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MINUTES

ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING Tuesday, November 16, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

Committee members present:

1-*Glenn Bailey: Co-Chair, 2-*Pat Bates: Co-Chair 4-Katie Bull 5-Amy Zidell 6-Marianne Davis

Members absent:

3-*Maury Geller

*Denotes Board Member/Alternate (maximum 5 allowed)

1. **Meeting was called to order at 4:34 PM, a quorum was determined, Pat Bates volunteered to take notes.**
2. **Motion to approve** draft Parks and Environment Committee [minutes](#) of the September 1, 2021 meeting. Bates/Davis 5 yes/0 no/0 abstention
3. **New Business Action Items:**
 - 3.1. **Motion: *The Parks & Environment Committee recommends the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) Council file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in favor of Council File [21-0890](#) (Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and River Committee Motion (O'Farrell - Krekorian - Price)) relative to creating a strategic long term citywide Electric Vehicle (EV) Master Plan that includes provisions to maximize federal and state funding for the equitable placement of Electric Vehicle infrastructure citywide. Said approval is contingent on adequate provisions being made for the range of EV models in use and adaptable to future use, without bias as to model. Further, that placement of locations for such facilities be subject to consultation with the respective local Neighborhood Councils. (Motion passed Davis/Bates 5/0/0).***

The motion was discussed at some length, concern was raised about losing regular parking spaces as whether there would be adequate local input on placement of facilities.
 - 3.2. **Motion: *The Parks & Environment Committee recommends the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) Council file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in favor of Council File [20-0190](#) (Buscaino - Cedillo) relative to the City Attorney be directed to prepare and present an***

Ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 63.41 to allow park rangers to be armed while on duty, in accordance with state law. (Motion passed Zidell/Davis 5/0/0)

There was extensive discussion of this measure. Mr. Bailey reported that according to the director of Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks the Rangers are in favor of the measure. Pat Bates noted that the MRCA Rangers have been armed for years, unaware of any incidents. Katie Bull was concerned that the Rangers needed to be vetted psychologically first, it was explained that they are all POST Certified in addition to other required training and such training requires extensive psychological evaluation. Glenn Bailey pointed out that LAPD rarely ventures into the parks off-road and the rangers are best equipped to deal with situations, including any that might involve deadly force.

- 3.3. **Motion *The Parks & Environment Committee recommends the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) Council file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) regarding irrigation of White Oak Avenue parkway medians between Victory and Burbank Boulevards including requesting a feasibility study and/or funding request to the Board of Public Works for extension of reclaimed water (purple pipe) to the medians.*** (Motion Passed Bailey/Bates 5/0/0)

Lee Blumenfeld (ENC Board Member) proposed a plan where reclaimed water (purple pipe) would be run from the Tillman Reclamation Plant to White Oak Blvd. to be used for irrigating street trees, boths existing and to be planted on the two medians. The existing medians were noted by member Pat Bates to be an embarrassment to the City and Encino community - they are basically dirt and dying and abused trees. Mr. Blumenfeld noted that there are existing plans for the irrigation system in the medians, as well as surplus parts at LADWP, Sanitation, Street Services, or elsewhere, which might be used to reduce cost of the project. Further, funding for the project might be obtained from either Proposition O (Storm Water, Clean Water, etc.) or Measure A (Urban Greening, etc.). The Encino Community has been requesting improvements of these medians for many years. The city desperately needs more trees, and has limited land. This is an area where the tree canopy can be tremendously increased to provide shade, oxygen, and an attractive street.

- 3.4. **Discussion and possible motion regarding Proposition K: L.A. For Kids Program** projects within the boundaries of the Encino NC proposed for partial funding during Fiscal Year 2022-23:

- 3.4.1. Construct new aquatic facility (swimming pool); location has been reported as being just east of the Department of Recreation and Parks Valley Regional Headquarters (the overflow parking area) - \$3,000,000 available
- 3.4.2. Hjelte Field: construct new athletic fields, lighting and parking - \$1,000,000
- 3.4.3. Los Angeles Riverfront Park - Phase III Design (Balboa to LA River Orange Line Crossing)

Glenn Bailey addressed all of the above at some length with vigorous discussion from the committee. While nobody is quite sure about what is happening with the riverfront park (3.4.3), the former two items are Proposition K funding. Here is a fact sheet with a lot of information on the LA for Kids bond Measure [Prop K](#). Regarding the pool- the proposed location has moved from west of Balboa, now just east of park HQ. There have been multiple issues including parking, 100 year flood plain, etc. Ther \$3MM available will not be nearly enough to fund the aquatic Facility (may be \$7-10 MM), remains to be seen where the rest of the money will come from. The \$1MM for Hjelte is not such an issue, as long as there is no movement to take land away from Tapia farms. Whatever it is to be used for there can be done in stages. Glenn noted that the funding cycle for Prop

K is near the end. There should be a Local Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC) reviewing the plans. Glenn recommends that Encino have at least 2 neighborhood representative members on the LVNOC, which is comprised as follows: Each LVNOC is comprised of no more than a total of seven voting members, including four neighborhood representatives and one youth representative appointed by their Council Member and neighborhood representatives appointed by the City Engineer (BOE Prop K).

4. Old Business Action/discussion Items: Votes may be taken on all action items:

- 4.1. Sepulveda Basin Controlled Burns - The LA Fire Department is working with Stakeholder groups to initiate ongoing controlled burns of brush west of Woodley Avenue and north of Burbank Boulevard (approximately 70 acres) as soon after September 15, 2021 as weather conditions permit (wind, temperature and humidity). *Pat Bates will check with CD 6 as to whether these are still a go. Weath to date has not been acceptable.*
- 4.2. Bureau of Streets Services (StreetsLA) Tree Inventory in Encino is underway. Upon completion, the report should be distributed to ENC Board members, a link should be posted on the ENC website, and arrangements should be made for a presentation at the next available ENC Board meeting. [Tree Inventory webpage](#)
- 4.3. LA County Parks Needs Assessment 2021 Regional and Rural Edition - recommendations regarding the Sepulveda Basin and possibly other parks located with the ENC. [Website](#)
- 4.4. LA City 2021 Draft [List of Tree Species](#) for Public Right of Way - *Pat Bates will be put on the ENC website*

5. Informational Items/Reports/Updates

- 5.1. Los Encinos State Historic Park update - Amy Zidell
- 5.2. Encino Park update
- 5.3. Sepulveda Basin update (NOTE: Those portions of the Sepulveda Basin located south of Victory Boulevard, west of the 405 Freeway and east of White Oak Avenue are located within the certified boundaries of the Encino NC.)
- 5.4. Water: LADWP rebates, drought, water use restrictions. *Pat has information www.encinonc.org.*
- 5.5. NC Sustainability Alliance - currently meets virtually second Sundays, 6:30 pm and has four active committees. [Website](#)
 - 5.5.1. Cool Blocks LA leaders are now being recruited and trained. [Webpage](#) Member *Marianne Davis is a Cool Blocks Leader!!*
- 5.6. Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy Study (LA100) issued by the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory - [Executive Summary](#); Full report - [12 chapters](#)
- 5.7. 2020 Biodiversity Report - Council File [15-0499](#) - report adopted by City Council on August 18, 2021
- 5.8. "Climate Change 2021 - The Physical Science Basis" [report](#) issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Adjournment at 6:25 PM

Next Parks and Environment Meeting: 12/14/2021 @4:30 PM