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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

April 21, 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 6:02 P.M. in the Patio Conference Room at City Hall.

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

\*Member Chowdhury left the meeting at 8:24 P.M.

\*\*Member Morgan joined the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

**Absent:** Robyn Tenensap, Member

**Staff Present:** Yanni Dimitri, Public Works Director  
Alicia Ide, Management Analyst

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Member Maron led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chair Weiner invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Mary Daval announced upcoming Bike Culver City events noting that additional information was available at bikeculvercity@gmail.com.

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**Items from Members/Staff**

Vice Chair Nomura indicated that he did not feel the bike parking at City Hall was secure; he reported that a Council Member had lost a wheel off of their bicycle while City Council was in session; he felt that riding bicycles should be encouraged with secure bicycle parking; discussed use of closed-circuit cameras as a deterrent; discussed election of officers to the BPAC; bylaws; terms; anonymous voting for Chair and Vice Chair positions; and the Senior Citizen position on the Committee.

Member Morgan joined the meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the process for changing Member classifications; providing more flexibility to fill positions; changes made by the Bylaws Subcommittee; the Committee decision to recommend opening up Main Street using bollards; City Council direction; inability to close the street safely until the retractable bollards are installed; manual bollards; the need to agendize a discussion of Main Street in order to talk about it further; parking on Main Street; merchants with different ideas; holding a public forum to allow discussion; and the effectiveness of bollards.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, discussed closure of certain segments of the Bike Path for maintenance and Higuera Bridge construction, and the Farragut/Jackson re-design.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding planned Bike Path detours; the need to repaint the striping on the north side of Jefferson; Committee feedback requested on the final design for Farragut/Jackson; Committee input regarding the City budget; budget

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presentations to the City Council; staff agreement to share the presentation with Committee Members; and agreement on June 16, 2022 as the next date for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting.

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### **Receipt of Correspondence**

MOVED BY MEMBER TWICHELL AND SECONDED BY MEMBER CHOWDHURY THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CHOWDHURY, MARON, MONTGOMERY, MORGAN, NOMURA,  
TWICHELL, WEINER  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: TENENSAP

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### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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### **Consent Calendar**

MOVED BY MEMBER CHOWDHURY AND SECONDED MEMBER TWICHELL THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE ITEMS C-1 AND C-2.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CHOWDHURY, MARON, MONTGOMERY, NOMURA, TWICHELL,  
WEINER  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: TENENSAP  
ABSTAIN: MORGAN

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Item C-1

**Approval of Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Special Meeting on January 20, 2022**

THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 20, 2022.

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Item C-2

**Approval of Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Special Meeting on February 17, 2022**

THAT THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2022.

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**Discussion and Status Updates of Public Works and Transportation Mobility Projects, Including But Not Limited To Bike Safety, Bike Share, and Jackson Gate Schedule**

Diana Chang, Transportation and Mobility Planning Manager, provided a program status update on the Bike Share Program; discussed origination and timeline of the program; partnership status; collaboration between Public Works and Transportation; implementation of the Metro Bike Share program; interim solutions; the upcoming launch of the Bird E-Bike Share program; and initial deployment.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding lack of representation for Fox Hills; the initial limited deployment; expansion in the future; and the Metro Bike Share program.

Chair Weiner invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Karim Sahli expressed concern with consistency in being able to reliably find a Bird scooter available at all times;

concern with availability at the Metro station; and battery life.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding deployment; reallocation and balancing; and notifications regarding battery-life.

Sophie Nenner asked about price structures; reduced fares; concern with performance-based locations; and addressing scooters that are left around.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding program requirements; ADA access; addressing public hazards; removal of obstructions; operator response; pricing; Bird as an interim-solution while waiting for Metro to be in place; consistency of locations; reliability; multiple factors in the siting process; the importance of ensuring pedestrian access; cultivating a new culture; precarious employment created by companies like Bird; structures being put in place that could be putting other forms of equity in place; education and outreach; ensuring that Fox Hills is included; geo-fencing; safety; the school parking lot between the Middle School and Farragut; access to the Ballona Creek Bike Path; deployment of other carriers; tracking of scooters in Culver City; and eagerness for the celebration scheduled for April 29.

Yanni Demitri, Public Works Director, discussed the Walk and Rollers program; the opening of Jackson Gate; in-house work; and timing for the opening.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the traffic safety education program in coordination with the schools; scope of work; the vendor involved; different programs in the area; Safe Routes to School; length of the contract; scope; funding; staffing; and agreement to agendize an overview of the bike safety program.

Karim Sahli asked about the traffic safety program; Walk and Rollers; and the impetus to bring on the new program.

Jim Shanman, Walk and Rollers, discussed the Safe Routes to School Program; the grant from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS); City-wide general safety education; overlap with the Safe Routes to School program; safety for those not involved with the Safe Routes to School program; outreach; and he questioned whether there were two separate programs.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Shanman, staff, and Committee Members regarding the annual Safe Routes to School program vs. the one-time program funded by CCUSD and Public Works; OTS funding; the five-year contract for the Culver City Walk and Rollers; funding that has to be spent by September 30, 2022; staff agreement to send a clear scope for each program with a timeline and expected funding; efficacy of the Walk and Rollers program; consistent quality; scope of work for all upcoming programs and projects; the Request for Proposals (RFP) process; selection criteria; the fair and transparent process; longevity; goodwill; public oversight of contract awards; and clarification that nothing becomes public record until the contract has been awarded.

Sophie Nenner discussed the timeframe for opening the Jackson Gate; whether input from the community is gathered regarding satisfaction with the current vendor; and she received clarification that the community can provide input at the City Council meeting where the contract is considered.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the RFP process; longevity and goodwill; public oversight of contract awards; and ability of the City Council to supersede.

Khin Khn Gyi discussed need for a safety and volume study for the Jackson Gate; she discussed decreased safety with the bollards placed on the traffic island at the intersection of Kelmore, Ranch, and Overland; and she expressed concern with changes made without a traffic study.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding procedures when implementing new projects or making modifications to existing situations; updates to the City Council with traffic collision data and police reports; and existing open gates.

Responding to inquiry, Khin Khin Gyi indicated that she wanted to compare the number of kids going to school using the gate that is already open at Overland vs. the Jackson gate.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the timeframe for the review of the Overland/Ranch/Kelmore redesign; the Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant; use of temporary devices; enhancement to pavement markings and streetlights; replacement of dated

flashing beacons and adding curb ramps; supplemental funds from the General Fund; evaluation of the pilot program; the redesign of the Farragut-Jackson connector; the Bike Boulevard on Farragut; priorities; funding; safety concerns; the gap between the Adams Mobility Lane and MOVE Culver City; coordination with the city of Los Angeles; ensuring that there are safe bike routes to the schools; including a request in the budget to close the gap between Culver Boulevard and the High School, Middle School, and Farragut; materials needed for the Slow Streets Program; two recent accidents involving students crossing the pedestrian bridge travelling to Farragut Elementary School; a request for a safety evaluation of the major drop off point; the previous evaluation of school campuses to enhance safety; ensuring that all recommendations have been made; additional evaluation; bulb outs; in-roadway warning lights; education, enforcement, and engineering; parents who let their children out in the street; and collaboration with school principals.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda (Continued)**

Chair Weiner invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Karim Sahli questioned why he was required to attend the meeting when it is being conducted in a hybrid mode; he discussed a Los Angeles Times opinion piece about the dangers of riding a bicycle in America; the car-centric vision in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for road design in the country; the need to increase safety by going beyond the requirements; he wanted to see Culver City implement new bike infrastructure in the City using Class 4 bike lanes rather than Class 2; he reported attending the Cal Bike Summit; he discussed the planned diversion of traffic onto Jefferson Boulevard for two weeks; and differences between the Slow Streets program up north vs. in Culver City.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the previous presentation given to the Committee on using one lane of traffic for both directions; the difficulty of making a case to not think in a car-centric way; acting as a resource for staff; and recognition of the approach to center other forms of transportation.

Jim Shanman invited everyone to participate in free events and activities for Bike Month in May.

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

Member Montgomery expressed disappointment that Main Street was being opened up to cars and felt that the recommendation of the BPAC had been given little consideration.

Member Twichell received clarification that filled in trenches in the road on Overland Avenue had been recently smoothed out.

Member Maron noted that everyone is a pedestrian; discussed beg buttons; signalizing; and pedestrians at signals.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding touchless buttons; pedestrian recall; impacts to traffic signal operations; the feeling that if it is safe to cross the light should automatically be green; pushing a button to put the pedestrian in the cycle; adaptive traffic signal control; changed traffic patterns during the pandemic; changing technology; investing time and money in the process; previous work done.

Member Chowdhury left the meeting.

Member Twichell discussed the new signal at Green Valley Circle that requires a left hand turn in every cycle whether anyone is waiting or not.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the automated signals; the possibility of a faulty loop detector; concern that the meeting format resulted in decreased public participation in the meeting; communication with the City Manager and the City Council; technology issues; challenges and considerations; advocacy for hybrid meetings; budgeting; and the request for closed captioning.

Sophie Nenner asked about having a traffic light in front of the library.

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Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding approval of the HAWK (High Intensity Activated Crosswalk) signal and a reminder for Committee Members to check their City email for upcoming communication.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:32 P.M., the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee adjourned to a meeting to be held on June 16, 2022.

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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