

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CULVER CITY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY BICYCLE AND
PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

September 21, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Call To Order & Roll Call

Chair Morgan called the regular meeting of the Culver City Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to order at 6:08 P.M. in the Patacchia Meeting Room at City Hall and via Webex.

Members Present: Travis Morgan, Chair
Jack Galanty, Vice Chair
Joel Falter, Member
Dorothy Sadd, Member
Michelle Weiner, Member

Absent: Sophia Lowey, Member
Greg Maron, Member*
George Montgomery, Member
Dane Twichell, Member

*Member Greg Maron attended online as a member of the public.

Staff Present: Thomas Check, Public Works Senior Traffic Engineer
Alicia Ide, Public Works Management Analyst
Kate Saunders-Britton, Transportation Administrative Secretary

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Community Announcements from
Members**

Vice Chair Galanty announced the Ballona Creek extension meeting on September 25 at the Senior Center.

Michelle Weiner announced a Ballona Creek Cleanup on September 23.

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Items from Staff

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that anyone wanting to attend the Higuera Bridge Reopening on October 5 should let her know; she announced Art Walk and Roll Festival on October 14; noted that the next BPAC meeting would be on November 16, 2023; discussed the Streets for All initiative to extend the Bike Path; stakeholder involvement; and the feasibility study process.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the online survey on the extension of the Bike Path, and clarification that consideration of items to present to the City Council would be done at the end of the meeting.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

David Coles requested that consideration of a signalized crossing at Jefferson and Cota be agendaized, as well as consideration of phasing out right-turn-on-red, as is being done in other cities to improve safety.

Adrian Killigrew requested opening the gate on Beloit to the Ballona Creek Bike Path, although outside Culver City jurisdiction; the effects to the neighbors; visibility; and the success of opening Jackson Gate.

Art Nomura congratulated new Committee Members; thanked staff and the BPAC for honoring him with the proclamation; discussed unrepaired damage on the Culver Boulevard pathway; length of

time to achieve repairs; he proposed exploring malfeasance legal action against the original builders for not ensuring against the problem; and he noted that the route is an important two-way artery for cyclists.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding staff providing an update on the status of the repair; the inability to discuss further as it is not an Action Item; and clarification that the area has not been opened yet.

Jim Shanman, from Walk 'n Rollers, reported that he had observed progress on the Culver Boulevard project; he announced the Walk and Roll Festival on September 23; indicated that the current travel survey was available at ccwalkandroll.com; discussed International Walk to School Day on October 4 and Bike to School Week; he expressed support for no-right-turn-on-red to improve safety; and agreed that the Beloit gate to the Ballona Creek Bike Path should be opened to address disenfranchisement of that entire Culver City community.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that October 4 is also Clean Air Day and October is Walktober.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the emphasis on pedestrian safety for October, and Committee consensus was achieved to agendize a discussion of adding a signalized crosswalk at Jefferson and Cota, consideration of no-right-turn-on-red City-wide, possible update on opening the Beloit Gate for Culver City residents, and update on the Culver Boulevard Median Bikeway repair.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that correspondence received included written comments received.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR GALANTY AND SECONDED BY MEMBER FALTER THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

AYES: FALTER, GALANTY, MORGAN, SADD, WEINER
NOES: NONE

ABSENT: LOWEY, MARON, MONTGOMERY, TWICHELL

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Consent Calendar Items

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Regular Meeting of July 20, 2023

MOVED BY MEMBER WEINER AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR GALANTY THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 20, 2023.

AYES: FALTER, GALANTY, MORGAN, SADD, WEINER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: LOWEY, MARON, MONTGOMERY, TWICHELL

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Action Items

Item A-1

Receive and Discuss a Presentation from Culver City Unified School District Green New Deal Team Regarding Proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Elenda Street

Culver City High School students introduced themselves and presented their Green New Deal for the Elenda Campus Transportation Infrastructure Plan; discussed the Elenda Campus; local campaigns to address the climate crisis; growth and community support; official support from the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) School Board; elements of the proposal; the goal of enabling 80% of students to walk, bike, or to take public transit to school; focusing on the environment and safety; distracted drivers; near misses; intersection at Franklin and Elenda; concern about crossing at Jefferson and Overland; overlap with City plans; the Safe Routes to School project; collaboration; prioritization of increasing safety; goals; the need for more bike lanes around the schools; lack of space for bicycles; bike lanes that currently end suddenly; crosswalks; cars that do not yield to pedestrians; limited crossing guards; drop off zones; changing habits; support for eliminating no-turn-on-red; turning restrictions to reduce congestion; crossing signal

adjustments; sensors; changes to pedestrian call buttons; and the intent to receive feedback from the BPAC before any meetings with the Public Works Mobility & Traffic Engineering staff.

Discussion ensued between the presenters, staff, and Committee Members regarding appreciation for the presentation; access on City website to the handout that accompanied the presentation; City projects already in process; prioritization of addressing risks; clarification that stop signs are not required at crosswalks; percentage of students currently using alternative means of transportation; additional bike racks; data collection; project phasing; and the goal and resolution by the School Board to strive for 80% of all students at all schools to use alternative transportation methods.

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

David Coles commended the students on their presentation; expressed support for the proposals; discussed the chaotic situation at La Ballona Elementary School; potential for improvement; traffic control; length of the process for the City to implement changes; and he encouraged the students to keep working.

Mary Daval, Bike Culver City, expressed support for the presentation; congratulated the students for their efforts to create solutions to problems; discussed the lack of data on close calls that disincentivize people from walking and biking; collisions; sharing of information; and she encouraged the students to continue their efforts.

Jim Shanman. Walk 'n Rollers, expressed appreciation for the presentation and for student efforts; indicated that Safe Routes to School was available to help; discussed things that are already in process; close calls; online apps that track data; and support for a survey to gain information on who is walking and biking.

David Metzler, Bike Culver City, thanked the students for their efforts and offered support; provided background on his daughter's experience going to school in Culver City; noted the lack of improvements over the past six years; and he urged

the BPAC to make things better for kids going to school in the City.

Greg Maron, BPAC Member participating as a member of the public, expressed support for the presentation and for the 80% goal; reported that he serves on the CCUSD (Culver City Unified School District) Environmental Sustainability Committee; discussed connections with projects that the BPAC is working on; the need for a comprehensive network of bike lanes and buses in the City; and the importance of including student voices in issues being considered.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding acknowledgement of the early stage of the proposal; staff members working on bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the City; appreciation for the presentation; awareness of current plans and policies; the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan; providing access to schools; projects already in process to achieve similar goals; the importance of hearing from student voices; holdovers from other discussions; feedback from members of the public at community meetings; opening streets behind the High School to alleviate some of the traffic issues; closing certain streets during drop off and pick up times; the need for more infrastructure to provide access for people of all ages; the difficulty of navigating streets to school safely on bicycles; planned crosswalk improvements; optimizing safety; the Safe Routes to School program; making a dedicated pedestrian and cyclist area to the Creek in the parking lot; plans related to building development; placing focus on those riding bicycles to school; prioritization; engineering; the importance of coordination with Public Works; organizing recommendations into different groups; providing feedback; students who will use facilities; crossing guard training; students who put themselves in danger every day by choosing to walk and bike to school; parents who are in a rush to get their children to school; a suggestion to choose three things to focus on; return on investment for the City; creating an organized game plan; the Elenda Subcommittee of the BPAC; marketing; different users on Elenda; morning traffic diversion; the importance of consistency with traffic calming measures; determining data to collect from the student body to understand the broader picture; identification of where hot spots are; enforcement; behavioral challenges; encouraging objective feedback about incidents; locations and frequency of near misses; safety; issues on Overland that pertain to getting to school; ensuring that suggestions fit in the with

Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan and the Local Road Safety Plan; already identified items that have been prioritized; design guidelines; collaboration with the School District; work with the subcommittee; community feedback; and appreciation for the outstanding work.

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Item A-2

Receive Update and Discuss Development of Complete Streets Design Guidelines

Thomas Check, Senior Traffic Engineer, provided a presentation on the City's Complete Streets Design Guidelines; discussed project background; goals; the project team; community engagement; the preliminary project timeline; and Committee feedback.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding availability of the presentation on City's website.

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

David Coles noted that he had thought the City had adopted Complete Streets Guidelines three years ago; he felt the City was reinventing the wheel; questioned why consultants were being hired again; and he noted concern with language in the original plan indicating that implementation was required "where feasible," which provided an easy out.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the document as a way to bring different policies together and provide a path forward; clarification that the document is more for implementation than for policy; the ability to include policy where the Complete Streets Guidelines must be adhered to; legal matters; and developer requirements; budget; and implementation.

Jim Shanman noted the importance of including on-campus school engagement.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding providing demonstration projects throughout the City; allowing the community to try out changes and

provide feedback; laying out the framework in a design manual for Public Works and the community; making an abstract concept more concrete; how the Guidelines are intended to be context-sensitive based on street typology; establishing a priority framework; confusion with the term Complete Streets; the grant; complete streets vs. accessible streets; length of the process; focusing the engagement; the restricted grant agreement; alignment with the Sustainable Transportation Community grant program that Caltrans administers; furthering the state's climate goals; creativity with community engagement; virtual meetings; engaging those not covered on the shortlist; interaction with the design team and the consultant team; similarities to engagement with the MOVE project; better defining what Complete Streets means; street markings for bicyclists used in Santa Monica; whether cyclists belong on arterials; concern with throwing a broad question out to the public; defining how broad or narrow the public engagement should be; refinement with the consultant; development of the community engagement plan; inclusion of all multi-modal aspects of transportation; working within the established design guidelines for street design; looking at Class 4 bike lanes in specific circumstances; and ways to engage Fox Hills.

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Item A-3

Receive an Update and Discuss Enhancements at the Intersection of Jackson Avenue and Farragut Drive

Thomas Check, Senior Traffic Engineer, provided a presentation on planned enhancements at the intersection of Jackson Avenue and Farragut Drive.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the new ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) ramp proposed for the intersection.

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

David Coles asked about potential obstacles; funding; and the timeline for the project.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding length of time to complete the striping; clarification that the project is fully designed; and staff agreed to follow up with additional information.

Jim Shanman expressed support for the project and the addition of the stop signs; questioned whether the project would make the area more bicycle and pedestrian friendly; asked about the easement; discussed facilitating accessible crossing for pedestrians; and requested additional information from staff.

Greg Maron asked about safety features on Jackson.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the all-way stop at Jackson and Farragut; reducing conflict points; and traffic calming.

Greg Maron expressed appreciation for the addition of the stop sign.

David Metzler was called to speak but indicated wanting to speak on Item A-4.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification on creation of another mini-intersection; the similar layout with the other Farragut update closer to Braddock; and ensuring that the ramp is ADA compliant.

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Item A-4

Receive Update and Discuss Overland Avenue Bike Lane Project

Thomas Check, Senior Traffic Engineer, provided an update on the Overland Avenue Bike Lane project and discussed Overland Avenue from Venice to Washington.

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Khin Khin Gyi, Citizens Coalition for a Safe Community, provided background on herself; discussed factors identified in an analysis of traffic fatalities in 2022; she proposed that it would be safer to put a bike lane on Kingston rather

than Overland; discussed particles emitted from cars and buses; flashing stop signs; stated that safety had decreased at the intersection at Ranch and Kelmore (RKO) since changes were made that were supposed to be temporary; and she asserted that the RKO intersection required a signal.

Craig Jablin, Culver Crest resident, discussed the proposed plans; issues with loss of parking due to densification of the neighborhood; better options available; work done by Kimley Horn; traffic implications; the fact that Culver City is not a small City; keeping people with limited skills safe; the inability to turn the City into Amsterdam or Madison, Wisconsin; the fact that the streets were not designed for bicycles; the Santa Monica-ization of Culver City; and he questioned when the unbridled development and bringing of more and more people into the City would end.

Jim Shanman expressed appreciation for the ambitious project; discussed connectivity; student safety; traffic mitigation; and he emphasized the importance of looking at the big picture rather than focusing on small increments.

David Metzler discussed the lack of safe north/south connectivity for cyclists; Overland as the ideal location; use of the street as a cut through; and he emphasized the importance of providing protected lanes for the entire length of Overland.

Kelli Estes discussed worsening the existing difficulty of making a left turn at Galvin and Overland with the proposed changes; congestion; school traffic; lack of safe options from Hannum to Overland; the need to take a realistic look at planning and utilize the existing north/south bike lane on Sawtelle; state and federal goals of replacing gas cars with electric cars; and she asked that City planners consider everyone when making plans.

David Coles expressed appreciation for being able to hear a range of community input; echoed comments made by David Metzler; discussed the current absence of a safe north/south bike route in the City; concern with relegating cyclists to side streets; filling in a missing gap in the network; and he wanted to see the City provide a robust, protected bike lane on each side of the road with physical barriers.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding other places that have created bike-friendly

cities; parking on Kingston; sharrows; street width; the activity in that area; the need to find a way to put in protected bike lanes the whole way, but especially from Jefferson to Venice; new developments tied to the Expo Line; approved plans that are reliant on mobility; the shifting thinking to get as many people as possible to use alternative modes of transportation; the importance of providing north/south bike lanes; lack of connectivity for Fox Hills; Fox Hills as a car community; finding alternate ways to handle traffic in and out of the City; lack of studies; providing alternate parking times as a way to share space; off-peak bike lanes; and the importance of providing a reliable experience for cyclists with consistent facilities.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that members of the public were limited to providing comment during the public comment period, but she noted that they were welcome to submit an email.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding addressing community concerns; landscapers that blow debris into the street; support for retaining the median and landscaping; deliveries that block lanes; first/last mile improvements; Class 4 protected facility; Slauson; exploring connection points between the Transit Center; the opportunity to help people get to City facilities and local businesses safely; funding; isolated residents in Fox Hills; risk tolerance; the need to encourage people to ride their bikes; the inability to ride through the park at night because the gates are closed; speed limits on Overland as necessitating a Class 4 bike lane; engaging with people in Culver Crest; cut through traffic; the door zone; support for the project; hearing vs. solving issues; limited right of way; elevating bicycle travel in the City; continued engagement; providing information regarding an alternative supply of parking where it has to be removed; and support for data to track the percentage of cut through traffic.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Morgan invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Jim Shanman discussed the suggestion to provide a corridor through the parking lot at the tri-school complex and he reported current consideration of how to redo the parking lot.

Discussion ensued between staff, and Committee Members regarding restriping and reallocating parking spaces, and support for making improvements upon the current use of cones and ribbons.

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Member Requests to Agendize Future Items and Report to City Council

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the process to agendize items; a regular update on Complete Streets process; upcoming meetings; budgeting for close call software; an update on the extension of the Ballona Creek Bike Path; potential dates to hold a special meeting to consider the Transportation Element of the General Plan; whether to provide an update to the City Council; the definition of Complete Streets; projects being approved that influence traffic; large developments being built in Fox Hills; money given by Amazon to make traffic improvements; goals to address the influx of people coming into the City; concerns brought forward by the public that are difficult to address; making priorities clear to staff; dedicating the January meeting to the budget work plan; opportunities to provide input; review of the current work plan; priority projects; the need to have more information in order to have substantive input to provide; the ability to request revisions to the budget; how much the budget changes from year to year; and funding streams.

Committee consensus was achieved to agendize an update on the CCUSD Green New Deal plan, a discussion of the Ballona Creek extension and a presentation from Streets for All, an update on the Move CC projects, an update on the Culver Median project; a report on the Ballona Creek Bike Path Maintenance schedule, and agreement to hold a special meeting to consider the Transportation Element of the General Plan.

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Items from Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Members/Staff (Continued)

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:25 P.M., the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee adjourned.

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Alicia Ide
SECRETARY of the Culver City Bicycle and Pedestrian
Advisory Committee
Culver City, California

APPROVED

Travis Morgan
CHAIR of the Culver City Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory
Committee
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date