

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes
 26 April 2021 7:00pm
 Zoom
 Los Angeles, CA 90042

AGENDA

- Call to Order/Roll Call

7:05pm

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Spokes	X					
Estrella Sainburg	X					
Matt Saunders	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Danny Obeler	X					
Erica Rice						X
Elizabeth Kerstein						X
Chrissy Cerven	X – 7:30pm					
Total:	7					2

- General Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items—Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (Limited to 5 min, max 1 min per speaker)

Public Comment: Steve, Estrella

- [2 min] Motion to approve agenda with new order (Ave 50 Roundabout ahead of York Park)

Public Comment: None

Danny Obeler motions to approve the agenda. Emily Spokes seconds.

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Emily Spokes	X					
Estrella Sainburg	X					
Matt Saunders	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Danny Obeler	X					
Erica Rice						X
Elizabeth Kerstein						X
Chrissy Cerven						X
Total:	6					3

Motion carries.

- [10 min] Agenda item: Meridian and Ave 50 Roundabout Update from LADOT

Public Comment: Clare Eberle (LADOT)

- Purpose is to calm local streets and grant funds are available for connectivity and safety
- Meridian and Ave 50 intersection was identified because of existing network connections (bike infrastructure) and important neighborhood streets
- Mid-process of community feedback and final design
 - HHPNC Project Presentation in Sept 2020
 - Survey October – February
 - Outreach at intersection
 - Overwhelming support for enhanced safety and pedestrian elements
- Construction start targeted for 2022, with continuous improvements
- LADOT working with CD14 to continue outreach and improvements
- Email: ladot.active@lacity.org; <https://ladotlivablestreets.org/projects/Meridian-Ave50>

Public Comment:

- Nancy Alfaro regarding pedestrian visibility
- Gemma Marquez regarding enforcement and changing behavior (problematic through the neighborhood)

- Nancy Alfaro regarding increased speeding on Meridian due to bike lane occupying York Blvd.
- Gemma Marquez regarding original Meridian bike route and downsized York Blvd.; roundabout is a non-deterrent
- Estrella Sainburg regarding increased use of Spanish-term for roundabout (glorieta); future of Highland Park will be much more congested so a more local plan is needed
- [10 min] Agenda item: York Park
 - Community Impact Statement to be submitted by HHPNC following study of soil and issues, including Councilmember Gil Cedillo, Councilmember Kevin de León, and Water Resources Board, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, California State Water Resources Control Board
 - Community Impact Statement draft reviewed by Committee and public
 - Emily and Scott spoke with LA Recs and Park (owners of land), with support from Alice Roth (CD14 Area Director) and Sarah Flaherty (CD14 Field Deputy)
 - LA Recs and Park is willing to do their own research and invited HHPNC to layout our requests and scope of work
 - Propose 2, 5, and 10 foot depth at several areas
 - Vapor barrier was recommended but proof of installation can not be found
 - Risk of penetrating the vapor barrier during sample taking (if it exists)
 - Need final comments ASAP so that we can get on the Executive meeting agenda on May 6th, 2021

Public Comment:

- Mario Lopez regarding clarification around the soil tested at one foot depth – This is fill soil (new soil placed on previous soil) and yet the diesel vapors are prevalent
- Nancy regarding community request to add testing within a certain radius around the leakage site while also identifying the flow of groundwater
- Gemma Marquez suggested outreach to Nate Hayward, previously worked for Councilmember Huizar
- [5 min] Agenda item: Clean Street Funds (\$1417)
 - Money can be used for beautification, cleaning, habitat restoration, landscaping, etc. as a “green fund”
 - If Sustainability committee decides on an action, the HHPNC Board can then opine
 - HHPNC could a model for monitoring tree maintenance (public and private)

Public Comment:

- Alice Roth regarding contracting the LA Conservation Corps coming out three days per work (currently in LA Budget Committee); also mentioned Urban Forestry program

Estrella Sainburg motions to make a general recommendation to use these funds to hire the LA Conservation Corps to water neighborhood trees that need water the most, including the youngest and most at-risk trees. Emily Spokes seconds.

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Matt Saunders	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Danny Obeler	X					
Erica Rice						X
Elizabeth Kerstein						X
Chrissy Cerven						X
Total:	6					3

Motion carries.

- [5 min] Agenda item: Discussion and possible motion to submit public comment on behalf of HHPNC on the environmental issues to be evaluated in the Program Environmental Impact Report. The aim of the Program is to improve the overall water supply resiliency and reliability for Los Angeles by recycling 100% of available treated wastewater. (5 min; See supporting docs).

Public Comment: None

- [5 min] Agenda item: Discussion on how best to map HP trees (Estrella 5 min)
 - a. Steve: Can survey the neighborhood
 - b. Will add to next meeting agenda
 - c. Emily to go out in the next week or two to support Tree Survey work

Public Comment: None

- [5 min] Agenda item: Updates on LA Composts webinar (Matt 5 min)
 - Has communicated with Sanitation Department representative
 - Targeting May 25th to be held prior to the next Sustainability Committee
 - Matt to make fliers

Public Comment:

- Alice Roth regarding assistance with outreach
- [5 min] New Business
 - Alice: Upcoming tree giveaway on May 15, May 29, and June 15
 - Covid-19 vaccines are available

Public Comment: None

Chrissy Cerven motions to adjourn the meeting XX:XXpm. Emily Spokes seconds.

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Danny Obeler	X					
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Elizabeth Kerstein						X
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Total:	7					2

Motion carries.