



Mar Vista Community Council



Minutes
Community Plan Sub-Committee
St Andrew's Lutheran Church,
Narthex Room
11555 National Blvd
LA, CA 90064
Tuesday November 26, 2019,
7:30 PM

1. **Call to order-** meeting called to order by Chair, Mary Hruska at 7:37
2. **Announcements-** Mary announced that the next Community Plan meeting will be on Dec 4 instead of Dec 24, and will be a Joint meeting with the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee. Kathryn Wheeler announced that there will be an MVCC Newsletter Coming out in Jan/Feb of 2020
3. **Public Comment for Items NOT on This Agenda-** Stakeholder Abby Kuhns mentioned that she's just begun her involvement and appreciated all the information presented. Mary presented a brief summary to her of what has transpired with the committee thus far. She also presented a summary of the highlights of SB330 by Hydee Feldstien, which approved by the CA governor on Oct 9, 2019.
4. **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Minutes approved without objection
5. **Special Orders -none**
6. **Unfinished Business –**
 - 7.1 -Discussion and possible action in support of Venice Neighborhood Council's motion requesting Dept of City Planning remove the Arts District designation from their scoping boards until VNC MVCC assess their corresponding stakeholders on the concept- Mary presented the motion from Venice NC requesting Dept of City Planning to remove the Arts District designation from their Concepts boards until the VNC and MVCC have had an opportunity to review the matter. She mentioned that she is working with the Venice Mar Vista Arts District group to preserve individual parcels in Mar Vista, and feels that asking DCP to remove the designation will not alter the potential damage already done to artists by having it be presented without a definition. She mentioned that such situations often result in the real estate and tourist industry promoting high end development which gentrifies artists out. Kathryn Wheeler disagreed, noting that asking for the Arts District designation should be removed because it's existence may impede the designation of parcels for arts uses. Discussion ensued that a motion could be crafted to the effect of that an Arts District should either be defined by DCP and then presented to the community for review allowing the community 60-90 days for review. Motion approved without objection.
Motion (Hruska/Wheeler) to move up item 7.3. Approved without objection.
 - 7.2 -Discussion and drafting of possible questions for a follow up survey on various Community Plan concepts. -Bill Pope presented his analysis and suggestions for a T&I survey for the purpose of providing input to the Dept of City Planning on the mobility element of the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan. Mentioned that what needs to be addressed are: traffic congestion, the lack of affordable housing near jobs, and greenhouse gas emissions. Mentioned that there are 3 goals

to be achieved: 1) need to stop allowing developers a free hand in what they build. DCP must regulate what types of units can be built in an area to accommodate the jobs available in that area (Jobs-based zoning) 2) need to eliminate property taxes and replace this income with higher property taxes. This would allow newer arrivals to the area to afford homes (without the prohibitive property taxes 3) focus on moving work to people as opposed to moving people to work by mandating the establishment of regional satellite telework centers. Of the 3, he felt that #1 was the most immediately achievable by the City of LA, and submitted draft questions for a Community Plan survey (see Supplemental Materials). Kathryn Wheeler asked how to convince the city to do this. Pope responded that existing laws which mandate the creation of affordable housing should be referenced. Hruska suggested that SB35 might be such a law and briefly described it.

Kathryn Wheeler mentioned that there is a considerable challenge with regard to doing a physical survey based on the tentative timeline that Comm Plan has laid out. Obstacles include the disincentive posed by the holiday season, printing turnaround times and allowing sufficient time for responses to be returned and analyzed. Asked about the possibility of extending the timeline for the survey to April 2019. This would allow for the more thorough Hard Copy survey that Wheeler envisions, which could carry more weight than the online survey alone.

Wheeler suggested that the Dec 4 joint meeting should include Outreach as well.

She also suggested doing a hard copy survey in which every survey handed out is returned and mentioned enlisting community members, Neighborhood associations and businesses.

Pope mentioned that the city generally considers a response rate of

40% or better to be meaningful. Mary mentioned that, in her opinion, the only input that will impress DCP is numbers, and that we need to at least match the number responses we receive with those that DCP mentioned that based their 6/22/19 workshop (950 for the entire plan area, per Diego). Kathryn Wheeler suggested that MVCC could even hand out hard copy surveys at the spring 2019 DCP Concepts workshop. She also mentioned that the survey should cover more than just VB and T&I: this would generate more responses. Also stated that T&I survey is not, currently currently, user-friendly. Hruska felt that several of the T&I questions were repetitive, and that the survey should be no longer than about 10 questions. K. Wheeler stated that this would result in a 2 page hard copy survey. Discussion of demographic questions ensued. Wheeler expressed concern over the validity of the online survey. Suggested that this would not be an issue with a hard copy survey that is completed in real time by going door to door. Suggested that doing a hard copy survey this way would be more efficient and cheaper than simply mailing them out. Wayne Wheeler mentioned that an online survey tends to be meaningless, while a hard copy, hand-administered survey is much more significant. Kathryn mentioned all the BOD members participating. Mentioned that MVCC could send an input document, as planned, in January with a placeholder for the survey, which could be completed by April. Mary agreed, noting that the online survey could become live as soon as a combined Comm Plan/ T&I is approved and that both surveys could be completed in time to meet DCP's afore-mentioned deadline for substantive input, which is the Concepts Workshops (spring 2019) and the Preliminary Plan (summer 2019). She will contact DCP within the next week to confirm this conforms to their timeline. Kathryn stated (and Mary concurred) that she would rather have meaningful data late than meaningless information on time and that she would be submitting input for the Jan input document.

- 7.3** -Discussion and possible action on requesting DCP enact regulations on drive-thru establishments in Mar Vista as part of the community Plan update process-Mary provided an overview of how and why several cities in Canada and also the city of Minneapolis MN have enacted regulations banning any future drive through businesses. Potential advantages would be reduction on traffic congestion and pollution and also, potentially limiting access to fast food. No evidence yet exists that such measures are effective. The potential replacement of drive through services

by services such as Post Mates and Door Dash would preclude any benefits. Additionally the city of Los Angeles banned fast food establishments in 2008 and the rate of obesity in that community subsequently went up.

Suggestions were made that there might be more effective ways to address the concerns this is meant to address, such as having adequate parking for businesses.

Discussion concluded that, while there may be a reason to consider and pursue this should evidence be forthcoming that it is effective it would not, at this time, be an effective use of MVCC time and resources.

Motion to postpone indefinitely (Wheeler, K/Wheeler, W). Motion approved without objection.

7. **New Business –**

8.1- Discussion and possible action on the adoption of Greening the Boulevard as the Streetscape plan for the Great Streets portion of Venice Blvd.-[postponed to Jan meeting](#)

8. **Adjournment-** [Motion to adjourn \(Wheeler/Pope\)](#). Meeting adjourned at 9:25PM.

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