



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Meeting of the Transportation Committee
March 28, 2022
DRAFT MINUTES

I. **WELCOMING REMARKS**

A. **Call to Order**

A duly noticed meeting of the Transportation Committee of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) was held on Monday, March 28, 2022, via Zoom (online and by telephone). Committee chairperson Cindy Chvatal called the meeting to order shortly after 7:02 p.m.

B. **Roll Call**

Mr. Carpenter called the roll. Six of the eight Committee Members were present at Roll Call: Jeffrey Carpenter, Cindy Chvatal (chair), Frank Moser, Owen Smith, Julie Stromberg, and Jon Vein.. La Brea/Hancock representative Cathy Roberts and stakeholder Sam Uretsky also attended. GWNC board secretary Jennifer DeVore moderated the meeting. *[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 8 Committee Seats, or five, so the Committee was able to take such votes.]*

II. **COMMENTS BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

No representatives were present.

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

Mr. Carpenter noted that LADOT’s Pedestrian Advisory Committee does not have a representative from Council District 5 and this was noted as a possible Board item.

Ms. Stromberg noted recent fatalities at Metro’s construction sites, as well as a fatality in a crosswalk at Wilshire and Highland

IV. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

A. **Review and adopt minutes from previous TC meetings.**

- i. Committee Minutes of the November 29, 2021, Meeting.

MOTION: (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Vein) That the GWNC Transportation Committee adopt the minutes for the November 29, 2021, meeting.

MOTION PASSES, 6 yes, 0, no, 0 abstentions.

- ii. Committee Minutes of the January 26, 2022, Meeting. .

MOTION: (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Vein) That the GWNC Transportation Committee adopt as corrected the minutes for the January 26, 2022, meeting.

MOTION PASSES, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

B. Committee Membership

- i. Max Kirkham Resignation. Ms. Chvatal noted that Max Kirkham has resigned from the Transportation Committee, which became effective with the last GWNC board meeting. Now that the requisite time has passed after the posting of the Committee vacancy, the Committee was able to entertain nominations for a new member.
- ii. Nomination of Sam Uretsky. Speaking to his nomination, Mr. Uretsky, a Larchmont stakeholder, mentioned his concerns with speeding, particularly in vicinity of schools, such as the Page School, and through intersections. Both he and his wife have experienced getting hit by cars speeding through intersections.

It was noted that Sam would be the first person on the Transportation Committee from Council District 13. The possibility of getting a special meeting of the GWNC board to affirm the Committee's nomination was raised.

MOTION: (by _____, seconded by _____) That the GWNC Transportation Committee recommend Sam Uretsky to become a member of the Transportation Committee.

MOTION PASSES, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **LADOT Play Street Program.** Ms. Chvatal reported that, thus far, it appears that this program is no longer active, but that it might be a topic to pass onto the

Outreach Committee to continue to monitor.

- B. **AB 2236 Speed Safety Cameras Pilot Program.** Mr. Carpenter noted that this is more modest resubmission of AB 550 that previously failed to pass the Legislature. Its primary focus is to allow for the installation of cameras on streets with particularly high accident rates to provide more documentation and details on speeding and other violations.

MOTION: (by Mr. Carpenter, seconded by Ms. Stromberg) That the GWNC urges Councilmembers Koretz and O'Farrell to seek City support and passage of AB 2236 (Friedman).

MOTION PASSES, 3 yes, 1 no, 2 abstentions.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Continued Transportation Committee Member Outreach.** Committee members had been previously tasked by the chair to identify two priority transportation and safety issues in their neighborhoods.

- i. Owen Smith. Mr. Smith reported that he had not seen any particular issues in Brookside or in Fremont Place, but that the crosswalks at Wilshire and Highland were hazardous.

He supported additional traffic enforcement, particularly along Olympic.

- ii. Julie Stromberg. Ms. Stromberg reported that getting crosswalks across Highland at 8th and/or 9th Streets was a high priority concern for Brookside, preferably with some kind of signal protection.

In Wilshire Village, Ms. Stromberg cited the need for a roundabout at 9th Street and Lucerne, as well as additional traffic enforcement. She noted that roundabout proposals had been previously opposed by LAFD, but that the matter should continue to be pursued.

In Wilshire Park, Ms. Stromberg cited the possible need for bike lanes on 8th Street between Crenshaw and Western. She also noted the need to implement Mobility Plan 2035 recommendations for 8th Street.

(Ms. Chvatal commented that items in the Mobility Plan need to be vetted through focused community engagement efforts. She said she would repost links to the Mobility Plan for Committee reference.)

- iii. Frank Moser. Mr. Moser reported that a major concern for Windsor Square was the development of options to mitigate excessive speeding along 6th Street from La Brea to Irving. He also noted that Windsor Square has some narrow side streets where curb parking needs to be better managed.

Both Windsor Square and Larchmont are concerned about improving the safety of pedestrians crossing at the 3rd and Larchmont Blvd. intersection, as well as in increased traffic enforcement generally.

- iv. Jeffry Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter said that he viewed over-subscribed curb parking and a lack of adequate off-street (garage) parking in the apartment streets immediately east of La Brea as an enduring problem. He was concerned that the implementation of the bus lanes on La Brea might aggravate this problem. Conversion of existing alley garages for new ADUs might also become an issue.

Of potentially significantly greater concern in the longer term will be the need for significant, new off-street parking to accommodate electric vehicles and overnight charging as curbside recharging is not currently seen as workable.

Mr. Carpenter believed the best opportunity for addressing these concerns would be partnerships with prospective redevelopment of under-utilized La Brea frontage properties that would provide levels of subterranean shared community/commercial parking and flex logistics space. That development configuration is not thought to be commercially feasible presently without public entity participation, however.

Regarding neighborhood pedestrian connections, Mr. Carpenter said that north-south pedestrian crossings between Highland and La Brea across Beverly Blvd. (connecting into Area 8/Melrose) and 3rd Street (connecting into Area 6/La Brea-Hancock) would be very desirable, since there is a particularly long distance between Highland and La Brea. [Area 8 had a long-standing request for a Melrose Avenue crossing at Orange Drive in addition to an existing signal crossing at Mansfield. A fully signalized crossing signal was installed across Melrose at Orange Drive late in June.]

Jon Vein. Mr. Vein's priority for Hancock Park was the installation of speed humps on interior streets, along with increased traffic enforcement. Also a perennial concern of Hancock Park (along with much of the GWNC) is the repair and reconstruction of broken sections of concrete streets.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Chvatal mentioned getting a LADOT representative for active transportation to come to a meeting.

Ms. Stromberg recalled a previous intention to invite a representative from the West Traffic Bureau to inform the Committee on how the GWNC can better support efforts to increase traffic enforcement. Ms. Chvatal suggested that it would be useful to also involve the Council Offices.

Ms. Stromberg suggested that the next meeting's agenda should consider asking the Board to write letters to the Council Offices asking for increased traffic enforcement.

VIII. REQUESTS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

La Brea-Hancock Board member Cathy Roberts referred back to the discussion of the Mobility 2035 Plan and the need for sustained community engagement. She also noted a recent communication from the Streets for All advocacy coalition and the need to restore worn away bike route markings in the area. Ms. Chvatal read the communication; a discussion of the group's pending ballot proposition and whether to invite Michael Schneider from the group (and MCWCC) ensued. There was an inclination to emphasize engagement around the Mobility Plan instead.

Ms. Roberts also asked if anyone had heard of any resolution for LAFD's reported objections to prospective "speed table" proposals on 6th Street. In the absence of any reports to the Committee, Ms. Roberts said she would try and pursue the status of that review.

There were no other requests for future agenda items. The next meeting of the Committee was noted to be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2022 via Zoom ID 921 5993 555.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.