

## Draft OPA Minutes

2/04/13

Meeting held at Jocelyn Park.

### Board Members in Attendance (enough for a quorum)

David Auch, Andrew Gledhill, Patty Godon-Tann, Jeff Jarrow, Sadat Haq, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Evan Meyer, Lori Nafshun, Michele Perrone, Thane Roberts, Jodi Summers, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd

### Noticed Board Member Absences

Pauline Bohannon, Mary Marlow, Roger Swanson

### Expo Line Update

Torrie Hill, Community Relations Manager for Santa Monica, presented an update on the 15-mile/ 46-minute ride Expo Line from downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica. Phase 2 involves construction of the line from Culver City to Santa Monica. Hill said the line, with three Santa Monica terminals (Olympic and 26<sup>th</sup> -- Bergamot Station; Colorado and 17<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Park; Colorado and 4<sup>th</sup> Street—Downtown Station) should be operational in the spring of 2016. The terminal at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Colorado will necessitate a permanent traffic change, with the **eastbound closure of Colorado Blvd. between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> streets to all vehicular traffic beginning on Mon., Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>.** The station, said Hill, will include pedestrian and bike access, with a bike-friendly bridge spanning the intersection at Olympic and Cloverfield.

Additional details include:

Expo LRT in Santa Monica will consist of three stations, a maintenance facility, a bike path, and approximately three miles of trackway. East of 17<sup>th</sup> Street, tracks will run in the existing Metro right-of-way located south of Colorado and crossing to the south side of Olympic Boulevard near 20<sup>th</sup> Street. West of 17<sup>th</sup> Street the tracks will run in the center of Colorado Avenue.

To learn more, visit [www.buildexpo.org](http://www.buildexpo.org)

Linda Gamberg, Transit Community Relations Officer, also attended to answer questions about the Expo Line.

### Report on LA Marathon Course in Santa Monica

Kathryn Vernez, Deputy City Manager – Special Projects, updated the OPA Board on the LA Marathon's Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> course through Santa Monica. Though details have not been finalized, Vernez reported the route will be similar to 2012 and the race will start at 6:55 AM. For the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the "Stadium to the Sea" course will kick off at Dodger Stadium and finish on Ocean Ave. at the intersection of Ocean and California Ave., just steps from the Santa Monica Pier. Vernez recapped the information posted at [http://www.smgov.net/Main/LAmarathon/Street\\_Closures.aspx](http://www.smgov.net/Main/LAmarathon/Street_Closures.aspx).

*No traffic will be allowed to enter or cross the race course from 6 a.m. until police and public safety officials reopen the streets. In Santa Monica, this means traffic will not be able to enter or cross at any point along San Vicente Blvd. and Ocean Ave. between San Vicente Blvd. and Colorado Ave.*

*Street closures will begin at 12 a.m. on March 17th and are expected to begin reopening at the east end of the city by 3 p.m., at the sole discretion of the Santa Monica Police Department. San Vicente is expected to completely reopen by 5 p.m., but the finish line area on Ocean Avenue may be closed as late as 9 p.m.*

*The westbound lanes of San Vicente Blvd. will be OPEN, however, all left turns are prohibited. The eastbound lanes of San Vicente Blvd. will be CLOSED.*

*Ocean Avenue will be CLOSED to all vehicle travel between San Vicente Blvd. and Colorado Ave.; advanced signage will be installed to notify motorists of the roadway closure at Colorado Ave.*

*Main Street will be closed between Pico Blvd. and Colorado Avenue to auto traffic since this area will be used for buses to downtown L.A. hotels, however the street will be open to cyclists who want to access the bike valet at 2nd and Colorado Ave.*

*Ocean Ave. north of Pico Blvd. will be open to northbound traffic for cars going to the Viceroy Hotel and to pick up runners. At the end of the pick-up area drivers will have two options: to make a u-turn and to go back to Pico Blvd. or to make a left hand turn onto the Moomat Ahiko ramp to head northbound on Pacific Coast Highway.*

*While the Moomat Ahiko ramp to and from PCH will be open in both directions, cars exiting southbound PCH will only be able to turn right (south) onto Ocean Avenue. The California Incline will be CLOSED.*

Santa Monica police and fire fighters will be on their regular schedule. Expenses for an additional 100 public safety personnel, including bike medics and medics in 4-wheel drives, will be paid by the LA Marathon.

Tracy Schuster, Community Relations Manager for the LA Marathon, also attended the OPA board meeting to answer questions. He and Vernez said Santa Monica can expect 25,000 additional visitors on the day of the marathon. Parking will cost \$2.00 for each 30 minutes; \$20 maximum downtown SM.

The Big Blue Bus will operate along Ocean Park Blvd. A shuttle will be available at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and OP Blvd., making stops all along the way down to the beach. There will not be any vendors along the course in Santa Monica. According to Schuster, 82 charities raised almost 42-million to fund the event.

### **Lincoln Blvd. Task Force/[Mural Project](#)**

Evan Meyer suggested OPA might sponsor an event to celebrate the burgeoning mural scene on Lincoln Blvd., where Evan is working with local artists to paint colorful murals on the walls of privately-owned businesses. He said he would like the city to close the street so OPA can host an art fair. Patty mentioned the SoRo neighborhood south of Robertson hosts a similar event each year.

### **Announcements**

Lori and Bob T. announced the Ocean Park Blvd. Project celebration on Sat., Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4 PM, in the parking lot at John Muir Elementary School - 6<sup>th</sup> and Ocean Park Blvd.

## **Approval of Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> Minutes**

David A. moved to approve the minutes; Sadat seconded. The Board approved the minutes.

## **Actions Taken Since Last Board Meeting**

Patty filed tax papers for federal and state income taxes.

## **Draft of Letter for Community Input**

After some discussion, the Board voted to table a decision on whether to sign a letter written to the City Council, critical of the city's planning process – specifically “omission of community input on height and density” as it relates to the downtown specific plan.

Michele moved to table; Jan seconded; All approved of tabling the action.

## **Report on Ocean Park Blvd. Project**

In anticipation of the Saturday ribbon-cutting, Bob Taylor announced the [renovation of Ocean Park Blvd.](#) - with bike lanes, sound-sensible rubberized paving, rain-water capture and new landscaping – is almost finished; the city still has to paint bike symbols on the path and install novel art-commissioned bike racks.

Lori N. requested \$500 to contribute to the celebration (The city is paying for most of it.). The board unanimously approved the expenditure.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Patty said OPA had received its \$4,000 grant from the city.

General Account: \$4,959

Special Events Account: \$15,460

## **State of Beach Trees**

Andrew said he met with Randy Little, the city forester, and learned the nursery that provided the beach trees has agreed to replace the dead trees within the next few months.

## **State of the City**

Jim L. attended the Chamber of Commerce's “State of the City” Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> event featuring Rod Gould, Santa Monica City Manager, and Pam O'Conner, the city's new mayor. The focus of the event was on the new transit system that will link Santa Monica with downtown Los Angeles – as well as development of the Bergamot Area Plan. Jim L. also reported that Jonathan Wolf, Managing Director of the American Film Market, said that in order for AFM to stay in Santa Monica, the City will need to make the Civic Auditorium a functioning venue.

### **Membership Committee Report**

Sadat reported OPA has 211 members; 981 email contacts. Emails are being sent to remind members to renew. Jodi mentioned [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) is a great way to connect with neighbors.

### **Airport Committee Report**

Michele said she attended the recent Airport Commission meeting, at which the airport's operations manager reported the [city tested a German-made muffler, called QuietFlight, on a Cessna 172 in December and recorded positive results for noise reduction](#). Michele said she thought the mufflers were helpful when the planes were going away from you, but that it was unclear if the mufflers help when the planes are flying toward you. Adoption of mufflers, said Michele, should help in Venice and Mar Vista – but she wasn't sure about Ocean Park. She pointed out that on the CASMAT web site, John Fairweather said the mufflers (\$5,000 each) reduce noise and pollution.

### **Communications/Newsletter Report**

Jodi said the newsletter is due Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and asked committee chairs to submit articles. Patty will work with Jodi on the newsletter.

Jodi proposed OPA launch a scholarship fund to involve youth in creating posters for OPA's July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and other events. Discussion of this idea will continue at the next Board meeting.

### **Pony League Season**

Lori moved OPA budget \$300 to sponsor a league. Marcy seconded. The Board approved the budget allocation unanimously.

### **Bowl-a-Thon**

Jeff reported OPA had two teams in the bowl-a-thon for charity. He said Jan was able to fundraise at the event.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

James L. adjourned the meeting at 9:10.

###