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**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
 COMMITTEE MEETING
 Tuesday, July 7, 2020 @ 7:30PM**

ZOOM – Meeting ID 915 4576 1754

To join the Meeting

Zoom Meeting Online or by Telephone
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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE BOARD OF GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ON ZOOM AND BE ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONICALLY.

Persons on the phone wishing to attend the Board telephonically may also dial (669) 900-6833, and enter the Meeting ID number above and then press # twice to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comments will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

1. **Call to Order:** Start Time 7:36 PM

2. **Attendance** – Please mark X=present EX=excused AB=unexcused absence

<u>_x_</u> Hannah Globus, <i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>_x_</u> Kelly Cole	<u>_x_</u> James Fitzpatrick
<u>_x_</u> Katherine Hatton, <i>Co-Chair</i>	<u>_x_</u> Aidan Welch	<u>_x_</u> Arielle Stern
	<u>_EX_</u> Geoff Tock	

non-committee public: 11

3. **Current Business**

a. Review and Approve GTLNC Environmental Affairs Committee Minutes

Motion A: Approve the GTLNC 2 June 2020 Environmental Affairs Committee Minutes. Full text of the minutes can be found at: <https://www.gtlnc.org/environmental-affairs-committee/>

FIRST: __Hannah__ SECOND: __Aidan__

Discussion:

Katherine notes that the minutes haven't been posted to the GTLNC site despite being sent in time.

Hannah asks if we should delay voting until it is posted.

Jim recommends we vote now since Katherine has emailed the minutes to the full committee in advance of the meeting.

VOTE: _5_/_0_/_1_

Y Hannah Globus

Y Kelly Cole

Y James Fitzpatrick

Y Katherine Hatton

Y Aidan Welch

abstain Arielle Stern

absent Geoff Tock

b. Vineland Median Beautification

Katherine hasn't received updates from Arthur, but will request he keep us CC'd on his communications with Alice Roth at CD4.

The chairs agree to have a map to display the location of this project for next meeting.

c. Plastic Parking Permits

Motion B: To approve, as part of our commitment to the GTLNC Community Sustainability Plan, the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council's statement requesting that LADOT and the City of Los Angeles identify and implement ways to reduce waste produced by plastic parking permits that require frequent replacement. Full text of the statement can be found at:

<https://www.gtlnc.org/environmental-affairs-committee/>.

FIRST: ___Aidan___ SECOND: ___Arielle___

Discussion:

Katherine notes that, again, this document was not posted to the GTLNC site despite being submitted on time.

Katherine displays the full text on the Zoom and gives a brief summary of the contents.

Kelly notes that if this passes, we'll bring the letter as a model to other NCs – through NCSA and NC Progressive Alliance – to make this a city-wide effort.

VOTE: _6_/_0_/_0_

Y Hannah Globus

Y Kelly Cole

Y James Fitzpatrick

Y Katherine Hatton

Y Aidan Welch

Y Arielle Stern

absent Geoff Tock

d. LADOT Temporary Slow Streets Program

How to determine lower priority streets if LADOT requests we reduce the number of streets.

Hannah updates regarding issues with submitting through the official website that she's been working through. There is a limit to the number of intersections that can be included (25 total), so the committee is being asked how to prioritize the streets requested by the community and approved by the board (which contains 39 intersections)? Will be requesting LADOT allow the extra streets if possible.

Committee leans toward shortening street segments rather than eliminating any streets.

Motion C: To approve up to \$500 for ongoing outreach related to Slow Streets implementation within the GTLNC boundaries.

FIRST: ___Hannah___ SECOND: ___Kelly___

Discussion:

Dana Boyd expresses concern about the cost, since this was presented as a no-cost program. Asks how this cost came about? [Answer: program is free and provided by the city, but GTLNC received requests for better outreach and opportunities for public input about the program so we want to budget for adhesive signs that go on one side of the A-Frames supplied by LADOT for the program – the signs will have our GTLNC logo and info as well as a link to give feedback – this would be for 6 signs – we are very open to a cheaper option]

Kari Negri offers the possible use of a laminator [EAC will reach out]

Katherine reminds everyone that slowstreets@gtlnc.org is available for public input and it goes to multiple GTLNC board members, including the President (Jason).

Dana suggests Katherine draft the sign to save money.

Katherine agrees to draft, but might still need to spend some money on printing on large scale paper, hopefully not as much as \$500

VOTE: 6 / 0 / 0

 Y Hannah Globus

 Y Katherine Hatton

 Y Kelly Cole

 Y Aidan Welch

absent Geoff Tock

 Y James Fitzpatrick

 Y Arielle Stern

e. ADAPT Program

Motion D: To approve the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council's statement requesting that the "ADAPT" (Adjusted Deployment to Accelerate Paving in High Traffic Corridors) program implement the 2035 mobility plan OR gather and respond to community feedback regarding any deviations. Full text of the statement can be found at:

<https://www.gtlnc.org/environmental-affairs-committee/>.

FIRST: Hannah SECOND: Aidan

Hannah informs the EAC that GTLNC received a petition from the public to reconsider the motion; the board requested we take it back to committee.

Hannah provides a brief history of the 2035 Mobility Plan, which was put together in 2015 with a lot of public input. She also notes that LA passed Measure M and JJJ by large margins, so based on votes there's a large appetite to having infrastructure to get around LA without a car.

Hannah explains that LA determined the traffic reduction during the pandemic would be a good time to pave streets with minimal traffic disruptions. The city passed ADAPT and moved quickly with repaving, but also didn't follow the Mobility Plan or established public input process.

She notes that activists in the city brought this motion to multiple other NCs and asked them to ask the City to follow their own plan; other NCs have passed this motion.

Hannah explains that the motion asks the City to either honor the Mobility Plan, OR pause and go through public input process from the plan so that we aren't locked into street configurations that don't adhere to the plan because changing that striping will cost additional money and they likely won't do it until they repave the streets.

Hannah emphasizes that there are no expected changes to Riverside Drive because it has already been repaved and restriped. And based on public comments, EAC added a line to the statement that specifically requests streets that are already repaved/restriped don't get changed, which would protect Riverside.

Kari expresses concerns that this will lead to bike lanes and bus lanes on Riverside, which she opposes, and they would potentially cause traffic issues in the area; Has heard a lot of feedback from members of her neighborhood that are opposed.

Dana notes that ADAPT does include streets in the neighborhood, and Riverside does get repaved every 5-7 years. She also does not want bike lanes and bus lanes and reads this motion as requesting those. Dana emphasizes that Toluca Lake did NOT support the Mobility Plan back in 2015 and that people want more time to weigh in.

Hannah agrees with Dana that a big concern, one from people on both sides of the mobility issue, is that ADAPT moves very quickly and \ people aren't being heard or being asked about changes. Hannah notes that TL is part of a larger ecosystem in the City that does want to have non-car

options. She lists streets in the area that may be eligible for bike lanes (Camarillo, Cahuenga, and small section of Moorpark, and part of Riverside near Tujunga) and notes there are no proposed bus lanes at the moment.

Katherine stresses that we are a break in bike lanes, which makes our neighborhood less safely accessible for people wanting to patronize our business.

Hannah reads a statement submitted by Adam James of the TL Chamber of Commerce: Chamber expresses concern about this motion that includes language that would impact the business corridor on Riverside Drive, Chamber is not in favor of including 2035 Mobility Plan and adamantly wants it to be removed from the motion.

Emily James states that when the City says they're going to listen to people, then they should follow through on that promise and not rush through any bike or bus lanes. She also notes that there's an opportunity to bring more business if people can feel safe riding bikes because they have bike lanes and don't have to move to sidewalks, creating other dangers.

Natalie Baldini wants to take advantage of the opportunity to make changes now when city is moving quickly and feels this is a good time to add bike lanes. As someone that has been hit riding bike twice; she feels that the safety is more importance than the congestion it adds.

Kelly Cole expresses concern that LA has a history of starting great initiatives to move the city forward and then not following through, so she really want to see us ask the City to be accountable.

Andy Cahill feels that if the city says they're going to do something, and then let's have them do what they said they were going to do.

Kari believes that until there's a reduction in car sales and increase in bike sales, we shouldn't have a bike lanes because they won't be used, like the ones on Verdugo go unused. Until then, we should prioritize car lanes.

Brandon Alperin states that if it's something the city voted for, then they should follow through on that. He notes that he uses Verdugo and see bikes on it. He also reminds people that ADAPT only applies during the pandemic and after that there can be more discussion.

Andy states that people may be hesitant to use bikes unless there are bike lanes available. He requests a clarification about whether bike lanes reduce car lanes [Answer: part of the reason the Mobility Plan asks for more input is because there are streets that require reconfiguring car/parking lanes. Camarillo would not remove lanes or parking within Toluca Lake area]

Natalie states that as a Toluca Woods resident, she feels that we have to give people the opportunity to want to buy a bike. She doesn't feel safe riding around TL because there aren't bike lanes. She notes that a lot of people are struggling financially and will be selling their cars so will need alternative transit options. She also notes the lack of parking on Riverside.

Hanna notes there has been an increase in bike sales.

Katherine clarifies that we are asking the City follow their original plan or get public input to deviate; we are not prohibiting them from not doing bike lanes, just asking them to talk to the community if they're deviating.

Emily reiterates that bike sales have gone up and also notes that big apartment complexes are being built for people who aren't going to own cars. She believes that we need to build the non-car infrastructure in order for people to take advantage of it.

Dana thought the intent of sending this back to the committee was to get input from the community. She comes representing groups and feels like she isn't being heard. She feels that while middle ground is happening on paper, it isn't in a way that the community wants to move along with. She wants residents to be listened to but hears a lot of people that want to come into the neighborhood. She asks the committee to take a look at what community input is.

Kari stresses there needs to be reduction in the use of cars before we replace car lanes. She requests GTLNC/EAC go out to the groups to get input rather than only listening to the people that come to this meeting.

Natalie stresses that she is a TL resident too and does not currently feel safe riding a bike in her community.

Arielle notes that we need to incentivize people to get out of cars and bike lanes can be that incentive to make them feel safe. She offers statistics from Seville in Spain that showed expanding bike lanes increased biking and decreased risk of being in collision with a motor vehicle.

Jim thanks the committee for inviting all of the public to speak their minds.

Katherine expresses concern that Dana didn't feel heard. She reiterates that changes were made to the language based on public input and reviews the goal of the motion. She notes that Riverside is a big concern and so specific language was included to protect it. She stresses that we keep these conversations in GTLNC so that all of the community can have a voice, including people not allowed to be part of the other community groups. She notes that attending all meetings and speaking to the whole community would be a full-time job, but this is a volunteer position. She invites people to email Katherine.hatton@gtlnc.org and hannah@gtlnc.org with their further input or language requests.

Hannah stresses that we take public input seriously, even when we disagree on the final outcome. She notes that she and Katherine ran for GTLNC because there were no board members representing the groups they belonged to, like renters. Hannah reiterates the time commitment to visit every group and get comprehensive outreach would be impossible for volunteers and that's why EAC invited Garden Club and welcomes community groups to attend EAC meetings.

VOTE: 5 / 0 / 0

 Y Hannah Globus

 Y Katherine Hatton

 technical difficulties

Kelly Cole

 Y Aidan Welch

absent Geoff Tock

 Y James Fitzpatrick

 Y Arielle Stern

f. Public Input Process for 2035 Mobility Plan

Katherine recommends the committee tackle this conversation at another meeting.

Hannah notes that she will be putting a motion on either Outreach or Exec agendas to fund a GTLNC Survey Monkey account to get better public input.

- g. Review of prior year and planning for upcoming year

Hannah suggests meeting with no motions in August and focusing on this item; Committee agrees.

4. Potential/Future Projects

- a. Tree Planting Initiative
- b. GTLNC Website “Green Resources” Page

5. Public Comment

6. **Close Meeting:** Close Time ___9:06__ PM

7. **Next Meeting:** TBD @ 7:30pm – Zoom Meeting ID 915 4576 1754

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PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS - GTLNC agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Community Kiosk - On the side of the Discovery Shop - 10124 Riverside Dr. Toluca Lake, CA 91602;
- www.gtlnc.org; or
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <http://www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.htm>

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PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: gtlnc.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Juliann Miles, Board Secretary via email at Juliann.Miles@gtlnc.org

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS

For information on the GTLNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the GTLNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.gtlnc.org

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Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Juliann Miles, Secretary de la Mesa Directiva, por correo electrónico Juliann.Miles@gtlnc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal."