

Lincoln Blvd. Task Force – August 11, 2012 Minutes

Date: August 11, 2012

Time: 10 AM

Location: Ocean Park Library Conference Room

Attendance

Bob Taylor – Zoning

Conor Libby – Transportation/Pedestrian

Dan Behroozan

David Tann – Code Enforcement

Ellen Hannan

Gloria Garvin – Streetscape/Film

Iris Waskow

Jim Lawson – Neighborhood Council

Maria Rodriguez

Paul Bailey

Paul Kaufman

Robert Gomez

Roger Swanson – Survey

Steve Duron

Susan Grant

Wes Thompson

Zina Josephs – Public Safety

Zorine Rinaldi

Topics Discussed

Welcome – Roger Swanson

- Sign-in sheets circulated for new subcommittee volunteers
- Vision/Purpose Statement: To harness a local, grass-roots effort, using the talents of our community, including artistic, cultural, architectural, and financial expertise, to transform Lincoln Boulevard south of the I-10 freeway into an attractive neighborhood-serving street that reflects the needs and desires of our neighborhoods.
- One of the key guiding principles for the Task Force is to collaborate with the City and avoid confrontation. We need our voices to be heard, but we can and should be civil about it.
- Future Events: See the major event calendar below and visit the OPA website for more information on upcoming meetings and events.

Zoning – Bob Taylor

- See the OPA website, Lincoln page for meeting minutes and other correspondence.
- Discussion:
 - Other General Commercial streets in Santa Monica, Wilshire and Santa Monica Blvd., have a 1.25 FAR (floor area to lot size ratio), whereas Lincoln has a proposed 1.5 FAR base for tier 2
 - Proposed maximum heights with 100% affordable housing:
 - Activity Center at Ocean Park and Lincoln: 57 ft.
 - Along Lincoln: 47 ft.
 - Lincoln is a 100 ft. road with 12 ft sidewalks, essentially the same as Wilshire
 - Alleys behind businesses are only in some blocks
 - Lot consolidation could lead to more traffic being diverted to adjacent parallel streets
 - August 14 City Council agenda had an interim ordinance allowing extension of auto businesses into commercial residential lots. [Bob wrote an email to Council opposing, but it was approved 5-0.]

Code Enforcement – David Tann

- See the OPA website, Lincoln page for the Code Subcommittee report, minutes and other correspondence.
- Discussion:

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- Code Enforcement unit, headed by Joe Trujillo, conducted a full department “sweep” of Lincoln in July south of the I-10 and identified numerous potential code issues supported with photos.
- A general letter was sent to all businesses on Lincoln alerting them that a 30 day clock was starting and compliance citations would begin to be issued for non-conforming business activities, such as: signage, trash, unlicensed business activity, property maintenance, including parkways.
- Questions:
 - Does Code Enforcement cover alleys? Will check with them, but they should be included
 - Are commercial trucks parked on residential streets a violation? Again, will check but should be.
- Comments:
 - Commercial vehicles exceeding 7 ft. are prohibited from parking in residential areas.
 - Since 1984, the City has ignored homeless, gangs and graffiti on Lincoln.

Public Safety – Zina Josephs

- Discussion:
 - Comments by Zina Josephs, supported by five other residents in Sunset Park, suggested adding a new Subcommittee to address the issues posed by social service agencies, such as Common Ground, which should be required under new zoning ordinances to obtain Conditional Use Permits rather than less stringent permitting.
 - Common Grounds in its old location at Bay and the facility at 818 Cedar, which houses OPCC clients, have had 176 Public Safety calls for service in the last three years.
 - Zina Josephs was drafted to chair the Public Safety Subcommittee

Neighborhood Council – Jim Lawson

- Jim will represent the Task Force in addition to representing OPA on the Neighborhood Council. This will enable us to communicate with and gain the support of all Neighborhoods at their monthly meetings.

Transportation/Pedestrian – Conor Libby

- Discussion:
 - Bicycle Action Plan has a twenty-year horizon and progress is quite evident throughout the City.
 - Held meeting with City Staff (Michelle Glickert, Beth Rolandson and Peter James) to discuss the bicycle action plan and implications for Lincoln.
 - BBB Priority Bus Lane (7 to 10 AM, northbound; 4 to 7 PM southbound)
 - Currently scheduled to be implemented in the January-February 2013 timeframe,
 - Opportunity to add “sharrows” in bus lane for commuting bicyclists
 - Priority lane may be vacant except for one bus every 10 minutes

Survey – Roger

- See the OPA website, Lincoln page for meeting minutes and other correspondence.
- Discussion:
 - Two surveys in progress: Resident and Business/Property Owners
 - Residents: On-line, some paper
 - Business/Property: paper, maybe on-line

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- Outreach:
 - Residents: Neighborhood Associations, teaser ads in local papers, community groups such as SM Spoke; including Venice/Mar Vista and possibly tourists
 - Business/Property Owners: Survey teams, Chamber of Commerce
- Survey Timing:
 - Business/Property Owners: Sept.
 - Residents: Sept. –Oct.
 - Preliminary results: November
 - Final results: 1Q 2013
- Volunteer opportunities
 - Survey teams to administer business surveys
 - Data entry for paper surveys
 - Data and report analysis

Streetscape/Film – Gloria Garvin

- See the OPA website, Lincoln page for links to the film, “Envisioning Lincoln”, meeting minutes and other correspondence.
- Discussion:
 - Washington Blvd. in Culver City (east of downtown) and Abbott Kinney in Venice are examples of adaptive reuse locally. Washington Blvd. also had an extensive streetscape improvement that revitalized the street.
 - The Subcommittee will seek streetscape ideas from other cities in Southern California, as well as in other States and perhaps overseas.
 - Focus on Lincoln will be to add trees, public art, public furniture, bus amenities, cross walks, and more trees.
 - Funding for streetscape improvements will focus on grants from various government agencies and other sources since the City lost major redevelopment funds to the State.
 - As a result, streetscape improvements then will be staged to utilize available funds.
 - Trees are a major consideration:
 - Currently there are 141 trees spaced about every 85 ft.
 - Proposed tree spacing is 25 to 30 ft. as elsewhere in Santa Monica
 - Future total may hit 350 trees from the Venice border to the I-10 freeway
 - Lincoln is the same width, 100 ft, as Wilshire with slight differences in sidewalk width (12 ft. on Lincoln, 12.5 ft. on Wilshire)
 - City will likely not consider major streetscape changes until the charette process is complete.
- Comment:
 - The lack of crosswalks on Lincoln is due in part to the irregular street grid system south of Pico Blvd. for east-west streets. Creative solutions are needed.

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Task Force Calendar

See the OPA website, Lincoln page for complete meeting announcements

Date	Time	Activity	Location
8/22/12	7 PM	Planning Commission (item 7-A, Community Benefits)	City Council Chambers
8/23/12	7 PM	Survey Subcommittee Meeting	650 Pacific St. #7
8/28/12	7 PM	Streetscape/Film Subcommittee Meeting	715 Navy Street
9/10/12	7 PM	Lincoln Community Update on BBB Priority Bus Lanes (pending)	Olympic HS Cafeteria
11/12/12	7:00 PM	OPA City Manager Town Hall/Lincoln Task Force Forum (pending)	John Muir Auditorium
Nov./Dec. 2012		Re-paving and re-stripe of Lincoln	-
Jan./Feb. 2013		BBB Priority Bus Lane implementation	
6/30/15	-	End of Caltrans Grant	

Future Agenda Items

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