



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Transportation Committee Discussion July 15, 2019
NOTES: Approved by the Committee on October 21, 2019

I. **WELCOMING REMARKS**

A. **Call to Order**

A duly noticed discussion of the Transportation Committee of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) was held on Monday, July 15, 2019, at Marlborough School, CEI Open Space Room, 250 S. Rossmore Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004. Chairperson Conrad Starr called the discussion to order at 7:01 p.m.

B. **Roll Call**

Mr. Starr called the roll. One of the five Committee Members were present at the Roll Call: Mr. Starr (Chair) (Area 11). Member Tucker Carney (Nonprofit Representative) arrived at 7:05 p.m. The GWNC Transportation Committee quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) was 51% of 5 Committee Seats, or three, so the Committee could not take such votes.

Also in attendance were GWNC Board Alternate Cathy Roberts (Area 6), and seven (7) GWNC stakeholders from Areas 6, 7, 10, and 14.

C. **Welcome**

Mr. Starr welcomed the assembled group.

II. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

A. **Lisa Surnow, Operations Manager, Uber; Patricia Aleman, SGA: Jump Bikes**

Lisa Surnow and Patricia Aleman gave a presentation on Jump Dockless Bikes, which is owned by Uber. Ms. Surnow described Jump’s history from 2010, to the rebranding to “Jump” in 2017 and the 2018 acquisition by Uber.

She said that vehicles and systems are proprietary and designed in-house. Jump shares data with cities where they operate. Jump bikes are “pedal-assist,” requiring the user to pedal before the motor will activate. When batteries are low, they can be swapped out with charged batteries, eliminating the need to remove the entire vehicle from service.

They offer 24-hour customer service. Riders must be 18 or older and must complete safety onboarding. Community members may file complaints about Jump bikes or users through the MyLA311 app or website or by dialing 3-1-1. Jump will move offending vehicles within two hours.

A stakeholder named Maria Sulprizio explained that she lives in the Larchmont Village neighborhood and sees dockless vehicles, including scooters, strewn all over the sidewalk and would like to see the problem addressed by Jump and the other operators.

Ms. Roberts said she has seen children under 18 riding dockless bikes and scooters. The Jump representatives said that a credit card is required but that a driver license is not needed to reserve a Jump bike in accordance with the law.

Another guest, Chris Buonomo from Area 7 asked if the City of LA would be installing decals to indicate where dockless vehicles should be dropped off, like those he had seen outside the area. The Jump reps said designated drop-off zone sidewalk decals were currently seen in Santa Monica and in Downtown Los Angeles, and that stakeholders should let the City know if they wished to see such designations in their neighborhoods.

There was discussion of vandalism of dockless vehicles.

B. Arturo Gonzalez, Urban Strategy Group: Wheels

Mr. Gonzalez introduced himself as a former 20-year City employee who had worked for five Council Members, including as District Director for three.

He said Wheels had been founded one year prior by the same founder as the pet services company, "Wag." He noted Wheels had a license for 3,000 units in the City and had recently applied for another 1000 for the underserved Silverlake, Echo Park, and East Hollywood neighborhoods.

He said that during the one-year dockless pilot, all data was being tabulated. Oversaturation was an issue the City was discussing with dockless operators. Most vehicles are based in Venice, Hollywood, Mid-Wilshire, Koreatown, and Melrose neighborhoods.

He noted community concern around use of dockless scooters and bikes on sidewalks, which subjects users to a \$197 ticket. He applauded LADOT and CD 14 for supporting designated bike lanes, which dockless scooters and e-bikes may use legally.

Mr. Gonzalez said there had been 26 fatalities from vehicle-v-bike collisions in the City in 2018. He noted that Hollywood had no bike lanes. He said the dockless program has reduced vehicle miles traveled in the past 3 months.

He offered that community members could call 888-240-7120 with any safety concerns.

Mr. Starr asked whether Jump dockless scooters and bikes had a standard recommendation for use of a hand turn signal. The Jump reps admitted that different operators and different vehicle models have different throttle and brake systems and that one standard for hand-signaling turns was a challenge.

Mr. Starr asked if the operators had figures for vehicles lost from the system, noting that scooters had been found in local waterways and that they contained batteries with heavy metals. Neither operator had figures on numbers of lost vehicles.

Mr. Carney suggested the operators let people know about programs for low-income riders. Ms. Surnow said that Jump bikes offer a low-income program where qualifying riders pay \$5/month and receive 60 minutes per day for no additional charge, compared

with \$0.30 per minute for other riders. She also noted that LADOT incentivizes users to park dockless vehicles in disadvantaged communities.

Responding to a stakeholder's question, Ms. Surnow said that calls or reports to MyLA311 are routed to the dockless operators.

C. Patrick Chandler, LA Metro: Crenshaw Line Northern Extension

Patrick Chandler introduced himself as a representative of LA Metro. He said he was not fully versed in the proposed Crenshaw Northern Extension, but that he wished to collect stakeholder input on the proposed 405 Transit Corridor project. He advised there would be community meetings in the fall to examine different alignments from the West Valley south to the Westside and eventually to LAX, creating a new connection from the Valley to the airport

In further discussion, Mr. Carney encouraged further community input on all Metro projects, saying they are "100-year decisions" being made. He said it was unfortunate that the Crenshaw Line would not stop at Crenshaw and Wilshire due to opposition by a vocal minority.

Mr. Chandler said he did not have results from the community surveys on the Crenshaw Northern Extension alignments.

D. Maria Sulprizio, Area 7 Stakeholder

Ms. Sulprizio noted that her preferential parking permit had been changed from the bumper decal to a placard that hangs from a rear-view mirror and she complained that the City has ticketed her excessively both because they did not see the placard and because she failed to display the placard on occasion. She reported that she has attended administrative hearings where she requested a return to the decal but was told that stakeholders voted for the switch to a placard.

Committee members and stakeholders told her they were unaware of any such vote.

In response to a question from Mr. Carney, Ms. Sulprizio said she'd asked Rob Fisher at CD4 and he had told her that CD4 had not requested the change. Mr. Starr agreed to ask Bhuvan Bajaj at LADOT for any additional information about the change.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Review and Adoption of the April 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes.
- B. Review and Adoption of the June 10, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes.
- C. Nomination and Vote on Transportation Committee Chairperson(s)
- D. Nomination of and Possible Vote on New GWNC Transportation Committee Member(s).
- E. Review of Committee Meeting Schedule.

There was no quorum; no Motions were made or votes taken.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Wilton/2nd Intersection Signal

- i. Updates from Ridgewood Wilton Neighborhood Association (RWNA) (Mary Rajswing)

Stakeholder Mary Rajswing provided updates regarding ongoing efforts regarding traffic signalization at the intersections of Wilton Dr., Wilton Pl., and W. 2nd St.

She said the Ridgewood Wilton Neighborhood Association (RWNA) had been fighting for seven years to restore the continuously flashing red light (during overnight hours) at that 5-way intersection, which is how it had been configured for 27 years, and which the RWNA found to be safe, self-policing, and rational.

Ms. Rajswing reported that the RWNA had met in May 2019 with CD4 and LADOT and there was an indication that the flashing red might be restored following programming work by senior engineers. She said the alternative being offered to the neighborhood was a “rest in red” configuration.

Stakeholder Virginia Kazor, also of the RVNA, said she had worked for the City for 40 years during which time she learned that departments do what they want to do.

[Motion: “The Transportation Committee recommends that the GWNC write a letter to LADOT Hollywood-Wilshire Operations and to Council District Four in support of the Ridgewood Wilton Neighborhood Association’s preferred overnight traffic signalization options at the intersections of S. Wilton Pl., Wilton Dr., and W 2nd St.”]

There was no quorum; no Motions were made or votes taken.

B. Discussion, Planning, and Possible Motion on GWNC Transportation Committee Outreach and Action Measures.

This item was not taken up.

C. Crenshaw North Community Forum with MCWCC: Event and Survey Review.

The event was discussed briefly.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There was no quorum; no Motions were made or votes taken.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

A. Safe Moves Free Traffic/Bike/Pedestrian Safety Presentations In Your Community.

This item was not taken up.

B. LADOT Dockless Meeting. (Tucker Carney)

Mr. Carney noted he had been the only community member to attend a recent dockless meeting, though there had been seven representatives from dockless providers and six from the City. They had told him on the previous evening, no stakeholders had attended.

C. June 2019 BSS Neighborhood Council Initiative – Small Asphalt Repairs.

Mr. Starr reported that despite the fact GWNC had not supplied the full 15 locations for needed repairs, that BSS had completed nearly that number based on their own notes.

D. July 14 Bike/Lime Safety Event at Fairfax High.

Mr. Starr reported that he attended this event.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Upcoming Transportation Committee Meeting

Mr. Starr adjourned the discussion at 8:34 p.m. He announced that the next GWNC Transportation Committee will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2019,

not October 7th as listed in the agenda, at Marlborough School, 250 S. Rossmore Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90004.

Respectfully submitted,
Conrad Starr

*The GWNC Transportation Committee Minutes page is
<http://greaterwilshire.org/transportation-committee-agendas-minutes>.*