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

May 30, 2019
4:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Council Member Small called the special meeting of the Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee to order at 4:05 p.m. in Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

Staff Present: John Nachbar, City Manager
Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director
Helen Chin, Management Analyst

o0o

Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Council Member Small invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Committee:

Dr. Janet Hoult discussed accessibility; coyotes; and she read a poem about mobility.

o0o

Agenda Items

Item A-1

Approval of Minutes for the March 19, 2019 Traffic and Parking Subcommittee Meeting

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR ERIKSSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALL AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE MOBILITY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2019.

oOo

Item A-2

Discussion of Road User Charge Systems

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, provided a presentation on Road User Charge Systems; discussed equity; administration; mileage; data collection; barriers; privacy; fee evasion; inter-governmental collaboration; the 9 month voluntary pilot project in California; legislative advocacy; and fee collection.

Council Member Small invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding decreasing gas tax revenue; options to charge for road usage; state and federal taxes; development of a policy; different models and factors to consider; determining the true cost of road usage; the National League of Cities Policy meeting; the need for additional study; moving away from carbon-based fuel tax; the legislative advocacy list; SB 1; and agreement to recommend adoption of the policy to the City Council.

oOo

Item A-3

Update on the Jackson Gate Community Meeting

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, discussed the workshop in Carlson Park on May 18; the community survey; feedback; and outreach.

Council Member Small received clarification regarding survey distribution and the target audience; he apologized for not being very present in the process due to his schedule; and he noted that the project was part of mobility and active transportation efforts and the Ballona Creek Revitalization process.

Council Member Small invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Steve Sheftel felt that resident concerns had not been addressed; discussed the process in 2002-4; access points to the path; the prohibition on new access trails through neighborhoods; assurances of collaboration with residents with respect to future planning; concern with a lack of outreach to residents; the biased proposal from Alta Planning; the original intent of the Jackson Gate; the proposed trial; concern with the process; concerns about opening the gate; safety issues; liability; increased crime; he felt the process had been handled poorly; and he reported consulting with lawyers to explore options to ensure the safety of the neighborhood and accountability of the City Council.

Council Member Small indicated the intent to hear all comments and concerns, and he apologized if the process was not handled properly.

Jennifer Rockwell expressed concern with notification; asserted that the gate had never been open as an access point; noted that two-way access is proposed; expressed concern with liability; the lack of transparency; data; real community outreach; the fact that the City is treating it as an inevitable change; and the sufficient number of current entry points to the Creek.

Linda Lockhard reported being an avid bike rider; she felt that opening the gate was not necessary; she questioned why Jackson had been chosen rather than Higuera; she expressed concern with increased crime; she discussed lighting; homeless people; differences with McManus; she expressed confusion with fixing the fences while a gate is being opened; and she asked that if the gate has to be opened, that it be closed at night for safety and coyote issues.

Council Member Small noted that there was currently no gate at Higuera but a ramp and bike access would be created over the next year; he clarified that no decision had been made on opening the gate; and he discussed bike advocates and planned upgrades.

Vice Mayor Eriksson indicated that funding was being explored with the Conservancy for the installation of lights under all the bridges.

Shireen Daytona felt the issue of opening the gate at Jackson was upsetting; expressed concern with notification and the fact that the consultant had been working on the issue for over a year; discussed property values; crime; the coyote study; the need to repair holes in the fence along the Creek; she expressed concern with increased noise, traffic and parking issues; and she wanted to see the General Plan respected.

Jim Metzler discussed money spent on the coyote problem; the need to fix holes in the fence; safety issues; access; and he indicated that he would sign a petition in opposition to opening the gate.

Victoria Rosenfield discussed the Jackson community; reopening the issue after the 2004 vote; the argument that access is needed for safety reasons; crime; the change in the environment; property values; increased activity; potential parking issues; permit parking; safety concerns; she expressed concern with cyclists following the rules of the road; and she questioned whether the gates at Duquesne and Overland are locked at night.

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, reported that the gates are only locked by the county when the Creek has dangerously high water levels.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding survey feedback; the importance of vetting valid concerns; clarification that the gate would only be open during daytime hours; the General Plan Update process; reexamination of all components; the process; the multi-year project to improve Ballona Creek; fear; access; Alta Planning; increased numbers of employees in town with Apple and Amazon; new development; population growth in the City; additional public discussion; and clarification that

nothing would be decided without engagement and participation.

Council Member Small reported receipt of email from Mr. Apperson and he indicated that he would have an offline discussion about that.

o0o

Item A-4

Overview of TOD Visioning Recommendations

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, discussed the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Visioning Study; City Council review and direction; incorporation of draft mobility conditions into the discretionary review process; collaboration with Transportation and Public Works; and commercial development.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the Mobility Fund; potential impact fees; Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT); Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs); the Request for Proposal (RFP) to update the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) ordinance and manage the money; City Council review; achieving mobility goals; approaches for shared parking; recommendations to expand the TOD boundaries; microtransit; the soft launch in September; the Expo to Downtown Bike Connector project; opportunities for a transit lane on Washington Boulevard; construction; the bicycle network; neighborhood protection; the upcoming meeting; feedback; and creation of a pilot program to test measures such as physical changes on Higuera to slow down traffic and higher visibility pedestrian crossing as well as turning restrictions to discourage cut through traffic.

Council Member Small invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Ken Mand discussed the need for specific action plans to address the Arts District; affordable options; discouraging Washington Boulevard as a cut through; the upcoming water main project on Washington Boulevard; advancing TOD

Visioning Goals with the forced congestion caused by the project; forcing people off of Washington Boulevard; and addressing concerns of Arts District residents.

- Staff was directed to provide a report on the Golden State Water Project on Washington and effects on the City and the neighborhood

o0o

Item A-5

Discussion of Peripheral Parking

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, discussed shared parking and reductions to the street parking supply to free up the curb lane for High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) or active transportation modes; reducing parking supply to promote transit and minimize auto use; new development projects; implementation of shared parking with microtransit; the entitlement process; shared parking facilities; peripheral parking located at strategic areas around the City; diverting traffic; creating pedestrian oriented areas; the need to amend the zoning code; aligning the development community with shared and unbundled parking; the proposal from Red Car at Washington and La Cienega Place; accommodating first mile/last mile travel; potential sites; use of public property for shared parking; and the Culver Center Shopping Center.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding Regency Partners; Metro; first mile/last mile; addressing businesses that are under parked; public parking; market driven usage; linking peripheral parking to transit; gaging City Council interest before pursuing; decreasing congestion; and the Red Car proposal.

- Staff to work with Red Car to develop a conceptual presentation

o0o

Item A-6

Discussion of a Report from the Finance Advisory Committee on Transportation Network Company Ride Fees and Implications for Culver City

Nancy Barba, Finance Advisory Committee, Subcommittee Chair for On Demand Transportation Services, discussed On Demand Transportation Services like Lyft and Uber, as well as Lime Bikes and Bird Scooters; research done by the Subcommittee; and she provided an overview of the report provided.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Barba, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding lobbying legislators; regional transportation impact necessary to update the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) code; rideshare strategies; Reimagining LA County, Mobility, Equity and the Environment, the feasibility study for congestion pricing; effects of mobility services; the advisory committee; public outreach; stakeholder input; building and growing the regional coalition; leveraging an existing coalition; legislative authority; fees on mobility devices; profit from unchecked use of public streets and sidewalks; the two year plan due to be completed in 2021; comparisons with other cities; the need for collaboration with LA Metro; congestion pricing; instituting a pilot program; actions of the City of Portland; and revenue loss due to reduced taxi cab revenue.

o0o

Item A-7

Discussion of Pedestrianizing Downtown Culver City

Art Nomura provided background on himself; discussed cut through traffic; city centers in Europe; possibilities for pedestrianizing downtown Culver City; microtransit; the People for Bikes Conference in Indianapolis; success of changes made in Indianapolis and in San Francisco; proposed changes for Culver City; the viability of keeping Main Street open; establishing clear and strict priorities for pedestrians, bicycles and public transportation; 24-hour access for emergency vehicles; following the European models; allowable traffic; trash and deliveries; examples of pedestrian streets throughout the world; acclimating people to stop using Culver and Washington Boulevards as cut through streets; and making bicycle and pedestrian access routes easier to produce.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Nomura, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding starting and ending points

of the proposed route; drop off and pick up traffic; unintended consequences; impacts to surrounding neighborhoods; the transition period; benefits to residents; including the MTAP Subcommittee in the discussion; temporary implementation; road diets; and a suggestion that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee consider the proposal within the context of their plan.

- Direction to staff to return with the item for a more thorough discussion at the next meeting

o0o

Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Council Member Small invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Jennifer Rockwell suggested that community members be contacted to see what they might like to see included in the Jackson Gate survey; she discussed having the gate open during daytime hours; lighting; issues important to homeowners; enhancing the industrial side of the path; and she acknowledged that change is constant.

Council Member Small thanked Ms. Rockwell for her comments.

o0o

Receipt of Correspondence

None.

o0o

Items from Staff/Subcommittee Members

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, suggested that the usual status update on ongoing projects be deferred to the next meeting, and he asked the Subcommittee to establish standard dates for future meetings.

o0o

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:20 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

Thomas Small
Council Member, Mobility, Traffic and Parking Subcommittee
Culver City, California