

**TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
DRAFT MINUTES
September 20, 2023
6:30 P.M.**

**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Kroll called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Kroll led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Alexander Bazley, Adam Darvish, David Eichman, Jessica Harris, Kimberly Winick, Vice Chair Dan Wentzel, and Chair Adam Kroll

**Commissioner Bazley arrived after the official Roll Call at 6:46pm.*

Also Present:

David Fenn, Senior Planner

Walter Davis, Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Specialist

Richard Garland, Principal Traffic Engineer

Paige Portwood, Associate Planner

Coby Wagman, Parking Operations Supervisor

Gabriele Gonzales, Administrative Specialist III

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

SUBJECT: The Transportation Commission is requested to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Eichman requested the meeting adjourned in honor of John Altschul

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Eichman to approve the September 20, 2023 Agenda, seconded by Vice Chair Wentzel and approved.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

SUBJECT: The Transportation Commission is requested to approve the minutes of prior Transportation Commission meeting.

ACTION: Approve the minutes of August 16, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Darvish, seconded by Chair Kroll and approved.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mikie Friedman, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility.

Patrick Blood, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility Pilot Program.

6. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: None.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR: None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS: No item

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Overview

The Commission received a presentation from Walter Davis, Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Specialist.

*Richard Garland, Principal Traffic Engineer mentions the City recently completed a speed zone survey to validate our speed limits.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, Expressed concerns regarding bike lanes on Fountain Avenue.

Manny Rodriguez, WEST HOLLYWOOD, thanked Walter for his help with previous neighborhood traffic calming efforts in the WeHo West area in reducing speed and cut through traffic issues.

The Commission commented on the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

Commissioner Eichman

- Asked for clarification on example given in presentation of in road warning lights, if the same lights as those at Crescent Heights and Norton
- Asked for clarification for when a petition process is triggered and when a neighborhood meeting would occur.

Vice Chair Wentzel

- Asked for clarification on funding for this program.
- Inquired if when something is installed that it is first a pilot project rather than permanent.
- Inquired if there is something or someone in place that makes sure various related City programs are operating in harmony (for example, Vision Zero, First Last Mile, Bike/Ped Plan, Neighborhood Traffic Calming).
- Inquired on operational procedure if more than one jurisdiction is required for street improvement between cities.
- Asked for a copy of PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner Darvish

- inquired about residential streets adjacent to main arteries and the cut-through traffic concerning them and the speed for residential streets and the non-adherence to the speed.
- Asked why reduction of speed on residential streets isn't done and if possible to reduce residential speed from 25mph to 15mph.
- Stated that speeding is a problem and dangerous to public.
- Stated he would like to put on record as a victim of speeding he doesn't think that residential traffic calming measures should not be put in place simply because people won't like them.

Commissioner Winick

- Inquired about the petition process and difficulties for residents to go door to door for signatures on streets with multifamily buildings and access control. Mentioned this was a challenge in the petition process for San Vicente.
- Inquired about considerations on bulb bouts since some versions of these traffic calming measures are not safe for cyclists.
- Mentioned she was more concerned with the speed of traffic on Fountain east of Fairfax as alternate routes exist for bicyclists West of Fairfax.

Commissioner Harris

- Inquired for clarification about the requirement for 51% consensus on traffic calming in the petition process.
- Stated she felt the process seems biased from safety of vulnerable road users and in favor of ease of movement for motorists.
- Inquired why all neighborhood streets aren't considered for traffic calming without a request system.
- Inquired what educational interventions are available.
- Inquired what upgrades will be included with the La Brea pedestrian lights project.
- Inquired if something with more authority, such as red lights, would be possible to encourage motorists to stop at the in road crossing lights on crosswalks. Stated she would like to go on record that traffic delay for red lights at crosswalks is worth the tradeoff for safety.

- Asked for clarification on speed reduction and whether it is just signage or other interventions and would recommend that other interventions be looked at to be integrated whenever speed reduction is introduced.
- Inquired for data on speed lumps versus medians in calming traffic.
- Prefers speed lumps versus medians.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Dockless Mobility Pilot Program Update

The Commission received a report from Paige Portwood, Associate Planner.

**There was a typo in the agenda that read that the Recommendation was "Receive and File" while the staff report for the item read "Recommendation: Receive and Provide Comments". Staff addressed the error and apologized, clarifying that the intent of bringing the item to the Commission was to solicit feedback from the Commission and that the Commission always has the prerogative to provide comments regardless of the staff recommendation in the agenda. Additionally, clarification was provided on the timeframe for the upload of additional materials to the online Linked Agenda (a letter from a Representative of Bird, one of the program operators)*

Clarifying Questions were asked by Commissioners during presentation.

Commissioner Bazley

- Asked for clarification on how fines are measured for ADA violations and how abuse of it is monitored.

Vice Chair Wentzel

- Asked for clarification on automatic fees/fines for riding on the sidewalk.
- Asked to clarify that enforcement of compliance is on Sheriff Department

Commissioner Eichman

- Asked for clarification on how invoicing is done for fines, when the invoices go out and if the operator has an allocated time to dispute the invoice or fine.
- Inquired about the City doing monthly vs. quarterly invoicing.

Commissioner Darvish

- Clarification on technology availability to detect sidewalks.

Commissioner Harris

- Clarification on the reason for the increased number of ebikes/scooters Lime provides.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Croak, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against Dockless Mobility Pilot Program.

Rick Watts, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against Dockless Mobility Pilot program.

Kevin Burton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, Spoke in support of all alternate transportation.

Manny Rodriguez, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility Pilot.

Patrick Blood, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke against the Dockless Mobility Pilot, and Bird's letter and the timeframe of letter being posted. Inquired why Disability and Senior Advisory boards were not consulted.

Cathy Blaivas, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility Pilot.

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility Pilot.

Mikie Friedman, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility Pilot.

The Commission commented on the Dockless Mobility Pilot Program Update and made a motion.

Vice Chair Wentzel

- Asked for clarification that no sidewalk riding is allowed and that the 10mph limitation is only for riding on the street.
- Opposes recommendation to increase the limit from 10mph to 12mph.
- Stated that the fines are not commensurate, and all sidewalks are ADA.
- Would recommend City Council not take any action until they have a full presentation and hearing at the Older Adults Advisory Board and the Disability Advisory Board.
- Stated he is sympathetic with the West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition idea of having alternative modes of travel.
- Stated that he considers delivery robots being different.
- Mentions Bird letter being interesting.

Motion made by Vice Chair Wentzel, seconded by Commissioner Winick

All Aye

- *That the Transportation Commission requests that an update on the **Dockless Mobility Pilot Program** be presented to the Older Adults Advisory Board and the Disability Advisory Board before City Council takes action.*

Motion made by Chair Kroll, seconded by Commissioner Winick

All Aye

- *Request that 1) the City Council postpone their decision on the program so that the Transportation Commission, Disabilities Advisory Board, and Older Adults Advisory Board can receive a full presentation on the program and weigh in and 2) request that staff come back to the Commission with a more expansive update on the program, including as much additional data on the program as possible such as incidents/complaints and fines, program expenditures including staff time and materials, and revenues from program participants.*

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

David Fenn

- Reminded the Commission that Metro is holding community meetings on the Metro K Line Northern Extension project which will bring rail service to West Hollywood.
- Remaining meetings are on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Mall and Tuesday, September 26, 2023 in West Hollywood Aquatic recreation Center at 5pm.
- More details are available online at www.weho.org/metro

12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Vice Chair Wentzel

- Stated that he is now an appointed member of Metro Westside and Central Service Council
- Shared that Metro has a youth council program and it's a young leadership opportunity for ages 14-17.
- Inquired about cul-de-sacs as a traffic calming measure.

Commissioner Eichman

- Attended the Metro La Brea Bus Priority Lanes Opening and met Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass
- Requested that the bike repair station information at Council be provided for Transportation Commission and would like to have the Transportation Commission ability to weigh on bike repair locations.

Commissioner Darvish

- Reiterated that he is upset with the mindset of drivers getting mad being a factor considered in the assessment of consensus for traffic calming.

Commissioner Winick

- Mentioned that given the bicyclists on the Commission they would be interested to provide comment on Bicycle repair station location options

13. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Stephanie Harker, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the delivery robots and stated that they are another ADA compliance issue, aside from the scooter issue.

Rick Watts, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in opposition of the delivery robots and the Dockless Mobility scooters program.

Patrick Blood, WEST HOLLYWOOD, thanked commissioners and staff and spoke in opposition of the Dockless Mobility scooters program.

14. ADJOURNMENT: The Transportation and Mobility Commission adjourned at 9:10 PM in memory of John Altschul to a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 beginning at 6:30 PM at the Community Conference Room, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood 90069.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Transportation and Mobility Commission of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 18th day of October 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner: Bazley, Darvish, Eichman, Harris, Winick and Vice Chair Wentzel

NOES: Commissioner:

ABSENT: Commissioner: Chair Kroll

ABSTAIN: Commissioner:

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DAN WENTZEL, VICE CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

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BOB CHEUNG, COMMISSION LIASION