



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
GREAT STREETS AD HOC COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 8, 2015, 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Mar Vista Library
12006 Venice Blvd., Mar Vista, CA 90066
(SW corner of Venice and Inglewood Blvds.)

Chair: Michelle Krupkin

MINUTES

1. Call To Order and Welcome – Chair (1 min.) 6:35 p.m.
2. Introductions and Public Comments (for items not on the agenda) (2 minutes)
3. Motion to approve June 2015 minutes (2 minutes). Passed.
4. Reports (15 Minutes)
 - a. Great Streets Program brief definition –Michelle Krupkin
 - b. Report from Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce President Sarah Auerswald.
Sarah reported that the Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce partnered with several groups to submit a Great Streets Challenge Grant application for GS Venice in CD11. Sarah described the project and spoke about the various aspects of the event, including the pop-up bike lane. Another team that submitted a Great Streets Challenge Grant application was the homage to bee keeping. Sarah also discussed with Malia Schilling of CicLAvia about coordinating efforts for the August 9th CicLAvia event.
5. New Business (30-65 minutes)
 - a. Justin Pascone, Great Streets Studio (prev. LACBC), Malia Schilling of CicLAvia and Jessie Holzer, Mobility Deputy, CD11. Discussion of a Great Streets event in the pedestrian zone for the August 9 (Culver City meets Venice) CicLAvia event and thoughts for activating this space. Jessie and Justin discussed the various aspects of the August 9th CicLAvia event, including the block long pedestrian zone to be located in Mar Vista from Centinela to Grand View on Venice Blvd. There was also discussion of parklets for the event. There was a discussion of Great Streets ideas for CicLAvia such as possible parklet activities; Games such as Big Tic Tac Toe, Chess and Bocci ball are all options. There will be spray-chalked icons celebrating the parklets. Malia Schilling discussed the various water features that will be present, such as the water fountain from water hydrants and bottle fill stations. Justin spoke about DWP's sustainable hub that will feature low water fountains, solar panels, and EV chargers. Justin said that there will be a LA Public Library booth featuring Mar Vista Library and a mobile library. Michelle offered to email Justin info on the outreach bilingual contact person for LAPL.

Malia mentioned the outreach for CicLAvia in Mar Vista and other areas. There were two rounds of door-to-door outreach and CicLAvia briefings at various community meetings in Venice, Mar Vista and Culver City.

Jessie also discussed the August 6th CD11 Great Streets Community Meeting that will feature the unveiling of the Venice Blvd. Great Streets Plan. It will be a reflection of the input received from all the CD11 Stakeholders.

- b. Lisa Cahill, Director of Sustainable Solutions, Treepeople. Discussion of possible planting solutions along Venice Blvd., including drought-tolerant, low-water native plant options. Lisa was unable to attend, but luckily Linda Eremita, Forestry Education Manager at Treepeople was able to attend and gave a wonderful presentation.

Linda shared two highly informative handouts: 1. City of Los Angeles Approved Street Tree list and 2. CA Native Plants – A Starter List. Linda also gave a presentation that covered many relevant aspects such as existing landscape, appropriate size – choosing the largest canopy that is appropriate for the site. Linda also went over storm water capture options and curb cuts.

Next she discussed the five different criteria for choosing appropriate plants: 1. Climate 2. Planting width 3. Soil texture 4. Soil permeability 5. Possible obstructions.

Linda shared that it is critical to choose plants that fit the site, such as plants that won't outgrow the planting space. As far as climate type, the Southern California climate is Sunset Climate Zone 22, a Mediterranean climate with mostly long dry warm to hot summer and cool to moist winters.

Linda stressed how important it is to choose plants with the same water needs in one area; i.e. put low water plants with other low water plants.

She discussed a helpful website called WUCOLS IV: Water use Classification of Landscape Species. The website for searches is:

http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/Plant_Search/

Linda next considered parkways and medians and how they can fit into proper landscape planning. It is best to avoid monoculture and instead plant for diversity with a mix of annuals and perennials.

Linda also mentioned how to plan for a business district. A taller tree with a canopy above a building is best to avoid canopy-blocking signage.

Lastly, Linda shared info about a mobile phone application called TreemapLA that would be useful to help with a Venice Blvd. inventory of current plantings.

<https://www.opentreemap.org/latreemap/map/>

- c. Public Comment
- d. Future Agenda Items
- e. Adjournment at 7:53 p.m.

**in compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact secretary@marvista.org.*

***As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting chair@marvista.org.*