



**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
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**Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, June 9, 2011**  
**Westside Pavilion**  
**10800 West Pico Boulevard**  
**Meeting Room B**

**Call to order:** 7:10PM by Terri Tippit

**Attendance:**

Bennet Cohen (Seat 7B), Steve Spector (Seat 4), Dick Harmetz (Seat 10),  
Lisa Morocco (Seat 2), Terri Tippit (Seat 8), Mike McIntrye (Seat 3B),  
Shannon Burns (Seat 14B), Jerry Asher (Seat 6), Melissa Kenady (Seat 16),  
Mary Kusnic (Seat 11), Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9), Phillip St Pierre (Seat 5B),  
Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12)\*

\*arrived at 7:15PM

**2. Approval of May 12, 2011 Minutes:**

Jerry Asher moved to approve the minutes with corrections as noted.

Mike McIntrye seconded the motion.

The motion passed 12 – 0 – 0

**3. Public Forum:**

LAPD:

Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzalez reported on the RTD dispute incident which resulted in a stabbing; he stated that there is a photograph of the suspect taken from the bus security camera and the case is under investigation.

He also reported that there were 5 SUV burglaries at the Westfield Century City Mall and recapped burglaries on Selby, Veteran and Pico – Officer Gonzalez stated that daytime residential burglaries continue –precautions such as closed windows and locked doors can and do prevent crimes. Also he said when you are outside in the back area of your home – to lock the front of the house and vice-versa.

He also commented the most common crime continues to be vehicle break-ins.

Shannon and Lisa acknowledged the WLAPD for their work curtailing the overweight trucks traveling on Overland Boulevard.

Mark Knighton, spoke on behalf of the new owner of the Crest Theater located at 1262 Westwood Boulevard. He informed the members about the theater restoration and history. He also spoke in detail about the new programs and event which are in the planning process. He stated that they welcome ideas from the community on programs/events which would be of interest.

It was noted that the new parking system at the Westside Pavilion will go into effect at the end of the month – with the first 3 hours of parking free.

#### **4. Review of Agenda**

#### **5. Agenda Items:**

##### **A) Nazario Saucedo, Interim Director Bureau of Street Service: Presentation on impact of budget cuts to his department**

Mr. Saucedo reported that he has been in place since February 28, 2011 and said it has been a difficult year due to the budget challenges. He said optimistically that he continues to find ways to make the most of this time and he that he continues to look for ‘honorary employees, ‘volunteers’, which can assist, especially with the reporting of locations where work or repair is needed.

He stated that his department is down to 900 employees from 1500 and for the fiscal year 2011 – 2012 he keep their budget at \$145Million.

Mr. Saucedo explained in detail the areas of core services that his department is responsible for as follows:

Pavement Preservation and pothole repair; Urban Forestry, including tree trimming and planting and maintaining medians; and Investigation and Enforcement, covering 120 municipal and state codes which govern encroachments, dumping, signage and vendors. He is looking for Reserve Enforcement Officers undergo background checks and work in a volunteer capacity to assist in this area. Anyone interested may contact him for more information.

##### **B) Sara Shaw, JMB: Update on Constellation Project**

Sarah gave a brief history of JMB and their experience in Century City which dates back to 1978 and cited that in 1985 the Company purchased ABC Entertainment Center, Century Plaza Hotel, the Century Towers, the CPW Garage and several development sites. She cited that over the years they owned approximately half the real estate in Century City. Sarah noted that today JMB is very involved in Century City including participating in the formation and funding of the BID and the TMO.

Sarah spoke in detail about the Constellation Project and noted that JMB's modification of the project to a state of the art, high tech office building is the best use and best suits the growing needs of Century City. She highlighted and described the project as a 37 story premier Class A building which will also include 1 to 2 stories of available office creative incubator space for lease. Sarah stated the parking is slightly above code and is sufficient; and, their company has the resources to enhance it should the need or requirement arise.

She said that Johnson Fain is the architect, Olin is the landscape architect and ARUP the engineering consultant. The project is 40% smaller than the original approved residential project. Sarah also emphasized the use of garden and courtyard space and said that plans include a small amount of retail and dining. She added the "Green" and energy efficient features include solar and a double skin building façade; and that there will be a full traffic study and draft subsequent EIR near year end. Sarah closed by citing the economic benefits to the area - \$350M investment, thousands of jobs, \$4.3M revenues to the City and \$400M in economic activity .

**C) Lisa Morocco:  
Proposed WNC 2011 – 2012 Budget**

Lisa reviewed the WNC 2011 – 2012 proposed budget and categories and allocations. She noted we will be working with roughly half of our normal budget so all categories have been sized down and that the \$37,310.55 figure is total for the Demand Warrants that we have submitted for this year, but have not been paid out yet. Lisa added that if these DWs are not paid by 6/30, the funds for them WILL carry over to the next fiscal year.

The issue of status of NC's elections was discussed in detail with Bennet Cohen and Steve, both commenting on time and cost constraints, especially given the City's financial issues.

Motion by Steve: "That the WNC approve the WNC Budget as presented."

Second by Jerry.

Motion Passed 13 – 0 – 0

Bennett commented that if the elections were to be held next April, it would be very costly; and, also stated that Walkman would have to be used at an additional expense and there are not funds sufficient in the budget to cover. He also said that it would likely take

six months to work thru the process of how it would be done. He questioned , would the City Clerk or the NC's hold the elections, if the later he said the City Clerk would have to also instruct the NC's to amend their by laws. He also discussed affirm and factual basis with respect to an election.

**D) Steve Spector:  
Approval of WNC Bylaws and Map**

Steve updated on the status on the WNC By Laws. He stating that they had been filed with DONE and that we are waiting to receive confirmation DONE accepts our proposed By law reorganization amendment.

He also acknowledged Mike for his work on the map and acknowledged Bob Guerin, Jan Gabrielson and Bennet Cohen who greatly assisted him in the work to complete the project.

**E) Colleen Mason Heller:  
Motion to have WNC submit a Community Impact Statement for the Modified Parking Requirement District**

Colleen reviewed the Modified Parking Requirement District ordinance and distributed information from LA Neighbors United as a resource regarding their suggestions.

She outlined key issues about the Proposed Modified Parking Districts Ordinance as follows:

WORKING DRAFT – JUNE 7, 2011 – CARY BRAZEMAN

1. Proposed district size/shape is too small.  
Three acres is too small; districts should be at least two linear blocks.
2. Findings should be necessary to establish districts.  
The ordinance would only require districts to be “consistent” with applicable plans. This is grossly insufficient. At the very least, there should be findings to establish (1) that districts are designed to protect the health and safety of pedestrians walking to and from parking; (2) that anticipated spillover effects into residential neighborhoods are identified and mitigated; and (3) that there is sufficient capacity in the first place for patrons to park.
3. Districts should be drawn with specificity, not generalities, to provide certainty and limit the future discretion of Planning and the Zoning Administrator to make arbitrary project compliance determinations after districts are established.  
For example, if a district is established to allow “Parking Reduction Permits,” the ordinance that establishes the district should specify under what circumstances the permits would be granted and the amount of allowable reductions. If there is no specificity, the potential impacts cannot be assessed, and Planning will have unchecked authority to determine compliance.

4. Offsite parking locations should be included in the districts themselves, and identified when the districts are initially established.

Parking location/s should be included in districts where offsite parking is utilized so, among other things, Planning and the community can assess the feasibility of walking/shuttling between the onsite businesses and the offsite parking. If these offsite locations are not identified, there can be no legitimate impact analysis.

5. Expand the community notification requirements in the ordinance.

In addition to initial notice to establish a district, the community should be noticed if and when the terms of the district are changed, such as when a new “strategy” is imposed in a district or if the offsite parking locations are changed, which could trigger new or different impacts.

6. Directional parking signage should be required for districts allowing 1,500-foot offsite parking.

This way, patrons don’t have to be psychic to know where they are supposed to park; otherwise, allow only certified psychics to park in parking districts with 1,500-foot offsite parking.

7. Monitoring mechanisms should be required to maintain districts to ensure compliance, including use of acceptable offsite parking locations.

Motion By Colleen:

“That the WNC appoint a committee to compose and submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) for the Modified Parking District.”

Second By: Shannon

Motion Passed: 13 - 0 - 0

## **6. Committee Updates:**

**LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzales reported – covered in Public Forum**

**Chairs Report: Terri Tippit**

Support for WRAC’s Motion for Policy of LAX Operations

Terri updated that it was late at last month’s meeting when we to got this motion and Barbara said she needed more information and some others asking the same; and , we agreed to carry it over.

Terri updated, as she said last month, WRAC had both sides attend one of our WRAC Leadership board meeting (of which she was in attendance) and had the WRAC Land Use Committee review it further and came up with the attached motion that has been passed by several of the WRAC boards and is on agendas this month for the rest of the WRAC boards and so far everyone is passing it.

Terri said she has spoken with several councilmembers and they said they feel that there are ways to improve LAX without expanding it—essentially agreeing with WRAC.

Motion By Melissa:

“That the WNC supports

## SECOND REVISION: WRAC POLICY MOTION FOR LAX OPERATIONS

LAX enhances tourism and economic growth in the entire region. Any revised LAX Master Plan Elements should:

1. Retain the existing LAX footprint and forego runway modifications which increase runway protection zone impacts on surrounding neighborhoods, or result in wholesale removal of local businesses/tax base. Improve placement of taxiways to handle the new larger aircraft, and incorporate safety enhancements that do not require movement of runways.
2. Reduce freeway traffic and discourage traffic flow into local neighborhoods while avoiding any new Lincoln Boulevard connection tunnels. Improve Central Terminal Area accessibility, including signage, physical roadway, multi modal passenger drop off and pick up, a consolidated Rental Car Facility, and rail connection.
3. Hold LAX capacity to its current theoretical threshold of 78.9 Million Annual Passengers and preclude easily added passenger gates or cargo facilities after the 2020 prohibition ends. Encourage development and maintenance of capacity at other regional airports, such as Palmdale and Ontario, which can act as a back up to LAX and which both have available capacity.

In conclusion, WRAC supports the improvement of safety, security and convenience at LAX but has concerns which should be addressed by the LAX Master Plan update process, including appropriate EIR scrutiny.”

Second By: Dick

Motion Passed 11 – 1 (Seat 6) - 1 (Seat 5)

Terri said that the DWP is launching a new approach to the rate setting process and that a series of community meetings have been planned where concerned stakeholders can learn about the challenges facing the Department, and provide input on how LADWP can meet the challenges ahead and how those decisions affect customer rates. The input received

will be considered by the Board prior to making any final decision about future water and power rates. It looks like a rate hike may be in the works.

The Department of Water and Power will host seven regional Community Collaboration Sessions beginning June 15<sup>th</sup>. The workshop location nearest is:

West Los Angeles:

Wednesday, June 22, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Stephen S. Wise Temple

15500 Stephen S. Wise Drive

Los Angeles 90077

### **CD5: Shelia Kouhkan**

Shelia gave a brief update on CD 5 activities including their work against the sales of dogs, cats, rabbits and chickens from puppy mill operations.

Her report focused on the strategic preparations for the 405 closure on July 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. She cited the work of CD5 to proactively mitigate and prepare for the area impacts and stated that additional resources from agencies including LAFD, LAPD, METRO, DOT are being employed to assist in the operation.

Motion to adjourn

Motion By: Melissa

Second By: Steve

Motion passed 13 – 0 – 0

Submitted by Recording Secretary