



Draft Minutes

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Monthly Board Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday October 28, 2020 7:00 PM

Present: 27 (Quorum 15)

Attachment "A"

2020/2021 Stakeholder Groups / Representatives	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association		
<i>Irene Sandler, Traffic Committee Chair</i>	X	
Bel Air District		
<i>Mark Goodman, M.D.</i>		X
<i>Gail Sroloff</i>	X	
Bel Air Glen District		
<i>Larry Leisten, Bylaws, Rules & Elections Chair</i>	X	
Bel Air Hills Association (BAHA)		
<i>Robin Greenberg, Board President</i>	X	
<i>Wendy Morris</i>	X	
Bel Air Ridge HOA (Alternate is Ed Cain)		
<i>André Stojka</i>	X	
Benedict Canyon Association (BCA) (Alternate is Matt Post)		
<i>Robert (Bob) Schlesinger, PLUC Chair</i>	X	
<i>Donald Loze</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner, Asst. Treasurer / Budget & Finance Chair</i>		X
<i>Mindy Rothstein Mann, Environmental Cmte. Chair</i>	X	
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Robert Garfield, DDS</i>	X	

Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts <i>(Alternate is Rob Farber)</i>		
<i>Jacqueline Le Kennedy, Treasurer</i>	X	
Custodians of Open Space		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
<i>Jackie DeFede</i>		X
Franklin-Coldwater District <i>(Alternate is Steven Weinberg)</i>		
<i>Maureen Smith</i>	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
<i>Teresa Lee</i>		X
7-12 Private Schools		
<i>Jon Wimbish</i>		X
Public Educational Institutions (K-12)		
<i>Kristie Holmes</i>	X	
Holmby Hills Association		
<i>Jason Spradlin</i>		X
Laurel Canyon Association (LCA) <i>(Alternates: Anne Alexander & Kris Le Fan)</i>		
<i>Jamie Hall, VP of Legislative Affairs as of 07/22/2020</i>	X	
<i>Stephanie Savage, PLUC Vice Chair</i>	X	
<i>Cathy Wayne</i>	X	
<i>Heather Roy</i>	X	
Members-at-Large		
<i>Chuck Maginnis, EP Committee Chair</i>	X	
<i>Marcia Hobbs</i>	X	
<i>Shawn Bayliss</i>	X	
Member-at-Large / Youth Seat		
<i>Philip Enderwood, Public Safety Liaison</i>	X	

North of Sunset District (Alternates: Stella Grey and Barbara Dawson)		
Ellen Evans, VP of Operations & Outreach Chair	X	
Yves Mieszala	X	
Patricia Murphy, Public Works & Telecom Chair	X	
Residents of Beverly Glen (RoBG)		
Robert A. Ringler, Secretary	X	
Dan Palmer	X	
Total:	27	6

- 1. Call to Order & Roll Call** (Quorum 15) – Robin Greenberg President Robin Greenberg called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. Robert Ringler called the roll with 24 present initially. Robert Schlesinger arrived @ 7:11pm & Marcia @ 7:12pm for a total of 26 present & 7 absent. Philip arrived @ 7:38pm, 27 present & 6 absent. Dr. Garfield left briefly @ 8:19pm with 26 present and returned at 8:58 to 27 present. Chuck Maginnis @ 9:11pm left briefly and returned.
- 2. Motion:** Approval of September 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes **Moved** by Cathy; **Seconded** by Larry; **24/0/0; passed.**
Motion: Approval of October 28, 2020 Meeting Agenda (later added to the agenda) **Moved** by Ellen; **Seconded** by Cathy; **26/0/0; passed.**
- 3. Public Comments:**
Jamie Hall thanked Councilmember Ryu who co-sponsored a motion with Paul Koretz for a 30x30 Initiative, to preserve a minimum of 30% of the world’s land & water by 2030; and, the Governor has issued an executive order committing California to that goal. Jamie brought it to the CM’s attention and would like this turned into law. CF #20-1375 <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1375>

[7:11 Bob Schlesinger arrived] [Marcia Hobbs arrived at 7:12]

Wendy Morris gave update that the task force sent recommendations to the FAA; response won’t help re Burbank Airport. She and Mindy have each donated \$500 to SOSLA to help fund law suit against the FAA, based on a successful one with similar criteria lodged in Phoenix.

Pamela Pierson raised issues on Measure HH including but not limited to that the LA County’s District 3, via Parks & Rec, has an MOU that allocates \$930,000/annum exclusively for District 3 Parks & Operation. She reviewed the cumulative costs of parcel taxes since 2012 and asked, where is the budget proposal and accounting for the existing funds. She referenced a letter in 2014 stating that the MRCA shall maintain accounting and employment records and asked if the funds are being appropriated for other areas. She asked who comprises the strict citizen oversight committee, noting that of the four board members on MRCA, nobody represents LA County. She noted that we need to know why we have to pay for private CPA auditing for FY 2015 and 2017, so we have a little more transparency managing tax revenue.

Mindy Mann related, regarding airplane noise, we don’t know where the lawsuit is going to go; if we don’t sue we for sure will suffer and it will only get worse; it is our only remedy. It’s just getting worse; some days it feels like the jets are landing in our back yard. She hopes this will lead somewhere.

Don Loze noted that his neighbors have asked him to talk to Robert Ringler to remind him to discuss with the LAPD with regard to noise and speeding in the canyon, asked at the WRAC meeting. He noted that they haven’t heard from anyone at WRAC and asked Robert to please call him.

4. **Special Presentation on Measure HH from Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority:** Guest Speakers Deputy Executive Officer & Ranger, Walt Young, Chief of Operations & Ranger, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning, Paul Edelman

Paul Edelman, MRCA's Chief of Natural Resources and Planning spoke on MRCA's efforts to preserve lands in the areas in which they operate; that HH is a funding measure to do more than what MRCA does in this area, e.g., buy land, fight development to get conservation easements, clear brush in parkland, and that they are the agency for open space in this area. HH will allow them to have a bigger budget for land acquisition, more patrol, fire prevention, and ability to comment on developments and getting conservation easements. This is a \$68 parcel tax, and will replace Measure HH approved in 2012. This money will kick in in 2022. Two things they added: to take care of brush on Mulholland annually, from 405 to 101/Cahuenga Pass, and remap areas to little oases.

- In response to Public Comment above, he noted that MRCA's website shows tax reports from community facilities' districts, auditors' reports and color pie charts on how the money was spent.
- As to Prop A funds for the County, he noted that MRCA gets a little bit of that money, which can only be used on a very select number of projects and provides zero acquisition money in the Santa Monica Mountains.
- As to the Citizen's Oversight Committee, they have Marion Dodge (Hillside Federation), Stacy Sillons (Nichols Canyon) and Andrew Laskin (Sherman Oaks), who meet. They met a month ago to talk about finances.
- HH gives more tools and if it doesn't pass, in 1-1/2 years they'll have less money when existing funds go away.

Walt Young, MRCA's Deputy Executive Officer & Ranger discussed the Ranger Program's history, noting that due to COVID, we're nearly back to Square One. As to Friday and Saturday nights, when he started, the various districts came into being and were able to do something significant; it was community driven to go seven nights a week instead of two nights a week. For red flag, they were a 24-hour operation. They have been able to resolve thorny issues such as brushing; to which standards? City standards? He noted that the program is in danger of falling off if funding falls off. He listed shortfalls:

- Brushing on Mulholland controversy: Who is responsible: The City of LA? If the measure passes, they will clear roadsides and will take preventative step to protect everybody. They will run water, create a green barrier against accidental or intentional fire starting.
 - They have one car out 7 nights a week, east of 405 to Jerry Daniel Overlook. The funding measure will provide for weekends and holidays to have a second car up there.
 - He noted that a lot of new folks have discovered Mulholland while bars on Sunset are closed. They'll use additional funding to put a 2nd car up there to more effectively patrol problem areas, east & west of Laurel Canyon.
 - In addition to law enforcement, they are also wild land firefighters. The district benefits from the agency's fire program that goes out on other people's fires at the beginning of the season. They were deployed six weeks.
- [Philip Enderwood arrived at 7:38]*

Q&A followed:

- Chuck asked who votes on HH, to which we were told those in the area from 405 to Griffith Park/Sunset & Franklin South/North a quarter mile south of Ventura Blvd. and into Ventura Blvd. Studio City; and that 33,000 people, only residents are affected by this. It is only for developed parcels; no charge for vacant parcels.
- Jamie thanked Paul for guiding the Laurel Canyon Land Trust, and that as to open space acquisition, this is the agency that is doing the work and is the primary funding source.
- Wendy asked about street racing, to which Robert Ringler noted that LAPD Traffic divisions have been downgraded and it is hard to enforce; resources are especially thin.
- Don would like to get together with the LAPD to see if they can find a way to support things that they don't currently have, important to his community. LAPD discussed people stopping and congregating at 9:00pm. In the 1980's they issued tickets.
- Walt noted that it is not the same as LAPD enforcing. They can't get involved unless they are at Universal.
- Pamela Pierson would like to make sure the record is correct, stating that they are omitting mentioning 2016 Measure GG, which misrepresents the amount they want for 2020 and we are now paying for all three of these 10-year bonds simultaneously for a total of \$127/year.
- Additionally, Pamela noted that CD5 has made assurances that that none of this funding would be for land acquisition. Jamie Hall countered that.
- Pamela provided examples where the MRCA funds are not being utilized to perform routine maintenance of the parks, specifically, brush clearance and irrigation, and that CD5 has utilized their funds to perform brush clearance on the MRCA parks, despite MRCA's assertion that HH funds will be utilized to maintain city-owned properties for brush clearance.

5. **Representatives of Elected Officials & City Agencies:** Robin noted that Janet Turner sent an email that Ted Lieu is having a Conversation with Veterans Event on Sunday 11/08 @ 2:00pm. Dan Palmer is a Vet.

6. **Reports of Officers**

- a) President – Robin Greenberg
- b) Vice President of Operations – Ellen Evans related that if anybody needs help figuring out how to get to the Google Drive docs, let her know. She noted that we have a lot more committees now, and are sending too many blasts to our constituents; she asked committee chairs with meetings on the 2nd week of November to have agendas in by Nov. 5th. Ellen has created at CIS request form and asked that you please read her emails.
- c) Vice President of Legislative Affairs – Jamie Hall
- d) Secretary – Robert Ringler
- e) Treasurer – Jacqueline Le Kennedy (Update, Discussion & Possible Action)
 - i. **Motion:** Approval of September 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (Attachment B) **Moved** by Jacqueline; **Seconded** by Robert Ringler: **23 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; 3 ineligible; passed.**
- f) Assistant Treasurer – Nickie Miner

Reports of Standing Committees (Discussion, Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)

7. **Executive Committee -- Robin Greenberg, Chair**

- a) **Update/Report by Chair:** The Executive Committee had its regular monthly meeting on Zoom on Wednesday October 8th and a Special meeting on Zoom on October 22, 2020 regarding PLU item under #9.b.

8. **Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee – Larry Leisten, Chair**

- a) **Update/Report by Chair:** *Discussed at the Executive Committee Meeting on October 8th:*

- b) **NC Election Worksheet Due November 13th (Attachment C)**

Discussion & Possible Motion: That the BABCNC Board choose a primary and alternate location for mail-in-ballot drop box and times.

- Larry clarified that there will only be one location; the alternate choice is in case the first doesn't work out.

- Larry noted that we are being asked by the City to identify times the drop box will be available to drop off of ballots.

- We have 6-8 hours; could have drop box as early as 9:00 am and as late as 8:00pm; proposed 10:00 to 4 or 5 pm

Motion: Propose to have drop box at the BAA offices at 100 Bel Air Road as primary location with Harvard-Westlake at 700 North Faring Road as Alternate, and drop box for stakeholders to drop off ballots from 10:00 to 4 or 5pm.

Moved by Larry; **Seconded** by Ellen. Cathy feels BAA is too very far for her and time allotted for extremely short. She suggested fire station on Mulholland. Gail Sroloff related that it is fine with BAA but would expand the hours if we do it; make sure to let them know in advance so they could clear out cars. Larry noted that, but for the pandemic and vote by mail, the voting has always been at Harvard-Westlake and clarified that the drop box is not the only way people can vote though we do not yet know the specifics on vote by mail. Drop box will be available on a Tuesday, not a Sunday.

Votes on Primary Choice: BAA: 11 yes; Station #99: 6 yes; Fire Station Coldwater & Mulholland: 0 yes; Harvard-Westlake: 4 yes

Time & Duration: Larry recommends 10:00 to 6:00pm. He noted that NWWNC, a NC, got permission from another NC & DONE approved sharing a facility. We could check with NC & Tree People. **Time 11-7: 15 yes**

Amend Motion: Times: 11 am to 7 pm @ Bel Air Association Office, primary choice; Fire Station #99 as alternate if available. In the event FS #99 is not available, alternate would be Harvard-Westlake School.

Moved by Larry; **seconded** by Mindy; **26 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention:** Philip; **passed.**

- c) **Important NC Election Information: (Attachment D)**

- Candidate Filing Period Begins: Saturday February 6, 2021

- Region 11 – BABCNC Election Date: Tuesday June 8, 2021

9. **Planning & Land Use Committee –Robert (Bob) Schlesinger, Chair & Stephanie Savage, Vice Chair**

- a) **Update/Report by Chair(s):**

- b) **On Monday October 26, 2020, the PLU Committee held a Special Meeting on Zoom regarding an appeal of 10701 Bellagio Road & 627 Carcassonne Road; DIR-2020-4145-BSA; DBS-200035-DCP & DBS-200037, and the following actions were recommended to the BABCNC board:**

[Shawn Bayliss recused himself from the meeting.] Stephanie noted two motions were passed at the special meeting:

- i. **Discussion, Update & Possible Motion:** BABCNC Executive Committee voted on 10-22-2020 to withdraw a letter of appeal dated 10-07-2020 sent by BABCNC PLU Chair to the ZA for a hearing appeal held on 10-08-2020, and referred this to the PLU Committee. The PLU Committee voted unanimously on 10-26-2020 to withdraw the letter, as moved by Leslie and seconded by Jason. (**Attachment N**)
Moved by Stephanie; **Seconded** by Cathy W. **Discussion:** Bob noted that we asked for an extension of three weeks, so they can bring back documents requested, have them back at PLU meeting and return to our board meeting on the 18th of November. Don asked, and per Bob, Ben said he will keep the file open. Stephanie requested from the Planner who will ask the ZA to keep the file open. Yves expressed concern, noting that he is defending the bank and the defaulting owner. Don noted that his support of the vote at the PLU Committee was only if Ben Reznik will keep the file open. Jamie noted need to withdraw that letter for due process as the board didn't approve that letter. Ellen noted there was an extensive discussion Monday and called for the question, which was seconded by Travis; **21 yes; 0 opposed; 5 Abstained:** Don, Yves, Mindy, Robert S., Larry; **1 recused:** Shawn.
- ii. **Update:** Motion to consider taking a position on the appeal regarding 10701 Bellagio Road & 627 Carcassonne Road; DIR-2020-4145-BSA; DBS-200035-DCP & DBS-200037: **Continued until further information provided.**
- c) **On Tuesday October 13, 2020, the PLU Committee met on Zoom, and the following actions were recommended to the BABCNC board:**
- i. **Discussion & Possible Motions for Community Impact Statement on Council File #20-1101**
Hillside Construction Regulation (HCR) Supplemental Use District (SUD) / Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFSZ) / Council District 4 Hillside / Citywide / Ordinance Amendment
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1101>
Full Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1101_mot_09-01-2020.pdf (**Attachment E**)
Consideration of a Motion introduced by Councilmember Ryu which concludes: I THEREFORE MOVE that the Planning Department prepare and present an amendment to the Hillside Construction Regulation Supplemental Use District that will standardize the definition and comprehensively map all recommended locations for the HCR SUD Citywide. I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department, prepare and present an amendment to the Hillside Construction Regulation Supplemental Use District to include the HCR overlay in all Council District 4 hillside parcels which feature high concentrations of active construction, substandard streets, restricted ingress and egress, below average emergency response times, lack of pedestrian infrastructure and location in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones; specifically including, but not limited to the communities of Bowmont Hazen, and Coldwater Canyon. I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the Planning Department to add the HCR SUD to all hillside and VHFSZ parcels to the map of proposed zoning changes as part of Hollywood Community Plan Update.
Motion: To write a CIS of support; **Moved** by Nickie; **seconded** by Jamie; **13/0/0; passed**
Moved by Cathy; **Seconded** by Yves. Bob noted that he has been working on this with the Coldwater Canyon; this will finally be brought into the HCR, which he feels is long overdue. [*Jamie recused himself.*]
24 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; 1 recusal: Jamie; **passed.**
- ii. **Discussion & Possible Motion for Community Impact Statement on Council File # 20-1098**
Baseline Hillside Ordinance (BHO)/Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (BMO) / Updates
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1098>
Full Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1098_mot_09-01-2020.pdf (**Attachment F**)
Consideration of a Motion introduced by Councilmember Ryu to update the Baseline Mansionization and Baseline Hillside Ordinances – “Banning Housing Loss Through Mansionization and Capping the Size of Single Family Homes”
The motion concludes: I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of City Planning close the loophole allowing McMansions in multifamily zones and prepare an update to the BHO and BMO to apply the same restrictions applicable to homes in single family zones to all new and substantially remodeled single family residences in all multi-family zones, and ban construction of a new single family home where two or more units of housing were demolished at the site in the last 5 years. I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of City Planning update the BHO and BMO to establish a maximum size for all new single family residences built in the City of Los Angeles. The Department shall report back with an analysis of current median sizes of single family housing types Citywide, and how the recommended maximum amount will further equity and environmental sustainability.
Motion: To write a CIS of support; **Moved** by Jamie; **seconded** by Bob; **13/0/0; passed**
Moved by Stephanie; **Seconded** by Bob; Philip thinks it is quite burdensome on the developers.
22 yes; 1 no; 2 abstentions: Chuck and Andre; **passed.**

- iii. **Discussion & Possible Motions for Community Impact Statement on Council File # 20-1175: Property Owners and Financial Institutions / Order to Abate Vacant Structure / Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) / Sections 91.8904 et seq / Written Notice**
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1175>
Full motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1175_mot_09-15-2020.pdf (Attachment G)
Consideration of a Motion introduced by Councilmember Koretz asking for Enforcement of Ordinance. Motion concludes:

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), be REQUESTED to notify property owners AND financial institutions that carry a mortgage on the property via written correspondence when LADBS issues an Order to Abate Vacant Structure for violations of LAMC 91.8904 et seq, AND warn they could be subject to fines, criminal prosecution, and recovery of city abatements costs through a lien against the property, if corrective action is not taken prior to the compliance date on a LADBS Order. I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney and the Department of Building and Safety, be REQUESTED to report with recommendations and the necessary resources to begin issuing ACE citations for violations of LAMC 91.8904 et seq, that are not corrected prior to the Compliance Date on a LADBS Order.

Motion: To write a CIS of support; **Moved** by Jamie; **seconded** by Cathy; **13/0/0; passed.**

Moved by Ellen; **Seconded** by Bob; Stephanie doesn't see this happening in LC area. Philip noted that at Sunset & Bellagio, we have had at least two properties with squatters. But the fact that the CA will issue fines, that is difficult in this COVID situation; people don't have the money to develop their properties currently.

24 yes; 1 No; 0 abstentions; passed.

10. **Outreach Committee** – Ellen Evans, Chair

- a) **Update/Report by Chair: The committee met on Zoom on Monday October 12, 2020.** Ellen noted that they are starting to work on election strategies, a board member tool kit, and that everyone can help with outreach. She will ask people to make videos and noted that EmpowerLA has been asking people to make videos. We should promote the election. Ellen noted that the blood drive has been approved for 12-06-2020. She'll send promo, a newsletter. Ellen attended a Zoom call today that virtual events no longer need an event form. We can have as many town halls or story hours from now on.

- Irene mentioned hearing on the WLAPD Zoom call about positive things to do for the LAPD and suggested we could do outreach on this. Robert related that the WLAPD Zoom call had the West Bureau Psychologist who spoke on morale issues during a low time for the officers, and agreed with Irene's idea.

11. **Public Works and Telecommunications Committee** – Patricia Murphy, Chair

- a) **Update/Report by Chair: The committee met on Zoom on Friday October 15, 2020.**

12. **Emergency Preparedness Committee** – Chuck Maginnis, Chair, led the Zoom room in a salute to the flag. He noted that he had to cancel the meeting scheduled on Veteran's day, and discussed other dates. We will hear from Jarrett on red-flag signs.

13. **Traffic Committee** Irene Sandler, Chair

14. **Budget & Finance Committee** – Nickie Miner, Chair – Absent

Reports by Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees

15. **Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinance Enforcement** – Savage & Evans, Co-Chairs

On Thursday October 15th the Committee met on Zoom and the following was recommended to the BABCNC board:

Discussion and Possible Motion: To approve the party house handbook with suggested revisions for presentation to the board. **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Nic; **9/0/0; passed. (Attachment H)**

- Ellen gave update on the Home Sharing and Party House Enforcement event, wherein they identified key gaps in legislation; will work to close those gaps, brainstorm, research, and bring a motion for proposed amendments to the Party House Ordinance or new legislation. She noted that you can do event rentals, not part of home sharing, even though it creates party houses. There are things to work on legislatively and out of that they are doing a party-house handbook.

Moved by Ellen; **Seconded** by Cathy; **25/0/0; passed.** Maureen Levinson gave comment that Bob Duenas said we need to call B&S to lodge a complaint if a property is having an event; it's a B&S issue: how to report B&S contact for those homes functioning as events as opposed to home sharing.

16. **Ad-Hoc Committee on Environmental Issues** – Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair

17. **Ad-Hoc Committee regarding Continuing Teleconference Meetings after Safer-At-Home Order** – Jamie Hall, Chair

New Business: (Discussion & Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)

- 18. Presentation, Discussion and Possible Motion on Proposed BONC Digital Media Policy.** The proposed policy is attached along with a proposed response. (**Attachments I & J**) – **Ellen Evans, BABCNC VP of Operations**
- Ellen related items in the proposed policy for those that didn't read it; noted a lot of overreach.
 - Cathy related that she read the entire thing and noted that 9.2 references the use of the NC info on additional sites, so that it wouldn't allow us to use the information on our HOA site. Ellen suggests that they use their doc as a template and have us make our own digital policy.
 - Larry referenced NCs that have requested guidance; that this is an effort by BONC and DONE to encroach on NCs; a slippery slope; not in the charter. Asked if she is aware of the events that led to this.
 - Ellen noted that they narrowly construe our purpose. They just want us to publicize meetings.
 - Irene noted that we have a lot more than meetings; we have results. It's possibly misuse of others; they can't tie our hands. They've asked us to do outreach.
- Motion:** That we accept the letter submitted **moved** by Ellen; **seconded** by Heather; **24/0/1** Philip abstained; **passed**.
- 19. Toyon & Mexican Elderberry to the Protected Tree Ordinance – Open Spaces Representative, Travis Longcore, Ph.D. Discussion & Possible Motion and/or Amended CIS** in response to the October 14, 2020 report from StreetsLA on the addition of Toyon and Mexican Elderberry to the Protected Tree Ordinance.
New StreetsLA Staff Report https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2013/13-1339_rpt_BOSS_10-14-2020.pdf (**Attachment K**)
Council File #13-1339 <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=13-1339>
Council File Title: Mexican Elderberry / Toyon / Adding to Protected Tree
- Travis related that we already have a CIS. There has been some action by staff within the City that is inconsistent with our recommendation. They have weakened things, proposing to allow replacements for the protected new trees, toyon and elderberry to be made with other species. Travis seeks permission of the board, he has drafted a CIS that reiterates that 1) we'd like to measure the threshold for the triggering this ordinance for these species the same way as in the previous letter, which staff has recommended against, and 2) that we are opposed to replacing an elderberry with a toyon and vice versa.
- Moved** by Travis; **Seconded** by Jamie. Discussion included a comment from Jamie who wants them to pass the ordinance but wants a good ordinance; asks how we might mitigate them shelving this in light of our comments. Travis prefers to take the opportunity to engage through a process.
- Public Comment:** Linda Whitford concurred with Travis; does not want people to think that if we comment upon it, the City just delays. She doesn't believe this will happen this time, and believes that we have an obligation to the trees to speak the truth and give them the type of protection they deserve. Her reading of the staff report is that their suggestion of replacing at out of kind encourages him to adjust the language to not speak only of replacement of shrubs in kind but all of the species. Travis agrees but tries to limit the things in the ordinance. He can add a preamble statement to encourage them not to delay any further in passing the amendment. **24 yes; 1 no; Wendy; 0 abstentions; passed.**
- 20. Measure HH:** To consider the new staff recommendation and take a formal position (**Attachment L**) – **J. Hall / T. Longcore**
- Jamie is fully in support of HH, the MRCA is working tirelessly on our behalf to acquire local open space, write letters when we need support and need their expertise to show up at hearings and to patrol along Mulholland; fighting fires for us. Very few people have an MRCA; a supplement in a way to LAPD. \$68.00/year/parcel is nothing. They have been a reliable partner. Travis agrees.
- Public Comment: Pamela Pierson** noted that Jarrett from CD5 told her that none of this funding would be utilized for land acquisition. Jamie disagreed with this. She noted that they have been receiving \$930,000 a year only for the parks in District 3, and asks are you indeed utilizing those parcel tax revenues to care for the well-circumscribed area that you are telling us they are to be addressing. Her concern is that the funds are being deferred to other purposes and or other areas to supplement. MRCA has contracts to take care of Franklin Canyon but that is in a National Park Service; we should not have any of these funds utilized to maintain Franklin Park or west of the 405. She opined that the accounting is not transparent; it is tax money that should be 100% accountable. She opined that we don't have representation; we don't have accounting of the funds that are already allocated from the County and from the existing bond issues and they are not doing the job that they are asking us for more money to do. **Steven Weinberg**, who is part of an organization called Hillsides Against Hadid, spoke in favor of MRCA and gave examples of how they have helped his community.
- Motion:** To support HH; **Moved** by Jamie; **Seconded** by Chuck; **23 yes; 1 no; Irene; 1 abstention;** Larry. Irene disagrees with weighing in on a ballot measure. She noted that she couldn't unmute herself; and her vote is "no."

[Chuck excused himself at 9:11 pm]

- 21. Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) (Discussion & Possible Action, Letter or CIS Submission)**
- a. Update by Representative:** WRAC recommends NCs support following motions from September and October meetings:

- i. **Gut & Amend Motion Discussion & Possible Motion:** Whereas the Sacramento Legislative process known as “gut and amend” eliminates transparency and public participation by misleading the intent and content of the bill being considered, the BABCNC recommends the following reform: Eliminate the “gut and amend” bill process and request the City of Los Angeles include in its Sacramento legislative priorities elimination of the “gut and amend” bill process.
Moved by Robin; **Seconded** by Philip; **24/0/0; passed.**
- ii. **Motion:** To support Council File 20-1213 (Bonin and Koretz) with an amendment to include tsunami zones and those areas subject to certain sea-level rise, in addition to areas of high fire danger:
- Whereas some of the hillside communities of the Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, Bel Air and the Hollywood Hills are located in very high fire hazard severity zones and because many of the streets in these hillside communities are substandard and because many of the most recent fires have started in these hillside communities, forcing evacuations in the early morning and late night hours, and whereas some coastal areas of CD 11 are tsunami zones and/or subject to sea level rise, therefore the Department of City Planning, with assistance from the Emergency Management Department, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and the Los Angeles Fire Department, is directed to report back on the capacity, safety, and viability of existing and potential evacuation routes in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and tsunami zones and those areas subject to sea level rise and to identify the policies and development standards, including land use and building restrictions, necessary to support these evacuation routes. (**Attachment M**) Council File #: 20-1213
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1213>
https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1213_mot_09-22-2020.pdf
Moved by Robin; **Seconded** by Cathy; **24/0/0; passed.**
- iii. **Motion:** To support and include for official input to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning in reference to the WRAC Member Community Plan updates, a delay of 6 months due to COVID 19 and restrictions related to public access, meetings and participation and further request the following:
- An appropriate assessment of how the COVID 19 and future pandemics will impact current and future mobility, housing, design, environmental and health and safety needs and concerns,
- Current and future data projections relevant to the task of updating all WRAC member Community Plans,
- Incorporation of an additional step in the Community Plan update timeline that allows for presentation of the staff draft plan and an associated public comment period, or a second and revised concept plan phase. Allocation of time for staff to review public comments and incorporate changes to reflect input prior to issuing any NOP for the start of the environmental review process. It is improper to issue an NOP and conduct a DEIR for a draft plan that the community has had neither the chance to see or review.
- Thorough public outreach is a must and should include all stakeholders. The Planning Department has not allocated proper time or resources, and City Council must do so moving forward so that no stakeholders are left uninformed about the process.
Moved by Robin; **Seconded** by Larry; Travis noted that there was a presentation at WRAC’s PLU meeting addressing WLA and Mar Vista, etc. His impression was we don’t see our input in your plan at all; we see things we didn’t ask for; you are nowhere near putting this. This presentation with people who put in genuine effort from the WRAC community NCs, want to slow this down and have you listen to this community. Cathy noted that this is a motion to slow the current community plans down and not be rushed, because they are not getting out to the actual communities for comment.
24/0/0; passed.

22. Reports from BABCNC Representatives, Liaisons, Budget Advocate, Budget Representative

23. **Good of the Order:** Jamie noted that the LCA had its annual meeting last night with 80 people on Zoom; they conducted elections on Zoom; it went very well. He encouraged your organizations to do it. They had the City Attorney, Mike Feuer, and Neighborhood Prosecutor, Ethan Weaver, who announced filing criminal misdemeanor charges against a party house. Wendy thanked Ellen and Jamie who are doing excellent jobs and that it makes a difference to the NC to have those positions.

24. Adjournment: 9:24 pm.

Next Board Meeting Wednesday November 18th @ 7:00pm