser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Mayor David Lesser, Mayor Pro Tem Amy Howorth, City Councilmember Steve Napolitano, City Councilmember Nancy Hersman, and City Councilmember Richard Montgomery

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

None.

E. ANNOUNCEMENT IN OPEN SESSION OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Quinn Barrow announced that City Council will go into Closed Session to discuss to whether to initiate litigation concerning the road modifications with respect to Vista Del Mar in the Playa Vista area.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (ANTICIPATED LITIGATION)
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4))**

Based on existing facts and circumstances, the legislative body of the local agency has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation.

Number of Cases: 1

F. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

At 5:02 PM, Mayor Lesser announced that City Council would recess into Closed Session.

G. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

At 6:00 PM, the City Council reconvened into Open Session with all Councilmembers present.

H. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT IN OPEN SESSION

City Attorney Quinn Barrow announced that City Council went into closed session and discussed the item as identified on the agenda, with respect to whether the City Council should initiate litigation against the City of Los Angeles concerning the recent road modifications on Vista Del Mar and Playa Del Rey.

Mayor Lesser announced that City Council held a closed session earlier to discuss recent roadway reconfigurations on Vista Del Mar and in Playa Del Rey. The reconfigurations involve four arteriary roads leading to and from Manhattan Beach, they were reduced from two lanes of travel in each direction to one. Vista Del Mar was allegedly reconfigured as an emergency measure following a traffic fatality two years ago. Culver Blvd, Jefferson Blvd, and Pershing Drive were reconfigured as pilot projects to improve pedestrian safety, safety and provide bike lanes. Nearby Cities received no advance notice of the reconfigurations that are now impacting tens of thousands in the region. There are a few north-south alternatives for South Bay drivers and those that do exist, the 405 freeway and Pacific Coast Highway, Sepulveda, Lincoln, California Route 1 are already over burdened. The City of Manhattan Beach recognizes the roadways are located within the City of Los Angeles and one pedestrian fatality is too many. In an effort to address concerns for pedestrians and regional traffic impacts, we as a City and other South Bay cities sought to comment on the reconfigurations and suggest alternatives, however, it has become apparent the true objective of the reconfigurations is to divert traffic entirely from Playa Del Rey.

By unanimous vote the Manhattan Beach City Council took the following action at the closed session:

- 1. Created a subcommittee of two Councilmembers to participate in regional efforts to obtain a solution.*
- 2. It directed the City Manager to prepare a letter opposing the roadway reconfigurations and seeking an environmental review that includes public participation and outreach.*
- 3. Directed the City Manager to continue City's staff efforts to disseminate information, contact affected businesses, interact with residents, the business community and staff members from other cities and work with the South Bay Cities Council of Governance in seeking a regional solution or alternative.*
- 4. Directed City staff to provide support to legal efforts challenging the LA Department of Transportation actions.*
- 5. Directed the City Attorney to explore legal action against the LA Department of Transportation including exploring the most effective way to join the efforts of residents opposing the project.*

I. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:03 PM Mayor Lesser adjourned the meeting.

Martha Alvarez
Recording Secretary

David Lesser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Liza Tamura
City Clerk