

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 18, 2008**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008, at the hour of 6:40 p.m., in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, at 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

**PLEDGE TO FLAG**

Human Resources Director Cathy Hanson led the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.

Absent: None.

Clerk: Tamura.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR**

None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar (Item Nos. 1 through 11), consisting of items under *General Consent* and *Boards and Commissions*, was approved by motion of Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery, seconded by Councilmember Ward and passed by unanimous roll call vote with the exception of Item No. 11, which was considered later in the meeting under "*Items Removed from the Consent Calendar*".

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

**GENERAL CONSENT**

08/0304.4-1 Approve Minutes of the City Council Adjourned Regular Study Session and Regular Meeting of February 19, 2008 (Continued from the March 4, 2008 City Council Meeting)

The Council approved the subject minutes.

08/0318.2 Approve Minutes of the City Council Adjourned Regular and Regular Meeting of March 4, 2008

The Council continued the subject minutes until the April 1, 2008 City Council meeting.

08/0318.3 Consideration of the State Budget and Legislative Update

The Council received and filed the March 2008 Budget and Legislative Update from Tony Rice, the City's legislative advocate.

- 08/0318.4     Consideration of Financial Reports:  
a) Ratification of Demands: March 6, 2008  
b) Investment Portfolio for the Month Ending February 29, 2008  
c) Financial Reports for the Month Ending February 29, 2008

The Council approved with no exception Warrant Register No. 19B in the amount of \$2,078,822.16 in payment of ratification of demands and claims as prepared by the Director of Finance, together with the original demands and claims as prepared by said Warrant Register; received and filed the Investment Portfolio for the month ending February 29, 2008; and received and filed the Financial Reports for the month ending February 29, 2008.

- 08/0318.5     Consideration of Ratification of Motor Fuel Purchase from Nickey Petroleum in the Amount of \$26,220.15

The Council approved the purchase of fuel from Nickey Petroleum in the amount of \$26,220.15.

- 08/0318.6     Consideration of Budgeted Lease/Purchase of a Compressed Natural Gas Asphalt Patch Truck for the Public Works Department from Reynolds Buick/Pontiac/GMC Trucks in the Amount of \$169,990.39

The Council waived formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.150 (cooperative purchasing); approved a purchase order to Reynolds Buick/Pontiac/GMC Trucks in the amount of \$169,690.39; appropriated \$169,691 from the Fleet Management Fund,; and approved authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a lease/purchase agreement for the lease/purchase of a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Asphalt patch Truck.

- 08/0318.7     Consideration of the Budgeted Purchase of Refurbished Modular Furniture for City Hall from Beau Bureaux Interiors in the Amount of \$108,941.90 and Replacement Chairs from New Tangram Interiors in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$29,400

The Council approved the award of RFP #724-08 to Beau Bureaux Interiors for the budgeted purchase of Refurbished Modular Furniture in the Amount of \$108,941.90; waived formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.150 (cooperative purchasing); and approved an award order to New Tangram Interiors for chairs in an amount not-to-exceed \$29,400.

- 08/0318.8     Disbursement of Progress Payment No. 2 in the Net Amount of \$228,082.41 to Griffith Company for the Pervious Pavement Parking Lots Project

The Council approved the issuance of the subject progress payment.

## **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **Parking & Public Improvements Commission**

- 08/0318.9     Consideration of Action Minutes, Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting of February 28, 2008

The Council received and filed the subject action minutes.

08/0318.10 Consideration of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Maintain the Existing Red Curb on the East Side of Ingleside Drive just South of 5th Street and Reduce its Length

The Council approved the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to maintain the existing red curb on the east side of Ingleside Drive south of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and reduce its length.

08/0318.11 Consideration of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Maintain the Existing "NO PARKING THIS STREET" Signs on Both Sides of the Alley Between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue

Item No. 11 was pulled from the "CONSENT CALENDAR". Please refer to "ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR."

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

08/0318.15 Edie Babbe Re Council of PTAs

**Edie Babe, President of Manhattan Beach Council of Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs)**, informed the Council about the PTA's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Advocacy Trip to *Capitol Convoy* in Sacramento to encourage legislators to maintain funding for education.

08/0318.16 Various Speakers Re Leadership Manhattan Beach Class of 2008 Project

**Nicole Perrault, Leadership Manhattan Beach, No Address Provided**, reported on the success of Leadership Manhattan Beach's recent fund raiser.

**Stewart Fournier, Leadership Manhattan Beach, No Address Provided**, thanked Neighborhood Watch for their assistance in distributing "Envelopes of Life" through Neighborhood Watch Block Captains.

**Charlie Bean, Project Manager for Leadership Manhattan Beach Class of 2008, No Address Provided**, thanked the community for their support thus far. She highlighted environmental efforts to use recycled paper, as well as the possibility that Beach Cities Health District grant funds will be awarded to compile emergency preparedness kits for Senior Citizens.

**Sam Jenkins, Accounting/Finance, Leadership Manhattan Beach, No Address Provided**, expressed appreciation for community support and donations.

**Fred Mann, Leadership Manhattan Beach, No Address Provided**, noted that Leadership Manhattan Beach would be the first South Bay organization to receive a grant from the Beach Cities Health District.

In response to a request from the Council, **Ms. Bean** provided detailed information about the "Envelope of Life" program. She offered input on Leadership Manhattan Beach's plans to: increase awareness about the "Envelope of Life"; distribute them to approximately 10,000 community members; and provide "Envelope of Life" forms in a PDF format on the City's website.

08/0318.17 Susan Jones Re Congratulations to Madonna Newburg and Florence Billington

**Susan Jones, No Address Provided**, congratulated Manhattan Beach senior Madonna Newburg on receiving her Citizen of the Year Award from the El Segundo Lion's Club and senior Florence Billington on her Citizen of the Year Award from the Manhattan Beach Lions Club.

08/0318.18 Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery Re Little League

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery called attention to a letter signed by President George W. Bush congratulating the Manhattan Beach Little League on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

08/0318.19 Councilmember Ward Re Request to Adjourn in Memory

Councilmember Ward asked that tonight's meeting be adjourned in memory of the fallen soldiers who served in the Iraq war, especially the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Divisions in Encino, CA, which the City adopted.

08/0318.20 Councilmember Ward Re Youth Recognition Award

Councilmember Ward announced the 2008 Manhattan Beach Youth Recognition Award, applications for which are due by March 31, 2008 with the scholarships to be awarded on April 15, 2008. He acknowledged that forms can be obtained on the City's website at [www.citymb.info](http://www.citymb.info) and on his web site at [www.mitchward@mitchward.net](mailto:www.mitchward@mitchward.net).

08/0318.21 Mayor Aldinger Re Earth Hour

Mayor Aldinger advised that, as part of the national campaign *Lights Out America*, the City is joining in Earth Hour to turn off non-essential lights for one hour between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on March 29, 2008.

Assistant to the City Manager Lindy Coe-Juell provided information concerning the *Lights Out America* Program, the mission of which is to conserve energy.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

08/0318.12 Discussion of Parks and Recreation Department Older Adults Program

Older Adults Program Supervisor Jan Buike addressed Council with a PowerPoint presentation on the Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department's Older Adults Program including: background information on the Program; the City's financial and staff support of the Program; senior programs currently offered; and those planned for the future. At the Council's request, Older Adults Program Supervisor Buike shared information on Program attendance; procedures for gauging the need for a future nutrition program; the qualifications of Program personnel; the Program's acceptance of donations; Program scheduling procedures and related difficulties; and general Program evaluation procedures.

Parks & Recreation Director Richard Gill shared information on program scheduling difficulties, particularly during the month of August, as a result of “Drama Camp”.

The Council discussed the idea of talking to the School District about program scheduling, particularly during the month of August; the Program’s Furniture Committee and furniture donations; the impressive nature of the programs offered; and program evaluation procedures.

**The following individuals spoke on this item:**

- **Melan McBride, No Address Provided**
- **Betty Kozasa, No Address Provided**
- **Patrick McBride, 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Peck Avenue**
- **Susan Jones, No Address Provided**
- **Steve Morse, 1<sup>st</sup> Street**

In response to comments from the audience, Councilmember Tell clarified that the next agenda item will include ways to improve Dial-A-Ride, not negatively impact it.

City Manager Dolan advised that the Dial-A-Ride item will review and address suggested modifications to the Program. He also verified staff’s willingness to assist in making determinations regarding the type of furniture needed at The Oasis.

Councilmember Cohen commended the progress of the Older Adults Program.

Councilmember Ward commented on the City Council’s efforts to improve relationships with service organizations and seniors.

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery noted the City’s financial and staffing dedication to resources for seniors.

Mayor Aldinger thanked all seniors for their involvement in City organizations. He supported bi-annual feedback reports; the need for cooperation in scheduling facilities; and future collaborations between the seniors, Council and staff.

08/0318.13 *Analysis and Review of the Dial-A-Ride Program and Alternate Forms of Transportation for Older Adults*

City Manager Geoff Dolan advised that staff’s presentation will include information about the City’s Dial-A-Ride program, alternative transportation systems for older adults used by other cities and some possibilities on how these systems could most successfully serve Manhattan Beach Seniors.

Recreation Services Manager Eve Kelso gave a PowerPoint presentation on the City’s Dial-A-Ride-Program and alternative transportation systems for older adults. She relayed the staff recommendation to retain the Dial-A-Ride program and supplement it with a taxi or volunteer driver program, which could be funded with Proposition A funds, and provided input on various alternatives thereto. She highlighted the results of the Dial-A-Ride Satisfaction Survey and introduced some of the Dial-A-Ride staff.

Prior to input from the community, the Council commented on the City’s successful Dial-A-Ride program; the results of the Dial-A-Ride Satisfaction Survey; the importance of addressing any negative aspects associated with offering same day rides, such as the cost of cab service; the eligibility for same day rides/cab service; and the idea of expanding the Survey to include

the entire Senior community, not just those who currently use Dial-A-Ride. The Council questioned if there are ways to improve the Dial-A-Ride program without hurting it, as well as whether it is necessary to offer cab service.

Recreation Services Manager Kelso shared input on the ride coupon programs in other cities; the need to set parameters for same day rides; the Dial-A-Ride hours of operation and service boundaries; the lack of available vehicles to service LAX on a regular basis; the environmental aspects of the City's Dial-A-Ride vehicles; and the estimated statistics pertaining to shared rides. She also relayed her preference for the alternative of a Dial-A-Ride dispatcher working directly with a cab company to schedule medical, pharmacy and social service rides for customers when Dial-A-Ride service is unavailable, for an initial defined period of time.

**The following individuals spoke on this item:**

- **Gertrude Helfgott, No Address Provided**
- **Phyllis Kramer, No Address Provided**
- **Gary Osterhout, No Address Provided**
- **Stephen Kimbrough, Administrative Services Co-op**
- **Barney Bodiare, No Address Provided**
- **Steve Morse, No Address Provided**
- **Patrick McBride, 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Peck Avenue**
- **Donna Barlow, No Address Provided**
- **Susan Jones, No Address Provided**
- **Karol Wahlberg, No Address Provided**
- **Melan McBride, No Address Provided**
- **Bertha Catinos, No Address Provided**
- **Sam Pelter, No Address Provided**
- **Maryann Givens, No Address Provided**
- **Rose Brandt, No Address Provided**

The Council discussed the idea of staggering the hours of operation and scheduling trips to specific locations.

Councilmember Cohen emphasized the importance of providing adequate transportation services to seniors, even if it means not staying within Proposition A limitations. She preferred that a combination of options be provided to offer flexibility in when, where and how riders are transported. Councilmember Cohen voiced concern over the potential liability to the City with volunteer drivers and agreed that more research is needed prior to expanding the Program.

Councilmember Tell observed that the main questions are: what other transportation should be provided to adequately serve Seniors; how much money should the City provide to assist the Dial-A-Ride Program; whether the hours of operation should be expanded; whether cab service should supplement Dial-A-Ride; and whether there is a better way to utilize the buses and increase the number of riders. He stated his opinion that another survey should be performed to discover any additional needs; that the cab companies (which would best serve senior needs) should be determined; that a complaint process should be established; and that a fixed route is very difficult to develop.

Councilmember Ward stressed the importance of the self-sufficiency provided in seniors as a result of the Dial-A-Ride Program. He contended that, since the Program is not broken, it should not be fixed; that he does not have enough information at this time to recommend improvements; that the senior community should be further surveyed to determine if there is a

need to expand the Program; that the ideas of providing service to LAX and flexibility in hours of operation should be examined; and that there is a tendency for coupons to be abused. Councilmember Ward commented on the importance of spending funds wisely and with adequate knowledge and did not see the urgency in spending funds on an already-great Program.

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery pointed out the Council's duty is to look at all options, including related costs. He agreed that the independence and flexibility provided by Dial-A-Ride is invaluable and that he would endorse using cabs for additional support and a fixed route shuttle system.

Mayor Aldinger supported expanding service to LAX and the hours of operation as soon as possible and implementing a supplemental cab program. He stated his uncertainty with regard to a fixed route.

Recreation Services Manager Kelso verified that the City's Risk Manager could examine the liability associated with a Volunteer Driver Program and mentioned complications related to scheduling trips to specific locations.

City Manager Dolan indicated that potential liability should not be the basis for a policy decision.

City Attorney Robert Wadden advised that, whenever vehicles are put on the road, the City is exposed to some liability; that the potential liability for volunteer drivers, with training, would not increase the City's liability; that all vehicles have some liability exposure; and that the City has insurance coverage.

City Manager Dolan summarized Council's direction to examine providing Dial-A-Ride service to LAX; expanding hours of service as soon as possible; looking into offering supplemental cab service; producing an additional survey; and a Volunteer Driver Program, which is rare in Los Angeles County.

#### **RECESS AND RECONVENE**

At 10:00 p.m. the Council recessed and reconvened at 10:15 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

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Prior to Item No. 14, Council discussed continuing Item No. 11 (*Consideration of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Maintain the Existing "NO PARKING THIS STREET" Signs on Both Sides of the Alley Between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue*) to the April 1, 2008 City Council meeting.

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery moved to continue Agenda Item No. 11 to the City Council meeting of April 1, 2008. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tell and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.  
Noes: None.  
Abstain: None.  
Absent: None.

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08/0318.14 Presentation of the Draft 2008 Downtown Parking Management Plan Strategies and Recommendations

Traffic Engineer Erik Zandvliet gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Draft 2008 Downtown Parking Management Plan Strategies. He extensively reviewed the following proposed strategies: Operational - (1) Raise street meter rates to prioritize curb parking for customers and short-term users; (2) Continue to provide lower meter rates (one-half full rate) in under utilized parking lots; (3) Increase the number of 24-minute street parking adjacent to certain businesses with short-term parking needs; (4) Increase time limits in the upper level of Metlox structure to three hours; (5) Increase time limits in the lower level of Metlox structure to ten hours and on the upper level of Lot 3; (6) Extend parking meter effective times to begin at 7:00 a.m. and end at 10:00 p.m.; (7) Provide valet service all day near restaurants; (8) Pursue the installation of ATM style cash key recharge stations in public lots; (10) Consider installing meters in unmetered public spaces such as the Civic Center lot and on streets; Zoning Codes - (11) Require all new restaurants to address increased parking needs through the Use Permit process; (12) Modify zoning and Local Coastal Plan codes to eliminate parking credit inequity for developments on lots larger than 10,000 square feet; (13) Modify zoning and Local Coastal Plan codes to eliminate in-lieu fees to satisfy parking requirements; Employee Parking - (14) The presentation included background information on the Plan; the purpose of the Plan; (15) Decrease merchant permit costs in the Metlox structure to make parking lots more attractive than free residential street spaces; (16) Consider subsidized bus passes for Downtown employees; Overflow Parking in Residential Area - (17) Allow residents to override time limit parking restrictions in residential zones within the Downtown area; Administrative - Evaluate the Parking Fund to determine operating expenses and revenue opportunities; (19) Investigate opportunities for disabled parking on streets and in public lots with minimal loss of general parking; (20) Investigate opportunities to provide carpool and "green vehicle" parking spaces in public lots; (21) Encourage more businesses to open their private lots to valet service and shared use after hours; (22) Encourage businesses to remove user restrictions in private parking lots; (23) Implement a parking directional sign plan with a distinctive and clear identity; (24) Investigate the feasibility of a City-owned shuttle service subsidized through various funding sources and operated on a seasonal and weekend basis; (25) Investigate a rideshare program for the Downtown commercial district that includes bus passes; (26) Devote additional resources for enforcement of parking and other motorist violations; and (27) Review effectiveness of the implemented strategies. Traffic Engineer Zandvliet explained the various parking issues that were not studied as part of the Plan; the schedule for the Plan; the City's current parking supply/demand; the current parking durations allowed; the relationship of Downtown land use and codes to parking; the correlation of land use types and parking demand; and the anticipated future land use demand. He related the staff recommendation to evaluate the proposed strategies and forward it to the Parking & Public Improvements Commission and the Planning Commission for implementation and policies.

The Council discussed whether some of the proposed strategies would be feasible; whether a valet service would be utilized enough to make it worthwhile; and the importance of highly visible parking signs directing drivers to parking structures.

City Manager Dolan advised that strategies involving land use would be forwarded for the Planning Commission's consideration and that all of them would be forwarded to the Parking & Public Improvements Commission. He clarified that Coastal Commission restrictions prohibit the metering of Lot 8 and that the Civic Center lot fills up on weekends when parking is free.



**The following individual spoke on this item:**

- **Michael Zislis, No Address Provided**

During additional discussion, the Council agreed that proposed Strategy No. 26 (Devote additional resources for enforcement of parking and other motorist violations) should be eliminated since it is within the purview of the Police Department.

Councilmember Tell recommended that the main objectives of the Downtown Parking Management Plan should be: utilize the parking lots; remove employee parking from public streets; and encourage the use of low-emission vehicles.

Councilmember Cohen agreed with the objectives recommended by Councilmember Tell. She observed that the objectives could be forwarded to the Planning Commission for them to determine which proposed strategies apply to the objectives.

Councilmember Ward disagreed with extending parking meter times to begin at 7:00 a.m.; called attention to the need to install cash key chargers at various locations; and voiced his opinion that parking at City Hall should be free during the day.

Mayor Aldinger also objected to extending parking meter times to begin at 7:00 a.m. He mentioned that the City Council is going to meet jointly with the Parking & Public Improvements Commission in the near future and related his feeling that increasing City revenues should be a priority.

Councilmembers Tell, Cohen, and Ward and Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery indicated that they would not support making increased revenues a priority.

City Manager Dolan pointed out that many employees of the Downtown area park early in the metered areas and stay beyond the two-hour time limit.

The Council agreed to the following proposed strategies as outlined above: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 (removing the Civic Center lot), 11, 14 (adding the sticker program), 15, 17 (clarifying the language that it's the Mira Costa High School program), 19, 20, 23 and 27.

Hearing no objection, it was so ordered.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

08/0318.11 Consideration of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Maintain the Existing "NO PARKING THIS STREET" Signs on Both Sides of the Alley Between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue

This item was continued to the April 1, 2008 City Council meeting. Please see Page 7.

08/0318.22 Patrick McBride Re Polliwog Park

**Patrick McBride, 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Peck Avenue**, provided a sample of sand he recommended to improve drainage at Polliwog Park; clarified a previous comment he made regarding the handicapped using play equipment in Polliwog Park; and commented that the new play equipment in Polliwog Park will interfere with the interactive sports currently played there.

08/0318.23 Robert Bush Re Utility Undergrounding

**Robert Bush, No Address Provided**, shared input to substantiate his disagreement with Utility Undergrounding.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT(S)**

None.

**OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS, COMMITTEE AND TRAVEL REPORTS**

08/0318.24 Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery Re Library Mailer

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery noted that, as part of the Facility Strategic Plan Subcommittee Report, the rough draft of the second library mailer is being prepared and will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

08/0318.25 Mayor Aldinger Re National League of Cities Convention

Mayor Aldinger reported on his attendance at a recent National League of Cities Convention.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:30 p.m., the meeting was duly adjourned, in memory of the fallen soldiers who served in the Iraq war, especially the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division in Encino, CA, to the 6:30 p.m. Joint City Council/Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2008, in the Police/Fire Conference Room, 400/420 15<sup>th</sup> Street, in said City.

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Wendy Weeks  
Recording Secretary

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Jim Aldinger  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Liza Tamura  
City Clerk