



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE with the MVCC Board of Directors

Thursday October 1 2020 7:00 pm
Co-Chair: Ken Alpern | Co-Chair: Michelle Krupkin

ZOOM Electronic Meeting

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MINUTES

1. Call To Order and Welcome – Ken Alpern and Michelle Krupkin 7:05 pm
2. Introductions and Public Comments (for items not on the agenda) (2 minutes)
 Announcement from Stacy Shure: WRAC transitioned to new leadership.
 Matt Wersinger (Del Rey NC) is now the Chair
 Chris Spitz (Pacific Palisades NC) is now the Vice Chair, Robin Greenberg is the Secretary.
 The WRAC LUPC (Land Use and Planning Committee) will hold elections for LUPC soon as long serving LUPC Chair Sharon Commins stepped down.
 WRAC is currently reconfiguring committees including the Transportation, Homelessness and Public Safety Committees. WRAC is the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils and includes 14 Neighborhood Councils on the Westside of LA. More info at: <https://westsidecouncils.com/meetings/>
3. Motion to approve Minutes of Previous Meetings (5-10 minutes) The September 2 2020 T&I minutes were approved.
4. Special Orders
 - a. CD11 Mobility Deputy Alek Bartosouf, shares Mar Vista related mobility issues.

Alek reported that Mar vista got it's first Slow Street as part of the LADOT Slow Streets Program. It is in Zone 2 in the Richland Elementary area on Brookhaven Ave. on both sides of Barrington near Granville, Ocean Park, Barry, Federal and Stoner. No others planned, according to Alek. Slow Streets program are two sawhorses tied at each end of the Slow Streets to allow pedestrian safe mobility in between them.

Alek shared that yesterday (9/30/2020) the LA City Council ended the relaxed parking enforcement rules because of COVID-19, including residential street sweeping, parking restrictions starting 10/15/2020. More info at the LADOT website at what is being lifted.

Alek spoke about the Placemaking Project, which is now renamed as the Mar Vista Beautification Project. There will be outreach for this project at the end of October 2020. Hope to engage the entire community on what they would like to see on Venice Blvd. It is specifically for enhancing the pedestrian experience. They want to do additional things like public art, way finding, enhancements along the pedestrian corridor to make more welcoming not only for business patrons, people that are going to the farmer's market and the general public that are walking along the corridor.
This is an initiative of the councilmember's office in partnership with the Great Streets program.

They want input and want to brainstorm ways in which they can beautify the corridor and invite everyone to participate in that outreach exercise. There will be two meetings, the first meeting via zoom, where we lay the context for what the options are and get feedback from community.

Then based on that meeting and those initial findings, there will be a follow up second outreach meeting. We would like to have it at the MV Farmer's Market, although we are being mindful of being socially distant. It would be a more passive experience where people can come and go and provide input. We are also planning to have a follow up online version for those that are not available for that particular day or are uncomfortable coming to the Farmer's Market during the pandemic. We will request MVCC help us to outreach for that effort. He will have more info very soon.

That's the end of his report, he is always available via email at: Alek.Bartosouf@lacity.org and happy to schedule phone calls or meet with people virtually.

Stakeholder questions/comments for Alek: Kelli Jones, resident in the Slow Street area of Brookhaven area, commented on the Brookhaven Ave. Slow streets and voiced her support. April Peterson had questions re: Slow Streets.

She was interested in requesting one on Charnock Ave. from Centinela to Sawtelle.

Alek said that he can't take that request, as they don't have capacity for more slow streets. There are 3 Slow Streets areas in CD11 (one in MV, one in Del Rey and one in West LA) and that's it for now. Resources were taking away from Slow Streets to the AI Fresco program and additionally budgets are being affected. Unfortunately the program is not taking additional requests at this time.

Catherine Monkarsh has questions about Slow Street, whether it also included speed humps or not. Michelle clarified that it was only 2 sawhorses lashed together, no physical improvements like speed humps

Alek concurred that Slow Streets is only a temporary program. Catherine said she didn't understand why you want to stop traffic on a street and have people in the street as if nobody goes there, but there are still cars driving through. Alek said that the program is not changing any rules of the road but it is to remind people that there may be people walking on the street. Catherine wanted a clarification as to whether it was temporary.

Alek replied that it is temporary because of the pandemic.

Stacy Shure told Alek she understood that Councilmember David Ryu's motion to make Slow Streets permanent was recalled since there was an issue with the State's Attorney General making a determination that these Slow Streets create liability situations and issues that the city hasn't resolved and that they may not in fact comply with CA State law.

Alek said he can't confirm that assessment and didn't have an update.

Stacy also Alek asked about traffic mitigation with Community Plan Update staff regarding safety and traffic measures. Stacy wanted to ask if Alek had engaged with the Community Update Plan team at the Dept. of City Planning (DCP) to deal with ongoing traffic mitigation issues and if not if that can be arranged.

Alek said he is not directly involved in those issues and that Councilmember Bonin's Planning staff, Len and Jason, handle them.

Stacy mentions a proposed upzoning adjacent to near a school on Venice Blvd. on the western boundary of Mar Vista Community Council and her concern about traffic impacts and any measures that could be put in the Community Plan that would provide access to the school with enhanced safety measures.

- b. Continued discussion and possible action regarding input on the Mobility Element of the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Update. (15 minutes)

Stacy shares a Motion re: Data Gathering from Ride-Sharing Companies (from WRAC) May 15 2019:

The MVCC Neighborhood/Community Council requests that the State of California mandate that localities be empowered to assess the impact on traffic and congestion of ride sharing services by mandating comprehensive data from ride sharing companies available for study. Data should include time spent on the road to and from their homes and between rides for all ridesharing drivers as compared to traffic that would be generated by private vehicles making each trip. The

results of this survey should guide both local and state policy in regards to ridesharing and better understand our transportation system. Using such data, the City of Los Angeles should then establish benchmark dates prior to and after implementation of each ridesharing platform and study in a scientific manner using all data available to determine if ride sharing vehicles add to or lessen congestion within the City of Los Angeles.

Ken made the motion, Stacy seconded it. MOTION PASSED without opposition.

Comments:

Alek pointed out that the Ridesharing is not regulated by LA City and the City not currently allowed to ask for this information; hence the motion should possibly be made to Sacramento.

Tommy - Uber and Lyft should already be sharing data.

Do we know if other councils have passed this?

5. Reports (15 Minutes)

a. Subcommittee Reports

i. Great Streets Committee (last meeting 9/09/20)

Michelle and Krishna will continue to inventory open and closed stores. Al Fresco restaurants/eating was discussed. Desire to support businesses was emphasized, but MVCC still does not have clearance from DONE to put (supportive) information on MVCC website.

ii. Mobility Committee (last meeting 2/24/20) No report.

b. Bi-Monthly Mar Vista CD11/LADOT/LAPD Traffic External City Committee Report- last meeting 8/26/2020, minutes posted at <http://www.marvista.org/docs/34486204-11187.pdf>.

Alek said that this committee only meets every 2-3 months; if there are any immediate traffic concerns, then Alek recommends you speak directly to him.

c. LADWP Committees Report - Adriana de la Cruz

Adriana de la Cruz's LADWP Committee and StreetsLA Stakeholder Advisory Council reports; StreetsLA 5-year-plan Strategic Plan changed based on change of funds; Adriana reported no maintenance for now as much as major intersection and other repair works. Please see supplemental documents for reports.

d. StreetsLA Stakeholder Advisory Council - Adriana de la Cruz

e. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance Transportation Committee – Michelle Krupkin/Selena Inouye. Michelle reports that there was no meeting recently but saw discussion about a proposed tramline to serve the Hollywood Sign area, which is extremely controversial. Currently has opposition from Sierra Club, Hollywood Orchard, friends of Griffith Park.

6. Old Business (10 minutes)

a. Discussion and possible action regarding a Parking Demand Study. **No Report**

b. Continued discussion and possible action regarding input on the Mobility Element of the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Update (see above) **Discussed above.**

c. Motions for opposing Permanent Slow Streets and Community Plan Update (including mobility/infrastructure recommendations, and request for COVID-19-related delay of final passage and implementation) Motion regarding making Slow Streets permanent: Ryu [CF-20-0838](#). PASSED by MVCC BOD at 9/8/2020 meeting, CIS letter pending.

d. Motion regarding Sign Ordinance. Motion passed by committee, not discussed at 9/8/2020 MVCC BOD meeting, Motion pending at 10/13/20 MVCC Board of Directors meeting.

7. New Business (45 minutes)

a. 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. (From Board member Ambriz, waiting for follow up).

There were numerous stakeholders who all had important concerns as follows:

The theory of a bike or other path is appealing but more concerning are homeless issues in the area including between Venice and Palms on McLaughlin.

Another stakeholder stated that the neighborhoods' fences are the dividing line from the wash now, which is 6 feet from their dining room. They do not appreciate a proposed wall of any kind and have no confidence in local city government to enforce any issues. Many in the neighborhood are currently paying for private security to try to prevent any incidents.

A stakeholder lives on Berryman commented that her fence has been set on fire by homeless in the Stormwater channel and luckily her neighbor called LAFD or she would have lost her house.

Another resident has had their house broken into twice already, not looking forward to channel/wash area opening up off Venice Blvd. and would feel exposed.

Another stakeholder stated that no one uses the wash now but homeless. Concerned it will become a drug alley. Not realistic financially or logistically.

More comments: widespread opposition on Ballona Drive, near Venice Blvd.; many homeless people already there, and not bikers. It may work safely in other cities, but not here because it's too dangerous.

Another stakeholder said that they live right behind Windward School with their backyard right up to the wash. He is a big bike rider himself, concerned about break-ins to his cars and people breaking into side yard with lots of drug paraphernalia; Ballona Creek bikeway has lots of glass thrown there, homeless problem; his wife agrees, who is a social worker and is afraid of safety issues.

One stakeholder who has lived here since 1959 commented that there is noise and people leaning against his personal fence next to wash on Victoria Avenue; it takes a long time to clear them out of the area. Dealing with homeless people, other people jumping the fence

One stakeholder emphasized it wasn't so much about the homeless but about the crime. Also, it's more than just homeless issues, he has issues with any proposed bright lights, fences

Alek Bartosouf raised the idea that considering this project was part of the Community Plan Update, which (as Stacy mentioned) was part of the normal process of Planners to look at when evaluate all opportunities. No money for this, and nothing will happen any time soon. May not happen for 20-30 years or longer. Worst-case scenario, if this were to move forward, you wouldn't see anything like this for years.

Plus there is an Environmental review process that has to go through LA County. Dept. of City Planning is conducting a series of workshops to describe the process and project planning. He suggested that this feedback be directed to Dept. of City Planning. Stacy said that this being done within 5-10 years is "slim to none."

A motion from Ken was discussed but the committee did not want to proceed with it. No action other than the discussion was taken.

- b. LAWA Presentation to be delayed after October 13th BoD meeting and to be scheduled for a future date. On hold. We are hoping to get a presentation from LAWA but due to budgetary limitations LAWA states that they cannot attend after hours NC meetings to give presentation.
- c. Discussion of ramifications and effects, and possible motion for, removing vehicle lanes on Venice Blvd. Road Diet between Sepulveda and Robertson Blvds. within the Palms NC boundaries. Kalani reported that the T/I Chair (Nathan Pope) at the PNC is moving after finishing his master's degree at UCLA, but wants to get a UCLA student/appointee to push for the Road Diet in Palms. This is in the Palms area of Councilmember Koretz's district. Koretz opposes this but his Chief Field and Transportation Deputy Jay Greenstein is mentioning possible support for a road improvement. Kalani shared that Culver City closing portions of Culver Blvd. for Al Fresco, and is concerned that vehicle traffic would be pushed to Venice Blvd.
- d. Discussion of decreased Metro ridership and funding, as well as possible motion. **Not discussed due to time.**

8. Public Comment

9. Future Agenda Items

- a. Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) (Inouye) - Discussion and possible Community Council File 14-1349-S1.
- b. Inviting the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment to speak about recycling at an MVCC meeting (Hruska). <https://mobile.twitter.com/lacitysan/status/1214343931728551936>
- c. Future considerations of benefits of the LANow shuttle pilot project versus dedicated DASH line(s).

10. Adjournment 9:59 pm

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