



MINUTES

CLEAN BEACHES & OCEAN PARCEL TAX CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

CIVIC CENTER PARKING STRUCTURE, 330 OLYMPIC DRIVE, 2ND FLOOR, SANTA
MONICA INSTITUTE (SMI) ROOM, SANTA MONICA

6:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Rasromani called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Roll Call and Levine Act Disclosures

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Committee Secretary. The Secretary announced that Chair Kennedy resigned from the Committee as he was appointed to the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission. No Levine Act disclosures were made.

Present: Committee Members Benjamin Kay, Richard Melohn and Vice-Chair Sami Rasromani

Absent: Committee Member Mary Marlow

Also present: Joshua Carvalho, Staff Liaison and Principal Civil Engineer
Maria Dacanay-Wisner, Committee Secretary

1. Public Input:

There were no public members present to speak on general public input.

2. Public Input (Agenda Items Under SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS and CONSENT CALENDAR Only)

There were no public members present to speak on Special Agenda and Consent Calendar items.

3. Special Agenda Items - NONE

4. **Consent Calendar** – All items were considered and approved in one motion unless removed by a member for discussion.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

a) Approval of minutes for the November 13, 2024, meeting was presented.

The Committee asked questions about: the lack of answers to questions in minutes, the format of meeting minutes; and the records retention of meeting recordings.

MOTION – Committee Member Kay moved and Vice-Chair Rasromani seconded to continue this item to the next meeting for corrections. The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Committee Members Kay, Melohn and Vice-Chair Rasromani
NOES: None
ABSENT: Committee Member Marlow

MOTION – Committee Member Kay moved and Vice-Chair Rasromani seconded to post two years' worth of meeting recordings on the Committee's website to supplement the minutes and increase transparency and accessibility of projects and discussions. The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Committee Members Kay, Melohn and Vice-Chair Rasromani
NOES: None
ABSENT: Committee Member Marlow

5. **Public Input On Remaining Agenda Items**

There were no public members present to speak on the remaining agenda items.

6. **Study Session** – NONE

7. **Continued Items** – NONE

8. Staff Administrative Items

- a. **Staff Presentation of Quarterly Budget (thru December 31, 2024),** was presented along with 8.b.
 - i. Budget Highlights
 - ii. Budget – Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)
 - iii. Budget – Operations
 - iv. Projected Budget (5-year)

Staff reported that: just over \$32.7K was expended for Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) and over \$17.9M are available to date; \$275K was allotted for a new Palisades Park Access Path Replacement Project to relocate drainage for public safety access and a Request for Proposal (RFP) is pending; \$38K was spent on Contractual Services for catch basin screen maintenance and a new vendor was awarded a bid to continue services; design work for the Memorial Park Stormwater Harvesting Project is anticipated to begin in March after contract execution, and staff plans to apply for Measure W grant funding in June; the Permeable Surface Alley Project is in the RFP bidding stage for design and is anticipated to be awarded in May; design bids for the Citywide Drainage Improvement Project are due at the end of February and \$3.9M is allotted to the project that is bidding with three other Public Works projects and contracted together; and staff's Letter of Intent for a National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant for the Pico-Kenter Outfall Trash Best Management Practices (BMP) Project was accepted, staff submitted a full application for up to \$1M in funds, and will conduct the RFP for design pending the results of the application.

Questions asked and answered of staff included but were not limited to: how many more locations for the Permeable Surface Alley Project have been identified, can stats indicating the total square footage of concrete replaced in the City can be included in the Quarterly Report, and if the new maintenance vendor will continue to provide data on collections; if Measure V has a communications budget or can allocate funds, and explore partnerships with local schools, to improve content on the Watershed Management webpage and begin publicizing at least two completed project accomplishments per year on social media and other outlets; if design work and the permitting process for the Pico-Kenter Outfall Trash BMP can be expedited and if the NOAA grant may be affected due to current Federal Administration's budget practices; if the City's catch basins and/or the Santa Monica Reclaimed Water Network (SMURRF) Facility was diverted from the ocean after the Palisades Fire and recent rains; if the City is aware of

agencies or organizations testing the ocean for heavy metals and contaminants in ash from the fire; if the Shutters and Casa Del Mar Hotel's tentative plans to redevelop their property would affect the Pico-Kenter Outfall project; and if water from the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP) can be routed to the SMURRF instead of being reinjected to the aquifers.

The Committee requested that staff: investigate flooding along Airport Avenue as a potential Drainage Improvement Project; and relay their desire to see infrastructure for stormwater reclamation and treatment, and groundwater recharge in Airport Conversion Project designs. Considerable discussion ensued on the current water quality of the beach due to the recent fires.

MOTION – Committee Member Kay moved and Committee Member Melohn seconded to allocate Measure V funds to hire an environmental consultant to conduct testing of local ocean and dry and wet beach sand to determine if toxins are present in recreational areas, if the following questions cannot be answered and these criteria do not meet County, State or Federal Environmental Protection Agencies standards:

- 1) Who or what agency is testing in Santa Monica?
- 2) Where is testing being conducted in Santa Monica Bay?
- 3) What specific environmental toxins are being tested for?

The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Committee Members Kay, Melohn and Vice-Chair Rasromani
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: Committee Member Marlow

Staff will: separate the Pico-Kenter Study Projects in the next Quarterly Report; report back on potential City resources, funds, and partnerships that can assist with the webpage and media coverage, including estimated timelines, at the next meeting; look into the flooding on Airport Avenue; contact the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board about water and sand testing they or other agencies are conducting within the City and to report back as soon as possible; and invite the Water Utilities Manager to give a presentation on the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP) at the next available meeting.

On order of the Vice-Chair, the Quarterly Report was received and filed.

- b. **Staff Presentation of Project Status Reports**, was presented along with 8.a.

Projects in progress (per Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems% (MS4)/ National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP) Requirements):

- i. Permeable Surface Alleys (**RFP is Bidding**)
- ii. Stormwater BMPs Inspection & Maintenance (**Kickoff Meeting – New 5-yr contract**)
- iii. Citywide Drainage Improvements (**RFP is Bidding**)
- iv. Feasibility Studies for MS4 Projects (**Final Feasibility Studies submitted for Memorial Park and Pico-Kenter**)
 1. Green Streets Master Plan (**Feasibility Study on-going**)
 2. Memorial Park Stormwater Harvesting (**Design Contract Execution**)
 3. Pico-Kenter Outfall Trash BMP (**NOAA Grant Submission / RFP Development**)

- c. **Election of Officers:** Chair and Vice-Chair for terms ending on June 30, 2026, was presented.

Staff recommended that that the item be continued to the next regular meeting after the City Council makes appointments to the Committee's annual vacancies thereby re-aligning members and officer's terms.

MOTION – Committee Member Melohn moved and Vice-Chair Rasromani seconded to approve the staff recommendation. The motion passed with the following vote:

AYES: Committee Members Kay, Melohn and Vice-Chair Rasromani
NOES: None
ABSENT: Committee Member Marlow

9. **Public Hearing** – NONE
10. **Resolution** – NONE
11. **Written Communication** – NONE

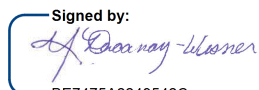
12. Committee Member Discussion Items - NONE

Announcements and Next Meeting

Committee Member Kay will share his video of the January 26th when the first flush of the Pico-Kenter Stormdrain occurred. Secretary Dacanay-Wisner shared that a new Administrative Analyst will be hired to serve as the Committee's Secretary later this year. The Committee's next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at the Civic Center Parking Structure's Santa Monica Institute (SMI) Room.

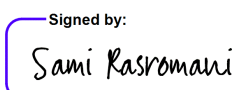
Adjournment – Vice-Chair Rasromani adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Attest:

Signed by:


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Maria Dacanay-Wisner
Secretary

Approved:

Signed by:


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Sami Rasromani
Vice-Chair