



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council

Transportation Committee Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2015

1. Welcoming Remarks

A. Call to order (Michelle Owen)

A duly noticed meeting of the Transportation Committee of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) was held on Monday, April 6, 2015, at Wilshire United Methodist Church, Parsonage Room, 4350 Wilshire Blvd. Committee Chair Michelle Owen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. Roll call (Michelle Owen)

Ms. Owen called the roll. Five of the six Committee Members were present at the Roll Call: Michelle Owen, Julie Stromberg, Jeffry Carpenter, Cindy Chvatal-Keane, and Bill Funderburk. One Committee Member was absent for the roll call: Jack Humphreville. Mr. Humphreville entered the meeting at 7:36 p.m. The Committee quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 51%, or four of the six members, so the Committee could take such votes. Also attending: Stakeholder guests Cathy Roberts from LaBrea Hancock Homeowners Association, Joseph O’Heron, Chris Lang with Plate Locks, Charles Brown from LaBrea Hancock Homeowners Association, Laura Walsh with Cerelle & Associates, and Justin Urcis with LaBrea Hancock Homeowners Association.

2. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Chris Lane, Vice-President of Plate Locks™ made a presentation regarding his product. Plate Locks™ is a manufacturer of plate locks, which are road plates. They have been working to make a more uniform system of road plates for the past 8 years. They are trying to get into the Southern California market and are setting up meetings in the Los Angeles area. Mr. Lane explained that traditional steel plates are mounted with cold mix asphalt, but are not secure, which is why they are noisy. The new plates are marked, so that they can be identified and then secured with concrete anchors. New system is cleaner and more sustainable.

Ms. Walsh, of Cerell & Associates, explained that the new plates reduce congestion because limited use of cold asphalt and reuse. There is no standard regulation for this. They are looking to do meetings across the county.

Ms. Owen stated that the new plate locks already implemented at LAX. She is working to get them implemented for Purple Line.

Mr. Lane discussed that he spoke to the contractor in charge of LAX construction. LA requirement comes from contractors. City of LA has purchased them, but for different purpose.

Ms. Stromberg asked if the new plate locks technology cost more than the traditional plate locks technology?

Mr. Lane responded that the cost is not much more and the labor cost is lower.

Mr. Funderburk asked what are two benefits to this new plate locks technology?

Mr. Lane replied that two benefits are: (1) cost-saving and (2) safety with the marking and less chance of sliding off.

This item was for discussion-only and no action was taken.

3. Administrative Items (Discussion and Action)

A. Review and adoption of December 14, 2014 Minutes

Ms. Chvatal moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Funderburk seconded the motion. It was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

B. Review and adoption of February 02, 2015 Minutes

Approval of the February minutes was tabled.

C. Discussion of and possible action on Governance of the Transportation Committee

A group discussion took place regarding governance of the Transportation Committee, which are governed by Robert's Rules of Order by default. Options for continued operation of the Committee were discussed.

Mr. Funderburk inquired on how to involve neighborhood members?

Ms. Chvatal-Keane suggested that it would be helpful for homeowners' associations in the areas to have traffic and transportation committees. It would be helpful to get someone from each area to maintain balance on the transportation committee.

Ms. Stromberg stated that the Transportation Committee is an official standing committee of the GWNC. It is important for each neighborhood to have representatives on the Transportation Committee. Outreach is needed to all communities on the GWNC. For example, all neighborhoods will be impacted by Mobility Plan. Ms. Stromberg explained that she is working on establishing a Transportation Committee for her community, Windsor Village.

Mr. Funderburk encouraged other LaBrea Hancock Homeowners Association members present at the meeting to consider participating in the Transportation Committee.

Mr. Carpenter explained that there may be an issue with the committee quorum as the number of people will determine the necessary quorum. However, there is no limitation on the number of residents one neighborhood can have on the Board.

Ms. Owen explained that it is important to maintain equity in the number of residents on the Committee.

4. Old Business (Discussion and Possible Action)

[Note: Items in italics, below, were unconfirmed at publication and may be postponed until a later date.]

A. Update and Discussion on Revised Mobility Plan/Mobility Plan 2035

Mr. Funderburk stated that the LaBrea Hancock Homeowners Association will submit comments on the Plan, but are awaiting for authority.

Ms. Chvatal-Keane explained that the faulty bike plan did not pass and they are trying to pass it with this Plan, which is not family-friendly. According to Ms. Chvatal-Keane, the connectivity of the bike plans does not make sense and is not safe.

Mr. Humphreville discussed that he spoke with Barbara Broide, President at Westwood South of Santa Monica Blvd. Homeowners Association. The primary issue for the Westwood South of Santa Monica Blvd. Homeowners Association is with the bicycles. They hired their own transportation person and results of study showed will create huge problems. According to Mr. Humphreville discussed Measure R2 and if the City will jam it down our throats, then vote against Measure R, extend measure R or increase tax ½ point. According to Mr. Humphreville, Measure R2 is big deal.

Ms. Chvatal-Keane expressed concern that there is no way to educate and enforce the laws.

Mr. Urcis explained that he would like to bike, but wants it safer. He expressed his concern regarding adversarial impacts. For example, 4th Street is an East-West Corridor and 6th Street is a bike corridor, which is not safe. There should be some bicycle safety which may involve some sacrifice to vehicular traffic. Mr. Urcis inquired as to whether there is a way to find north-south, east-west paths?

Ms. Chvatal-Keane replied that 2% of people use bicycles for commute or for non-recreational purposes. One does not want to reduce lanes because of spill over traffic, which will be unsafe for everyone. Need thoughtful and transparent planning.

Ms. Humphreville explained that this is not a fair fight. Need experts, time, and money to fight.

Ms. Chvatal-Keane suggested that neighborhoods should hire lawyers and lobbyist and stop the Plan. Not a way to make a plan. LA2B disenfranchises people and is pro-bicycle.

Mr. Urcis recommended that we have to work in concert and not in isolation.

B. Report on Concrete Repairs to Intersections in Hancock Park

Ms. Chvatal-Keane reported that after 7 years, Councilman LaBonge went to Budgeting and had funds approved for Hancock Park asphalt repairs converted to concrete repairs. Money is now earmarked for concrete street repairs. Not as many locations will be repaired and the process will be longer, but the repairs will at least be in concrete.

C. Report on Metro Purple Line Extension Construction Community Meeting held on March 19, 2015

Mr. Carpenter reported on his attended at a Business Forum. He explained that qualified small businesses, with 25 employees or less, in business for at least 5 years at the same location are eligible for up to \$10,000 per year to offset loss of business due to construction. Mr. Carpenter will approach local businesses with Michael Cortez, of Metro, to get to know them.

D. Report on LADOT Installation of All-Way Stop Sign Control at Sycamore Ave. and 2nd Street Intersection

Mr. Carpenter reported that a request made with LADOT for repair at Sycamore Ave. and 2nd Street has been pending for a year. LADOT recommended a 4-way Stop. Mr. Carpenter explained that striping will be helpful in disciplining traffic.

E. Report on LADWP Concrete and Asphalt Paving Work at 2nd Street and Orange

Mr. Carpenter reported that a water main broke at the intersection of 2nd Street and Orange and LADWP did concrete repair.

F. Report on correspondences to Jeannie Shen, LADOT, Requesting an Updated Survey of Traffic Conditions on Olympic Blvd. in between Rimpau and Crenshaw

Mr. Carpenter reported that the Transportation Committee requested that the GWNC Board write a letter to LADOT to request traffic conditions on Olympic Blvd. in between Rimpau and Crenshaw. Mr. Carpenter recommends a more specific follow up letter by someone with knowledge on the issue.

MOTION: (by Ms. Stromberg, seconded by Mr. Funderburk) That the Transportation Committee request that the GWNC Board write a letter to LADOT, specifically to Jeannie Shen, to request traffic conditions on Olympic Blvd. in between Rimpau and Crenshaw.

MOTION APPROVED unanimously by a voice vote.

G. Discussion and Possible Action on Status of Motion to Request LADOT to Update Engineering Survey for Olympic Blvd.

Ms. Stromberg discussed how, in February 2015, the Transportation Committee voted to request that the GWNC Board write a letter to LADOT, specifically Jeannie Shen, requesting LADOT to update the Engineering Survey on Olympic Blvd. The request was made to the GWNC Board at a subsequent meeting and the motion carried. However, there was some concern at the GWNC Board meeting that if the Engineering Survey was updated, the basic speed would be changed

based on the speed of traffic according to the Basic Speed Law. A letter has not yet been written to LADOT on the matter and someone from the Transportation Committee should draft the letter for the GWNC Board's signature. No action was taken.

H. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Transportation Committee Motion for the GWNC to Request that City Council Provide Voters with Information on All of their Discretionary Accounts for the Last Five Years and Budget Advocates Related Motion

Transportation Committee made a motion requesting that the GWNC Board request City Council to provide voters with information on all of their discretionary accounts for the last five years. The motion was presented to the GWNC Board who did not vote on the motion, but requested that Mr. Humphreville make the motion at the next Budget Advocates meeting. Mr. Humphreville made the motion at a subsequent Budget Advocates meeting and the motion carried.

I. Update on 6th Street Traffic Issues

Ms. Owen reported that she is communicating with Barbara Savage from LaBrea Hancock Homeowner's Association regarding mitigating traffic on Orange and Sycamore relating to 6th Street and asking for traffic studies, which will cause delay in the process. 600 block of Sycamore have signed the petition and they are working with the Council office. This will take time.

J. Update on Research Regarding Plate-Locking Technology

Ms. Owen reported that she spoke with Michael Cortez, of Metro, on the matter. Bureau of Engineering is contacting Plate-Lock and have some questions. Ms. Owen explained that she is trying to connect 2 entities (company and City of Los Angeles). If one portion of the Los Angeles can use the plate-locking technology, how can the City of Los Angeles state that it one area cannot or that it is not available in other areas?

Mr. Carpenter stated that the technology is being used in Beverly Hills and would be good/best practice.

5. New Business (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Discussion and Possible Action on Request for LAPD Traffic Division to Address Speed Issues on Oakwood Avenue.

Ms. Chvatal-Keane reported that she is researching traffic calming measures for the intersection of Oakwood and Highland; specifically for East-West traffic. Traffic is caused by Waze app. This item will be revisited and no motion was made.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Request for Metro for Support of their Application for Financing to the State for the Procurement of the Train Cars Needed by the Purple Line Extension

Mr. Carpenter reported that the GWNC received a request from Metro to support funding assistant to apply for a grant of state funding and that Metro is more meritorious than BART.

MOTION: (by Mr. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Funderburk) That the Transportation Committee request that the GWNC Board support Metro's application for state financing for the procurement of the train cars needed by the Purple Line Extension.

MOTION DENIED (2 in Favor, 4 in Opposition).

MOTION: (by Mr. Funderburk, seconded by Mr. Humphreville) That the Transportation Committee communicate to Metro that the Transportation Committee was not provided with sufficient information to make a decision on the matter of support Metro's application for state financing for the procurement of the train cars needed by the Purple Line Extension and request additional information.

MOTION APPROVED unanimously by a voice vote.

C. Discussion and Possible Action on a Response to the Offer of a Neighborhood Meeting with the Los Angeles City Bureau of Engineering Staff on Possible Noise Abatement Strategies for Station Area Construction Areas

Mr. Carpenter reported that this matter involves plate locks and the Bureau of Engineering's reply. Matter also concerns neighborhood interest in forward-thinking noise abatement. City offered to meet with neighbors regarding their concerns. Plate locks are not being used because utility work has been completed, but there will be other concerns in future phases. Michelle: Height of sound barriers need to be as high as possible. Delegate response letter to Committee to Michelle. Other impacts are traffic. No motion at this time.

6. Committee Member Comments and Reports (including discussion and possible action items, if listed)

There were no reports.

7. Committee & Staff Member Comments/Announcements

A. Next meeting: Monday, June 1, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

8. Requests/Motions for Future Agenda Items

A. Discussion of Bicycle Rules

This item was tabled for future discussion.

B. Discussion of Skateboarding Rules

This item was tabled for future discussion

C. Discussion on Trust for Public Land Green Alleys Pilot Program as Option in the Greater Wilshire Area

This item was tabled for future discussion

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie C. Stromberg

Member, Transportation Committee

Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council