

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CNC)
Public Safety & Transportation (PS&T) Committee
October 16, 2012 Minutes

Item 1 – Matt Weintraub, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM at the Chatsworth Train Depot, 10038 Old Depot Plaza Road in Chatsworth.

Roll was taken. Council Committee Members present were Mary Kaufman, Erik Pampalone (7:35), and Matt Weintraub. Diana Dixon-Davis, Carol Lucas, Scott Munson, and Lucie Volotsky were absent. Stakeholder members Michele DeGaetano (7:20), Jesse Fuller, Jim Rahm and Clara Woll were present. There was a quorum. Stakeholders in attendance included Dean, Erin, Helen, Marty and Sharon.

Item 2 – Stakeholder comments:

- Helen explained that she is concerned because to ride the Orange Line at senior rates you must have a “Tap” card. In order to get a Tap card the person has to have a photo of a certain size and fill out forms, which must be either mailed or taken in person downtown. As far as she knows, there are no Valley locations to get a Tap card. This is particularly hard for people who rely on public transportation. Mary offered to look into it for Helen. Mary will report to the Committee next month.
- Erin handed out a package that included photos. She spoke about the widening of Chatsworth Street just west of De Soto Avenue and the impact that has on access to the driveways of the properties in that area, as well as on pedestrians and equestrians.
- Marty talked about the history of the Deer Lake development, the related mitigation measures and the current status of the project.
- Dean was in attendance to discuss Item 8.

New Business:

Item 3. **Jesse moved approval of the September 18, 2012 Committee minutes and Michele seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved (7 votes in favor).**

Item 4. No one expressed an interest in becoming a stakeholder member.

Item 5. While waiting for a quorum for the meeting, Mary had provided those present with information she obtained in a meeting with Mr. Firoozmand of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Among other things, Mary had asked specifically about the left turn signal for eastbound Chatsworth Street turning onto northbound De Soto Avenue. Mr. Firoozmand had explained the intersection timing and how sensors in the street change the timing based on the number of vehicles in the left turn lane. It was decided that a letter was no longer needed.

Item 6. The discussion of Southern California Gas Company's Aliso Canyon facility expansion was postponed until additional information is provided.

Old Business:

Item 7. There was a discussion of the intersection of De Soto Avenue at Vintage, particularly relating to the alley on the west side of De Soto. Clara suggested that prior to sending a letter to DOT, the Committee contact Chatsworth High School to determine if School Police could make an effort to monitor that intersection. It was suggested that Diana be the Committee member to contact the school. Mary volunteered to check with Mr. Firoozmand about requirements for instillation of “keep clear” signs.

Item 8. Dean spoke about the number and speed of cars using Oakdale between Lassen and Plummer. He provided some ideas for a Committee letter and suggested that a traffic study be requested. Several people mentioned that a four-way stop at Superior might reduce speed and possibly the volume of cars as well. Mary offered to work with Dean to find out what action DOT requires for stop signs to be installed. Jesse volunteered to draft a letter for the November Committee meeting.

Item 9. Mary had previously provided those present with a report on the information she obtained in a meeting with Mr. Firoozmond of DOT (see Item 5).

Item 10. Erik read the draft letter he prepared (and e-mailed to the Committee) regarding beautification and traffic calming measures for Devonshire Street between Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Mason Avenue. This was followed by a discussion of the letter. **Mary moved to accept Erik's letter and that it be sent on to the full Chatsworth Neighborhood Council. Jesse seconded the motion. The motion was approved, with six votes in favor and Clara abstaining.**

Item 11. PS&T Budget: Clara said that the \$250 allocated by PS&T for the Animal Services Reserve Officer program was tabled by CNC until additional information can be provided. Michele mentioned that it had taken so long to get the air conditioning for the Fire Station 107 that she is not sure she wants to undertake another purchase for them, in which case additional funds would be available to LAPD. Jim said he has mentioned to the LAPD-Devonshire Division Captain that some funds are available from CNC for items needed by officers.

Item 12. Clara mentioned that no one was registered for the Orange-A-Thon Walk/Ride as of Monday, so at least some of the \$100 approved for that project will probably be available.

Item 13. Action Items – Clara said that the improvements at the corner of Variel and Rinaldi related to the Sierra Canyon Elementary School Athletic Field were finally completed on October 2, 2012. Mary mentioned that she is concerned because there is a break in the horse trail railing along Rinaldi Street that is large enough for a horse to get through.

Item 14. Committee Comments - Matt asked if anyone knew if there is a way to provide exemptions for residents of an area when there are no right turn signs posted for certain times of day on a street. Jim said he will ask LAPD about this.

- Jesse mentioned that he had been forwarded an e-mail from a man who rides a bicycle on Valley Circle. The rider is concerned that the road is very narrow, but noted that there is a wide shoulder that could be made into a bike lane.

-Erik moved to adjourn the meeting and Matt seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.