

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

## HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

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## HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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### **Parks & Open Space / Transportation Committees Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 6:30PM**

#### **DRAFT of Minutes**

- I. Call to order and welcome:**  
6:34 PM, 31 attendance. 6:51, 38 attendance
- II. Minutes from previous meeting:**  
No minutes available to approve as Town Hall doesn't require it.
- III. The future use of the large dirt lot, located at 7317 Mulholland Drive, which serves the north entrance of Runyon Canyon Park. Presentations by CD4 and LA Rec & Parks. Additional time for public comment.**
  - a. Overview of the park from Sept 20 – Sept 21
    - i. Approximately 3500 visitors by day
    - ii. Introduction of parking challenge
      1. No designated parking lot
      2. 25 spaces off
    - iii. Study recommended pay and stay lot off of Mulholland
      1. Annual Expense: 101,728.00
      2. One Time Expense: 22,500
      3. Annual Revenue: 350,000 – 400,000
        - a. \$6.00 per hour
        - b. Two-hour limit
    - iv. Benefits
      1. Park Staff
      2. Revenue Improvements
  - b. CD 4 representative Rachel Fox introducing stakeholder concerns and interest in hearing back of the several options in the presentation.
    - i. Board comments:
      - Transportation chair – expressed anecdote of personal witness of ticketing.

- President – introduction as controversial issue - expressed anecdote of people coming out. Of the personal opinion that it became when stop signs were input at Desmond, creating backup, honking and bypassing. Partying when lot is open is heavy. Residence in park is renting on Airbnb, and creating issue. Personal opinion that for 25 cars, creates too much of a problem for too many others. During the pandemic, the problems have gone away.
- Area 3 – Two-hour window? Average stay in Runyon Park is two hours. Also, Santa Monica Conservancy gave the property to the City. What was in that contract?
- P&OS Chair – Asked Griffith Park comparison, GP is \$10 unlimited parking due to the Observatory also being used.
- Housing Chair – Uses south end of park. Uncomfortable when project for a park is framed as a revenue source. Would like to see it framed as conservation, accessibility, etc. Is the idea of revenue of great importance? How the neighbors felt about it, but how does public feel about it? Is interested in the drop off. The idea might be wonderful for CD 4 to look at shuttle drop off. Where it would pick people up?
- CD 4 Rep Berker, latest research about rideshare, not necessarily less vehicles. Might be more cars, according to latest studies.
- President mentioned that park is off leash and drive services may not take dogs.

#### ii. Public comments

- Alex Stern: Used to go three times a week before closure. Can't find parking since reopening. Has become dangerous, just waiting for one of the public streets on the side to become open. Chaotic when lot was open.
- Stuart: the opening of lot creates a problem. Cars waiting to park block Mulholland, the major artery. Lives an eighth of a mile away. Mulholland largest thoroughfare. The corner is odd. Desmond and Pyramid estates come in and people don't know how to negotiate. When you look at presentation numbers, that Mulholland gets 10% or 350, or 05%, 175, people vying for 24 parking spots. If there would be an emergency it is of concern. Believes that the lot should be kept closed.
- Andrew Solmssen: Can enter park where there is adequate parking. North parking important for people coming from the North. Important to keep it open, with the correct number for disabled. Small democratic way for parking to turn over. Seems a wonderful way to add accessibility for people otherwise could not have it. Wishes it to be available to everyone.
- Bob Mansell: Same concerns as Anastasia and Stuart. Last time it was open, was so unruly, had to have parking enforcement 10 – 20 hours a day. Quite expensive. Lot quickly fills up. Once it is filled, cars start to backup, and can't be mitigated unless you have a traffic officer working 12 hours a day. It is a main artery, not to mention hot rods and motorcycles blasting pass, the fights, the property damage in the lot, the noise, makes a quality of life issue. Strongly wants it closed. Make it a drop off, or shuttle drop off. Taking it back to a parking lot brings back the problems. Better use of City's resources to keep it closed and make it a drop off.
- Jacquelin Sonderling: Agrees with Bob and Anastasia. Been asking for a shuttle bus. Also problem, crime and smash and grab. Thieves are adept. Puts the whole hillside, not just adjacent homes, in danger.
- Kathleen: Lives on Pacific View Dr. Street is often used as overflow parking since it is not permitted. Traffic officers as mitigation. Currently isn't happening. Still constant flow. Idea

of opening parking lot with promise of officers is concern. Neighborhoods are using overflow. Wants the lot open to stop encouraging neighborhood parking, still dangerous without mitigation.

- Public Safety Chair – If the entire lot made ADA, then it would be positive for Seniors, since many have ADA. Might justify someone being there. ADA lot would allow accessibility.
- Stefanie Smith – would require modification. Major opening and retaining wall. Only looking Pay & Play, for revenue. Wanted to answer callers that staff would only be monitoring traffic flow inside the park. Once the lot is full, can put sign up in the park.
- Public Safety Chair – once get into ADA parking spots. Why no retaining wall? Please look into it for ADA rather than closing it.
- Elaine Lockhart-Mummery: Lives closest to the entrance of attendees. Do not want the lot opened again. Looking at the amount of revenue generated. If revenue is wanted, put the lot below. Quality of life, the parking lot is beautiful with the plantings without the cars. Current users use Uber to access. Has worked out in a year and a half.
- Housing Chair: a lot of sentiment against opening it up as a lot. Would like to address CD 4, what is the feasibility of a nuts and bolts required. How realistic to use as a shuttle, as a dash bus? It has been spoken from neighbors of the hardship, if there is a good way for a shuttle take it to someplace else?
- CD 4 – Rachel Fox. Since pandemic, Griffith Park shuttle stopped, driver shortages now, not just funding, but drivers would be able to park away from residential options. Trying to solve the short-term problem, and the impacts.
- Tracy James: As far as transit, all want it. Dash incorporated with entire Los Feliz circle. More like a Parkline shuttle, privately operated. Parks paid for the lease with Parkline for Griffith Park to operate it. Heard Jacqueline that there are spaces. CD 4 has wanted to do something where they could cars all in one place. If you live down below at Runyon. When one area is closed if it impacts another. If it does entrances.
- Housing Chair: has not noticed any distances. Can walk into park from Hawthorne from Vista into the park. Has copious parking in his neighborhood, but have to be willing to trudge up the hill. A finite amount of people that actually want to walk. Do not feel that the closure up top has not had any impact on the bottom.
- Tracy James: No that the community near may want it closed, but also receives information from others that want it open. Want to make decisions for the greater good. The park shuttle to create revenue for projects that aren't slated in the budget. Hopefully looking for other ways of projects. But understand
- Area 3 Chair – If your neighborhood having problems, contact CD 4 or HHWNC to get permit parking. Re: the Shuttle, there are other stops that affect Mulholland that at which a Shuttle could stop.
- Stuart: agrees with other stops. The impact on this tiny strip, by keeping the parking closed, that cuts down on some traffic, but there are other problems. Look at the impact holistically on Mulholland. Re: Permit Parking, tried to include permit parking, but others wouldn't do it.
- Transportation Chair – the opportunity to address it and will consider looking at other things.

- Elaine Lockhart-Mummery – New type of shared ride – with vans waiting for enough people. Might stop at other overlooks. City Council reps look into. Traffic impact, can't get out of the driveway when the lot is open. There is only so much one attendant can do. Believes the lot creates more opportunity for trouble. The public is used to it being closed.
- Parks Chair – if the lot is closed, is it up to code for a rideshare drop off, or does the lot need to be open for it to be legal.
- Park and Recs: Stefanie Smith – Would like to use it as an open space if not used as a parking lot.
- Alex Stern: Only person in attendance who uses the lot. A few challenges from some ideas. Ride share would cost \$40 a day. If a shuttle, would dogs be allowed to be on. Hopes that his recreation will continue.

iii. Next Steps

1. What is recs & parks doing for next steps?
2. Stefanie Smith – interested in public comment on the points presented in the slide show. Will bring it back to the NC when they have the comments. The comments card will be sent out for those who could not attend.
3. President – can create a temporary email address – can send comments- and referred to parks page.
4. Parks and Recs – Making comment?
5. President – who receives it.
6. Area 3 chair– Make it consistent with Park & Rec needs. The presentation is available on the website.
7. Transportation – have a form prepared where the information goes to -Will follow-up with an email to coordinate

**IV. Committee Business - Comments from the Board on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction**

a. Brief Announcements

- i. Ford Theatre ADA compliant walk. Two Zoom compliant meetings – 10/5, 7 – 8 PM. Can email [ParksChair@hhwnc.org](mailto:ParksChair@hhwnc.org).
- ii. Illegal removal of native trees on Solar Drive
- iii. Updates on this meeting.

b. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.

- i. Stakeholder commented on repercussions in neighborhoods south of Runyon.

c. Introduce new issues for consideration by the HHWNC Board at its next meeting/request that the item be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

- i. None presented.

**V. Future Agenda Items and other Calendar Events:** None presented

**VI. Comments from the public on agenda items and non-agenda items within the Committee's subject matter:** None presented.

**VII. Decision on next meeting date(s):** To be announced.

**VIII. Adjournment: 8:00 PM**