

**EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEETING****MINUTES****MARCH 4, 2002****CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Mitchell called the meeting to order, the time being 5:00 p.m

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Judy Mitchell, Chairwoman  
Dale Allen  
Deborah Davis  
Pat Killen  
Shirley Kline  
Sue Martin  
Mary Ann Olson  
Dave Pierson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carol Dean-Porter  
Dr. Larry Kelly  
Priscilla Regur  
Pam Schachter  
Vicki Shinn

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andy Clark, Community Services Director  
Linda Fitton, Equestrian Services Supervisor  
Oscar Orci, Planning Director

**AUDIENCE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY – NOTICE OF PREPARATION****PROPOSED GOLF COURSE PROJECT**

Mr. Orci explained the purpose of CEQA and the environmental issues outlined in the memorandum included in the Equestrian Committee's packet. He stated the Equestrian Committee's response to the Notice of Preparation should be to identify what will cause harm to the environment and to identify deficiencies in the project. He stated the City has contracted the services of a toxicologist, a geologist and a hydrologist to study the impact of the project and the EIR analysis. He added that the City has asked for an extension of the March 12 deadline to respond to Los Angeles County. He further explained that the EIR process will take approximately one year.

Committee Members expressed concern over the proposed closing or relocating of the existing riding trail. Member Olson questioned the impact of traffic generated by the proposed golf course. Mr. Orci explained that traffic engineers will determine traffic impact. He explained all Committee comments should be in to City Hall by Thursday, March 7, unless the March 12 deadline is extended from Notice of Preparation.

Traffic - To relocate the riding stable to the proposed site, the median on Hawthorne Boulevard would

need to be removed and a center turn lane would need to be installed. This presents a substantial traffic hazard. Committee Members feel a traffic signal would need to be installed, especially for traffic turning left when leaving the landfill.

Aesthetics – Member Allen stated the lighting impact is not addressed; the proposed plan says nothing about stable lighting. Committee members questioned how project will maintain open space and existing landscaping. Committee Members feel the project will disturb a designated scenic corridor – Hawthorne Boulevard and create traffic problems on Crenshaw Boulevard. In addition, a proposed riding trail crosses the proposed golf course parking lot.

Committee Members agreed to ask for an analysis of the environmental impact of the relocated Equestrian Center on the golf course project. Member Allen recommended to Mr. Orci the EIR study include the Equestrian Center as part of the project and study, the impact of traffic, lights, etc., as well as the impact of golf course on stables and vice versa.

Air Quality – Committee Members feel the impact on air quality will be ongoing. Impact will begin during construction and continue long after the project is completed, due to constant filling, grading and maintaining golf course. Committee Members feel that dust and methane emissions will strongly impact people and horses during all phases of construction and post construction.

Committee Members agreed to ask for notification of any changes in the production of methane gas during the construction of the project. Additional concerns relate to club house kitchen facilities producing odors which may drift into surrounding neighborhoods.

Committee Members are concerned for the displacement of the wildlife living on the site, in particular, the red foxes which have a long history of existing on the landfill site. Committee Members feel the newly established wildlife will not be able to exist as they do now.

Member Killen spoke about the problems of compacting and grading producing additional methane gas from compression. Committee Members recommend a study be done to evaluate the amount of methane that would be produced.

Cultural Resources – Mr. Orci explained this category examines whether the project will create significant archeological changes, discoveries or destruction.

Geology and Soils – Mr. Orci explained this category examines how the project will affect trails, drainage, fencing along trails, etc., including Equestrian Center. Committee Members feel Los Angeles County should be responsible for maintaining drainage around the Equestrian Center. Committee Members expressed concern about any runoff water from the golf course which may be carrying pesticides and herbicides – airborne as well.

Hazardous Materials – Committee Members noted the Notice of Preparation mentions the school on Crenshaw Boulevard, but does not mention Rancho Vista School on Moccasin Lane. Exposure to methane gas is a concern for the horses and people in the community.

Committee Members want to address the issue of the Stable's resident caretaker. The resident caretaker currently lives on site and is very necessary to the operation of the stable facility. Committee Members agree that methane barriers will be necessary for all structures on Equestrian Center site. Committee Members requested to have the proposed Equestrian Center site included in all EIR documents.

Hazardous Materials – Committee Members agree that any emergency response plan should not interfere with riding trails.

Land Use Plan – Mr. Orci noted that the proposed golf course and equestrian facility will be considered commercial recreation facilities.

Impact on Wildlife – There are currently established wildlife existing on the landfill site.

Noise – Noise during construction will be considerable. Noise after construction will include traffic noise, airbrakes, buses, trucks, etc. Heavy truck traffic is directed to Hawthorne Boulevard for northbound travel.

The City's riding instructors have expressed concerns regarding attempting to instruct riding lessons in close proximity to the noise on Hawthorne Boulevard. Committee Members feel the noise from the golf course parking lot will impact the surrounding neighborhoods.

Recreation – Committee Members noted the proposed golf course will affect the City's recreation, and feel that a new proposed recreational use should not displace an established recreational use.

Committee Members requested identification of potential golfer/rider conflicts as well as golf traffic/horse traffic conflicts.

Aesthetics – Committee Members requested a study be done on providing screening for protection of riders on trails, and information on safety fencing for golf courses, designed to keep all golf balls inside the golf areas.

Traffic – Committee Members requested identification of all emergency access areas and roads, turning radius for big trucks, i.e., hay delivery, manure removal, large horse trailers, adequate parking for Equestrian Center use, ingress and egress specific to the Equestrian Center.

Member Allen stated he will be submitting a letter to Los Angeles County from the PVPHA. Additional comments may be submitted to the Planning Department Director for consideration for inclusion in the City's response to the Notice of Preparation and Initial Study.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned, the time being 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Fitton  
Equestrian Services Supervisor