

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

August 3, 2020
3:30 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Eriksson called the special meeting of the Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee to order at 3:33 p.m. in Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall via Webex.

Present: Göran Eriksson, Mayor
Thomas Small, Council Member

Staff Present: Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director
Rolando Cruz, Chief Transportation Officer
Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic
Engineering Manager
Gabe Garcia, Traffic Engineer Analyst
Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst
Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer
Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development
Director
Todd Tipton, Economic Development Manager
Alicia Ide, Management Analyst

o0o

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Eriksson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

o0o

Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Mayor Eriksson invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Ken Mand indicated that he wanted to speak on Item A-3.

o0o

Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

o0o

Consent Calendar Items

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the February 25, 2020 Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee Meeting

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALL, SECONDED BY MAYOR ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE MOBILITY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 25, 2020 MOBILITY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

o0o

Presentations

Item P-1

(1) Receive a Presentation by Tesla on the Terms and Conditions of their Offer to Install 8 to 16 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in a City-Owned Downtown Parking Structure; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, provided an overview of electric vehicle charging stations in the City; discussed the lack of plug/outlet standardization in the industry; the inability of Tesla drivers to use any of the City's existing charging stations; use of adaptors; exclusive use agreements for Tesla; and he introduced representatives from Tesla.

Noelani Derrickson and Jorn van de Ven with Telsa provided a presentation on their proposal for a Tesla Supercharging project at City-owned parking facilities; discussed the mission of Tesla to accelerate the transition to sustainable energy; the intent to provide a larger network of faster charging stations; working with Level 3 (Fast) charging deployment; different charging levels; dwell time; industry standards; options offered by Culver City; the need for direct Tesla fast charging; demand; transient visitors; supporting EV ownership; those without the ability to charge at home; the exponential growth of electric vehicles in the region; access for Tesla drivers; investment in infrastructure to enable EV ownership; benefits to the City; examples of projects in other California cities; the proposal to install 8 supercharger posts at a Culver City parking facility with Tesla covering the investment cost; optional co-location; and the planned 15-year contract duration.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding cost savings for Culver City; parking fees; Tesla's payment of monthly fees to the City in exchange for Tesla drivers to park at no cost, or non-payment of City fees with Tesla drivers to pay regular parking fees; co-location of chargers; differentiation of Tesla drivers; the brand-specific plug proposed by Telsa; the existing fast chargers at Ince; keeping up with demand; usage statistics at Fox Hills; idle fees; parking capacity; one hour free parking; exclusive use of the parking spaces; surface lots vs. parking structures; infrastructure; convenience; use of non-premium parking spaces such as the roof; the focus on increasing capacity; fire concerns; the Fire Code; location of the power source; and the amount of space required to install a transformer.

Mayor Eriksson invited public input.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

David Metzler discussed Tesla adapters; the number of miles one can travel using an existing EVgo charger vs. a Tesla charger; concern with City infrastructure being used exclusively by one company; use of public space; and the importance of having Tesla pay for the space.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, read written comment submitted by George Montgomery who asked about the cost

benefit from Tesla; projected costs of the investment; and discussed the market share of Tesla for the electric vehicle market in California.

Discussion ensued between Tesla representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding length of the commitment; upgrading existing facilities; responsibility for costs to replace or relocate; current usage; charging speed; growing demand; the ability to add additional charging; clarification that Tesla is not looking for exclusivity with their stations; identifying appropriate locations; capacity; and costs per location.

Kevin Lachoff expressed concern with being married to a particular brand even if they have the majority of the market; discussed taking spaces out of general circulation; and consideration of hours of use for exclusive Tesla charging.

Further discussion ensued between Tesla representatives, staff and Committee Members regarding the charging standard developed by Tesla; redevelopment and control of property; the substantial investment by Tesla; the need for continuity; the ability of other manufacturers to use the Tesla chargers if they choose to adopt the Tesla standard; renewable energy from the Clean Power Alliance; lease of parking places to outside companies; different standards and formats; support for allocating eight spaces; identification of potential locations; reimbursement for monthly rent; a previous exclusivity agreement with EVgo at the Ince parking structure; site visits to determine Southern California Edison (SCE) capacities; whether Tesla would be generating revenue from the arrangement; and agreement by the Subcommittee to send the item forward for consideration by the City Council with staff to identify potential locations and gather more information about the fee structure structure agreement with Tesla.

o0o

Item P-2

(1) Receive a Presentation and Discuss the Project to Install Brick-Paved Crosswalks at the Intersections of Washington Boulevard at National Boulevard, Wesley Street and Landmark Street, and resulting lane closures.

Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer, provided a summary of the material of record on the project to install brick-paved crosswalks at the intersections of Washington Boulevard at National Boulevard and at Wesley Street and Landmark Street.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding background on the project; the Washington/National Streetscape Plan; the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Visioning Plan; the intent to build identity and branding for the area; complementary public art projects; timing; and stability of the right of way in that location.

Mayor Eriksson invited public input.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, read written comment submitted by George Montgomery who questioned whether this project addressed a possible crosswalk scramble.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the ability to introduce a diagonal scheme; the conventional layout of the sidewalk; and striping.

The following member of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Ken Mand expressed support for the project; felt that the Business Improvement District (BID) and other public entities should be included in the material review; discussed design; colors; scheduling; and he wanted working hours to be during non-peak traffic time.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the desire to move forward as soon as possible with reduced activity in the area due to the pandemic; material; similarities to the crosswalk design at Higuera and Robertson; previous review as part of the Washington/National Streetscape Plan; standardization as part of branding; use of stamped concrete; conveying permanence; the process; and the update.

o0o

Item P-3

(1) Receive a Presentation and Discuss Expanding Outdoor Dining Opportunities on Westbound Washington Boulevard between La Cienega Avenue and Hargas Street within the Culver City Arts District to Facilitate Local Restaurant Recovery from the Economic Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, provided a summary of the material of record on the proposed Outdoor Dining Program on Westbound Washington Boulevard in the Arts District as requested by community members. With the closure of one westbound lane to accommodate outdoor dining, the plan also provides for a general traffic lane and a dedicated bicycle lane with buffer.

Mayor Eriksson invited public input.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Ken Mand expressed support for the plan; felt it worked well with TOD Visioning; discussed communication with area businesses; creative use of outdoor space; the need to support the businesses; and he thanked staff for their work.

David Metzler expressed support for the plan; discussed bicycle traffic vs. car traffic; restaurants on the south side vs. the north side; and he suggested providing extra space on the other side of the street for pedestrians and restaurants.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding identifying additional parking for temporary use; design to preserve as much parking as possible; barriers and delineators; outreach; and bringing the item before the City Council.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, read written comment submitted by George Montgomery who remarked on parking availability.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding outreach; involving as many businesses as

possible; the Tactical Mobility Lane; the bus lane; traffic flow; the request for allowing U-turns at La Cienega; community outreach and notification; and agreement to bring the item forward to the City Council.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, read written comment submitted by Ken Mand who believed that the mobility lane worked perfectly with the plan and noted that Council direction was to expand the mobility lane to La Cienega Avenue.

oOo

Item P-4

(1) Receive a Presentation and Discuss a Slow Streets Program, Including a Review of City of Los Angeles Slow Streets Program and Assessment of Whether a Similar Program Can Be Implemented in Culver City, Under What Conditions, and What Steps and Resources Would Be Required for Implementation; and (2) Provide Direction to Staff

Heba El-Guindy, Mobility and Traffic Engineering Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Eriksson invited public input.

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst, read written comment submitted by George Montgomery who discussed implementation of the program by Los Angeles; dependence of individual implementation on local organizations and sponsorship; the need for a program to be created; and interest from the Rancho Higuera Neighborhood Association.

The following members of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Travis Morgan discussed the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council; implementation on Mesmer; simplicity of implementation; Bike Culver City members willing to volunteer; and the community consultation process.

David Metzler, Bike Culver City, discussed working to get Slow Streets implemented in Culver City; a recent survey circulated; willing volunteers; assistance with monitoring and outreach; collaboration with the City; research done; targeting areas without infrastructure; and West Culver City.

Michelle Weiner discussed increased bicycling during the pandemic; pedestrians using the middle of the street in order to social distance; liability; the feeling that there is enough organization in the City to implement Slow Streets without a Neighborhood Council; determining interest; appreciation for the work done by Bike Culver City; Slow Streets in Los Angeles; and she expressed concern with the length of the process.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding coordination with Bike Culver City; resources to overcome concerns; potential liability; neighborhoods that already have slow streets; local traffic and delivery trucks; neighborhood input; the number of streets that can be implemented with existing equipment; adding streets as other neighborhoods express interest; identification of potential locations; instituting a pilot program; the need to purchase equipment to cover the requested number of streets; bringing the item before the City Council; the need for finding additional funding for a second deployment to expand the program subject to success of the pilot program; ensuring that progress is not slowed down for minor issues; scheduling; and making use of volunteers to move the project forward.

o0o

Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Mayor Eriksson invited public participation.

David Metzler indicated that he would send comments via email.

o0o

Receipt of Correspondence

None.

o0o

Items from Staff/Subcommittee Members

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding agreement to keep the meeting scheduled for August 25, 2020 on the schedule for new items until closer to meeting date.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 5:46 p.m., the Mobility Traffic and Parking Subcommittee adjourned its meeting.

o0o

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

APPROVED

Göran Eriksson,
Mayor, Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee
Culver City, California