

Mar Vista Community Council
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Co-Chairs: Ken Alpern and Chuck Ray
Tuesday, November 24, 7-9:30 PM
Santa Monica College, Bundy Campus, 3171 S. Bundy Drive, Room 123

Minutes

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chuck Ray at 7:05pm. In attendance were Bill Pope, Christine Taylor, Shirley C. Munch, Dorothy Garven, Linda Guagliano, Alex Thompson, Albert Olson, Bonnie Stout, Lewis Stout, Chuck Ray and Ken Alpern.

2) Approval of minutes (2 min)

The minutes of the meeting of October 27, 2009 were approved unanimously.

3) Report on Recent MVCC Board Actions relating to T & I motions

- Shifting of City responsibility for sidewalk repair to Homeowners

This was passed unanimously by the board.

4) T & I Related Committees

Reports were given by the following committees and liaison organizations:

- a. MVCC Liaison LADOT/CD11/LAPD Bi-Monthly Traffic Committee Meeting – Linda Guagliano
- b. Neighborhood Traffic Management Committee – Bill Pope
- c. LA DWP – NC MOU Committee – Chuck Ray
- d. CD 11 Transportation Committee – Ken Alpern
- e. CD 11 Ad-hoc Working Group on Scattergood Olympic Line 1 project – Chuck Ray

5) Old Business

- a. Scattergood Olympic Line 1 project

This proposed policy motion (TIC009) was passed with ten votes for and one abstention:

Whereas the stakeholders of Mar Vista Community Council have expressed extreme concern about the routing of the proposed Scattergood-Olympic Line 1 high-voltage power line project, specifically the extensive routing of the project along two of Mar Vista’s residential streets, Inglewood Blvd. and Armacost Ave., and

Whereas both overhead and underground high-voltage transmission lines generate magnetic fields, and

Whereas the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 14010 (c) has established setbacks between overhead high-voltage power lines and school property line, and

Whereas, the California Department of Education (CDE) has established setback guidelines between the “usable, unrestricted portions” of any California school site and underground transmission lines of:

1. 25 feet for 50-133 kV line (interpreted by CDE up to <200 kV).
2. 37.5 feet for 220-230 kV line.
3. 87.5 feet for 500-550 kV line.

And **Whereas** the above setbacks target 2 milligauss as the maximum magnetic field contribution from power lines not to be exceeded, and

Whereas the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) has adopted the above setbacks between underground transmission lines and school property lines, and

Whereas, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) adheres to LAUSD setback at LAUSD schools, and

Whereas children spend more time on their residential properties than on school properties, and

Whereas 12 of 15 world epidemiological studies (see Appendix A.) have identified increased occurrences of childhood leukemia ranging from 43% to 353% in children living in environments with a daily time-weighted average magnetic field exposure of 3 milligauss or greater, and

Whereas other power utility projects in California, such as Pacific Gas and Electric's JEFFERSON-MARTIN 230 KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT (see Appendix B), in recognition of the health and safety concerns of ElectroMagnetic Fields exposure, have instituted EMF mitigation plans as part of their Transmission Line project, and

Whereas we recognize;

1. The unique character of the residential street of Inglewood Blvd., whose sidewalks are the main pedestrian walkways for the daily trips of Mar Vista Elementary students to and from their classrooms;
2. That homes on these streets are full of young children who make full use of play areas in front yards and walk and play on the sidewalks on a daily basis;
3. That the width of these streets is at some points as small as 33 feet;
4. That because of pre-existing underground installations on the streets the power line will not be placed down the center of the street, thus placing it even closer to some residences,

Therefore the Mar Vista Community Council asks that all underground power lines installed in MVCC territory must remain at least

1. 25 feet for 50-133 kV line (interpreted by CDE up to <200 kV).
2. 37.5 feet for 220-230 kV line.
3. 87.5 feet for 500-550 kV line.

or that distance required for the line's magnetic field to drop to 2 milligauss or less, whichever distance is greater.

Furthermore,

Whereas LADWP cannot guarantee that the electrical surge which will occur when one or more of the cable(s) in the 230,000 Volt circuit eventually fails, due to the thermal expansion and contraction from daily load fluctuations, will not cause an explosion and/or fire to occur in an adjacent crude oil and/or natural gas pipelines,

Therefore the MVCC insists that LADWP not place high-voltage transmission lines any residential street where such hazardous material pipelines exist, regardless of Right of Way width.

Furthermore,

Whereas the Mar Vista Hill section of Inglewood Boulevard has already experienced several property and infrastructure damaging ground slippages, and

Whereas LADWP cannot guarantee that additional ground movement will not be caused on the Mar Vista Hill section of Inglewood Boulevard by the trenching, placement, or operation of the proposed line,

Therefore the MVCC insists that LADWP not place high-voltage transmission lines on the Mar Vista Hill section of Inglewood Boulevard.

b. Bundy – Olympic Village Medical Center

The CD11 Ad Hoc Committee on use of mitigation funds from this project has disbanded. Albert Olson suggested that this committee begin to consider what uses it would like to use mitigation funds for, should they become available.

6) New Business (with potential motion)

- a. Two motions have been presented to the City Council:
Councilmember Smith's motion of 10/14/09 on creating an Inspector General for the Department of Water and Power. and
Councilmember Garcetti's motion of 10/16/09 on creating a Rate Payers Advocate in the Department of Water and Power.

The following policy motion (TIC008) was passed unanimously:

*Whereas the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has experienced recent notable deterioration of its infrastructure with numerous power outages due to electrical transformer failures and several broken water mains; and
Whereas the LADWP has increased rates both absolutely and per unit of service; and
Whereas the department has failed to make good on the promised use(s) of past rate increase funds; and
Whereas there has been unexplained favoritism for LADWP equity, control and employee interests,*

The Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) supports the implementation of a Ratepayer Advocate position, consisting of independent staff, reporting directly to the City Council, the Office of the Mayor and the City Controller. Further the MVCC urges that the Neighborhood Councils through their DWP NC MOU Oversight Committee be allowed to review and comment on the choice of the Ratepayer Advocate.

7) Adjourn

The scheduled date for the next meeting is December 22nd. Ken Alpern suggested that the next meeting be held in conjunction with the PLUM Committee on December 15th. This suggestion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.