

Ocean Beach Planning Board

Transportation Committee Minutes

Date: May 25, 2020

Location: Virtual

Current Committee Roster:	In Attendance:
Tracy Dezenzo (Chair) (B)	X
George McCalla (B)	X
Andrea Schlageter (B)	X
Jenna Tatum (B)	X
Laura Tulsie (P)	Not in attendance
Mandy Havlik (Secretary) (P)	X

Members of the public present:

Nicole Ueno

Nicole Burgess

Rick Williams

Kevin Hastings

Virginia Wilson

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:05 pm

ADJOURNED: 7:23 pm

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

Approved as is 1st Andrea Schlageter 2nd George McCalla

Yea 5 Nay 0 Abstain 0

MINUTES MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

Approved as is 1st Andrea Schlageter 2nd Tracy Dezenzo

Yea 5 Nay 0 Abstain 0

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEM #1: Elect Officers-The committee will elect a Chair and Secretary

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Motion to nominate Tracy Dezenzo as chair of the Transportation Committee

1st George McCalla 2nd Andrea Schlageter

Votes: Yea 5 Nay 0 Unanimous

Motion to nominate Mandy Havlik as secretary of the Transportation Committee

1st Andrea Schlageter 2nd Tracy Dezenzo

Votes: Yea 5 Nay 0 Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #2: SLOW Children Crossing Signage for Bethany Lutheran Church Discuss implementing signage in alley between Cape May and Brighton at Sunset Cliffs. Item brought by OBPB Board Member Virginia Wilson

- Virginia Wilson presented concerns of motorists utilizing the alley at the church. Requesting additional signage to help bring awareness to children at the church preschool. She believes that signs need to be placed at the following locations near the church to ensure better visibility. Signs are requested for the Eastbound entrance to the alley at Cape May/Brighton, Westbound Entrance at Brighton/Ebers and Sunset Cliffs/Brighton. She questioned if the city would provide traffic safety signage because it is a church. She was not sure if the church was willing or able to pay for the requested traffic safety signage.
- Nicole Ueno made a recommendation for the church to purchase the neon SLOW/Child Crossing Plastic Signs as a solution.
- Tracy Dezenzo mentioned the city will install some signs at the expense of the church.
- Nicole Burgess suggested to request a letter from the church to the city requesting the traffic safety mitigations or permission to place their own traffic safety signs on their property.

Motion to table this action item until more information is available that would necessitate the boards action

1st Andrea Schlageter 2nd George McCalla

Votes: Yea 5 Nay 0 Unanimous

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ACTION ITEM #3: Diagonal Motorcycle Parking for OB Business Corridors Continuation of discussion to request adding diagonal motorcycle parking on Voltaire, Newport and Santa Monica presented by Kevin Hastings.

Per the supplemental packet provided for the meeting, street parking in the business districts of Ocean Beach is predominantly diagonal parking. It does not accommodate users of 2-wheeled vehicles such as motorcycles, mopeds, and the growing number of personal electric vehicles such as Zebra mopeds that cannot use bicycle racks. These users currently have to search for a full car parking space. This discourages the use of 2-wheeled vehicles and impacts car parking. In other parts of town, typical parallel parking arrangements allow 2-wheeled vehicles to fit between cars or on the ends, without reducing car parking spots. Parking for 2-wheeled vehicles should be embraced, especially since they offer reduced congestion, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions when compared to the typical automobile.² We propose adding designated motorcycle/moped parking areas along Newport Ave, Santa Monica Ave, and Voltaire Ave as shown on the map below. These are generally located at the ends of existing diagonal parking and offer 3 or more motorcycle spots at each location. Currently these locations have red curbs but are not adjacent to fire hydrants or in a visibility area for driveway entrances. The map excludes locations recently designated as scooter-share corrals, but in the event any corrals are removed those locations should also be considered.

- Kevin Hastings stated that additional spots can be added at the scooter stall locations possibly.
- Nicole Burgess asked if E-bikes were eligible to utilize these stalls.
- Kevin Hastings didn't see an issue as long as no posts needed to be installed.
- Nicole Ueno wanted to ensure we were not impacting the visibility of pedestrians and complied with ADA Requirements.
- The city of San Diego has not stopped scooter use or put mandates on their use.

Motion to approve and take Item #3 to the main board for a vote at the next board meeting.

1st Andrea Schlageter 2nd Mandy Havlik

Votes: Yea 5 Nay 0 Unanimous

ACTION ITEM #4: Temporarily Close Vehicle Traffic on Newport St. to Accommodate Additional

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Restaurant Seating During COVID-19 Recovery Discuss implementation of a temporary closure of Newport Street to aid restaurants in reopening while they accommodate COVID-19 physical distancing requirements. Item brought by OBPB Board Member Nicole Ueno.

- Tracy Dezenzo presented information about Curbside San Diego and its focus from the supplemental packet.
- Nicole Ueno voiced concerns about the parking impacts on the neighborhood if the program were to be implemented.
- Nicole Ueno mentioned the OBTC was supportive of this initiative but not the OBMA.
- Tracy Dezenzo read a response from Denny Knox, ED of OBMA:

Tracy,

Thanks for asking. I meet with the other organizations like ours each month and we have been talking about this. It would appear that for Ocean Beach this would not be a viable alternative. With our aggressive transient population that is growing daily, we could not control the use and abuse of tables and chairs, diners in the street with alcohol, and so on. I'm afraid this would open up a bigger can of worms than we are already dealing with.

Many of our restaurants have some sort of outside dining space. Those who don't may have options using private property rather than public property. Also, we do not have wall to wall restaurants on any one street. We have to be sure we aren't harming all the other retail and service businesses who need to have places for their customers to park and run in to their stores.

There are also many questions about trash, sidewalk cleaning and so on that will become the OBMA's problem if it is a free-for-all in the streets. We lived through the period where we had to remove all seating in the public right of way because of the transients in the area. The transient population is so much worse now and so much more aggressive, we would have to have additional security to handle it all.

If we had a block that was primarily restaurants, it might be possible. But, that isn't the reality on our streets. It's the same reasoning we had about not allowing restaurants to construct seating areas, remove parking, and occupy the street directly in front of their business – placemaking projects. It's too hard to control, clean and patrol at night.

We've been talking to a number of restaurants about whether or not they might like to make their parking lots outdoor seating areas temporarily. So far no takers but we are continuing the dialog in the commercial districts of OB.

Most of our restaurants are interested in getting open, figuring out their deficiencies and trying to adapt to their new limitations. If we find that we need to make temporary structural changes to the streets or parking lots later, we can act on it.

We also don't want to make a street party out of every night or people will start calling us PB!

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That's my two bits for now. I'll let you know if things change. Thanks again for asking.

Denny (Denise) Knox, Executive Director

Ocean Beach MainStreet Association

- Tracy Dezenzo concerned there is no "sunset clause" in the proposal for this initiative. She felt it needed to have definitive times to ensure end. She mentioned some of the businesses on Newport have experienced an increase in aggressive transients and it may become a deterrent to dining outside. Traffic impacts, trash and lack of security were also brought up as possible negative impacts to the community.
- Andrea Schlageter mentioned a larger organization is required to be the operating organization along with Curbside San Diego and she is not supportive of going forward without the support of the OBMA.

Motion to table Action Item #4 to review alternate ideas and to wait to see implementation of program in downtown San Diego, North Park, or Pacific Beach.

1st Nicole Ueno 2nd George McCalla

Votes: Yea 5 Nay 0 Unanimous

INFORMATION ITEM #1: Follow Up from Andrea Regarding Bike Path Repaving

- MBPB has not met again yet and we are still waiting on some follow up.
- Rick Wilson mentioned he has observed an increase of use of the bike path. He has seen a lot of families and children riding along the path. He requested that we continue to have this as an ongoing topic.
- Tracy Dezenzo will keep it on the agenda until we get closure on the topic.

INFORMATION ITEM #2: West Point Loma & Bacon CIP: Roundabout and sidewalk improvements

- Tracy Dezenzo mentioned her parents received a letter from the city notifying them of the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of West Point Loma Blvd and Bacon at the entrance of Robb Field to fix ADA issues at this location.
- Andrea Schlageter is going to follow up with the city traffic manager Steven Bliss about this development.

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Additional Business

- Nicole Burgess and Rick Wilson to be appointed at the next traffic meeting on July 27th, 2020.
- Nicole Burgess mentioned how disappointed she was in the Nimitz Corridor Improvements that were recently completed by the city. They did not use any of the OBPB suggestions for the improvement project. She requested we discuss this topic at the next traffic meeting.
 - o Tracy Dezenzo mentioned the green color contrast is not great.
- Nicole Burgess requested to add the intersection of Voltaire/Froude to the Transportation priority list.

Next meeting July 27, 2020

FINAL