

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE CULVER CITY
MOBILITY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY MOBILITY,
TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

October 26, 2021
3:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Council Member Eriksson called the special meeting of the Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee to order at 3:00 p.m. via Webex.

Present: Alex Fisch, Mayor
Göran Eriksson, Council Member

Staff Present: Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic
Engineering Manager
Rolando Cruz, Chief Transportation Officer
Mike Tobin, Deputy Director of
Transportation
Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager
Alicia Ide, Management Analyst

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Pledge of Allegiance

Rolando Cruz, Chief Transportation Officer, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Items from Members/Staff

Mayor Fisch requested a presentation on coming changes to state law relating to Transportation including legalizing a

departure from the 85% rule for speed limits in certain areas and Slow Streets.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding jurisdiction; a new law allowing photo enforcement of bus lanes; agreement to hold the next Subcommittee meeting online on December 7; virtual vs. in-person meetings; hybrid meetings; public participation; availability of the vaccination for children; and agreement to move back to normal meetings in January 2022.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

David Coles expressed hope that a proposed development at 3817 Watseka could be halted and replaced by a better proposal that meets City goals; he wanted staff directed to implement a quick build treatment of the gap between the MOVE Culver City project and restriping by the City of Los Angeles; and he discussed the importance of connectivity.

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, discussed the strong Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program proposed by the project at 3817 Watseka; the proposed office use; jurisdiction and the approval process; lack of funding allocated for projects not included in the work plan; the need for City Council consideration and funding approval; consultation with the City of Los Angeles; and review of design plans for bicycle facilities.

Phil Olson echoed comments from David Coles regarding the gap between the MOVE Culver City project and the West Adams bike lanes; he wanted to see planning now for a quick build; discussed safety issues; and the importance of connectivity between the communities.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Receive and File Correspondence

Council Member Eriksson reported receipt of two pieces of correspondence.

MOVED BY MAYOR FISCH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE MOBILITY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Presentations

Item P-1

(1) Receive a Presentation on Proposal to Allow Bicycling and Scooting in Town Plaza; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility & Traffic Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation on a proposal to allow bicycling and scooting in Town Plaza.

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Carolyn Libuser expressed concern regarding conflicts between pedestrians and electric scooters, especially the elderly and children.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding making the law work with existing customs and uses; encouraging responsible use; adaptive bicycles; use of vehicles for mobility impairment; City Council consideration of the item; establishing an appropriate speed limit; recommended bike paths; the bike path on Washington; requiring cyclists to dismount; allowing children to learn how to ride their bikes in the area; setting an age limit; ensuring that adults use the bike lane; confining riders to a yellow brick road; the Bike Share station; and prioritizing pedestrians and usage by children.

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Item P-2

(1) Receive a Presentation on the Transportation Service Key Performance Indicators; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Council Member Eriksson invited public participation.

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

Mike Tobin, Deputy Director of Transportation, introduced the presentation on Transportation Service Key Performance Indicators; discussed the effects of the pandemic on Transportation; ridership targets and numbers; new technologies and services; and the Free Fare Pilot Program.

Jane Chan, Transportation Management Analyst, presented an overview of the four major service areas; discussed CityBus ridership; passengers per revenue hour; productivity; and CityShare.

Ken Bales, Transportation Management Analyst, discussed the Culver CityBus Fareless System Initiative (FSI); overall CityBus operations; early departures; pull-out performance; and CityRide operations.

Nestor Ducreux, Management Analyst, provided an overview of CityFleet performance.

Mike Tobin, Deputy Director of Transportation, indicated that ridership had stabilized and was heading in the right direction; discussed service being added where there is excess demand; the commitment to build back better; and continued monitoring and report backs to the Committee.

Technical difficulties prevented the showing of a video put together by Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) students.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding increased bus boardings; issues with electric fire engines; the proposed Fleet Utilization and Efficiency Study; creation of a Vehicle Electrification Plan; and pilot programs for different types of vehicles.

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Item P-3

(1) Receive a Presentation on the RFQual #2220 - Dockless Shared Micromobility Pilot Program Status Update; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an update on the proposed Dockless Shared Micromobility Pilot program; discussed applications received; criteria; ranking and next steps

Council Member Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Carolyn Libuser expressed concerns with users not wearing helmets and liability.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding encouraging riders to wear helmets; education; the requirement that those under 18 wear a helmet; separation of liability; the agreement with Bird; responsibility of the end user; review by the City Attorney; concern with a questionable corporate culture at Bird; the agreement; challenges; enforcement; and the evolution of the company and location in the City.

Karim Sahli asked about delineation of the "Nest Zone" and the recharging process; he discussed helmet requirements in other countries where there is no interaction with cars; and providing a safe network in the City with minimal automobile interaction.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding establishing parking zones; coordination with the Fleet Managers; maintenance; restricted use on weekends in European cities due to intoxicated users; enforcement; placement of scooters; and liability.

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Item P-4

(1) Receive a Presentation on Proposal to Establish Slow Street Designation on Lafayette Pl Between Braddock Dr and Lucerne Ave; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility & Traffic Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation on the proposal to establish a Slow Streets designation on Lafayette Place between Braddock Drive and Lucerne Avenue; she discussed adjustments made in response to community feedback; challenging sites; barricade replacement; monitoring; reporting; community member requests; City Council approval; community consultations and volunteers; community meetings to address concerns; outreach; potential next steps; implementation; funding; and remaining supplies.

Mayor Fisch invited public participation.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Mary Daval expressed appreciation for the thorough staff report; discussed history from the point of view of the Bike Steering Committee and the Downtown Neighborhood Association; opposition from one resident to the Lafayette installation; and she urged the City to approve installation at Lafayette before the anticipated uptick in traffic with MOVE Culver City on November 20.

Darrel Menthe discussed the long-time request for a 4-way stop sign at Braddock and Lafayette; consideration of the installation of the 4-way stop as part of the Slow Streets Program; the installation of MOVE Culver City; and he asked that the City monitor the situation and allow for flexibility with the downtown neighborhood.

Karim Sahli expressed support for the project; discussed rush hour traffic; and concern that a project could be stalled by opposition from one person.

David Metzler discussed the work of volunteers; residents on McConnell who reported that the barricades were too flimsy for the speeds on the street; the desire for a more permanent solution; other streets seeking solutions; movement of signs; communication issues between the City and Bike Culver City; and the long list of people interested in expanding the program.

Eric Shabsis expressed support for the Slow Streets program; discussed the interconnectivity between Van Buren and Farragut to Lafayette; "local access only" signage; and he questioned whether signage would be placed on the one-way portion of Van Buren at Irving.

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility & Traffic Engineering Division Manager, discussed the need for customized signage; availability for the application; evaluation of the need for an all way stop control; following the warrants; clarification that the Slow Streets program does not replace the Neighborhood Traffic Management program; the Bike Boulevard application on Farragut; permanent devices planned in the Fox Hills neighborhood; and planned speed humps.

Bubba Fish expressed appreciation for permanent changes proposed; discussed the recent passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 773; he questioned whether one comment was preventing Lafayette from moving forward; and he requested clarification on criteria for moving forward.

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility & Traffic Engineering Division Manager, clarified that a City Council Member had brought the negative comment regarding Lafayette forward; noted receipt of negative comments addressed in community meetings on existing applications; and the need for guidance from the Subcommittee.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding transparency; expansion of the program; City Council approval of the first three applications; due diligence; formalizing the program; honoring community preferences; success of the program; ensuring that residents in west Culver City receive the same amount of service; concerns with speeding and cut through traffic; creation of a program rather than bringing each street before City Council; support for the flexibility, creativity and responsiveness of City staff; recent legislation; staff investigation of a more permanent program; modeling after the parking permit program in terms of neighborhood participation; the need for solid community engagement; and funding.

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Item P-5

(1) Receive a Presentation on the Move Culver City - Downtown Tactical Mobility Lane Project Status Update; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an update on MOVE Culver City and she reminded everyone to sign up to volunteer for the Asphalt Art installation project on the website beginning November 1, 2021.

Mayor Fisch invited public participation.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Eli Lipmen, MOVE LA, expressed support for the project and encouraged the City to create a seamless regional transportation network by connecting the project with the West Adams Bike Lane.

Stephen Jones questioned the number of responses received from bus riders; discussed enforcement; police presence; cameras; support for the go-live event; and he proposed that one of the electric buses be used for the opening event.

Karim Sahli echoed comments made in support of connecting the project to West Adams noting the importance of having a well-connected bike network and he felt that change would transform the project from something good into something great.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding use of the electric bus for the circulator service going live on November 20; support for the project; benefits; addressing issues; unlocking the next phase in creating a more accessible City; examination of a bus rider specific KPI; concern that people are not being enticed onto public transit; improving rider experience; achieving a reduction in Vehicle Miles Travelled; meeting climate goals; appreciation for feedback received; work to improve the rider experience; pedestrian and bicycle volume; operational and safety conditions; and analysis of greenhouse gas emission reductions.

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Item P-6

(1) Receive a Presentation of Video Samples Recently Produced

October 26, 2021

for the Public Works Department's School Traffic Safety Education Program

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility & Traffic Engineering Division Manager, indicated that due to the lateness of the hour, staff would email the video links to Subcommittee Members; discussed utilization of the videos in school; development of additional videos to use in the upcoming face to face interactions with community members; grants received from the Office of Traffic Safety; and the School Safety Program sponsored by Public Works and CCUSD.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, reported that technical difficulties prevented the video presentation but the links would be posted on the website.

Council Member Eriksson invited public participation.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that no requests to speak had been received.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Council Member Eriksson invited public participation.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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Items from Staff/Subcommittee Members

Rolando Cruz reported that Spectrum would be showcasing the new electric City Bus and share an interview with CCUSD students who are benefitting from the FSI program.

Yanni Demitri, Public Works Director, introduced himself; discussed his background; support for meeting the goals and objectives of the program; and he offered his assistance to deliver a world-class mobility program to residents.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 5:27 p.m., the Mobility Traffic and Parking Subcommittee adjourned its meeting to December 7, 2021.

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Jeremy Green
SECRETARY of the Culver City Mobility, Traffic and Parking
Subcommittee, Culver City, California

APPROVED

GÖRAN ERIKSSON
COUNCIL MEMBER, Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee
Culver City, California