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CULVER CITY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

September 14, 2021  
6:00 P.M.

**Call To Order & Roll Call**

Chair Weiner called the special meeting of the Culver City Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to order at 6:01 P.M. via Virtual WebEx.

**Members Present:** Michelle Weiner, Chair  
Art Nomura, Vice Chair  
Zirwat Chowdhury, Member  
George Montgomery, Member\*  
Travis Morgan, Member  
Robyn Tenensap, Member\*\*  
Dane Twichell, Member

\*Member Montgomery joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

\*\*Member Tenensap joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

**Staff Present:** Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic  
Engineering Manager  
Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer  
Chanel Kincaid, Senior Management Analyst  
Alicia Ide, Management Analyst  
Valerie Perez, IT

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Weiner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Items from Members/Staff**

Responding to inquiry, Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, indicated that she would email Members with an update on pocket parks.

Members Montgomery and Tenensap joined the meeting.

Vice Chair Nomura wanted to see the bylaws for the Committee changed to extend the age for youth representatives to 14-25.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding subcommittees; clarification that the Committee does not have bylaws; City Council requirements; staff agreement to research City Council designations; and broadening the Chamber of Commerce designation to a business representative.

Chair Weiner discussed bicycle parking; information on the City website; the need to raise awareness; the importance of signage; she received clarification that staff would upgrade signage for bicycle parking; and she announced a Bike Culver City Facebook Live event on September 22 about making changes to make Culver City less car dependent and encourage bicycle usage.

Member Montgomery announced the Art Walk & Roll event on October 9.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Mary Daval thanked staff for the changes made in the Rancho Higuera neighborhood; discussed increased safety; hope for positive changes throughout the City; troubling intersections; the focus on equity and connectivity; policy choices; changes to roadways; and the need for more connectivity to increase ridership.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding projects in different stages; costs related to connectivity; grants; staff agreement to research bike detection at Kingston and Jefferson; planned improvements at

the Bike Path and Duquesne; the Baldwin Hills grant; evaluation of Lafayette and Braddock; upgrades to the intersection control; the need for consistency with the state requirements; and making additional counts now that school is in session.

Dylan Gottlieb discussed his experience riding to school with his daughter; narrows; aggressive cars on Lucerne; the lack of signage reminding people to share the road; installing a safer bike path; lack of space between the drivers and cyclists; use of the sidewalk; pedestrians; difficulty getting out of Ballona Creek and on to Duquesne; challenges getting across; increased aggression during rush hour; the need for a crosswalk or a blinking yellow light; appreciation for the changes at Rancho Higuera; and he suggested avoiding Lucerne by opening the fire gate and installing a ramp at the end of Ince to provide a direct route from downtown into Ballona Creek.

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, indicated that she would follow up with Mr. Gottlieb; discussed pavement marking on Higuera; additional improvements planned; bike lanes planned for Ince; requirements of the development project to provide right lane access; intersection improvements; and timeline for implementation.

Chris Mejia expressed appreciation for the updates; discussed the pedestrian walkway from Jefferson down to Farragut; public notification; he received clarification regarding the regular meeting schedule, special meetings, and meeting minutes; and he was encouraged to sign up for email notices and to attend Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee meetings.

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### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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### **Receipt of Correspondence**

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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**Consent Calendar Items**

Item C-1

**Approval of Minutes for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Special Meeting of August 19, 2021**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding posting of the minutes for Committee review and agreement to review the minutes at the next meeting.

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**Presentations**

Item P-1

**Receive a Presentation Regarding the Public Education Program Developed for the Culver Boulevard Realignment and Urban Stormwater Project**

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, discussed the Culver Boulevard Realignment and Urban Stormwater Project; grants; outreach and education; Augmented Reality (AR); the Gateway to Culver City and history of the City; the connection to the storm drain; the culture and environment that survives as a result of Ballona Creek; urban mobility; and alternative types of transportation.

Chanel Kincaid, Senior Management Analyst, introduced the item.

Ben Closson, Triggered Global, Inc., provided an overview of the Culver Boulevard Realignment and Urban Stormwater Project; discussed signage; themes; design; location; QR codes; the interactive educational component; AR activations; available languages; accessibility; facts and information presented; and he noted that the project is a work in progress.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Closson, staff and Committee Members regarding the ability of the Committee to review content before implementation; the electric van option; additional information to include to highlight growth and

mobility; electrification of the fleet; and staff involvement in the process.

Leily Khatibi, Triggered Global, Inc., proposed including additional information on the changing transportation landscape of the City.

Additional discussion ensued between the consultants, staff and Committee Members regarding safety concerns; potential conflicts with those experiencing the AR and the surrounding thoroughfare; participation of bicycle and scooter riders; providing a buffer and room for participation out of the thoroughfare; location of signage in the plazas; adjustments to initial concepts; placing the transportation signage at additional City locations; grant funding; feasibility; restaurant usage of QR codes; the storm water project; the water narrative; community action items; the emphasis on depicting the underground water system; and the audio component.

Chair Weiner invited public input.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Jim Shanman, Culver City Safe Routes to School Coordinator, expressed support for the project; discussed the median; connectivity; educational materials; and coordination with the schools.

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, discussed meetings with the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) Environmental Sustainability Committee; the project as a teaching tool; the Urban Mobility portion of the project; and access to the High School and Middle School.

Khin Khin Gyi, Sierra Club Clean Break Subcommittee, expressed appreciation for the project and received clarification regarding the path of the water and potential amount of water reclaimed.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding potential expansion of the transportation portion and appreciation for the project.

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**Receive a Presentation Regarding (1) the Public Works Department's Process for Reviewing Development Projects and the Approval/Entitlement Process; and (2) the Scheduling of the Higuera Bridge Reconstruction Project**

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, Public Works Department, introduced the item.

Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer, provided an overview of the process for review of discretionary private development projects.

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, noted that all community meetings and public hearings were open to receive public feedback whether the person commenting lives in the neighborhood or not; discussed mobility considerations; conditions of approval covering public improvements; improvements on the public right of way; the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan; signal upgrades and operational improvements; project size and site; traffic analysis; Level of Service (LOS); California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis; Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT); the site plan review; Transportation Demand Management (TDM); encroachment permits; traffic control plans; and limitations on sidewalk and lane closures.

Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer, noted that sidewalk closures had been eliminated as part of the process; discussed typical conditions of approval; and the required Pedestrian Detour Plan.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding encroachment permits; costs; projects that go over their allotted number of days for closures; late fees; inspector fees; communication with developers; providing incentives for adhering to a schedule by charging late fees; the Traffic Control Plan Review; the Municipal Code; repeated comments from David Coles regarding closure of the sidewalk on Washington over an extended period of time while no work was being completed; the TDM Toolkit; funding for updates to the TDM program; limitations to closures; and concern with the quality of the paving after the closure and trenching for fiber installation.

Chair Weiner invited public input.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

David Coles expressed appreciation for the reopening of the sidewalk after the lengthy closure at 8888 Washington Boulevard; discussed support for efforts to change the way business is done and ensure that lengthy closures do not continue; the actions of other cities to require covered scaffolding to accommodate the public; the importance of prioritizing pedestrians; and closure of the sidewalk for the new development at 9733 Washington Boulevard.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the prohibition of a sidewalk closure for the Brick and Machine project; the sidewalk replacement project and relocation of a streetlight pole; appreciation for changes to prohibit sidewalk interruption; projects in the City that have resulted in sidewalk closures in the past several years; public improvement vs. additional TDM; leverage in mobility negotiations; difficulty including the BPAC in the development process; the need for trust in staff to reflect the views of the BPAC; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility; the requirement for the developer to provide access; extensions for sidewalk closures to allow for project completion; City Council discretion; the unacceptable nature of sidewalk closures preventing access for the disabled; information available on current development projects; encouragement for Committee Members to be involved and submit ideas regarding pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the process of setting Conditions of Approval; and the need to follow approved procedures and identify the nexus.

Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer, provided an overview of the upcoming Higuera Bridge construction project and he discussed street lighting on Washington west of the Platform.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding drainage issues on the bike path under the Higuera Street Bridge; the Baldwin Hills grant; the resurfacing timeline; implementation; the number of streetlights to be addressed; and encouragement to the public and Committee Members to reach out with further questions at [public.works@culvercity.org](mailto:public.works@culvercity.org).

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**(1) Receive and Discuss the Final Draft of the Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP); (2) and Potentially Recommend Approval by Council**

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, Public Works Department, provided an overview of the final draft of the Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP); indicated the need for a formal recommendation from the Committee; discussed goals and use of the plan; corrective measures based on the Collisions Data Analysis; priority safety corridors and intersections; community outreach; and next steps in the process.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the intersection of Bristol and Slauson; access from Fox Hills to El Rincon Elementary School; high risk roadways; extending the area; collision statistics; planned improvements on non-identified corridors; driver behavior; lack of enforcement; statistics; non-fatal accidents; traffic volumes; the pandemic; traffic conditions; the Speed Survey; summary data; buffering the bike lanes; connectivity with the City network; people conditioned to speeding during the pandemic and lack of a behavior change once traffic conditions returned to pre-pandemic levels; dangers to cyclists; whether the safety plan creates a fair and equitable plan for all users; and community effort.

MOVED BY MEMBER MONTGOMERY, SECONDED BY MEMBER MORGAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE LOCAL ROAD SAFETY PLAN.

Committee Members thanked staff for their efforts on the item

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Chair Weiner invited public comment.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated no requests to speak.



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

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the next meeting date; potential agenda items; the retirement of Public Works Director Charles Herbertson and the Webex event to recognize him; and Committee Members expressed appreciation for the work of Mr. Herbertson.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:54 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

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Michelle Weiner  
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.

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Jeremy Green  
CITY CLERK

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Date