

Date: Mon., March 5, 2012

Time: 7:05 PM

Location: Joslyn Park

The meeting was called to order by OPA VP David Auch, who acted as chair in Jan's absence.

Board Members in Attendance: David Auch, Pauline Bohannon, Patty Godon-Tann, Sadat Huq, Jeffrey Jarow, Jim Lawson, Mary Marlow, Michele Perrone, Roger Swanson, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd.

Noticed Board Member Absences: Russ Furakawa, Susan Lewis, Jan Ludwinski, Lori Nafshun

Correction to the OPA Minutes /Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>  
Susan Lewis was mistakenly marked absent.

### **Topics Discussed:**

**Ocean Park Blvd. Public Art Project Malina Moore explained that per city regulations 1% or \$45,000 of the 4.5 million dollar Ocean Park Blvd. construction project is to be set aside for public art; artistic yet utilitarian bike racks. Molina presented five proposals for public art bike racks to be located at the SE corner of OP Blvd. and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and SW corner of OPB and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and asked the OPA Board to recommend two finalists for serious consideration. After some discussion, board members recommended the following:**

Choice #1 (artists & defining features)

**Kori Newkirk/Roger Sherman**

**This bike rack is an abstract sculpture consisting of a series of circles and lines.**

Materials: 2 in. / 4 in. rolled steel tubing

Dimensions: 4ft. H x 8 ft. L

Capacity: up to 4 bikes

Finish: Glow-in-the-dark, periwinkle blue powdercoat paint

\*\*a cluster of two would be installed at the location, so capacity at location would be 8 bikes

Choice #2 (artists & defining features)

## **Jody Zellen**

**This bike rack is a whimsical 'tree', or thought bubble.**

Materials: 2 ¾ in. steel plate/ 2 in. square steel tubing

Dimensions: 5ft. H x 3 ft. W

Capacity: up to 2 bikes

Finish: bright green powdercoat paint

\*\*the thought is that these "trees" would be installed in a cluster of three, so 6 bikes could be locked at the location

(Contact info: Malina Moore, Cultural Affairs Supervisor - Public Art & Beach House Exhibits

310-458-8350 [malina.moore@smgov.net](mailto:malina.moore@smgov.net))

## **Bergamot Station**

- Mary Marlow explained that the Bergamot Transit Village is one of seven projects under construction or in the planning stages in an area that will constitute a new mini-city within Santa Monica; traffic will be impacted at 97 intersections, though there is no regional traffic plan and a lack of shared parking. Mary presented a letter to be addressed to Jing Yeo, Senior Planner; Richard Bloom, Mayor; David Martin, Planning Director; Rod Gould, City Manager, which said, " A full regional (traffic ) plan is needed as required in LUCE ..."

The Board approved Mary Marlowe's letter objecting to omissions in the draft EIR for the Bergamot Station project. Marcy moved to

approve the letter; David added a friendly amendment to allow Mary to revise the letter based on Board feedback. The motion passed unanimously.

In summary, the letter said the draft EIR was incomplete in the following critical areas: regional and area plans; housing ratios and mix of types; a shared parking district and regional TDM plan; alignment with LUCE vision, goals and policies.

Mary outlined the project's timeline:

- 1) Comments to Draft EIR due March 12 (OPA comments turned in on due date),
- 2) City must answer all questions and issues raised and issue a Final EIR which usually takes at least 6 months, but due to calls for completion of regional and area plans before final EIR it could take a year or more,
- 3) City issues Final EIR ,
- 4) Planning Commission and City Council must accept or reject the Final EIR (if Council accepts impacts, it must certify the Final EIR and then issue a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" which explains the specific reasons why the benefits of a proposed project make its unavoidable environmental effects acceptable,
- 5) City Council must reject or approve the project based on Final EIR acceptance or rejection

The city is to consider environmental consequences in approving a proposed project; inform the general public of the scope, potential environmental effects, possible measures to reduce significant environmental impacts, and alternatives that could reduce or avoid the significant effect of the proposed project.

**Treasurer's Report Patty reported the following balances:**

**General Account: \$5,068.30**

**Special Events: almost \$3,900**

**Action Item: David Auch requested Lori update the Board on the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade plans.**

A member of the community, Mitchell, suggested OPA sponsor candidate forums to feature upcoming assembly, senate and congressional races.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Sadat said he had spoken to two restaurants, Ariel and Brick and Mortor, about having OPA happy hours and both were receptive. He said the membership committee would go ahead and schedule a few happy hours to attract new members and generate more community participation in OPA. He also reported that the OPA web site will no longer allow people to defer payment should they want to become members.

**Airport:** Michele reported that 105 Ocean Park residents had taken the OPA airport survey, following an OPA email to its 900-person list. Of those who responded, 46.7% wanted to close the airport, 41% wanted to mitigate the impacts of the airport; 10.5% wanted it to stay as is; 3.8% other. The response to the OPA survey contrasts with the lackluster response to the city's vision groups, a process that has only attracted 180 participants, including participants from all over the United States.

**Emergency Response:** Marcy said she is waiting to receive a list of block captains from the city, as it makes sense to engage existing block captains in also serving as emergency response organizers.

### **Neighborhood Council Report**

Both James and Marcy attended the monthly neighborhood council meeting which addressed the following issues (excerpted from council notes):

#### ***Council Configuration***

*The council is revisiting whether it wants to be a loose self-selected configuration or a more formal body recognized by the city. At present, it is a more informal body.*

#### ***Affordable Housing Update***

*The city will lose most of its funding for affordable housing with the demise of the redevelopment agency. Another problem is that “by right” development projects, including commercial, creative use, and hotel projects are excluded from developer fee requirements for affordable housing. Additionally, there has been a 20% reduction in federal grants. Presently, there are 33,000 people on the waiting list for housing in Santa Monica, 10% live in the city. They receive priority, along with the disabled.*

**Village Trailer Park** – Catherine Eldridge, (PNA), stated that the Landmarks Commission had voted against landmark designation. The EIR is not finished. The owner wants the remaining residents out by June, but is offering them very poor choices – give up the home they own for a subsidized rental apartment. In order for VTP to be redeveloped, the City Council would have to re-zone a residential parcel to mixed use, which is counter to the LUCE goal of preserving residential neighborhoods.

**Wilshire-Montana Neighborhood Coalition** (Wilmont) – Valerie Griffin (Wilmont Bd.) reported that Jory Phillips, the city planner assigned to the zoning ordinance update, came to their last meeting. She suggested that all the groups invite Jory to their meetings and discuss such topics as how various components of the new zoning ordinance will affect us: establishing maximum building heights; making the discussion of community benefits part of the entire approval process; adding CUP's for social service organizations; creating a public process for affordable housing projects below 50 units in size.

**Fresh and Easy** – A community meeting will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 PM at Douglas Park regarding this proposed store at Wilshire and Harvard. Parking is insufficient, i.e., the store will be about the same size as Trader Joe's on Pico, but with half the parking spaces. The workers are not unionized.

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Lincoln Blvd. Committee

Meeting on Feb. 28 attended by Bob Taylor, David Tann, Nina Fresco and Roger Swanson discussed the following topics regarding Lincoln Blvd.: Project boundaries, neighborhood organizations to include, and issues related to transportation, pedestrians, landscaping, public art, zoning and key problems needing mitigation. The group also made a short list of City personnel and Council members to involve. The next meeting, to be held on March 27, will address a detailed plan of action with appropriate timelines.

The OPA meeting adjourned shortly after 9 PM.