



Building A Better Community

BABCNC Traffic Committee Minutes

Tuesday June 19, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bel Air Crest Clubhouse 11701 Bel Air Crest Road

1. Call to Order with Roll Call & Introduction of Attendees: 8 present; 2 absent.

| Name | P | A | Name | P | A |
|----------------------|---|---|--------------------|---|---|
| Irene Sandler, Chair | X | | Robin Greenberg | X | |
| Larry Leisten | | X | André Stojka | X | |
| Robinson Farber | X | | Leslie Weisberg | | X |
| Pamela Pierson, MD | X | | Patricia Templeton | X | |
| Kathy Copcutt | X | | Maureen Smith | X | |

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of June 19, 2018 Agenda

4. Approval of March 13, 2018 Minutes

5. Public Comments – Patricia Hearst provided a Metro Printout “Next Stop: Exploring alternatives to the 405.” Pamela thanked CD4 for their efforts as to the tour buses; there are now signs and she saw two motorcycle police issuing citations.

6. Chair’s Report – Irene Sandler

7. Representatives of Elected City Officials and Agencies (Reports, Updates & Discussion)

Daniel Eyal, CD4 Deputy Representative: Daniel was asked about the weed whacker ordinance, moved by Paul Koretz and seconded by David Ryu, which the Councilmember is in favor of. He discussed recent traffic mitigations that CM Ryu and DOT implemented, noting that a lot of our small streets have become thoroughfares. The CM has been working with DOT, FD, MECA, schools on Mulholland and the residents as to the issue with the Western Sherman Oaks Hills to mitigate traffic 7-9am & 4-7pm. He provided copies of the letter showing streets to be mitigated. Irene noted that we were not invited to vote though we share the border; 50% voted against, though the CM voted for this. Irene is concerned about what precedent this would set and asked how it will affect Bel Air. Daniel related that they have planned installation of right-turn only lane, Woodcliff at Valley Vista. He related that they consulted with a survey to CD4 and CD5, met with residents in CD5, particularly off Beverly Glen, south of Mulholland. Robin noted that there was written documentation by this NC. The BABCNC Board took a vote on this and sent a letter. On April 17, the Councilmember announced that because of lack of enforceability they are not moving forward with this plan. The plan we weighed in on was the second iteration which was more broad. This plan (14 mitigations) is more limited.

OFFICERS

President
Robin Greenberg
Vice President
Nickie Miner
Treasurer
Jacqueline Le Kennedy
Secretary
Robert Ringler

COMMITTEES

Executive
Bylaws, Rules and Elections
Planning and Land Use
Outreach and Education
Emergency Preparedness
Traffic Committee

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Bel-Air Crest Master Association
Bel Air Hills Association
Bel Air Ridge Association
Benedict Canyon Association
Casiano Estates Association
Laurel Canyon Association
Holmy Hills Homeowners Association
Residents of Beverly Glen
RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

Bel Air District
Bel Air Glen District
Franklin-Coldwater District
North of Sunset District
OTHER
At-Large Members
Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts
Custodians of Open Space
Faith-Based Institutions
Public & Private Schools

Joyce Page from Roscomare asked about WAZE owned by Google. Daniel noted that a town in NJ put barriers up to local access; however, it is not possible here. Travis noted that we have primary, secondary and tertiary roads with different purpose. He asked, why is it okay to use tertiary roads as primary roads? What is wrong with saying tertiary roads are off limits? He encouraged us to speak to Senator Allen or Assemblyman Bloom. Daniel would like to have discussion with WAZE and has tried many times; they say that these are public streets, and will send users down those streets. Councilmember Ryu has tried to engage with WAZE. He asked City Attorney Feuer and threatened a lawsuit against them (constitutional questions associated with that.) He reports that WAZE is starting to come to the table.

Ms. Page noted that there are signs limiting trucks over certain weights but there is no enforcement. Pamela Pierson recommended that WAZE pay a higher tax and not just harvest revenue from our tax paying on those roads. Irene commented we have just had a fire and WAZE does not consider that there is a fire.

Travis has not researched the vehicle code but these technologies are using public investment to make money and get special treatment. Uber, Airbnb, Bird scooters, use a business model pattern to extract the maximum money for companies at the expense of public and/or worker; that WAZE causes a public nuisance, causes public safety problems.

Bird Scooters wants to use the public's space to make a lot of money. These technologies providing conveniences are coming at a great cost; that it is incumbent on the council members to push back and say "No: You are causing a public nuisance and public safety hazard. We have to act as a city and put pressure on the state; don't ask us to speak to the state."

Patricia Templeton, Traffic Chair of BAHA, attorney, related that she has researched the vehicle code, has done her own surveys as to how many cars are using WAZE at any given time. She could share some options for not using the tiny tertiary streets. Fire trucks will not be able to put fires out. We have to put safety first.

Andre related that the city is not doing its part to use the technology. Daniel related that they are trying to compel WAZE to be edited by Brian Gallagher but was told the person has to be a level 6 editor.

Kathy Copcutt asked if the city can hire an independent contractor to help WAZE. Andre agreed with need to hire somebody to deal with WAZE and work out a system. Daniel suggested this be done by LADOT.

Daniel recommended going to Mike Feuer, City Attorney, as his constituent; ask Rob Wilcox, his public affairs person, to come to the NC to speak about this.

Irene wrapped up this discussion – Pamela related that there was an item on the transportation committee last week; you need four councilmembers who cover the hillsides to get together and talk among themselves to present a front to the Mayor, and need the City Attorney to represent us, and the press to get it out there.

Irene related that we as a committee may need to create some motions to bring to the board. Suggestion to have councilmembers find out the tax benefit to the City from WAZE.

- a) Aviv Kleinman, CD5 Planning Deputy: **Not present**
- b) **Gregory Martayan, CD5 Public Safety Deputy:** Telephone Conversation was held between the committee and Gregory on subjects including:
 - Greg will get back to us about the weed whacker ordinance; brush clearance documentation must be present at the job site. The new ordinance will include the types of blades.
 - Pamela asked if there could be increased surveillance of the landscape workers, by park rangers. Greg noted that it's not easy to track it. They have a telephone line for complaints.
 - Kathy Copcutt asked about missing tow-away signs on the 700-750 block of Nimes.

c) **Update from Gabriella Garry, MRCA on the Mission Canyon Trailhead Park General Update sent by Gabriella Garry via Email:**

“Internal comments for the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) DRAFT have been gathered from County, County Sanitation Districts, and MRCA. The internal comments provided also took into consideration the input gathered from the two community meetings, letters from associations, and ongoing general comments MRCA has been receiving. MRCA has a meeting scheduled with the consult to review all comments this week. It should take 3-4 weeks to revise the MND. As soon as comments and edits have been incorporated, we will be ready to release it to the public for office comment. The public comment period will be 4 weeks. I anticipate end of July. I will continue to update the group as tasks move forward.”

- Irene gave update; report will be out in July. Irene noted a traffic study will be done on Mulholland because of parking for the park and regarding trails leading up to Berggruen’s property.

d) West Traffic Officer Ernie Schoop or Ryan Basaker – to address specific traffic issues: **Not present**

8. Discussion & Possible Motion to formulate a position and write a letter on E-Scooters such as “Bird” in Los Angeles, to recommend for BABCNC approval. Discussion headed up by Travis Longcore, Ph.D. **City Council File # 17-1125 -- The Dockless Scooter – May 18th**

Travis introduced the subject of the dockless bike scooter share pilot program proposed by DOT which would in effect legalize these. He noted issues, starting with safety; technically as powered vehicles, they are only allowed to be ridden on the streets with a helmet, not to be used on sidewalks. The proposal doesn’t address that but they need to put information on the scooters as to how they’re supposed to be used. The 2nd issue: They are dumped everywhere. The proposal indicates that they should be left in the “furniture zone” between the curb and the sidewalk; left standing up and the company is supposed to pick them up every night. They are not supposed to be in driveways, on private property and within crosswalks. These providers would become contractors of the city and share their data with the city; to help the city achieve their AQMD goals; e.g. number of trips in alternative vehicles to show that they have carbon-free transportation. The proposal includes provision for the bike share program. Question is: Is the contract to park in a city strip a good use of public space, and are they safe? They are only supposed to be used by people over 18 with a driver’s license.

André recalls the red-car streetcar line, which didn’t cost, and feels we shouldn’t protect the city’s income from bicycle rentals; likes the idea but should control it; feels public safety is an issue; wouldn’t stop the industry, just feels it needs to be controlled. Patricia thinks it could solve the “last-mile” problem; feels helmets would take away the last mile solution but the company should be able to tell by GPS if they’re being used incorrectly and could use a tall flag. Feels it needs a considerable amount of regulation for safety but could help solve problem to help people use public transportation. Pamela noted that tourists won’t follow the rules. Patricia recommended having the credit cards charged for violations. Irene and Travis noted that the city is bringing back a bicycle registration system.

Ms. Page asked about the tax to the city. Travis related that the city is indemnified and picks up no liability, with annual permit fee of \$500 and annual vehicle fee of \$50 per vehicle; no fee for permit review,among other fees. Travis asked what the committee would like to do about this. Irene opined that we are not far enough along to make a motion.

Travis reiterated 1) though it is state law, the importance of identifying an enforcement mechanism so they are used according to state vehicle code; 2) universal belief they should be on the street and not the sidewalk; 3) question if leaving them on city strip is okay or needing docks. He recommended writing a letter about concerns about safety and need to be on the streets, to have an enforcement mechanism, and that these require docks, noting that the public is giving up its space for a private enterprise plus there is an aesthetic issue. If we say we need docks, we are not talking about this program. They don’t have to invest anything in the public infrastructure: there is no planning process, no community engagement; they dump

them where they want to dump them. Patricia would recommend contacting Beverly Hills or Santa Monica, to see what they're doing. Culver City City Council is debating an ordinance and what to put in their ordinance. Seattle, DC, Palo Alto, San Francisco Bellflower, St Louis... among others, were have looked at this. ...would be supportive of a pilot provided detailed enforceable.

Proposed Motion: We have concerns that the safety issues need to be adequately addressed and docks investment in the public realm are necessary to do this on public easements.

Irene related that we are concerned about the popup program of dockless scooters in CD5 and we want to pursue working with our council offices. Patricia recommended sending letters to council offices and asking what information they have on this. Patricia recommends doing a letter of inquiry that the subject has come up and the transportation committee would like more information from Santa Monica, Culver City, and Beverly Hills. Irene suggested we may develop a template, and asked if Travis could come back.

9. Discussion & Possible Motion: To recommend BABCNC Board request council members to follow up on request for "report backs" regarding metal weed-whacker ordinance. See Council File #09-1977-S2 <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=09-1977-S2>
Moved by Robin; seconded by Andre; 6 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; approved.

10. Discussion & Possible Motion: To recommend BABCNC Board to see that the LAFD's VHFHSZ Homeless Encampment Identification and Notification Program is enforced.
- Irene related that we have an encampment that is not on MRCA, LA City, LAFD, etc.
- Patricia asked that we find out what the laws are about homeless encampments & then have a discussion.
- Irene would ask CD4 and CD5 to come to our next meeting and report on that.
- Pamela noted that the Assessor's office will have the parcel information.
- Discussed bringing goats back and forth. See link:
<https://www.lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush/homeless-encampment-survey-fact-sheet>

11. Discussion & Possible Motion to recommend to the Board to support Paul Koretz's motion with a CIS to encourage navigations apps being in communication with city departments during evacuation orders.
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=17-1407>
Moved by Robin; seconded by Andre; 6 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; approved.

12. Update on the May 17 meeting at Leo Baeck Temple regarding the Boring Project.
Irene gave brief update that Mr. Musk has offered a visit. Pamela recommended a simpler way to get to the airport. Discussion was held about seismic activity that could impact this. Irene noted that our councilmembers are sponsoring them to go ahead without CEQA. Robin has spoken with Jen and would invite her. Patricia saw the link: pros and cons of monorail versus the tunnel; shooting for 2028. Feels we do not have enough information.

13. Update and Review of the Benedict Canyon closure

14. Good of the Order:

- André will write a letter from BABCNC to Mo with request that he look at bottom of Beverly Glen and Greendale and backup on Sunset Boulevard and send a separate letter to Greg Martayan.
- There was some discussion about signage at Woodcliff and Valley Vista.

15. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 1:08 pm

Next meeting TBD