

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LANCASTER ARCHITECTURAL AND DESIGN COMMISSION

February 5, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bartlett called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Mercy.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioners Mercy, Wiley, Vice Chair Bartholet, and Chairperson Bartlett.

ABSENT: Commissioners Harris, and Hearn.

Also present were the following: Brian Ludicke (Planning Director), Chuen Ng (Associate Planner), Randie Davis (Assistant Planner), Elma Watson (Assistant Planner), and Marion Coleman (Recording Secretary); there was one person in the audience.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Chairperson Bartlett and seconded by Vice Chair Bartholet to approve the minutes from the Meeting of May 1, 2014. Motion carried with the following vote (4-0-0-2).

AYES: Commissioners Mercy, Wiley, Vice Chair Bartholet, and Chairperson Bartlett.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners Harris, and Hearn.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Chairperson Bartlett opened at 5:23 p.m., for presentations.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF TOUR OF BLVD MUSIC PROGRAMMING AT WESTFIELD VALENCIA TOWN CENTER ON JUNE 5, 2014

Presenters: Chair April Bartlett and Assistant Planner Randie Davis

Randie Davis and Chair Bartlett reported that in visiting Westfield Valencia Town Center, the Center's administration stated there was funding and they were in the process of updating the system to play different types of music in different zones of the mall to be accomplished in the near future. Randie Davis also conducted a survey at another mall in Palm Springs area; the following points were noted:

- Music generally only played a role in the mall experience when customers visited certain stores and the music was too loud – in that case they would leave (Hot Topic store)
- The only music that people noticed being played was holiday music because it was heard in the open areas as well as within the store (almost an overload).
- Most people did not notice music being played.
- In some cases customers noticed the music if in an area where the noise level was low, and the song being played was one they liked.

In conclusion, music does not seem to play a role in people shopping or eating habits unless the music overpowers the atmosphere. On the other hand, music seems to be a part of the overall shopping experience but not to the point where one would base their shopping choice on the type of music being played. The process and set-up for music to be played in any shopping area is very costly.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF TOUR FOR THE CITY OF LANCASTER/ APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING CENTERS ON OCTOBER 9, 2014

Presenter: Planning Director Brian Ludicke

Brian Ludicke informed that the tour visits to the Electrical Training Institute in the City of Commerce, and the Plumbers & Steamfitters Union Van Nuys Training Center, were sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). Chairperson Bartlett and Commissioner Wiley were in attendance.

A discussion of the need for participation in the program from the Lancaster area was expressed by Commissioner Wiley, with reservations concerning transportation. Chairperson Bartlett stated with the training would be in high demand due to the technology increasing and expanding. Also, a program of this magnitude would require a partnership of union members and private contractors. A possible satellite-type program was suggested to be provided in the Lancaster area to cater to jobs/training (for example electrical, railroad crossing), that would also bring neighboring residents to Lancaster.

Brian Ludicke concluded that the City Manager desired that the ADC would become familiar with the construction that could present an opportunity of jobs for youth that may become available in the area.

4. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) MASTER PLAN - STATUS

Presenter: Assistant Planner Elma Watson

In May 2013, the City of Lancaster received a grant from Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to fund the development of a Safe Routes to School Master Plan. However in April 2014, the federal budget for the Centers for Disease Control cut this funding, and the Master Plan work ceased. Draft plans for 19 of the 30 public schools in Lancaster had been completed.

Staff applied for funding through the Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) to complete the work. The funding will allow the completion of the remaining draft plans for 11 of the schools and to finalize the comprehensive Master Plan. Ryan Snyder was recently selected as the consultant to take the project forward. A Staff Report to reflect this decision will be presented to the City Council on February 10th, after that date necessary contract agreements will be processed. Staff anticipates beginning working with the schools again in mid-March.

The Safe Routes Master Plan focuses on areas within a half mile of schools. The Master Plan will include the 5E approach to actively promote walking and bicycling to school. The 5Es are:

- Engineering – to make physical improvements to the routes that students use to walk or bike to school
- Education – to teach students safe walking and bicycling habits and to teach parents the importance of driving safely
- Encouragement – to promote walking and bicycling to school so more students choose to do so
- Enforcement – to ensure that rules of the road are followed, as well as safe pick-up and drop off practices are adhered to at the schools
- Evaluation – to track the plan to measure its success and to modify the plan as needed

By securing this recent ATP grant, the City has the ability to continue the Safe Routes efforts which will have a significant positive effect on the residents in Lancaster. The development of this Master Plan has been a great partnership that has brought together local public health advocates, parents, four School Districts, and City staff for an important cause: To create a safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to walk and bike to and from school, to provide an opportunity for more physical activity, and to enhance traffic safety.

5. COMPLETE STREETS

Presenter: Planning Director Brian Ludicke

Brian Ludicke conducted the PowerPoint presentation; he stated that the City had received a grant for the project which would be administered through the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The Commissioners and Staff reviewed and discussed various issues from the photos presented in the categories below:

- Definition of Complete Streets
- Safe Access
- Roads (Highways, Freeways) – levels of access
- Streets – designed for local land use

- Stroad (street & road) – does not effectively meet either access or mobility needs, but is often the type of roadway now built in suburban areas
- A Different Approach (roadway design)
- Complete Streets Design
 - Speed
 - Safety
 - Connected Network
 - Productivity

**6. UPCOMING “CURBSIDE CHAT” BY CHUCK MAROHN
OF STRONG TOWNS – MARCH 4, 2015**

Presenter: Planning Director Brian Ludicke

Brian Ludicke presented video of Chuck Marohn, President and Co-founder of Strong Towns, who will also be in Lancaster on Wednesday, March 4, 2015; venue and time to be confirmed.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m., to the Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., in the Lancaster City Hall Council Chambers.

APRIL BARTLETT, Chairperson
Lancaster Architectural and Design Commission

ATTEST:

BRIAN S. LUDICKE, Planning Director
City of Lancaster