

# Coastal Mobility and Livability Working Group (CMLWG)

## Final Summary Notes

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### Meeting No. 2

September 7, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Encinitas Library

540 Cornish Drive

Encinitas, California 92024

*A copy of the CMLWG meeting agenda and packet may be viewed by the public in the Planning and Building Department lobby during normal business hours and on the City's webpage at <http://www.encinitasca.gov/index.aspx?page=529>*

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The CMLWG consists of thirteen (13) regular members. The CMLWG will also consist of a representative from each of the City's Commissions to serve as ex-officio members.

#### **Regular Members as of 9/17/16**

1. Carris Rhodes, Leucadia 101
2. Brett Farrow, Cardiff 101
3. Tom Cozens, Encinitas 101
4. Jim Benedetti, Chamber
5. VACANT/TBD, No Rail Trail
6. Jody Hubbard, Yes Rail Trail
7. Rahul Deshpande, Cardiff T.C.
8. William Morrison, Leucadia T.C.
9. Judy Berlfein, Bike/Walk Encinitas
10. Mikayla McFadden, Paul Ecke School
11. Robert Hemphill, Engaged Citizen
12. Ron Dodge, Engaged Citizen
13. Carmen Barnard, Latino/Hispanic

#### **Ex Officio Commission Members as of 9/17/16**

1. Greg Drakos, Planning
2. Peter Kohl, Traffic and Safety
3. Joy Lyndes, Environmental
4. VACANT/TBD, Arts
5. Gabriella Gjata, Youth
6. VACANT/TBD, Senior
7. John Gjata, Parks and Recreation

At this meeting, nearly all members that have been formally appointed were present. Only one member was absent (Jody Hubbard).

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)**

Alec Jolly addressed the working group and spoke on the need to explore trenching and covering the tracks throughout the corridor.

## **3. PARKING STUDY – SURVEY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

A presentation was made to the CMLWG, providing an introduction to the Coastal Corridor Parking Study scope of work and an overview of the survey design and methodology. The CLMWG was asked to provide feedback on the proposed administration of the survey, including where, when, and how the surveys would be administered. Key discussion points and/or items that surfaced during the feedback session included:

- How will parking policies and programs be enforced?
- Methodology comments, including questions regarding stakeholder interview process and interviewees, observations that the survey should ideally address summer crowds and out of town visitors, a suggestion to engage the entire City through surveys, suggestions to conduct intercept surveys on both weekdays and weekends, and a note that the survey should be able to collect data regarding party sizes that exceed a single vehicle.
- Comments suggesting the need to consider the atypical survey situation, such as those that stay at home due to lack of parking or those that park and then walk across Highway 101.
- A suggestion was made to engage walkers as part of the intercept survey, and to consider more questions regarding walking and biking, and how perceptions of safety might push those that would prefer to walk or bike to decide to drive.
- A suggestion was made to attempt to assess whether there is a need for safer parking facilities.
- A suggestion that the parking study consider how increased parking may increase traffic.
- A comment was made about the perception of safety associated with on-street parking.
- A suggestion was made to coordinate with the Traffic and Safety Commission regarding the availability of additional data.

In addition, City staff noted that parking count data from the summer season will be assessed as part of the parking study.

#### **4. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ALTERNATIVES AND WAYSIDE HORN DEMONSTRATION**

Because the blowing of railroad train horns can be disruptive at times, the Coastal Mobility and Livability Study (CMLS) will explore two options for minimizing train noise: 1) a Wayside Horn; and 2) a corridor-long Quiet Zone. To help the City evaluate these two options, a Wayside Horn Demonstration Test will be undertaken on September 22, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Cardiff area (just north of the Cardiff Elementary school), so that the public can provide feedback on the Wayside Horn.

City staff and the consultant (HDR) provided a presentation to the CMLWG - providing an overview of the rail line crossing options (at-grade, undercrossings, and overcrossings), as well as the approach to the Wayside Horn Demonstration Test. It should be noted that as the CMLS progresses and looks further at connectivity, other crossing locations and options may be considered during the CMLS process, which is intended to culminate in a comprehensive mobility and livability vision for the corridor.

The CMLWG was asked to provide feedback on how to increase project awareness and/or to publicize the opportunity for public input on the Wayside Horn Demonstration Test. Key discussion points that surfaced during the feedback session included:

- CMLWG indicated they were comfortable with the approach to acoustic data collection.
- Recommendations to expand the property/resident notification area beyond 1200 feet from the potential Montgomery Street rail line crossing, noting that a Wayside Horn could be implemented at several potential rail line crossings throughout the City and this would be of interest to a broader geography.
- Suggestions to be very clear with the public what input is requested from them and that there will be multiple methods for providing input
- Comments noting that specific crossing locations may work better and/or are preferred, such as Verdi, among other potential locations.
- Concern regarding potential malfunction of the Wayside Horn (power failure, will engineer know to blow train horn if Wayside Horn malfunctions?)
- Comment noting that most of Orange County is currently a Quiet Zone and interest in a comparable Quiet Zone for the City of Encinitas.
- When publicizing the Wayside Horn Demonstration Test, it should be made clear that the test should be of interest to the entire Encinitas community because Wayside Horns could be implemented at multiple crossings.

- Comment noting that assurances are needed that freight trains will comply with Quiet Zone.
- Several comments were also provided regarding messaging and communication in support of the Wayside Horn Demonstration Test.

City staff created a draft flyer to help promote awareness of the demonstration event. A draft version of the flyer was circulated to all CMLWG members. Staff asked for comments about the layout and content. Several suggestions were received to simplify the mailer. Staff indicated that revisions would be made to the flyer.

## **5. INTRODUCTION TO COASTAL RAIL TRAIL (CRT)**

A presentation was made the CMLWG, providing an overview of the CRT history and the current planning status of the CRT.

## **6. SANDAG/CALTRANS PUBLIC WORKS PLAN (PWP) PROJECTS AND OUTREACH OVERVIEW**

A brief presentation was made to the CMLWG, providing an overview of SANDAG and Caltrans PWP Projects and associated outreach.

## **7. NEXT STEPS**

A brief discussion of next steps for the CMLWG resulted in the following key discussion points:

- The Wayside Horn test is scheduled for September 22, 2016 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at a temporary demonstration location in the Cardiff area (near Montgomery Avenue).
- Next CMLWG meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2016 at City Hall Pointsettia Room;
  - This meeting is tentatively scheduled to run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Suggestions were made to be more efficient with CMLWG time, which included:
  - Address housekeeping and administrative items via email so as not to cut into CMLWG meeting time
  - Provide refreshments at the CMLWG meetings since they are scheduled during dinner time
  - An effort will be made to use small breakout discussion groups, as appropriate, to allow for more efficient and productive CMLWG discussion

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS CONT'D**

Ed Thielicke addressed spoke about the Wayside Horn demonstration at Montgomery Avenue.

Julie Thunder also addressed the Montgomery Avenue rail crossing.

*Richard Risner filled out a speaker slip but declined to comment.*

*Kathleen Lees filled out a speaker slip but was not present to comment.*