

**Proposition O Citizen's Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 19, 2008**

**Committee Members**

Adi Liberman (Vice-Chair)	Mark Gold
Mary Nichols (Chair)	Francine Diamond
Craig Perkins	Tiger Kang
Gideon Kracov	Teresa Villegas
Cynthia McClain-Hill	

**City**

Charles Modica (CLA)  
Mark Tullai (CAO)  
Shahram Kharaghani (BOS)  
Kendrick Okuda (BOE)  
Chris Westhoff (City Attorney)

**Bold indicates members present.**

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 P.M.

**I. Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. Approval of the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will be placed on next month's agenda.

**II. City Administrative Officer/Chief Legislative Analyst/Citizen's Oversight Advisory Committee (COAC) representative update on Proposition O (Prop O) issues and Administrative Oversight Committee meeting**

The CAO reported that the Administrative Oversight Committee's regular meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> was cancelled. Therefore, there was nothing to report.

**III. Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation - Boathouse Project:**

1. BOE reported that grant funding is available for rehabilitation of the boathouse, specifically the structural and aesthetic improvements. The rehabilitation of the boathouse is not part of the Prop O funded Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation project.

Darryl Ford, of the Department of Recreation & Parks (RAP), reported that the California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHHE program) awarded \$1,451,250 in grant funds for Phase II renovations for the Echo Park Boathouse in October 2007. Phase II includes structural and interior upgrades. The City will need to provide a dollar for dollar match for the project.

BOE suggested that the lake edge improvements could meet the matching fund requirement.

2. Heather Repenning reported that Council District 13 supports rehabilitation of the boathouse and is excited about the State's grant award.
3. BOE requested that COAC approve approximately \$70,000 in Prop O funding for Black & Veatch to conduct a structural impact study on the boathouse. Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) questioned the need for this study since the State has already approved the grant funds. The City Attorney and COAC concurred with BOS.
4. BOE revised their request to COAC to approve the appropriate elements of the Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation project as a match to the grant without the structural impact study. COAC passed a motion unanimously to support this request.

**IV: Parking Grove in El Sereno project.**

1. BOS reported that Council District 14 provided a letter requesting this project be withdrawn from Prop O consideration since other sources of funds were identified for this project and it has been completed. COAC passed a motion unanimously to support this request.

**V: Bureau of Engineering Monthly Reports - February 2008**

**Bureau of Sanitation**

- Reimbursable grants/issues update
- Fremont High alternative funding proposal

Bureau of Engineering Monthly Reports - February 2008

Highlights of the February 2008 Monthly Report were presented.

1. A kick off meeting for the next bond sale was held. A request was made for a \$100,600,000 bond sale in May 2008 to sustain implementation activities through July 2009.
2. Two proposals for the Peck Park project were received from Malcolm Pirnie and Tetra Tech.
3. The consultant for Machado Lake project will be selected soon.
4. COAC inquired as to the status of timelines for completing pre-design work on various projects. BOE reported that all projects are now in the pre-design or

design phase, including the three Santa Monica Bay Wet Weather Bacteria TMDL projects which are being accelerated.

5. COAC inquired as to the status of Inner Cabrillo Beach and Cesar Chavez projects. BOS provided an update on Cabrillo Beach and Caesar Chavez as follows:
  - a. The dry soil phase of the Cabrillo beach sand replacement is complete. The wet soil phase will require a 401 permit; it is anticipated that this phase will start in April 2008 and end in June 2008. Caesar Chavez is under construction and on schedule.
6. COAC expressed concerns that although the Harbor Department is doing the Inner Cabrillo Beach project, the Department of Public Works-BOS will be responsible for complying with the Los Angeles Harbor Bacteria TMDL.

COAC extended an invitation to the Harbor Department and Los Angeles Regional Board to report on the project status and results at a future COAC meeting. COAC passed a motion unanimously to support this request. BOS will coordinate the invitation.

Bureau of Sanitation - Reimbursable grants/issues update:

1. BOS reported that there were no new updates.

Bureau of Sanitation - Fremont High alternative funding proposal:

1. BOS reported that LAUSD will extend its offer of \$1 million in funds for the project through December 2008. The total project cost is \$5.3 million. BOS indicated that \$2 to 3 million in funds previously allocated from a Settlement Agreement of the Wastewater Program for the LA Zoo Perimeter Drain project are available and could be used to leverage LAUSD funds. BOS will be working with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to resolve this item and report back to COAC in future meetings. COAC is in full support of this concept.

**VI: Oversight of project construction**

1. COAC expressed a concern that they are not playing an oversight role in project implementation once funds have been approved, and not being fully engaged with the community on how the funds are expended. COAC expressed an interest in being fully engaged in the oversight role to satisfy community concerns.
2. COAC requested a red flag mechanism be employed if the City falls behind schedule on implementing any of the Prop O projects. One idea would be to highlight projects that are 90 days or more behind schedule in the monthly report.
3. Adi Liberman will lead the development of a set of criteria to identify red flag mechanisms to be presented in a future COAC meeting.

**VII: Field Meetings**

1. COAC would like to be involved in each project's public outreach effort and suggested having community meetings at or near the project sites to present information and obtain feedback on Prop O projects as they are being implemented. COAC initially suggested having three outreach meetings in the coming year. Echo Park Lake and Caesar Chavez were mentioned as potential sites.
2. BOE indicated that every project has a specific outreach plan including regular meetings with Council offices and community groups to inform them about project progress. COAC was encouraged to participate in this process. Adi Liberman suggested that Gideon Kracov be assign as a COAC representative to attend these Council office and community meetings.
3. The City Attorney commented that it is important to comply with the Brown Act. One way to follow through is to collect e-mail addresses from people who show up for the meetings so they might be updated regularly.
4. COAC requested that BOE involve Gideon Kracov in Council office and community meetings and relay information back to the COAC. COAC is in full support of this idea. BOE will work with Gideon regarding these meetings.

**VIII: Annual Report to City Council**

1. COAC with support from BOS will be preparing the semi-annual report for City Council. COAC members discussed various reporting procedures to include progress update meetings with individual Council members informing them of projects within their districts. The findings in the report can be presented at City Council public sessions. COAC ultimately opted against changing their reporting procedures and decided to maintain the existing process.

**IX: Visual Presentation of Status of Proposition O**

1. COAC reported that BOS with support from BOE have prepared a draft PowerPoint presentation on Proposition O projects which can be modified and used in public outreach efforts. The presentation explains the project selection process and the benefits of each project. The purpose of this visual presentation is to educate City employees, various community and environmental groups, the City Council and others who might be interested.

**X: General Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.