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Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Minutes

August 15, 2018

- I. The WRAC Board met on August 15, 2018 at Lenny's Deli, 2379 Westwood Blvd., Westwood, CA 90064. Doug Fitzsimmons acted as Chair and called the meeting to order at about 8:00 a.m.
- II. The following members were present: Steve Twining (BABCNC); Robin Greenberg (BABCNC); Larry Watts (BCC); Rob Kadota (MVCC); Sara Ross (MVCC); Maryam Zar (PPCC); Chris Spitz (PPCC); George Wolfberg (PPCC); Peter Culhane (PPCC); Doug Fitzsimmons (SORONCZ); Ira Koslow (VNC); and Ann Hayman (WNC). Also present: Debora Hong (LADWP); Diana Jones (LADWP); Tamiko Higashiyama (LADWP); Joseph Galloway (CD-5); Mike Fong (Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment); Rita Hernandez Venegas (Dep. City Atty.); Carmen Hawkins (Dep. City Atty.) and Sharon Commins (Re-Code LA Advisory Comm.)
- III. The draft July 2018 Minutes were approved.
- IV. Alliance Updates
 - Member Robin Greenberg spoke briefly about five position letter recently sent by the BABCNC concerning: 1. Environmental impacts of new developments in hillside areas; 2. Requesting LADWP and DBS to report on impact of large housing in hillside areas on water and power usage; 3. Requesting LADWP and LA County Assessor to report on comparative water and power usage in new and older homes, between houses located in hillside and those in non-hillside areas; 4. Requesting the City to review its regulation of residential outdoor lighting; and 5. Requesting CD-4 and CD-5 to ask Planning Department to implement interim guidelines in the Mobility Plan for all scenic highways in the BABCNC territory and convene advisory boards for the Beverly Glen, Coldwater and Laurel Canyons specific corridor plans.
 - The Chair announced that the regularly scheduled WRAC September meeting falls on Yom Kippur and will be rescheduled. He also indicated that WRAC officer elections will occur at the September meeting.
 - The WRAC position letter supporting Reserved NC/CC Seating will be sent.
 - WRAC position letter for Opposition to Lifting Beach Curfew can be deferred until November.
 - The Chair recognized Member Commins to give the LUC report. She described a presentation by Denny Zane on Senate Bill 961, the Second Neighborhood Infill Finance and Transit Improvements Act, or "NIFTI-2." In general terms, NIFTI-2 961 would more funding for affordable housing and public transit projects by allowing a city or county to adopt a resolution to allocate its tax revenues from businesses and properties around rail stops and major bus lines to pay for affordable housing, parks, new stations, and streetscape improvements. It also offers a way for communities to tap into tax revenue without obtaining voter approval because the money collected in transit zones wouldn't require a percentage

increase in sales or property tax. For information on the bill go to:

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB961

- Member Twining reported briefly on the recent Purple Line meeting at WLAVA. The WLAVA station should open by 2016 and will involve the removal of some existing parking. There will be another update meeting on September 13, 2018 at the Westwood United Methodist Church, 10497 Wilshire Blvd.
- Member Zar discussed plans for a meeting to address updating of Westside community plans. e
- The Chair next asked Member Zar concerning the status of WRAC becoming a 501(c) (3). She reported there is a need to have a community roundtable meeting apart for our regular our WRAC meetings to discuss pros, cons and objectives of the proposal.

V. Guest Presentations

- The chair recognized Assistant City attorney Rita Venegas who manages the Administrative Citation Enforcement Unit (ACE) who described how it enforces the Municipal Code administratively rather than judicially. The focus is on quality of life violations, drinking in public, noisy parties, unlicensed massage parlors or therapists, etc. Generally the system has worked very efficiently with a low recidivism rate. There have been about 829 ACE citations so far this year on the Westside, primarily licensure violations.

VI. New Business — Additional motion background information available at westsidecouncils.com/pending.

- a. The Chair next led an extensive discussion concerning a WRAC position letter on proposed Neighborhood Council System Reforms, including formal City acknowledgment with respect to the status of Community Councils. The Chair will circulate a draft motion for member councils to consider.
- b. The Chair recognized Member Zar to discuss the Stormwater tax. She indicated we have already received a thorough presentation on this subject and most people who know about the program appear positive. Like many presentation to WRAC she thinks we need to find a way to avoid having the information go beyond the WRAC Board to our larger Westside communities.
- c. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the following resolution s were adopted for circulation to the constituent WRAC member councils:

- i. Extend Community Plan timeline (WRAC LUPC)

The ____ Council finds the Community Plans Update Outreach Plan timeline of 3 years to be ambitious (consider that the West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert and Granada Hills Plans required 7 years and the Expo Station Neighborhood Transit Plan required 4.5 years), potentially limiting adequate public input and feedback.

Therefore, we request that the Planning Department be funded to extend the timeline if and as needed to accommodate achievement-anchored benchmarks.

- ii. Request for planning data prior to start of Community Plan update process (WRAC LUPC)

The ____ Council requests the Planning Department provide all information (below), prior to commencing any work on the Community Plan Update process.

These data are prerequisite for meaningful asset-based grassroots planning input to any

Community Plan, whether it is for the Westside’s first cycle (Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey, Westchester-Playa del Rey, West Los Angeles Venice) or the second cycle (Westwood, Bel Air-Beverly Crest, Brentwood-Pacific Palisades):

1. What is the current aggregate population in the Community Plan area?
 2. What is the projected population in the build-out year?
 - a. How is it calculated? Who calculates it? Is the U.S. Census used?
 3. What is the population capacity in the current zoning, including R zones and C zones with density bonuses (Transit Oriented Communities, Expo Station Transit Neighborhood Plan) and Accessory Dwelling Units?
 4. What is the population capacity in the proposed zoning, including R zones and C zones with density bonuses (TOC, Expo Station TNP) and ADUs?
 5. Capacity of jobs or count of jobs currently.
 6. Change in jobs as a result of proposed zoning, either by increase in C or M zones or reduction in jobs if C or M zones are decreased.
- d. The following motion relating to Changes to the Community Plan update process (WRAC LUPC) was tabled.

The _____ Council requests the following revisions to the Community Plan Update process for all Westside Community Plans:

- i. A Citizens Advisory Board or working group, analogous to that employed for the Brentwood-Pacific Palisades Community Plan Update, shall be convened for each Updated Westside Community Plan. The CAB will enjoin to allow for more frequent and meaningful communication between community stakeholders and City Planners, including joint, on-site community tours, mandated preliminarily to drafting any Plans.
- ii. The Planning Department shall convene genuine input sessions for community suggestions, replete with genuine subsequent feedback, explaining (i) what standards were chosen and (ii) why, as well as (iii) which standards were rejected and (iv) why
- iii. Public hearings shall be conducted so that all participants can hear all opinions from all others. In particular, if meetings are styled as “open house” or “charrette” in format, full reporting of the information gathered is to be shared with all stakeholders and participants for review and comment.

VII. Government Rep. Updates.

- *Mayor Garcetti’s Office*: Daniel Tamm not present.
- *Dept of City Planning*: Fabiola Inzunza not present.
- The Chair recognized Deborah Hong of LADWP, who introduced her colleagues, Diana Jones and Tamiko Higashiyama who explained the upcoming single family residence sampling program to measure the presence of copper and lead in drinking water. A written description of the plan was also distributed.
- The Chair recognized Joe Galloway of LA City Councilmember Koretz’s Office (CD 5) who stated a proposed bridge housing area is under consideration at 7951 Beverly Blvd., which is between Fairfax Ave. and Crescent Heights Blvd.
- *LA City Councilmember Bonin’s Office (CD 11)*: Chuy Orozco not present.

- The Chair recognized Dep.LA City Attorney Carmen Hawkins. Ms. Hawkins announced she will be retiring at year's end and will be working between now and then to bring her successor up to speed with her NC oversight responsibilities. She also indicated that one of the biggest administrative tasks currently faced by many NC's are freedom of information requests. In her experience disgruntled members of the public are teaming up with these requests looking for or alleging various Brown Act violations by NC's.
- The Chair recognized Mike Fong of the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment who briefly discussed the Congress of Neighborhoods on September 22, 2018 and urged WARAC to spread the word to the community. More information and registration can be found at: <https://www.nccongressla.com/> He also indicated that the formation and organization of the new Westwood North NC is proceeding.
- *Board of Neighborhood Commissioners:* Commissioner Eli Lipmen not present.
- *LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's Office:* Stephanie Cohen not present.
- *U.S. Representative Karen Bass's Office:* Jacqueline Hamilton not present.
- *U.S. Representative Ted Lieu's Office:* Janet Turner not present.
- *CA Senator Ben Allen's Office:* Samuel Liu / Eugene Tseng not present.
- *CA Assemblymember Richard Bloom's Office:* Josh Kurpies.
- *CA Assembly District 54:* Brian Ross Adams not present.
 - *Re-Code LA Zoning Advisory Committee:* Sharon Commins reported on AB 2939 currently pending in the Assembly. She reports that this bill is largely in response to the defeat of SB 827. This bill, like SB 827 would preempt local zoning laws. The bill establishes the maximum standards that local agencies shall use to evaluate a proposed accessory dwelling unit on a lot zoned for residential use that includes a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. Member Commins was highly critical of this bill. For more information and text of the bill: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2939

VIII. Updates on Pending Motions Full motion text available at westsidecouncils.com/pending.

Asterisk = Council passed a modified version of the motion.

- Opposition to SB831 eliminating the FAR (floor area square footage) of Accessory Dwelling Units from a site's total floor area
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by BABCNC, BCC, WNC
- Audit of the City's Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) pilot program
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by WNC
- Regulation of personal electric scooters
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by WNC*
- Support for the CEQA Appeals Code Amendment of June 6, 2018
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by WNC
- Oil drilling safety conditions at Rancho Park Golf Course
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by BCC, MVCC, WNC
- Opposition to the Deferred Retirement Option Plan of the LA Police and Firefighters
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by WNC

- g. Support for Protected Tree ordinance
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by BABNC, WNC, SORO NC, VNC, PPCC, BCC
- h. Opposition to the automatic renewal of the City's bus shelter advertising 20-year contract with
Decaux
September 2018 passage deadline / Passed by BABNC, PPCC*, BCC, VNC, WWNC, WCC*,
SORO NC

IX. The Chair announced that due to the Yam Kippur holiday, the next meeting will take place at date, time and location to be determined.

X. Thereupon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts, Secretary