

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

@ 7:00PM

10154 Riverside Drive

Toluca Lake, CA 91602

1. **Call to Order:** Start Time 7:06 PM
2. **Attendance** – Please mark X=present EX=excused AB=unexcused absence

Hannah Globus, *Co-Chair*
 Katherine Hatton, *Co-Chair*

Kelly Cole
 Aidan Welch
 Geoff Tock
 James Fitzpatrick

Non-committee in attendance:

Karen Winchell
Arthur Wypchlak
Arielle Stern
Tony Carey

3. Current Projects

- a. Vineland Median Beautification – Presentation by Arthur Wypchlak
 - Focus proposal between Camarillo and 101 freeway; Several trees have been removed or appear dead (no leaves year-round); Arthur has reached out to Alice at CD4 and she's talked to Department of Urban Forestry about grinding those stumps out
 - We should reach out to NoHo NC about working with us (recommendation that we engage their Committee for Arts, Parks, and Beautification - Chair: Paula June Cantu); next NoHo meeting **Mar 23 7pm** at the NoHo Senior Center)
 - Additionally will see if CD2 can get involved
 - We aim to get the trees from the City (possibly talk to Tree People)
 - We need to make sure there's water on the median; CD2 office (Jeff Lizetta) might be able to answer the question about water
 - Arielle will be sending EAC info about the Vineland improvement project
- b. Toluca Lake Garden Club Partnership:
 - Haven't received much engagement from the Garden Club of late, but will try to reach out
- c. Transit Field Trip – Date TBD
 - We'll regroup on this after concerns about public health are lower; Hannah and Tony will connect this summer on the funding question
- d. 3-Mile Challenge
 - Background: 3 miles is the distance city planners consider to be walkable or bikeable distance
 - Goal is to use the period from Earth Day (4/22) to Bike to Work Day (5/17) to challenge people to take trips 3mi or less that don't use their car
 - Previously this was mostly done on social media, but might shift that for GTLNC access

- Looking into partnering with businesses to give incentives for participants in 3MC
- Examining how to make the honor system work; discuss creating an email address so there are options to email or post to social and we'll count anything posted within 24hrs
- Best ways to encourage participation? Need to identify a prize. Ideally use a raffle where each trip is an entry.
- Katherine to work on flyer

e. Plastic Parking Permits

- Katherine and Kelly will connect re drafting language for motion
- Should this be a CIS attached to a council file? Can we reference the same CF used for the Sustainability Plan?
- Will reengage Bob re NCSA participation. Also may need to talk to Budget Advocat Committee working with the department that does parking permits/parking violations. May also reach out to Alice in CD4.

f. Community Sustainability Plan – converting to CIS

Motion A: To approve Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council's Community Sustainability Plan, as amended, and Statement in SUPPORT of Council File 19-0156.

FIRST: Aidan SECOND: Hannah VOTE: 5 / 0 / 0

g. Identifying areas to pursue specific multi-modal transit improvements.

TABLED

Motion B: To approve the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council's Statement in SUPPORT of Council File 20-0187.

The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council (GTLNC) applauds Los Angeles City Council's efforts to improve travel speeds on transit corridors by 30% and create an implementation plan by July 1st 2020 for a comprehensive Citywide network of active transportation corridors while putting an emphasis on communities with a high Community Equity and Health Index score. It's time for the city to take decisive action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, reducing fatalities and injuries caused by traffic violence, and ending the inequity endured by certain communities that face a higher rate of these injustices. Council file 20-0187 is a move in the right direction.

We encourage LADOT, the Bureau of Engineering, & StreetsLA to turn to advocacy organizations and neighborhood councils when creating the implementation plan. Advocacy orgs and neighborhood councils have been creating plans for complete streets and understand the needs of the communities they serve.

GTLNC supports the following plans for major corridors in Los Angeles:

- Riverside Dr.
- Cahuenga Blvd.
- Vineland Ave.
- Ledge & Camarillo.

- Lankershim

We encourage the City Council to consider the community impact statements the neighborhood councils submit in response to this motion. Transit and active transportation infrastructure is not one-size-fits-all for every community. Neighborhood representatives have a deep understanding of the transportation issues that face their community that go beyond anything a traffic study can tell us, particularly regarding equity issues. Finally, we would like to address the goal of the implementation plan to complete at least one major regional project and one neighborhood-oriented network project per year. ~~We believe we need specific metrics and goals, not wording that is subject to interpretation.~~ Recently, San Francisco committed to building 20 miles of protected bike lanes within 2 years. This would be the equivalent of 200 miles over 2 years in Los Angeles. We strongly urge City Council to put specific numbers on this effort, and we suggest 150 miles of protected bike lanes in two years city wide, with each council district required to implement at least 10 miles along major arteries.

We also suggest each council district having to designate a major north-south and east-west artery for dedicated bus lanes, and commit to implementing one of each per year. Most neighborhoods in Los Angeles lack sufficient transit and active transportation infrastructure. Los Angeles further lacks the infrastructure that ties our neighborhoods together. We need to take swift action to tackle the crises of climate change and traffic violence.

FIRST: _____ SECOND: _____ VOTE: ____/____/____

- EAC agrees to table motion until we can do additional research regarding limitations on certain streets (like secondary highway requirements) and to look at what has already been proposed so we can request those be pursued more quickly
- Committee wants to rewrite statement to remove opinion and make sure tone is fact-based
- Note re Camarillo: The City Attorney is not pursuing taking back City-owned land from homeowners that have landscaped it

4. Potential Projects

- Scooter parking
- Comment or CIS regarding the TOC rules defining major transit intersection (intersecting lines rather than distance between actual stops)
- “Share the Street” educational video
- Future TL Garden Club Projects
- Tree Planting Initiative
- Reducing Waste at GTLNC Board Meetings
- GTLNC Website “Green Resources” Page

5. Public Comment

- Earth Day
 - Likely that the event will be canceled or at least postponed given current health concerns; will be discussing at the General Meeting on Tue 17 Mar
 - Looking ahead to future Earth Day, want to make the event sustainable and green
 - Note the importance of making sure volunteers know they get service hours (for high school students)
- How can we reduce plastic water bottles at meetings? Hannah is working with Jason on merging a water solution for volunteers at Earth Day with a more permanent solution for GTLNC; looking

for suggestions of options

- c. Group interested in a special meeting to assist the community with regard to what's happening with Covid-19; We want to make sure we support small businesses who will struggle with this more than others and be a source of resources local to the area

6. Close Meeting: Close Time _8:40_ PM

7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, Apr 7 @ 7:30pm – 10154 Riverside Drive, Toluca Lake, CA 91602

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- www.gtlnc.org; or
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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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