



MEETING RECAP

Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

WRAC

March 2019

MOTIONS

1) ——— NC/CC requests that the County of Los Angeles coordinate flood protection and mitigation of existing flooding risks in the LA River area, with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the City of Los Angeles and its various departments tasked with city planning, architecture, flood mitigation and street services, among others. We ask that all agencies study options to reduce the impact of flood, the costs of which will largely be borne by taxpayers, and that these studies include taking actions such as removing sediment build-up, reducing hardscape (eg. parking lots, building footprints), expanding open spaces and increasing the size of spreading grounds, adding dry-wells to infiltrate stormwater into aquifers, adding swales to small medians and yards, strengthening dams and levees, and evaluating land use and zoning designations within the proximity of the river (which may result in downzoning).

2) _____ NC/CC opposes legalization of video advertisements mounted on taxicabs and for-hire vehicles (including services such as Lyft and Uber); and supports the motion by Councilmember Blumenfeld to change TaxiCab Rule 415(c), as set forth in [Council File 19-0104](#).

At our WRAC meeting on March 20th, we heard a report from Rob Wilcox, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach from the office of the City Attorney, Mike Feuer. Rox presented the findings of the Blue Ribbon Panel on School Safety, which was convened by the city Attorney following the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman High School in Parkland Florida. The panel was charged with examining evaluating and recommending ways to enhance the efforts underway by LAUSD to maintain safety in schools. The recommendations and full report can be found at www.lacityattorney.org/schoolsafety. The panel has made 33 recommendations, and the office of the C.A. is asking communities to read the report, support the findings, and urge LAUSD and the City to adopt the recommendations. Community outreach is underway and Rob is happy to visit NCs to speak about the findings. WRAC pledged to review the findings and discuss regional priorities at the next meeting in order to take a motion of support to member councils.

We also heard from Devon Clunis from Matrix Consulting Group, which is conducting outreach on behalf of LAPD, for community input on a strategic plan for the development and deployment of LAPD resources in communities, in the years ahead. [His presentation](#) was well received with key questions being posed. The project is designed to assess LAPD services and responsiveness to community needs. Input from communities is essential to the study and an online survey will be made available to supplement community meetings. The link to the survey will be made available soon.

We received updates from the office of LADWP, State Sen. Ben Allen, Congressman Karen Bass, [Congressman Ted Lieu](#), City Councilmember Paul Koretz, BONC, DONE and Westside field rep for Mayor Garcetti, Ami Fields-Meyer, who also arranged to have Johnathan Hershey present information and statistics on growth projection data related to city planning for the Westside. Much of the data is still forming and metrics/methodology will be forthcoming.

Steve Twinning gave an important Mobility Committee report, which touched on a pending congestion pricing tax being studied by Metro, and a possible item on an upcoming agenda with Metro presenters to shed light on the matter. [SB58](#) was briefly discussed with the Chair asking for board members Sann and Miner to help draft a motion for the board to consider at the next meeting. This bill would require the ABC board to conduct a pilot program to authorize the sale of alcohol between the hours of 2 am to 4 am, in addition to existing hours of sale, on an individual basis to licensed premises, within a qualified City. (qualified cities do not currently include LA).

Our next meeting will be held on April 17th. Issues to be addressed include a “platform” for WRAC, reaffirming our commitment to local laws and processes, as well as a mechanism by which minor adjustments can be made to WRAC positions, without being taken back to member council boards.