



Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 9, 2012
Westside Pavilion
10800 West Pico Boulevard
Meeting Room A
7:00PM

1. Call to Order

Call to order: 7:07PM by Terri Tippit, WNC Chair

Attendance:

**Lisa Morocco (Seat 2), Steve Spector (Seat 4), Susan Bursk (Seat 5b),
Jerry Asher (Seat 6), Barbara Broide (Seat 7), Terri Tippit (Seat 8),
Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9), Mike Eveloff (Seat 10b), Mary Kusnic (Seat 11),
Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12), Francesca Beale-Rosano (Seat 13b) arr 7:10PM,
Shannon Burns (Seat 14), Charles Horowitz (Seat 15),
Stacy Antler (16), David Ty Vahedi (Seat 17) arr 7:10PM**

Also Present:

Richard Harmetz (Seat 10), Sarah Shaw (Seat 6b)

2. Approval of January 12, 2012 minutes

Minutes Approved as Noted

Motion By: Drew

Second By: Steve

Passed: 8 - 0 - 2 (Seats 12, 16)

3. Public Forum

Stakeholder Mary Kopp of the 2300 block of Veteran Avenue spoke, expressing her appreciation and that of her neighbors to the WNC; and she also acknowledged the WNC for their all their work and support regarding the speed humps.

Orli Belman spoke about the Temple Isaiah's Agriculture Program. She explained that farm fresh fruits and vegetables are delivered to Temple Isaiah for the 13 week spring season on every Tuesday, March 6th to May 29th.

Orli said the program is part of Temple Isaiah's partnership with the McGrath Family Farms in Ventura. She stated the program is available to all Temple and community members. Orli advised that anyone interested should call Gail at 310 277 2772 or go to their website www.templeisaiah.com.

Pico Paving:

02/25/12 Saturday- profiling 6am-6pm; 02/26/12

Sunday- paving 6am-6pm.

Danny Leon, Superintendent LA Street Services, announced that continued paving of Pico from Westwood to Sepulveda is scheduled to take place on the last weekend of February. He said as they cannot work at night (10PM – 6AM), he will be combining 3 to 4 crews in order to get the work finished.

Terri confirmed the scope of this work is to Sepulveda Blvd. and Susan confirmed the times and hours of February 25th and 26th from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Danny said primary concerns are community notification and prompt striping of the lanes. Danny informed the group that notification shall be addressed using a message board on Pico. Dimitri de Silva, CD5 field deputy, said he will be following up with Danny and DOT regarding who handles the lane striping to determine what can be done to expedite the striping.

Danny advised that if at all possible the Pico work area and surrounding area should be avoided. He also said that the staging will be on Pico. For more information or questions Danny suggested to email him at danny.leon@lacity.org.

Richard Harmetz, Tract 7260, Seat 10, spoke of his recent personal experience with the U S Consumer Product Safety Commission. He wanted to make everyone aware of the beneficial work and service that the 'Commission' provides, especially in connection with a recalled coffee maker he had purchased.

Heyler Realty

Jae Wu and John Padden announced that they are the new owners and operators of Heyler Realty.

Jae and John presented a brief background of this 84 year old company. They stated that they are focused on bridging the values upon which the company was built to the community going forward.

They said that they also provide mortgage brokerage services. Jae and John said they plan to hold a monthly drawing in which they will give away a bicycle in their Biking to Basics Program. They invited everyone to their open house on Sunday afternoon, 1:00PM to 4:00PM, on February 12th at their offices located at 10659 West Pico Blvd. They said that they are also a water station for Plant Pico on Saturday. For more information call 310 470 2030 or email team@heyler.com.

Lucie Bava announced that there will be a musical program held on March 4th at the Westside Pavilion; the proceeds will benefit Camp Harmony.

Barbara Broide announced that comments on CEQA streamlining are due on February 24th and also said that there is a workshop for those interested on February 23rd. She also announced the LA on the Verge Town Hall on Transportation will be held on February 24th and 25th at 9:30AM to 11:30AM on both days. Barbara also noted the increase in the occurrences of copper theft from various City properties.

4. Review of Agenda and

5. Agenda Items:

New Business:

A) Selection of Seat 5 Representative
Phillip St. Pierre

Terri Tippit, Chair, announced that the WNC has received ONE applicant for Seat 5, Phillip St. Pierre. She stated Phillip has done an excellent job of sitting in for Letty this past year and he has been proud to wear “orange” at WNC events. Terri said Phillip has submitted a letter from the Century City Chamber in support of his representing Century City Businesses, Seat 5. She stated this item will be on the WNC March 8, 2012 agenda.

B) Stephanie Wiggins, Metro Executive Officer:
Presentation on Metro Express Toll Lane

Stephanie Wiggins provided background and an overview of the Metro Express Toll Lane. This experimental project is of special interest to stakeholders who may/will be impacted by the proposed toll lane. Terri referenced an article from July 2011, which provides a good background information, at <http://www.ourweekly.com/los-angeles/metro-experiments-toll-lanes-110-and-10-freeways.com>.

Stephanie Wiggins presented an overview of the project stating that:

Metro ExpressLanes is a pilot, one-year demonstration program overseen by Metro, Caltrans and several other mobility partners. These groups have joined forces to develop a package of solutions to improve traffic flow and provide enhanced travel options on the I-10 and I-110 Freeways in Los Angeles County.

She said that goals of the project include the congestion reduction, promotion of pooling, the reduction of smog and toxic air contaminants and to keep traffic moving in the designated express lanes at an average speed of 45 miles per hour.

She said the project includes the introduction of congestion pricing by converting High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes; the improvement of transit service and other alternatives to driving; the updating of transit facilities; and the implementation of a more effective parking management system in downtown Los Angeles. She added that the project is accessible to all regardless of income levels and that subsidies are available for those who meet the qualifications.

Stephanie outlined following the Metro ExpressLanes features including:

Conversion of the I-10 El Monte Busway HOV lanes (I-605 to Alameda St.) to HOT lanes
Conversion of the I-110 Harbor Transitway HOV lanes (Artesia Transit Center to Adams Blvd.) to HOT lanes
59 new alternative fuel expansion buses purchased and an operating subsidy for the demo period
El Monte Station Expansion
New Transit Station at Patsaouras Plaza
Harbor Transitway Park & Ride Upgrades
Metrolink Pomona Station Expansion
Transit Signal Priority Expanded in Downtown LA
100 New Metro Vanpools
New expansion bicycle lockers at the Artesia Transit Center & bicycle station at El Monte Station
Express Park in downtown LA with pricing features
New Bus Maintenance Facility in Downtown LA
Budget - \$290 million with a \$210M Congestion Reduction Demonstration Grant from the USDOT

Claiming that a tremendous amount of community outreach had previously been done, Stephanie noted that project construction began in 2011 and continues on March 2nd with work in the westbound tunnel entrance to I-10 San Bernardino Freeway at El Monte Station. She said work continues toward the opening of the ExpressLanes on the 110 freeway later this Fall of 2012.

There was extensive questioning and discussion of the Board members including Dick and Barbara. Concerns were expressed by many board members including the overall merits of the program and accessibility for everyone wishing to participate. Terri noted that this does not directly impact the WNC area as it is outside its' boundaries. Dick noted that the designated areas are through some of the City's poorest neighborhoods. More information can be found at the website <http://www.metro.net/projects/expresslanes>.

C) Alex Vassil, City Dog ! Club
Presentation on proposed Dog Kennel at 1815 Pontius Avenue

April Morgan and Timothy O'Brien, owner/operators and Art Bannick, architect presented an overview of the CityDog! Club operation, services and the proposed flagship location at 1815 Pontius Avenue.

Stating that this is their new venture, April and Timothy, the former executive officers from The Sports Club/LA, (after the sale of the clubs) said they are applying the highest standards of practice and operation to this venture.

They outlined the facility's services and amenities which include:

- Boutique retail
- Grooming
- Doggie Daycare
- Boarding
- A Social Club for Dogs with supervised and enclosed play parks

They stated their hearing is scheduled for March 21st and requested the WNC's endorsement of their Conditional Use Permit Application.

Shannon stated that she had sent out the application for review for City Dog! Club to the WNC members prior to the meeting, and previously provided the board information regarding this project in her November, 2011 Report. Terri added that she had sent it out to her email list. She also said there are no homes within 500' of the kennel and the newly

built German Sheppard Dog Rescue Kennel is doors away from this site. She also noted the WSSM situation for Jerry. Shannon also briefly noted and commented on the WNC Land Use Committee procedures and welcomed feedback from Barbara as Seat 7 representative. Barbara stated that she wanted to run it by residents who lived on Bentley, two blocks from the subject property, but had not done so. CD5 indicated its support.

Motion By: Ty

That the Westside Neighborhood Council send a letter of support for the City Dog! Club Located at 1815 Pontius Avenue with respect to their request for a Conditional Use Permit ZA2011 – 3273 – CU.

Second By: Jerry

Motion Passed: 13 – 0 – 2 (Seats 7, 15)

**D) Adee Drory, Celebrate Israel Festival Director
Update on April 29th Event at Cheviot Hills Park**

Adee presented an update for the Israeli Independence Day festival, which historically was held at Woodley Park from 2006 – 2009. She stated that she has met with the City agencies including LADOT, LAPD, and LAFD and she noted that the Festival is paying for the respective services. It was noted that parking is a major concern and Adee reviewed parking control efforts. She also distributed a flyer for the event and a list related to the parking control efforts.

Lucie Bava spoke on behalf of Cheviot Hills area and the potential impact on their neighborhood. She cited among others, that traffic and safety were among the major concerns.

The issue was discussed extensively at last month's WNC meeting. Again, the members of the WNC Board and members of the community expressed their concerns and discussed the variances for the projected attendance numbers, the inconsistencies regarding planning with City enforcement agencies, including the LAPD, LAFD; as well as the inconsistencies in overall coordination and also that detailed plans for public safety and the overall plans for the event and the surrounding neighborhoods were also incomplete or non-existent. Mike Eveloff addressed and spoke to these concerns. Terri and the members of the board acknowledged the value and significance of the event. All concurred these issues are reasonable and need to be addressed to the satisfaction of and for the good and safety of all concerned – those attending the event and stakeholders alike.

Adee stated she will be working on and following up on all areas and she will report at the March 8th WNC meeting to review and update on progress and on all items discussed. Dimitri, CD5 also commented and offered to assist and follow up.

Committee Updates and Reports

Terri Tippit, Chair

Mayor's Budget Survey

Terri stressed the importance of participation and requested that all the WNC board members, if they have not taken the 10 QUESTION, 15 MINUTE mayor's budget survey already – to please do so. She said that all the NC's have been asked to have it on the agenda and ALL Board Members have been asked to take the survey. Terri added that alternates and stakeholders should take it also. The survey can be accessed at www.budgetsurveyLA.com.

Redistricting

Terri updated on the Council Map Redistricting Hearing in Westchester which she attended stating that there were over 500 at the meeting. Terri stated there were

enough votes for Westchester to remain in CD11 and discussed the potential boundary changes proposed affecting our WNC area. Ty and members commented on the importance of keeping WNC intact within one council district. Additional information is available at the website <http://redistricting2011.lacity.org/LACITY/default.html>.

Motion By: Ty

That the WNC write a letter requesting to keep the Westside Neighborhood Council area intact; and, if numbers need to be picked up, it is our standing position to incorporate more residents to the south.

Second By: Shannon

Motion Passed – Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0

Responsibility of Seat Representative

Terri discussed the responsibilities of the WNC Board Members and stressed the importance of communication with the stakeholders as well as outreach, taking an active role in the WNC and participation at the WNC events.

Council file 12-0112 Transit Oriented Districts along Expo Line Update on TOD along Expo

There was a brief discussion of the members regarding the proposed bike path along Expo and the design committee for Expo Phase 2. Terri stated the WNC area has the most impact and said the TOD needs clarification. It was noted that the City voted for CF 120012 which authorizes the City to accept the grant funds for improvements including landscaping at the station. Colleen stated that transportation issues need to be communicated on a timely basis to and thru CD5 and CD5 to the WNC; and requested that Jay, Dimitri and Chris at CD5 do follow up.

WRAC Motion

The WRAC Motion to Support SM Coalition for A Livable City and Rosendahl/Koretz Motion Re: Bergamot/Hines DEIR and the WRAC motion to support LA Review of DEIR for Hines/Bergamot Project and for Master EIR for the Bergamot Area Plan were reviewed by Terri. The following WNC motion was presented.

Motion By: Barbara

WRAC Motion:

“Urge City of LA Review of DEIR for Hines/Bergamot Project and support for a Master EIR for the Bergamot Area Plan

In regard to the regional impacts that will result from multiple large development projects pending in the 140 acre Bergamot Area in Santa Monica as shown on the attached Exhibit "1," including the 7-acre development known as the Hines Bergamot Transit Village at 26th and Olympic Boulevard in Santa Monica, WRAC supports review and comment on the project's Draft Environmental Impact Report by the City of Los Angeles, by and through its City Attorney, City Council, responsible City departments and CalTrans; and Further, because the 140-acre Bergamot Area is presently being planned by the City of Santa Monica under a HUD Grant, WRAC supports the need for a comprehensive EIR that fully considers the regional impacts on the City of Los Angeles and that takes into account the cumulative impact of all the major development projects pending in this area as shown on Exhibits "1" and "2;" and WRAC recommends that all neighborhood and community councils that have not already done so vote at their next meeting to have one or more members act as a liaison with the nonprofit group known as the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City (www.smclc.org) in order to be kept apprised of the Hines project DEIR and the other issues raised in this

motion. (Note: Brentwood Homeowners' Association and Brentwood Community Council have already done so). The contact person for SMCLC is Diana Gordon at dianagordon5@gmail.com”

Second By: Ty
Motion Passed – Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0

Lisa Morocco,

Pico Beautification

Lisa presented an update and reviewed the details and schedule for Plant Pico on Saturday, February 11, 2012, with breakfast commencing at 7:30AM at LAFD Station 92.

She stated that over 200 people had signed up to volunteer and that Councilmember Koretz would also be attending. She added that media covering the event included the LA Times, KTLA 5 and FOX 11.

Mobility Committee
Tennessee Speed Humps Update

Noting that CD5 is checking with the City to verify and confirm the status of any related permit expirations, Lisa said an update would be provided at the March 8th WNC meeting.

Budget Line Approval

Given the time constraints, Lisa said she would give a Treasurer's Report at the WNC March 8th meeting. She reviewed the invoices for Overland and Westwood Charter Schools.

Motion By: Lisa

That the WNC approve \$2,632.50 for Overland Avenue School computer supplies for an Apple License and projector.

Second By: Steve

Motion Passed: Unanimous 14 – 0 – 0

Motion By: Lisa

That the WNC approve \$2,600.00 for the Westwood Charter School library tables.

Second By: Stacy

Motion Passed: Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0

Supplies for Plant Pico Event

Lisa reviewed the signage and distributed sample posters for Plant Pico and made the following motion.

Motion By: Lisa

That the WNC approve \$1,005.72 for supplies including flyers and posters for the Plant Pico Event, February 12, 2012

Second By: Colleen

Motion Passed: Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0

6. Updates:

**Officer Rashad:
LAPD Update**

Officer Rashad and members of the LAPD gave an update on crime and burglary in the area. It was noted that while reported incidents of crime are down, break –ins in the area continue. On February 2nd at 2300 Prosser and on February 6th at 2300 Midvale there were unrelated break-ins. It was also noted that there was also a break – in at the residence of a WNC Board member Alternate, Arturo Martinez.

There was also an incident between two employees, which resulted in a gunshot wound of one employee, at a Spa in the 2300 block of Westwood Blvd.

It was noted that the LAPD is tracking private security cameras. They are asking anyone who has cameras at their business or residence to register with the LAPD.

A form is available and was distributed for stakeholders to submit information about any surveillance cameras that they operate. Return completed forms to WLAPD Project Coordinator Lieutenant Gena Brooks, (310 444-0701/0702 office phone) by fax: (310) 444-0775, email: 26019@lapd.lacity.org or mail to 1633 Butler Ave., LA, CA. 90025

As always, the Officers again urged everyone to be vigilant and to watch out for your neighbors.

**Dimitri De Silva:
CD5 Update**

Dimitri acknowledged that CD5 will follow up on the areas discussed regarding the Celebrate Israel Event planned for April 29th. He also said that there would be a meeting with Rich and Joan on Friday and he would update Terri with details.

He also said he would send out details as they are made available on the upcoming visit of the President of the United States which is scheduled for February 15 – 16, 2012

He will also update on the mobile billboard issue and provide Pico Paving Details.

Motion to Adjourn At 9:43PM

Motion By: Jerry

Second By: Steve

Motion Passed Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0

Submitted By Recording Secretary

