



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Stakeholder Meeting

Monday, April 27th, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA
90066

AGENDA

1. **Call to order and Welcome** – Chair (1 min)
2. **Public Comment & Announcements** - for items not on the agenda (max 1 min each unless waived by the Chair)
3. **Funding Motions** (Public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker)
 - a. **FUNDING MOTION:** Ink for Venice High School printer
The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$350 for the purchase of ink for Venice High School's color printer.
 - b. **FUNDING MOTION:** Venice High School Spirit Campaign
The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes a \$250 neighborhood purpose grant in support of a Venice High School Spirit Campaign that seeks to raise the profile of pride and awareness in the community support following the unwanted international attention at VHS in March.
 - c. **FUNDING MOTION:** Grand View/McBride Elementary School
The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes a neighborhood purpose grant not to exceed \$510 for the purchase of playground equipment.
4. **Education, Arts and Culture Committee** – Brad Wilhite, Co-chair Sara Roos, Co- Chair
 - a. **Motion to recognize student achievement**
The Mar Vista Community Council will present appreciation certificates to selected middle and high school students at the May 12 Board of Directors meeting.
5. **Mandarin Immersion Program** – Discussion and action items (public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker unless waived by the Chair)
 - a. **Motion in support** (submitted by Mitchell Rishe, Ken Alpren and Sara Roos)

Whereas, educational excellence is a right of and a benefit to all residents of Mar Vista. By supporting strong educational and financial opportunities for our stakeholders, Mar Vista becomes increasingly attractive, raising property values and increasing the flow of amenities and services catering to this ever more thriving community;

Whereas, the Los Angeles Unified School District ("LAUSD") owns land in Mar Vista bordered by Walgrove Ave, Victoria Ave, Beethoven Ave and Lucille Ave., commonly known as the Mark Twain Middle School ("Mark Twain") campus;

Whereas, LAUSD proposes to create a Mandarin and English Dual-Language Immersion Elementary School at the MTMS campus (the "Project"), and has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") for the Project;

Whereas, the Project is part of an articulated instructional pathway among the Venice and Mar Vista family of schools including immersion programs at Grand View Boulevard Elementary School, Broadway Elementary School, Richland Avenue Elementary School, and the language magnets at Mark Twain and Venice High School. This initiative, and specifically the Project, will benefit all residents of Mar Vista by invigorating enthusiasm for the high quality educational programs within our own boundaries;

Whereas, the DEIR recognizes that the Project will result in significant and unavoidable impacts to traffic, especially along the severely overloaded "F"-rated north-south streets of Walgrove and Beethoven Avenues;

Whereas, the DEIR estimates that the Project will cost at least \$30 million in construction bond money and will result in the loss of up to 4 acres of open playing-field space from the Mark Twain campus;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Mar Vista Community Council supports the Project at the Mark Twain campus, but requests that LAUSD and the City of Los Angeles join efforts to mitigate impacts not only caused by the Project but traffic impacts that have long preceded it in the extended community as follows:

A. That the Project mitigate traffic impacts to the greatest possible extent feasible, which must include: (i) extending the transportation radius significantly in order to encourage virtually all campus arrivals to be via foot, bicycle or bus, rather than private passenger car transportation; (ii) improvements to sidewalks, bike lanes and street crossings to facilitate walking, boarding and biking to school; (iii) roundabouts at the four corners of the campus; and (iv) dedication of school property to the City for street widening and creation of a drop-off zone.

B. That the Project mitigate the loss of open space caused by the Project through improvements to the remaining recreational facilities at the MTMS campus, as well as improvements to other parks and schools in Mar Vista.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Project should utilize existing buildings at the Mark Twain campus to the greatest extent feasible, and that LAUSD utilize a portion of the cost savings to improve and upgrade existing educational and recreational facilities at Mark Twain, so that the Project benefits the community as a whole, not just the Mandarin and English Dual-Language Immersion school students.

Be it Further Resolved, that the Mar Vista Community Council requests that LAUSD upgrade and improve all existing schools within the Mar Vista community, including Beethoven Street Elementary School, Walgrove Avenue Elementary School, Venice High School, Phoenix High School, Grand View Boulevard Elementary School, Mar Vista Elementary School, Richland Avenue Elementary School, and Webster Middle School, as well as our sister Mar Vista schools east of the San Diego freeway, so that Mar Vista stakeholders are provided the educational opportunities they deserve.

b. **Motion Against** (submitted by West Mar Vista Neighborhood Association)

Whereas the Mar Vista Community and the parents of the Mandarin Immersion Program at Broadway Elementary School agree with Board Member Zimmer's statement, and as quoted: "To find a balance for educational needs and the protection of the quality of life of the Mar Vista Stakeholders", and

Whereas the Draft Environmental Impact Report "Mandarin and English Dual-Language Immersion Elementary School Project" prepared for the Los Angeles Unified School District 'LAUSD' by Sapphos Environmental, Inc. for the LAUSD Office of Environmental Health and Safety was released for review March 26, 2015, and

Whereas that Draft EIR clearly states the alternative of least impact is the 'Redistricting Alternative',

Therefore, the Mar Vista Community Council asks that LAUSD and Board Member Zimmer implement "The Redistricting Alternative", and the MVCC also requests the support of Councilmember Bonin going forward, as it offers the least impacts to the community; preserves valuable open space; enhances community equity by promoting use of existing local underutilized campus facilities--thereby improving neighborhood schools; and saves the public \$30 million on a new campus that is not needed.

6. **Public Comment**

7. **Adjournment**

- * *In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact secretary@marvista.org.*
- ** *As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting chair@marvista.org.*