



**Downtown Long Beach Associates
Minutes of the Capital Improvement Projects Task Force**

Tuesday, May 12, 2009—10:30 a.m.
Downtown Long Beach Associates
Executive Conference Room
100 West Broadway, Suite 120
Long Beach, CA 90802

PRESENT

Members: Craig Beck, Cory Kristoff, Richard Lewis, John Morris, Brian Ulaszewski

Staff: Kraig Kojian, Kris Larson, Erin Murphy

I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairs Cory Kristoff and Craig Beck called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Craig Beck made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2009, Capital Improvement Project Task Force meeting. Brian Ulaszewski seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed.

III. PROPOSED PROJECTS—FUNDING AND TIMELINES

1st Street Connection—Design Competition

Kris Larson provided information on the pros and cons of Open and Invitation-Only Design Competitions. **After much discussion, the Task Force decided to move forward with allocating up to \$5,000 for a call for submissions culminating in a public design charrette to be co-hosted by the DLBA, Planning Department, and RDA in approximately 60 days.** The charrette would allow for a free forum to engage creative ideas from local design professionals as well as the community at large, targeted toward making 1st Street between Pine and Elm Avenues a more inviting pedestrian experience. There was some discussion of offering nominal prize amounts to winning ideas; Ulaszewski suggested \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$100 for third place. Larson mentioned the possibility of displaying some of the ideas in a vacant storefront, and it was noted that designs would become property of the City.

The Task Force decided to focus on 1st Street instead of Broadway because several development projects remain to be completed on Broadway, which will necessarily alter the streetscape, whereas 1st Street is essentially built-out, pending the

completion of the Long Beach Transit Visitor Information Center. Kristoff suggested that consumers seek more than beautification and that the most successful improvements would involve retail as well.

Pine Avenue Master Plan

Beck reported that the RDA had hired Moore Iacafano Goltsman at an approximate cost of \$330,000 to create a Pine Avenue Master Plan that would involve a community-based steering committee to advise the project. **After discussion, the Task Force agreed to allocate \$50,000 to support the plan.**

Street-closure Bollards

Kojian reported that it had been suggested that manually retractable bollards be added to 1st Street improvements currently being done in the East Village, pending the approval of the City's Traffic Engineer. The bollards would remove the need to rent water barricades for events such as weekly Farmers Market and monthly 2nd Saturday Artwalk street closures. **The Task Force recommended that up to \$20,000 be allocated for bollards.** Kojian mentioned that he would investigate the possibility of installing similar bollards on Pine Avenue as well.

LED Lighting, Phase II

Kojian presented current locations of LED lighting installed in December 2008 on Pine Avenue, and the Task Force then considered potential additional locations to install lighting. Cooper Arms and The Breakers/Sky Room were strongly recommended due to their architectural detail, with interest in Ocean Center (110 West Ocean Boulevard) if the building was repainted and the front green space was landscaped. Kojian provided an estimate of approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 to light one building. The Task Force also considered adding lighting to the Ferris wheel or roller coaster at the Pike at Rainbow Harbor. Morris suggested working with the property owner at The Breakers to share costs and include tree-skinning for palm trees in Victory Park. **The Task Force recommended allocating up to \$40,000 to expand the LED Lighting project to the Cooper Arms, The Breakers, and possibly Ocean Center.**

Convention and Entertainment Center Lighting

Kojian stated that DLBA had installed metal halide lights in historic light standards along Pine Avenue, which created whiter, brighter light without negatively impacting residents with light pollution. Kojian suggested that the Task Force consider replacing the low-sodium lights still used in front of the Convention and Entertainment Center at a cost of approximately \$500 per light, with about 30 lights in the area. **The Task Force supported allocating \$15,000 to install metal halide lights in front of the Convention and Entertainment Center.**

Replacing Trees in Empty Tree Wells

Kojian reported that approximately 58 tree wells throughout the Downtown are missing trees. The Task Force raised concerns about planting trees on Pine Avenue before the completion of the Master Plan, and Kojian noted that few trees were

missing on Pine Avenue, with the majority in other areas. Ulaszewski suggested that DLBA consider irrigation on 1st Street and partnering with residents as well as Tree People for planting. **The Task Force recommended funding trees at \$5,000.**

Ulaszewski suggested that the Task Force in the long term consider landscaping and perhaps kiosks to improve the Terrace Theater Plaza.

Beck provided information on public art projects, including *Sea Grass* and *X Marks the Spot*. The Task Force did not recommend additional funding at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.