



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
GREAT STREETS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE
<http://www.marvista.org/great-streets.php>

Wednesday December 12 2018 6:30 pm
Mar Vista Library
12006 Venice Blvd., Mar Vista, CA 90066
(SW corner of Venice and Inglewood Blvds.)

MINUTES

1. Call To Order and Welcome – Chair (1 min.) acting chair: Michelle Krupkin 6:40 pm.
2. Introductions and Public Comments (for items not on the agenda) (2 minutes)

During Public Comment, the following was discussed:

A stakeholder asked about the previously requested Town Hall. Michelle relayed that the Town Hall request motion passed the night before at the 12.11.18 Board of Directors meeting. A MVCC letter was due to be written and sent to LADOT, Great Streets Initiative and the office of Councilmember Mike Bonin demanding a Town Hall by January 26 2019 to present the one-year pilot project data and other information.

The stakeholder said that they were concerned about scheduling and doing the outreach for it. Michelle relayed that when West LA/MV CD11 Deputy Hannah Levien was at the 12.11.18 Board of Directors meeting she said that LADOT was still going to present the one-year data by year's end but did not give details about when/ where the data would be presented.

CD11 Mobility Deputy Alek Bartrosouf said that CD11 has been scrambling with LADOT and the consultants to get the report done by the end of the year. We're really hoping that it will be ready to be released very soon but we are still waiting on some key data points and there are still some things that are not finalized and he didn't have an update on when it released other than hoping by the end of 2018 as had been promised all year.

A stakeholder asked if it was being released on the LADOT VeniceMarvista website by the end of the year?

Alek said that he would have to ask the communications folks. He stated that LADOT has their own communication staff than CD11's communication staff. He wasn't sure how it was being released but either by email or social media but will be available to everyone.

Michelle asked about getting an executive version.

Alek said you're talking about an appendix. We made it clear to LADOT that an appendix should be provided.

Alek said that there will be a final report that is a summary report which is probably going to be very similar to the benchmark report from earlier that you have seen that was released in the past.

In addition to the summary there will be an appendix that will be a separate document that highlights and includes all the data and methodology.

It was asked which specific department of LADOT is preparing the one-year report, was it Vision Zero and if Fehr and Peers is involved.

Alek said that he was not sure. A stakeholder asked whether LADOT and CD11 intended the release of the report to take the place of a meeting in Mar Vista. Alek said he didn't know what the plans were for beyond the report. He said that he was specifically focusing on the report itself.

Question from stakeholder: Since Nat Gale left LADOT Vision Zero, is there a new Nat Gale doing the report? A: Not sure if LADOT Vision Zero's plan is to replace Nat or if his job function has been shifted to other people on the team.

A stakeholder said that if Alek speaks with them that we expect them to come out and touch base so we can see them and talk to them.

A stakeholder asked whom do you deal with at LADOT? Alek said that he thinks Tim Conger LADOT Senior Transportation Engineer and Jaclyn Garcia LADOT Transportation Planning Associate. Alek says it's coming but he doesn't know when. It was remarked that the holidays are approaching. Alek says that no one wants to be scrambling to finalize a report around the holidays. He hopes the report comes out sooner than later.

Alek said that there was a benchmarking report that outlined all sorts of data sets evaluating pre-project conditions. The report is going to mirror that and give you a post-project conditions using those same data sets.

There was a discussion about what factors would determine whether the road diet was working. Alek said by work there are different factors like volumes, traffic safety, economic data, business conditions, pedestrian etc.

A stakeholder asked if it compared to any other cities with road diets.

Alek said that this study doesn't include other cities. That it does a pre and post road diet comparison.

A stakeholder asked if the study looks at traffic on side streets and cut through traffic.

Alek said it would include volumes on possibly Palms, Victoria, Charnock and Pacific.

There are 4 or 5 streets. Possibly McLaughlin and Centinela.

The stakeholder asked about Walgrove and Beethoven.

Alek said he didn't know since it was a mirror of the pre-project report. If those streets were included in the pre-project report than they would be in the post project report.

Another stakeholder brought up something that he saw on the Facebook page Westside LA Today. They have a video there that is a post talking about Venice Blvd. and all the issues with businesses. They interview Demetrious about Venice Blvd.

At the end of the video there is a statement that they went around and spoke to a lot of business owners but they were too scared to talk on camera for fear of retaliation.

We know that they have people from the council office going around and harassing business owners. So we know that we have people from Venice Blvd. business fearing retaliation from government officials or city workers.

3. Motion to approve the October 10 2018 Great Streets minutes (2 minutes) Gabriel Hill made the motion. Seconded by Selena. Motion was passed and minutes were approved.
4. Reports (15 -20 Minutes)
 - a. Great Streets Program brief definition-Michelle Krupkin, MV Community Council gave a brief definition of the Great Streets program. Full info at <http://lagreatstreets.org/what-we-do>
 - b. CD11 Mobility Deputy Alek Bartrosouf, shared Mar Vista related mobility issues.
 1. CD11 is looking at increasing pedestrian safety lighting for Great Streets Venice Blvd. CD 11 is working with Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL) and we are trying to allocate some of the Great Street funds to increase safety for pedestrians at intersections along the corridor. The lighting that we currently have on the Venice Blvd. Corridor is more geared for the road and drivers. Not sure if we can do all intersections to raise the visibility of pedestrians crossing the street but want to try to identify ID key areas that are particularly dark in the corridor. Alek stated that he is trying to do that assessment himself with BSL and also welcomes local input if anyone has specific suggestions of target locations where lighting would be helpful.

A stakeholder expressed lighting concerns for the intersection of Venice Blvd. and Grand View Blvd. where the leading pedestrian interval (LPI) is located. Another stakeholder stated that there had been a number of pedestrian vs. car accidents at that intersection.

A stakeholder shared their concerns about how dark it was on sidewalks in the residential sections of Venice Blvd. on the north side from Boise to Moore and on the east side of the street of Grand View near the post office between Venice and Pacific on Grand View.

Alek said that if the streetlight is going to be placed on the block itself instead of the intersections, the businesses have to be assessed to pay for it. Even in a residential area, if your

street wants lighting, you need to petition the community and there is a yearly fee on your property tax bill. That is citywide and includes commercial areas. In order to bypass that, I am only focusing on specific safety concerns at intersections and crosswalks. So that's how to avoid the requirement to assess businesses. If you notice a particularly dark intersection on the Great Street Venice Blvd. please shoot me an email about it.

A stakeholder said that she had questions about not only pedestrians but also people riding scooters and issues with poor lighting at night. The stakeholder said that scooters are crossing through red lights and dangerous. Alek said that the City of LA just passed a pilot program relating to those scooter devices including Birds. Michelle stated that the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee wrote and passed a motion regarding scooters, which subsequently the full MVCC passed, resulting in a Community Impact Statement (CIS) being submitted to that Scooter Pilot Program council file. Michelle also stated that the representatives from all the scooter companies are not being responsive to invitations to attend a Transportations and Infrastructure Committee meeting. Alek said that scooter companies do have lighting on the scooters but it is not enough.

Alek additionally said that if there are any issues with scooter companies are not responding to invitations from Neighborhood Councils please relay that to him and he can relay that to LADOT. LADOT is starting to think about what penalties to assess to the scooter companies that are not complying.

A stakeholder expressed concern about bikes and scooters traveling the wrong way in the bike lanes. He suggested posting signed with directional arrows. He mentioned areas near Wade and Beethoven Streets

Another stakeholder shared that a US Postal worker was struck while exiting her postal vehicle and then walking across the bike lane to deliver a package near Wade and Beethoven in the residential areas.

Alek said that he did not know of any signage that is not MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) compliant –national standard for signage on streets that would be available. He said he could see if there is signage that would be relevant.

2. Alek's report continued. His second item concerned the interest in a left-turn signal at Wade and Venice. The traffic report is done and they are working on design. Anticipated installation is Spring 2019. This would be for lanes on Venice turning north and south onto Wade. He mentioned that he knows that there have been some collisions there and we are trying to address it that way.

3. Pavement Mural at the intersection of Grand View Blvd. and Pacific Ave.

Alek gave an update on the Pavement Mural which is not Great Streets per say but mentioned it in the past since it came out of this committee. We were aiming for January 2019. We were trying for this month December 2018 but there were some issues with the artist's schedule. It has been pushed back a few weeks probably to February 2019. That's all the update I have on this item. I was hoping that Lenore would be here to give a better update on this item. Lenore has been working on this with Hannah and LADOT on this so if there are any questions reach out to them on this. It is TBD January 2019.

4. Big Belly Bins. Hannah was trying to get some Big Belly Trash Bins for Great Street Venice Blvd. (GSVB). Funding has been acquired and now some of the regular trash bins along GSVB will converted to Big Belly Trash Bins.

This is planned for approximately 5-7 locations along GSVB. Some will have dual bins with a trash bin and a recycling bin and some will be just a trash bin. Michelle explains to the Subcommittee attendees how the Big Belly Trash bins work using solar power as an energy source to compact trash. A stakeholder requests placement of one in front of Grand View Market. Alek says that Hannah has the map of the planned locations for the Big Belly Bins. Alek states that if there is a trash problem, he doesn't think that there will be a problem to request

adding another bin. Alek asks the stakeholder when the problem is worse. The stakeholder thinks that it is on MV Farmer's Market days when this is an issue and that the bin is missing the top. Michelle also mentions that the black trash bin on the SW corner of Venice and Inglewood next to the Metro Route 733 bus stop in front of the MV Library is also missing the top. Alek notes these issues.

5. Metro Bike Share. Alek stated that Metro staff and their BikeShare team were out in Mar Vista doing outreach recently at the December 11 2018 MVCC Board of Director's meeting. BikeStands for the Metro Bike Share are coming to Mar Vista soon with a roll out in Spring 2019. Metro Bikeshare currently operates in Downtown LA and Venice and are expanding to more neighborhoods on the Westside. That includes Del Rey, Mar Vista, Playa Vista and Playa Del Rey. These are docked and the device where you rent out the bike is on the bike itself. Technically they can be returned anywhere. There is an incentive built in to return the bike to the Metro BikeShare dock station. You are charged more if you don't return to a station. You can pay for the Metro Bike Share rental with a Metro Tap Card.

There will be rebalancing teams that go out and place bikes in the stations where people are expecting them. Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) is the operating company. The tentative map is There are a few locations on the Great Street Venice Blvd. where the sidewalk are wide enough where it won't be impacting any parking. There are a couple locations were we are trying to determine whether we can put them near a bus stop or on a red curb. Details are still being figured out. Alek said he will hopefully have a better update about dock locations at the January 2019 Transportation and Infrastructure and Great Streets meetings. Michelle and Alek share the flyer that Metro Bike Share circulated at the December 11 2018 MVCC Board of Director's meeting. Michelle comments that the flyer specifies that there are 60-70 Metro Bike Share dock stations planned for the new areas including Del Rey, Mar Vista, Playa Vista, Playa Del Rey, Palms and possibly Marina Del Rey. Rollout was originally set for 2018 but they are having ordering issues with the docks and bikes since these are next generation bikes.

48 minutes

6. Landscaping. Alek shared that Hannah has been working with BSS to landscape the Great Street Venice Blvd. median. Part of the problem is that irrigation is broken and since the relinquishment happened the city hasn't been repairing or maintaining the irrigation system in the medians. That has been part of the hang up and cost of this. We can't put in plants without them being irrigated. So we wanted to test it out and see how it would work to landscape with a coordinated effort from different departments. The conservation core on this one helped out on a small section of the Great Street median and it worked out well. We are hoping to be able to extend it on other medians down the line. We are hoping to extend it to the rest of Great Street Venice Blvd. A stakeholder had a question about landscaping. She mentioned the landscaping in the Livable Boulevards Streetscapes Plan and that it shows narrowing the median. She said that she was all for plants but are we are planting plants that are going to get ripped out at some point when they narrow the media if that actually do that? Alek said that the Streetscape Plan is not going to happen for years. Whatever version that comes out of that Plan is not to be installed for 4, 5, 6 or 7 years. This was just a beautification project in the meantime. Alek said that it's too early to say what will happen to the medians. A stakeholder asked if any trees were being taken out of the medians. Alek said he didn't think so. There was a discussion about whether the trees planted in the media are being trimmed. There was a concern from a stakeholder about the trees since they are currently getting hit by truck and large vehicles driving on Venice Blvd. between Grand View and Centinela. Alek said that he can look into it.

52 minutes

- c. Lenore French, will give an overview of the recent November 24 Small Business Saturday/Mar Vista Art Walk. UPDATE: Lenore French emailed earlier that day that she is sick. She was not in attendance – no report.

5. Old Business (10 minutes)

- a. Policy Motion: Establishment of Street-Sweeping Route and Services for Centinela Blvd. Between Palms Blvd. and National Blvd. **STATUS:** PASSED at 8/14/18 BoD meeting. Needs possible follow-up letter to CD11, CD5 BoSS and LADOT.
- b. Policy Motion Policy Motion: MVCC Support for the restoration of the "Opt-out" clause in the City of Los Angeles Sidewalk Vending Program. **STATUS:** On the 12.11.18 BoD Meeting Agenda. Postponed to 1.08.19 BoD meeting.
- c. Mission Statement discussion for Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee page. **STATUS:** Finalized for posting on MVCC website.
- d. Independent Traffic Study Motion.
WHEREAS, the Great Streets - Venice Boulevard pilot project has caused conflict and controversy in Mar Vista and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, numerous requests for pre- and post-project data to the Great Streets Initiative in Mayor Garcetti's office, the Active Transportation and Vision Zero offices in the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), and Councilmember Mike Bonin's office have been non-responsive; and

WHEREAS, the limited data and analysis that has been released from LADOT and Councilmember Bonin's office is contradictory to the experiences of the community members living near, conducting business on and otherwise using Venice Blvd.; and

WHEREAS, numerous requests for Town Hall meetings with question and answer sessions have been denied by LADOT and Councilmember Bonin's office; and

WHEREAS, the Silver Lake community, when faced with a similar situation, asked for and were granted funds to hire a transportation contractor to conduct an independent traffic study regarding the Rowena Avenue road diet by their Councilmember David Ryu; and

WHEREAS, Mar Vista stakeholders, on behalf of the businesses and residents, commuters, emergency responders and others impacted by the Great Streets - Venice Blvd pilot project, would like to seek the same remedy in order to receive answers to their questions and concerns that have heretofore been unaddressed by the Great Streets Initiative, LADOT and Councilmember Bonin.

THEREFORE, in the spirit of community engagement, transparency and accountability, the Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) will assemble a community panel under the auspices of the Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee, and

THEREFORE, the MVCC requests that Councilmember Bonin provide the funding for an independent traffic study of the Great Streets - Venice Blvd pilot project, to be done within 2 months by an independent firm of the community panel's choosing, excluding current Great Streets contractor Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants.

STATUS: Passed 10.10 2018 at Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting. Motion amended and passed at BoD 11.13.18 meeting. *Sent back to Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee to compose specific data request questions.*

Amended as follows:

THEREFORE, in the spirit of community engagement, transparency and accountability, the Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) will assemble a community panel ~~under the auspices of the Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee,~~ and

THEREFORE, the MVCC requests that Councilmember Bonin provide the funding for an independent traffic study of the Great Streets - Venice Blvd pilot project **with a list of data requested to be provided by the Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee**, to be ~~done~~ completed within **2 four (4)** months by an independent firm of the community panel's choosing, excluding current Great Streets contractor Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants.

Minutes section:

Report: The Great Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee discussed the list of data requested from the Board of Directors and determined that the following should be utilized in a data request:

1. LADOT Transportation Impact Study Guide Lines, December 2016
<https://ladot.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph266/f/COLA-TISGuidelines-010517.pdf>
2. Typical Elements That Should Be Included In A Traffic Impact Study
<https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/operating/oom/transportation-systems/repository/Typical%20TIS%20requirements%20033115.pdf>
3. City of Los Angeles Complete Streets Design Guide - pages 121-132
<https://planning.lacity.org/documents/policy/CompleteStreetDesignGuide.pdf>

These above documents will be sent to the 1.08.19 Board of Directors meeting.

6. New Business (45 - 50 minutes)
 - a. Tracey Corinne, Mosaic Artist. Discussion of current status of payment for the three (3) mosaic tile project at 12515 Venice Blvd. installed June 14 2018, and discussion of the future mosaic hopscotch project planned for placement near the Mar Vista Library. Tracey was unable to attend and could not discuss future plans. Michelle was able to share that after much pestering the Dept. of Cultural Affairs and David Duran-Flores at CD11, Tracey received her long- overdue payment from the controller's office December 4 2018. There was a discussion about how there needs to be a procedure in place for the hopscotch project.
 - b. Hannah Levien, CD 11 West LA/Mar Vista Field Deputy. Discussion about possible new designs for streetlight banners for Mar Vista on Great Street Venice Blvd. and update on the Venice Blvd. Downtown Mar Vista Gateway Signage project.
Hannah was not in attendance. Alek had an update from her that he read. Alek said that the streetlight banners are going to be the same design as last time. No update on the gateway sign.
7. Public Comment
8. Future Agenda Items –Discussion about having a Town Hall and doing outreach for it.
9. Adjournment (7:56 pm)

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