

# Mar Vista Community Council

## Board of Directors Meeting

April 8, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium  
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066

[www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org)

### **AGENDA**

**Call to Order and Welcome** – Rob Kadota, Chair (2 min.)

**Pledge of Allegiance** - Bill Scheduling

**Approval of Minutes** (public comment permitted (2 min)

**Public Comment & Announcements** - (limit: 2 minutes per speaker)

**Elected Officials and City Department Reports** (max 2 min. each)

**DONE** – Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Barry Stone, Project Coordinator

**Mar Vista Recreation Center** – Director, Laura Island

**CD 5** – Councilman Weiss – represented by Jennifer Badger, Field Deputy

**CD 11** - Councilman Rosendahl – represented by Len Nguyen, Field Deputy

**US 36** – Congresswoman Jane Harman, represented by Jessica Duboff, Field Representative (North District)

**CA Senate 28** – CA Senator Jenny Oropeza's Office represented by Primitivo Castro, Field Deputy

**CA Assembly 47** – Assemblymember Karen Bass represented by Estee Sepulveda

**CA Assembly 53** – CA Assemblymember Ted Lieu represented by Stephanie Molen

**2<sup>nd</sup> District LA County Board of Supervisor** Yvonne B. Burke represented by Karly Katona

**Mayor of LA** – Antonio Villaraigosa represented by Stephen Cheung, Westside Area Representative

**Special Presentation by Bureau of Engineering, City of LA - Prop O – Storm Water/Clean Water Bond** (20 min. w/ Q&A)

**Officers and Liaison Reports**

**Chair**, Rob Kadota (2 min.)

**First Vice Chair**, Bob Fitzpatrick (2 min.)

**Second Vice Chair**, Albert Olson (2 min.)

**Secretary**, Laura Bodensteiner (2 min)

**Treasurer**, Curt Steindler (2 min.)

**LANCC Delegate Report** – Rob Kadota/Albert Olson/J.D. Gaydowski (2 min)

**Neighborhood Council Review Commission** (912), Tom Ponton (2 min)

**Mayor's Budget Planning** – Curt Steindler,

**Director for Animal Awareness** – Lola McKnight (2 min.)

**DWP MOU** – JD Gaydowski

**Committee reports** - Action items included with public comment permitted

A) **Executive & Finance Committee**, Chair (5 min.)

B) **Community Outreach Committee** – Stephen Boskin (5 min)

C) **Education, Arts and Culture** – Curt Steindler, Chair (5 min)

D) **Election & Bylaws Committee** – Bob Fitzpatrick, Chair (5 min)

1. Clean Money Initiative – Bob F

2. Date of MVCC Zone and Community Director – June 21, 2008

3. Status of Bylaws and Election Procedures

2. Standing Rules and Procedures – Albert O.

E) **Green Committee** – Laura Bodensteiner (2 min)

F) **Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee** – Tom Ponton (2 min)

G) **Safety and Security Committee** report – Bill Koontz (2 min)

- H) **Santa Monica Airport Committee** – Albert Olson, Chair ( 5 min)
  - 1. Policy Motion: The Mar Vista Community Council requests that Congresswoman Jane Harman and Congressman Henry Waxman investigate possible legislative action to require the FAA to accept and respect the intent of the City of Santa Monica with regard to its ordinance conforming the Airport to Category A and B aircraft.
- I) **SMC Bundy Campus Ad Hoc Committee** – Bob Fitzpatrick (2min)
- J) **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee report** - (William Scheduling, and Albert Olson Co-Chairs 15 min.)
  - 1. See T & I Committee Motions attachment A
  - 2. Neighborhood Traffic Management Sub Committee – Bill Pope (2 min)
  - 3. Bi Monthly CD 11/LADOT Traffic Meeting Sub Committee - Linda Guagliano, MVCC Liaison (2 min.)
- K) **Urban Planning Committee report** – Ken Alpern and Steve Wallace, (5 min.)
  - 1. Policy Motion: The MVCC Board does not oppose the variance requested for the wall at 3979 East Blvd.

**Zone Director Reports**

**Old Business** - Action items (Public comment permitted)

**New Business** - Action items (Public comment permitted)

- A) Policy Motion - MVCC Supports the City Planning Anti-Mansionization Ordinance (Executive Summary of Ordinance will be available at the meeting, posted on the MVCC web site and on request sent to all individuals by email
- B) Policy Motion – Letter expressing concern about SB1818 (See Attachment B)
- C) Policy Motion – Motion of Support for the City of Los Angeles’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee – Lola McKnight, MVCC DAW 10 min

“The fumigation of a residence is a popular way of combating pest infestation in the City of Los Angeles. While it can be very effective at removing the nuisance, often times fumigation tragically claims the lives of beloved pets who wander inadvertently into the danger zone. Citizens have argued that had they been notified prior to the fumigation, they would have made plans to keep their pets indoors and out of harm's way. Toxic pest control substances also pose a health risk for children, a risk the City cannot ignore. Basic disclosure of fumigation by pest control companies should be required to empower neighborhoods to protect community wellbeing. I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to draft an ordinance that would require pest control companies to notify adjacent residents within 48 hours prior to the use of toxic materials in neighboring homes. I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to report on this ordinance within 45 days of adoption of this Motion.”

- D) Policy Motion – Motion of Support to Add “Animal Cruelty” to the list of predicate acts as prescribed by Penal Code Section 186.20 – Lola McKnight, MVCC DAW 10 min (See Attachment C)

**Grievances** – Laura Bodensteiner, Secretary

Any grievances received since the last meeting of the MVCC Board of Directors will be presented to the board for their consideration for possible referral to the MVCC Grievance Committee for further review and consideration.

**Future agenda items**

**Public Comment and Announcements** (limit: 2 minutes per speaker)

**Adjournment** (9:30 PM)

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 The audience is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the Agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the public comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Mar Vista Community Council meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. For more information, please visit the MVCC web site at [www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org).  
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\*Translators, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices for the hard of hearing and/or other auxiliary aids/services are available upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) working days before the scheduled date. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call (213) 485-1360.

## ATTACHMENT A – Policy Motions Proposed by MVCC Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

1. Parking Meters on Venice - Policy Motion Supported by TI Committee: parking meters along Venice Blvd. between Centinela and Inglewood Blvd. be changed from 1 hour maximum to 2 hour maximum and to re-affirm the MVCC's support for this proposal. (Steve Wallace)
2. **Whereas** the Mar Vista Community Council strongly opposes the placement of Public Amenity Kiosks (PAKs) within our boundaries, because they are out of character with the look and feel of our neighborhoods, and because they provide no positive service to the community except for the revenue stream generated by the advertising, and **Whereas** the MVCC supports the placement of transit shelters to encourage the usage and quality of life for those who use mass transit, **Therefore**, the MVCC makes the following recommendations to the Los Angeles City Council regarding the placement of the CBS/Decaux signage and street furniture in Mar Vista:

A. CBS/Decaux is encouraged to consider a redesign of its proposed transit shelters, so as to prevent a net loss of shelter seating when these proposed shelters replace existing bus stop benches.

B. The following locations are suggested as possible sites for new transit shelters:

- 1) Westbound Venice Blvd far side of Sawtelle Blvd (NW) Volvo/Saab shop
2. Westbound Venice Blvd far side of Butler (NW) Apartments
3. Westbound Venice Blvd near side of Inglewood (NE) Office Building
4. Westbound Venice Blvd far side of Beethoven (NW) office building
5. Westbound Venice Blvd near side of Walgrove (NE) old apartments
6. Eastbound Venice Blvd far side of Beethoven (SE) small businesses
7. Eastbound Venice Blvd far side of Wade (SE) apartments
8. Eastbound Venice Blvd far side of Grand View (SE) Post Office back at wall
9. Eastbound Venice Blvd far side of Sawtelle Blvd (SE) SP Gas Station
10. Westbound National Blvd west of Sawtelle at 11317 National Blvd - Rite Aid

C. Although the MVCC strongly opposes the placement of PAK's within our boundaries, and we reject the PAK placements proposed by CBS/Decaux on 2/15/08, we would accept placements of PAKs at the following locations if the City of Los Angeles insists that equitable distribution of PAKs to all Neighborhood Council areas necessitates that MVCC accept a very limited number of PAKs:

- 1) South side of National between 405 exit and Sepulveda (street side of Ross Dress for Less)
- 2) West side of Sawtelle, North of National, South of Webster MS property. (close to current recycling center)
- 3) East side of Sepulveda, South of Palms and before Burger King (by Yoku, Yoku yogurt shop)
- 4) North side of Venice, West of Centinela and East of Ocean View (by WaMu/CVS)

D. The MVCC strongly opposes the placement of any PAKs on median strips near intersections..

## Attachment B – Letter of Concern RE: SB 1818

Ms. S. Gail Goldberg, Director of Planning  
Department of Planning  
City of Los Angeles City Hall  
200 Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Reference: Senate Bill 1818 (SB1818) State of California mandated density bonuses and adopted February 20, 2008 by Los Angeles City Council

Dear Ms. Goldberg:

Los Angeles is already one of the densest cities in the country.

An SB1818 implementation ordinance which opens virtually the entire city to 35% increases in density—whether appropriate or not—will:

- Circumvent our General plan, our Community plans and our Specific plans, rendering them useless;

- Increase our traffic;
- Increase our infrastructure failures [water, sewer, electrical] ; and
- Decrease our overall quality of life

Therefore, Mar Vista Community Council's Board of Directors agree with the concerns brought forth by Ms. Jane Ellison Usher, President of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission, in her opposition to the City of Los Angeles's implementing 05-1345 Ordinance, (relative to amending Sections 12.22, 12.24, 14.00 and 19.01 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to implement a Density Bonus Program, as required by State law) in her letter of March 14, 2008.

The Mar Vista Community Council recommends the following actions be taken by the City of Los Angeles regarding the implementation of said 05-1345 Ordinance, (relative to amending Sections 12.22, 12.24, 14.00 and 19.01 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to implement a Density Bonus Program, as required by State law)

- Request that the City of Los Angeles pass a resolution asking the State of California to exempt the City of Los Angeles from SB1818;
- Request that the City of Los Angeles repeal its implementing Ordinance 05-1345 regarding SB1818, pending the determination from the state on said exemption request;
- Request that the City of Los Angeles disallow any density bonus for a proposed development that results in a net reduction of affordable housing; and
- Request all projects seeking to utilize the density bonus menus be classified as discretionary and thus subject to CEQA review for environmental impacts

Sincerely,

Mar Vista Community Council

**Referenced material:** City Hall Density Bonus Bill: The WRONG Solution Repealing SB 1818 By Jane Ellison Usher March 14, 2008

You may be aware that, as President of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission, I have voiced repeated and serious disagreement with **SB 1818**. Like you, I am aware that **SB 1818** has had the immediate effect of replacing more affordable housing with costlier, less affordable housing. It has also given us updated housing stock, which on its face can be identified as a positive outcome, though I suspect that this superficial reaction bears more true investigation into whether we are indeed getting "better" buildings. Without belaboring my opposition, may I summarize just a few points for your consideration:

1. Because it overrides all local zoning, **SB 1818** breaks the promises made by our general plan. The general plan and its subsidiary components, unlike **SB 1818**, are the product of substantial professional planning, constituent, and environmental review. Instead of coherent, consensus-based planning, **SB 1818** offers us planning via the mechanisms of developer whimsy and desire.
2. Because its bonuses are not limited to employment and transit centers, **SB 1818** does not advance the smart growth patterns and practices that will enable Los Angeles to remain a world class city. **SB 1818** allows growth to occur at traffic worsening locations. Los Angeles, by contrast, needs to rein in growth at traffic-inducing locations.
3. The manner in which the City of Los Angeles is proceeding eliminates environmental review for all **SB 1818** projects that seek only the density bonus and not other, additional development incentives. The City Council has adopted language that defines such projects as "ministerial." Per state CEQA guidelines, "ministerial" projects are exempt from its oversight. I believe this powerful wordsmithing has occurred below the radar.
4. I give credence to the often expressed sentiment that the City of Los Angeles lacks sufficient housing for low and middle income residents. From my perch as President of the CPC, I can observe that more than 90% of our new housing stock will be sold at market rate prices. Market rate prices are beyond the reach of the poor and middle class, as must be obvious to anyone who tries to purchase housing. Unfortunately, **SB 1818** is the WRONG solution to our problem. Los Angeles needs a citywide solution that relies on smart growth land use policies and a menu of contribution options that apply to all developers. The current decline in the housing market impedes our progress to sensible solutions, as are already in place in other cities throughout the country. (These comments were provided in response to Brady Westwater's articles on repealing SB1818, the so-called Density Bonus Bill. See his stories in March 4 and 7 CityWatch issues.)

**(Jane Ellison Usher is the President of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission.)**

**ATTACHMENT C – Policy Motion of Support to Add “Animal Cruelty” to the list of predicate acts as prescribed by Penal Code Section 186.20**

RULES & GOVERNMENT FEB 20 2008

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and WHEREAS, it is a priority of the City of Los Angeles to promote the health, safety and welfare of animals in the City; and

WHEREAS, it is also a priority of the City of Los Angeles to pursue an aggressive effort to prevent, reduce and prosecute animal abuse in Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, dog fighting is illegal in California and has become a serious problem within many communities; and

WHEREAS, dog fighting is cruel and destructive behavior that is often linked with gang activity; and

WHEREAS, dog fighting often involves illegal gambling, drugs, and weapons; and

WHEREAS, dog fighters and spectators have a history of violent and criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, California Penal Code Section 186.20 ( California’s Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act) provides for enhanced penalties for certain crimes known as "predicate acts" committed by gang members, such as assault with a deadly weapon, robbery or drug use or possession; and

WHEREAS, animal cruelty should be added to the list of predicate acts committed by gang members to discourage dog fighting in the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby include in its 2007-2008 State Legislative Program SUPPORT and/or SPONSORSHIP of legislation to add "animal cruelty" to the list of predicate acts as prescribed by Penal Code Section 186.20 (California's Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act).

FEB 20, 2008 PRESENTED By BERNARD C. PARKS Councilmember, 8th District, SECONDED by Tony Cardenes