



Mar Vista Community Council



**MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
JOINT MEETING of the PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE with the MVCC Board of Directors
Thursday September 3 2020 6:00 pm**

Public Health and Safety Committee Chair: Christine Stemar | Vice-Chair: Tim Hui
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Co-Chair: Ken Alpern | Co-Chair: Michelle Krupkin
ZOOM Electronic Meeting

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MINUTES

1. Call To Order 6:06 PM and Welcome - Christine Stemar, Tim Hui, Ken Alpern and Michelle Krupkin presiding. Attendees: Ken Alpern, Michelle Krupkin, Christine Stemar, Tommy McHenry, Kalani Whittington, Daniel Litvack, Alek Bartrosouf, Adriana De La Cruz, Tyler Proctor, Kathryn Wheeler, Rob Kadota, Lilia Swarez, Jason Fineis.
2. Introductions and Public Comments (for items not on the agenda) (5-10 minutes)
Kalani Whittington discussed the Friends of West LA (FOWLA) - requesting a NPG from Palms NC Safety Committee for the Palms NC Emergency Preparation Fair to approve; many vendors and in-person presentations. She also discussed helping get Palms NC Venice Blvd. Road Diet motion delayed off the Palms NC main meeting agenda. She requested that stakeholders voice their opinions and know how road diets affect businesses and residents alike.
Ken suggested we put this topic in Committee future agenda items.
3. Motion to approve Minutes of Previous Meetings (5-10 minutes)
Minutes passed: [6/4/2020 Public Health and Safety Minutes](#), [8/5/2020 T/I Committee Minutes](#).
4. Special Orders
 - a. CD11 Mobility Deputy Alek Bartrosouf, shared Mar Vista related mobility issues. (10 minutes)
Stop sign blitz in Mar Vista. [Installed intersections include:](#)
[Brookhaven /Burkshire](#), [Stoner/Navy](#), [Ashwood/Marco Place](#), [Frances /Marco](#)
Michelle Krupkin mentioned that the new MVCC Zone 7 Director Krishna Curry had requested a new stop sign at [Matteson Ave. and Wade](#).
Alek said that with respect to future stop sign requests, there are factors such as spacing between planned/requested and current stop signs, which must be taking into consideration before a location is approved.

[A new ADA curb was installed at Redwood and Morningside.](#)

[Michelle Krupkin inquired about the recent striping on McLaughlin Ave. between Venice Blvd and Washington Place, asking why it was done. Alek explained that edge lines were installed/painted south of Venice Blvd., similar to as recently done on Centinela Ave. These edge lines visually narrow the traffic lane on a wider street in an attempt to calm and slow traffic.](#)

[Alek shared that under the Westside Fast Forward program, several traffic signal improvements were installed and others planned for the future.
Palms/Sawtelle already installed during the last fiscal year. Coming next:
Barrington and Gateway, multiple direction turns including southbound Barrington left turn on Gateway. This improvement has been a long wait since 2016.](#)

Palms/McLaughlin – southbound McLaughlin, turning left eastbound onto Palms is planned for installation in the first quarter of 2021.

Westside Fast Forward paid for by TIMP funds - TIMP Transportation Improvement Mitigation Plan.

Placemaking Project on now on hold while various projects are vetted to make sure they are feasible for Venice Blvd.

Alek is the lead on this project working with LADOT technical staff. LANI and Street One Eleven are coordinating with city depts.

Kalani had a question about School Zone safety sign in areas near schools vs. designating a Slow Streets.

Her thinking is that there are opportunities in Mar Vista and Palms to install more School Zone safety signs vs. designating streets as a Slow Street.

Alek responded that in order to put up a School Zone safety sign the area must qualify and refers us to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

<https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2003r1r2/mutcd2003r1r2complet.pdf>

If there are areas we would like to be considered for a School Zone safety sign, let him know and those signs can be installed where appropriate if qualified.

Stakeholder Tim had questions for Alek about the safety of the bike lanes and if there were any studies done, such as data on an increase in number of accidents involving cyclists and cars in the bike lane. He wondered if there was any effort to reduce such accidents such as using a lighted sign to notify when a cyclist is riding on a bike lane to notify vehicles.

Alek says that there was a study and report, which evaluated Venice Blvd. and did not show an increase in bike related accidents. They saw a decrease in sidewalk riding and more compliance with bike lane riding. The report is publically available.

Michelle asks where that report is since the site (marvistaveniceblvd.) where some data was located is no longer live.

Alek says he has it in his folder; please email him to request it.

With regard to signaling on bike lanes, Alek says that what Tim is describing is a more typical treatment for cycle tracks/bike lanes that are downtown, an example of which is on Spring Street and Main Street, where the bike lane has it's own dedicated traffic signal phasing.

Another example is Long Beach and their bike lanes.

Since Venice Blvd. was done in a pilot program fashion, it did not include treatments such as concrete curbs and intersection improvements that normally would come from a design like this. In the future if something like this were to become permanent, you would see those kind of treatments. As it is right now the way that it is designed, it's not in the mix.

Alek tells Tim if there are specific locations or intersections on Venice Blvd. where he has concerns, please let him know and we can look at them further. Alek says that they took a pretty exhaustive look at existing conditions but he is happy to look at it again since he is there on a regular basis. We tried to accentuate where the conflicts are, put in green paint for that reason and removed some parking spots to make sure bicyclists are visible when that turn is happening to minimize those impacts. Alek says they do see that reflected in the study.

Kalani shares that she was a witness that evening to a Lyft scooter accident at Military and Palms Blvd. An out of town tourist riding illegally on the sidewalk fell. Kalani asks Alek if she would email that info to Alek. Kalani said that she fell, no helmet, tumbled into the dirt off the sidewalk and that should be counted as an accident. There was a discussion of the scooter companies contract with city, which requires the companies to operate under that agreement. Michelle mentions that in October 2018 the MVCC submitted a CIS to the Council File on the Scooter program requesting among other things data collection of accidents as well as recommendations for safety and enforcement. Rob Kadota asked if that accident should be reported to the Lyft vendor. Alek said if there is a collision with property damage or an injury,

there has to be a traffic report filed with LAPD. That data from the police report would be included with any vendor or city report. Alternately she can reach out to LA311 or reach out to Jose Elias at LADOT Transportation Technology.

- b. Continued discussion and possible action regarding input on the Mobility Element of the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Update. (Research Presentation by MVCC Board member Selena Inouye). (15 minutes) Selena not in attendance, item not discussed. Tabled since issue addressed with PLUM/Community Plan motions, such as adding infrastructure elements to Community Plan concerns.

5. Reports (15 Minutes)

a. Subcommittee Reports

i. Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee (last meeting 3/16/20)

Christine Stemar reported that everything that was being worked on pre-COVID shutdown has been either cancelled or put on the back burner. Rob Kadota was working on a First Aid Fair, that event is cancelled.

Tyler Proctor, who was recently named to the Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee, was welcomed. Rob shared that September was National Preparedness Month with a 4-week agenda from FEMA including "Make a Plan" week this week. Great info at: www.ready.gov.

Christine shared that next month the Health Department is distributing flu shots with the widespread rollout targeted for October 13.

There was a discussion about the Block Captain's quarterly meetings. Rob Kadota reported that he hadn't seen anything about it but that they may move to Zoom. Many of the SLO (Senior Lead Officers) are looking to consider holding Zoom meetings. If you wish to have your SLO hold a meeting, please reach out to them. LAPD are starting Community Forums via Zoom. Additional LAPD Community Forums meeting dates to take place in September and October. Rob will share that info with Christine for placement on MVCC Committee page sharing those dates. He also said that the Valley Emergency Prep event scheduled for October is now moved to a virtual event possibly for November 2020. Rob shared that National Night Out in August (LAPD, LAFD) was cancelled due to the pandemic.

- ii. Homeless Issues Subcommittee (last meeting 8/19/20). No Subcommittee personnel in attendance, no report. Referenced item 7a on this agenda.
- iii. Great Streets Subcommittee (last meeting 8/12/20). Michelle reports that at last Board of Directors motions were passed; see item 6c on this agenda for update. Placemaking Project on Great Street Venice Blvd. is on hold; see Alek's report above (Item 4a) for details. Next meeting is September 9.
- iv. Mobility Subcommittee (last meeting 2/24/20). Rob Kadota reported that Covid put the brakes on holding meetings since February. Biking incredible popular since shut down, inventory of bikes for sale is low, repairs and parts take time. Rob will be circulating biking safety resources such as how to lock your bike. Prior to the shut down, MV resident Andrew Powell had been interested in a pump track, which is a small track geared for toddlers and young kids on bikes. He is looking for possible locations such as in the open recreational space at SM airport or Venice Little League field. National Bike to Week is this week. Now people are pivoting from biking around their residential areas instead of biking to work. Ballona Creek bike path and local bike lanes are busy relatively busy. Michelle encouraged Rob to consider setting up a monthly Zoom meeting time, so that the Mobility Subcommittee could return to action. Michelle also said that Kathryn is a

great resource and would be glad to coordinate as DONE has Outreach handling that responsibility.

- b. Bi-Monthly Mar Vista CD11/LADOT/LAPD Traffic External City Committee Report- last meeting 8/20/2020, minutes posted at <http://www.marvista.org/docs/34486204-11187.pdf>
Albert Olson not in attendance, Michelle referenced the most recent minutes in the link above.
 - c. LADWP Committees Report - Adriana de la Cruz gave the report including the supplemental materials. LADWP meeting odd months, StreetsLA meets even months. Discussion of power outage notifications, water outage app. LADWP responding department wide to Covid, response info on their website. Adriana also reported that the Sepulveda/Venice Pipeline Connection is in the last phase of construction, ahead of schedule due to less traffic on those streets. LADWP discount rates, special rate programs, payment arrangements and assistance program info in the report. Discussion of old infrastructure of water pipes in the Mar Vista and need to update. Discussion of Green Initiative and future spending plans. Kalani asked what projects are planned for the future. Adriana said things are on hold as Covid spending is a priority. Rob mentions seeing a sewer jet cleaning crew and how much data is tracked including info such as what sewer they are cleaning, how long on site, how the water flow is functioning. Brief discussion of the Culver City Storm water runoff project, new design and timeline.
 - d. StreetsLA Stakeholder Advisory Council - Adriana de la Cruz gave the report including the supplemental materials. Michelle asked if it was possible that the segment of Pacific Ave. between Inglewood and Grand View Blvd. could be incorporated into the Cool Street program as it was in bad condition. Adriana said that program is closing soon, but if the street was on the list of priority repair streets, it might be considered eventually. Alek shared that the segment, since it is listed as a failed street, should be addressed within 3-4 years.
 - e. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance Transportation Committee. Michelle Krupkin gave a short overview of the last meeting, which was a brief meeting. The NCSA is concerned with issues such as leakage from SoCal Gas, plastics and recycling. The Transportation Committee is also concerned with tree planting on transportation corridors and other issues.
6. Old Business (10 minutes)
- a. Discussion and possible action regarding a Parking Demand Study. **On hold due to Covid-19.**
 - b. Continued discussion and possible action regarding input on the Mobility Element of the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Update (see above, Item 4b). **Tabled, waiting for info.**
 - c. Motion for money budgeted for the Venice Blvd. Placemaking Project to be used to install the long awaited Venice Blvd. Gateway Sign, install the Great Streets Venice Blvd. Mosaic Hopscotch at the Mar Vista Library and fix the Grand View Blvd./Pacific Ave. Pavement Mural. **PASSED** at August 11, 2020 BoD meeting. **Update – letter went out in August.**
 - d. Motion passed by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on June 3 2020 for a letter to be sent to Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority) concerning COVID-19 Max Load Limit, LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) and NextGen Bus Service Proposal. **Passed** at August 11 2020. BoD meeting. **CIS letter sent out August 27 2020.**
 - e. Motion for a Community Impact Statement Regarding and Supporting Feasibility of Telecommuting (Councilmembers Ryu/Koretz, Council Files CF 20-0584; Councilmembers O’Farrell/Martinez, CF 20-0498). **PASSED** at August 11, 2020 BoD meeting. **CIS Submitted August 13 2020.**
 - f. Motion regarding making Slow Streets permanent: Ryu **CF-20-0838** UPDATE: Motion submitted for July 14, 2020 Board of Directors meeting, **deferred to August 11 2020 BoD meeting.**
7. New Business (45 minutes)

- a. Motion – Public Health and Safety Committee. Discussion and possible vote on MVCC Homeless Issues Subcommittee motion to provide Mar Vista with a consistent and obvious police presence. See Supplemental Materials for
The MVCC Homeless Issues Subcommittee finds our police officers provide critical services that are necessary to address the urgent needs of the Mar Vista community as we deal with our homeless crisis.
The MVCC move the City of Los Angeles to provide Mar Vista with a consistent and obvious police presence in our neighborhoods that will allow them to work collaboratively with our neighbors to address and prevent crime and assist in the provision of social services by other public agencies.
Discussion of issue and request for the following wording to be added to the background section: There is also concern about residents/stakeholders possibly suffering a form of PTSD due to exposure from homeless issues.
Jason discusses issues throughout Mar Vista including in Zone 4 at Sawtelle and Westminster with homeless and drug use, homeless people taking shelter on private property. LAPD unresponsive to people on private property, no one trying to solve the problem. Ken comments that he is alarmed at confrontation between Bonin and LAPD. Tommy objects to wording of PTSD amendment because of lack of psych diagnosis. Tommy is also concerned that he doesn't see any consequences for homeless people using illegal drugs. Lilia comments that she through she heard Bonin tell police not to arrest anyone. She supports the police and thinks they are responsive. Tommy comments that many mentally ill are homeless and we need to build hospitals not just housing. Tyler Proctor comments that it is very frustrating as you can't enable addiction behavior, but living on the street is a death sentence, with indifference by the city disguised as compassion. Michelle made the motion, Ken seconded. Motion passed at Committee, Motion submitted for September 9 2020 BoD agenda as Item 14.2, deferred to October 13 2020 BoD meeting.
 - b. The MVCC fully supports adoption of a new Los Angeles City Sign Ordinance as recommended by the City Planning Commission in Version B+ of the proposed sign ordinance as approved by the City Planning Commission on 10/22/2015, Council File 11-1705. Ken gives background of the motion including past concern about digital billboards. The MVCC PLUM committee supports this and the motion came from WRAC. Kalani made the motion to amend/change language from "disapproves" to "strongly disapproves." Ken accepted the amendment. Overall motion made by Christine, 2nd by Ken. Motion passed at Committee, Motion submitted for September 9 2020 BoD agenda as Item 14.3, deferred to October 13 2020 BoD meeting.
 - c. Discussion and possible motion regarding using the Los Angeles County Stormwater channels (<https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/Stormwater/>) in Mar Vista for alternative uses, i.e., bike path, pedestrian walkway, wildlife habitat, etc. (Ambriz). Ms Ambriz was not in attendance, no update from Ms. Ambriz. Ken suggests reaching out to LA County for involvement , for example connecting the Ballona Creek Bike Path to other possible routes.
 - d. LAWA Presentation (People Mover update) to be delayed to October 13th BoD meeting. No action needed.
8. Public Comment
 9. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) (Inouye) - Discussion and possible Community Council File 14-1349-S1. No update
 - b. Inviting the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment to speak about recycling at an MVCC meeting (Hruska). <https://mobile.twitter.com/lacitysan/status/1214343931728551936> No update.
 - c. Palms Region Venice Blvd. Road Diet (also likely to be discussed in Great Streets Subcommittee). There was a brief discussion of conflict of interest of two Palms NC Transportation Committee members as they are employed respectively as either a local city Transportation Department and as a Transportation consultant in the region.

10. Adjournment 8:49 PM

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