

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY TRAFFIC AND
PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

April 16, 2018
2:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Vice Mayor Small called the meeting of the Traffic and Parking Subcommittee to order at 2:02 p.m. in the Dan Patacchia Room at City Hall.

Present: Thomas Small, Vice Mayor
Göran Eriksson, Council Member

Staff Present: John Nachbar, City Manager
Shelly Wolfberg, Assistant to the City
Manager
Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director
Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development
Director
Todd Tipton, Economic Development Manager
Art Ida, Transportation Director
Gabe Garcia, Traffic Engineering Manager
Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager
Michael Bowden, Assistant Fire Chief
Aubrey Kellum, Lieutenant
Diane Gifford, Parking Enforcement
Supervisor
Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer
Helen Chin, Management Analyst

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Vice Mayor Small invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Agenda Items

Item A-1

Approval of Minutes for the February 28, 2018 Traffic and Parking Subcommittee Meeting

THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 28, 2018 MEETING.

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Item A-2

Discussion on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan and Identification of Three Opportunity Corridors for Additional Analysis

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, discussed work with the consultant; initial recommendations; consideration by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Overland from Ballona Creek to Culver Boulevard; Farragut Drive from Overland Avenue to Duquesne; the exploration of Jackson from Farragut to Culver; enhancing pedestrian movement; and choosing days to close down the street.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding areas included in the three opportunity corridors identified; creating a corridor that is more focused on pedestrians; an observation that more people are walking from downtown to the Metro; new demographics; new housing units; and the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) district.

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Item A-3

Update Regarding the Permit Parking Program Online System

Gabe Garcia, Traffic Engineering Manager, provided an update on the Permit Parking Program Online System.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding virtual permits; permit availability at City Hall; paper parking permits; available phone support during business hours; the kiosk at the City Hall counter; addressing and learning from resident concerns; guests that got a ticket with a virtual permit; effectiveness of the system; and operator error.

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Item A-4

Update on the Microtransit Pilot Project

Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an update on the Microtransit Pilot Project noting a funding shortfall and the need to request that the City Council allocate funding toward the project.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding construction staging in the west bound Washington Boulevard transit lane; the need to restripe Washington Boulevard; utilization of the staging area; the owner vs. the general contractor; want vs. need; the amount of right of way requested; the Apple site; and rights of the City.

Vice Mayor Small invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Jim Suhr discussed different needs during different phases of construction; the way Apple uses the space; and monetizing use of the right of way.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the need for additional funding; the Mobility Fund; establishing a developer fee to fund things such as microtransit; public benefit; project size; ensuring the development is not discouraged; generating enough money to make a difference; the legal basis for fees; identification of projects; engineering analysis to allocate benefit to the new developments; encouraging the

use of development agreements; quid pro quo mechanisms; the effect of fees on rental costs per unit; direct benefits; TOD and parking; ad hoc negotiations; unreliability of funding; the number of upcoming projects that could incur the fee; in lieu parking; funding fixed route operations; funding ineligibility for microtransit; examination of different alternatives; revising the formula; and ad revenue for microtransit.

Jim Suhr suggested synchronizing one-time capital dollars with capital spending; discussed different sources of funding; the benefit assessment district; sources of funding for capital and ongoing projects; projects consistent with City Council goals; contributing at each stage; existing and new projects as part of a benefits assessment district; and he noted that all users in the community benefit from mobility.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee members regarding a proposed meeting between staff, Joey Miller and his contractor.

- Set up a meeting between staff, Joey Miller and his contractor at 8888 Washington Boulevard to discuss right of way
- Staff discussion regarding funding before returning to the Subcommittee

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Item A-5

Discussion of Study to Evaluate Gondola or Ropeway Systems for Public Transit

Art Ida, Transportation Director, discussed research on existing projects around the country.

Diana Chang, Transportation Planning Manager, reported on preliminary findings regarding using a gondola as public transit for the connection from the Expo Station to downtown Culver City; she discussed traditional use of gondolas to overcome geographical barriers; costs and cost fluctuations; unanticipated site conditions; limitations to extending the route; height issues; users; practicality for users vs. other conventional transportation services; right of way space issues; unintended parking impacts; the

initial alignment from the Expo station to downtown Culver City; visual impacts; the storage and maintenance facility at one of the end stations; emergency evacuation; and addressing mechanical malfunctions.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the shuttle for Sony employees from the Expo to the lot; capital costs; operating costs; comparing gondola costs with bus costs; use of a consultant to conduct a feasibility study; comparing several miles of a bus service to the .7 mile long segment for the gondolas; whether three stations are possible; extending the alignment; number of passengers served; Ballona Creek as an obstacle; interest in gondolas from West Los Angeles College; alternative technologies; personal transport; pros and cons; costs; and continued research.

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Item A-6

Discussion About Feasibility of Changing Downtown Culver Boulevard to a Pedestrian Only Area

Todd Tipton, Economic Development Manager, discussed communication with the Downtown Business Association (DBA) regarding the feasibility of closing down a portion of the downtown roadway system for events; concerns regarding costs for implementing events; infrastructure; staffing; maintaining direct vehicular access to businesses; closing the westbound portion of Culver Boulevard; utilizing the Town Plaza expansion area; using Main Street; the Farmers Market; visual barriers to businesses during the Farmers Market; aesthetics; creating a pedestrian feel; multi-directional crossings; and pedestrian volumes.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding DBA interest in exploring the Main Street option; closing off the main access into Culver Steps; traffic studies based on Main Street being closed off for the Farmers Market; the feeling that Culver Boulevard is too wide to be a viable option; support for string lighting; involvement of the business owners; Parcel B; traffic impacts with a permanent closure of Main Street; agreement of the DBA to reach out to the businesses on Main Street to determine their interest; support for potential closure on Sundays; constructing a model for a pilot program; moving forward if there is support from the businesses; doing a

test with a few special event permits; populating the space and making it their own; involving the city of Los Angeles; tying in Main Street with a special event; using a scramble for special events; and closing off Main Street to make a bigger area for the event.

- Staff agreement to return to the DBA for further input and report back to the Subcommittee

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Item A-7

Discussion and Update on Observation Deck to be Considered for the Higuera Street Bridge Replacement Project

Sammy Romo, Senior Civil Engineer/Project Manager, noted that an observation deck was not part of the original design and would necessitate a change to the scope of the design; he presented slides illustrating existing conditions; and he discussed additional costs and time required if an observation deck is included.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding public meetings; detail on what the bridge is, and what it is supposed to do; the concept of an observation deck; the significance of the western view; the main view; providing renderings to the public; the overall vision; construction scheduling; engineering drawings vs. renderings; additional costs; the City Council discussion regarding right of way; sidewalk width; the easement on both sides of the bridge; utility relocation; the need for a better understanding of benefits and costs; and Subcommittee agreement to support the project and bring the concept forward for City Council consideration.

- Staff to bring the item forward to the City Council on the April 23, 2018 agenda

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Item A-8

Discussion About Transportation Network Company Ride Fees

Vice Mayor Small noted that many cities charge a per ride fee for Uber and Lyft.

Council Member Eriksson suggested that the Finance Advisory Committee explore the idea and report back to the City Council.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding taxi cabs; license fees; taxes on business revenue; the importance of maintaining a level playing field; and requesting a report back.

- Refer consideration of per ride charges to the Finance Advisory Committee with a report back

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Item A-9

Update on Business and Residential Parking Permits in the Arts District Area

Gabe Garcia, Traffic Engineering Manager, reported meeting with business representatives and residents; discussed concerns expressed about a potential pilot program in the Arts District; conversations with Ken Mand; and community input.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding finding a way to give something back to the community; free permits; resale of permits; impacts; added complexity; enforcement; imposing the program on residents; quantifying the number of cars involved; assessing current demand; creating supply without making it difficult for residents to park; restricting the number of permits issued per street; status of the traffic signal at Cattaraugus; restriping and parking meters on La Cienega Place; conformance with Los Angeles standards; loss of parking spaces; parking meter time limits; procedures to make a change in the City of Los Angeles; the need to circulate a petition; contact with the Business Improvement District; research on similar commercial programs in other cities; resident protection; resident concern; communication; clarification that there are no plans to change the parking permit system in the downtown area; starting the discussion in the Arts District; considering the issue neighborhood by neighborhood; working toward a uniform program applicable to all districts; enforcement; and consolidation of districts.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Vice Mayor Small invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Items from Staff/Subcommittee Members

Helen Chin, Management Analyst, reported that Metro had released the Open Streets Grant Program and Culver City has an opportunity to submit another application for Ciclavia for spring 2019.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding staff communication with Metro and CicLAVia; additional information coming forward to the City Council: the Rancho Higuera Neighborhood Transportation Plan meeting on April 26 at Culver Studios; the desire for consensus on the traffic study; input and resident buy-in; data capture for analysis; emotional and psychological perceptions; coordination of real time data with Google Maps; the intent of Art Walk to include alternative modes of transportation in their upcoming event; and street closures.

Vice Mayor Small discussed a grant from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government for a study with the behavioral insights group on how to encourage people to take alternative forms of transportation.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding potential future agenda items including the Harvard Kennedy program; the opening of the Jackson Street Gate; looking at integrating the Green Valley Circle Bike Lane Project; the intent to improve mobility in the area; the need for a master plan; repurposing Bristol Parkway; concern with unduly delaying the project; the need for City Council direction; integration with how mobility will look on all the streets in the Fox Hills neighborhood; getting consensus from the neighborhood on how to move forward and improve the quality of life; the Reimagine Fox Hills project; the 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan; developer involvement as a public benefit; long terms plans for Westfield; waiting to move forward until a bigger

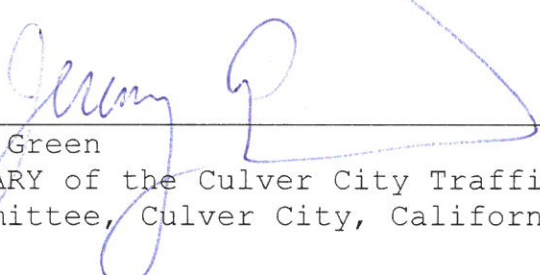
picture develops; and bike lanes on Green Valley Circle through Fox Hills.

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Adjournment

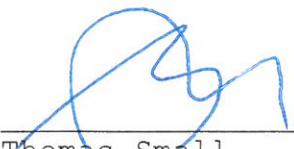
There being no further business, at 3:57 p.m., the Traffic and Parking Subcommittee adjourned its meeting.

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

APPROVED



Thomas Small
Vice Mayor, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee
Culver City, California