MINUTES
March 12, 2020
10:00 AM

CONVENED

The Board of Transportation Commissioners convened a regular meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 10:03 AM in Room 1070 City Hall at 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Item 1 – Welcome

President Eric Eisenberg called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present - noting that those wishing to testify before the Board must fill out a speaker’s form. He informed the audience that if anyone is a registered lobbyist, City ordinance requires that it should be indicated on the speaker’s form.

Item 2 – Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Jazmin Ortega, John Ly, Tafarai Bayne, and Eric Eisenberg; Jay Kim, Assistant General Manager (AGM); and Michael Nagle, Assistant City Attorney

Absent: Commissioners Cris Liban, Sheila Tejada, and Donna Choi

Item 3 – Minutes

Commissioner Ly moved, seconded by Commissioner Bayne to approve the Minutes of February 13, 2020. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item 4 – Communications

There was no communications reported.

Item 5 - Commission Business

Commissioner Eisenberg asked the Assistant City Attorney to look into and provide procedural details on the possibility of a virtual commission meeting without violation of the Brown Act.

Assistant City Attorney Michael Nagle acknowledged that he would investigate and provide a response.
Item 6 – General Manager’s Report

AGM Kim provided an update on LADOT’s proactive measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 department-wide as well as assisting the public. (ie, converting to virtual meetings, disinfecting taxis and DASH buses, informative messaging, virtual counter services, promoting telecommuting, cancel all non-essential travels)

Question and answer session occurred.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENT

There was no neighborhood council comment taken.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public comment taken.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Item 7 – Proposed New Fees for Ambulance, Non-Ambulatory Vehicles, and Taxicab

Irene Sae Koo, Sr. Management Analyst I, presented the report. Brian Bass, Sr. Management Analyst II, provided additional information.

Question and answer session occurred.

Public comments were taken.

CONSENT ITEM

Item 8 – Recommend Approval of the Application for Prime Medical Transportation, Inc. dba Prime Medical Transportation, Inc for Two Unrestricted Non-Ambulatory Passenger Vehicle Permits

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to approve Item No. 8. Unanimously APPROVED.

ACTION ITEM

Item No. 9 – Authorization for the Board President to Write a Letter to City Council Offices Regarding Public Transportation Restrictions in Public Access Areas Such as Parks and Hiking Canyons

Commissioner Eisenberg presented the letter and provided a brief background.

A public comment was taken.

Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Bayne to approve Item No. 9. Unanimously APPROVED.

Felix Valde, Management Analyst, presented the report.

Question and answer session occurred.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to approve Item No. 10. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 11 – Establishment of Preferential Parking District No. 280 in the Pico Neighborhood in Council District 10

Dorothy Tate, Transportation Planning Associate, presented the report.

Question and answer session occurred.

Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to approve Item No. 11. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 12 – Establishment of Preferential Parking District No. 291 in the Westchester Area of Council District 11

Aron Thompson, Management Analyst, presented the report.

Commissioner Ly moved, seconded by Commissioner Ortega to approve Item No. 12. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 13 – Consolidation and Conversion of Temporary Preferential Parking Districts No. 180, 184, 186, 188, 189, 190, 192, 195, and 239 in the Griffith Park Area in Council District 4, into Newly Established Preferential Parking District No. 320, and Amendment of Its Boundaries

Aron Thompson, Management Analyst, presented the report.

Question and answer session occurred.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to approve Item No. 13. Commissioners Ortega and Eisenberg abstained and proposed that Department staff bring the report back for further review. Due to lack of a unanimous vote, Item No. 13 was not approved.

Item No. 14 – Conversion of Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 44 in the Cahuenga Pass Area of Council District 4 to Preferential Parking District No. 44, and Expansion of Its Boundaries

Aron Thompson, Management Analyst, presented the report.

Question and answer session occurred.
Commissioner Ly moved, seconded by Commissioner Ortega to approve Item No. 14. Unanimously APPROVED.

**Item No. 15 – Recommend Revocation of Three Unrestricted Non-Ambulatory Passenger Vehicle Authorities Held by Erna Hambardzumy dba Victorville Medical Transportation for Failure to Comply and for Violations of Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 71.02(A) and 71.16.1**

Patricia Barker, Sr. Transportation Investigator, presented the report. William Beal, Operations Manager and Yuri Hambardzumy, Manager of Victorville Medical Transportation were present and addressed the Board.

Question and answer session occurred.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ortega to approve staff’s recommendation and directed the Department that it may not accept any permit applications from Victorville, Yuri Hambardzumyan, Erna Hambardzumyan, or its principals operating under any other company name for a period of two years. Unanimously APPROVED.

**Item No. 16 – Appeal of February 11, 2020 Decision Issued by Hearing Officer David B. Shapiro Denying JUMP’s Appeal of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation’s Suspension of it’s Dockless On-Demand Mobility Permit and Corresponding Documents Constituting the Record of the Proceeding**

Tabled Item No. 16.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to enter into Executive Session. Unanimously APPROVED.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Item No. 17 – Requested Rehearing of the Appeal of Brian Plascencia, Concerning the Department’s September 11, 2018, Denial of His Application for a New Private Ambulance Attendant Permit, Pursuant to Board Order 600, Rule D2 – No Company Sponsor**

Eric Cavarlez, Sr. Transportation Investigator, presented the report. Appellant Brian Plascencia was present and addressed the Board.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ortega to grant the appeal of Brian Plascencia. Unanimously APPROVED.

**Item No. 18 – Appeal of Charles Eugene Darden, Sr., Concerning the Department’s October 11, 2019, Denial of His Motor Bus Driver Permit #527769, Pursuant to Board Order 600, Rule D1 – No Company Sponsor**

Eric Cavarlez, Sr. Transportation Investigator, presented the report. The appellant was not present. Mr. Cavarlez reported that he had spoken with Mr. Darden at an earlier
date and advised him of the consequences if he did not appear before the Board. The appellant informed Mr. Cavarlez that he now has a job and will not be able to appear.

Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Bayne to deny the appeal of Charles Eugene Darden, Sr. Unanimously APPROVED.

Commissioner Bayne moved, seconded by Commissioner Ortega to exit the Closed Session. Unanimously APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT – PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.7
With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Ortega moved, seconded by Commissioner Ly to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously APPROVED.

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 AM.