



**Downtown Long Beach Associates
Capital Improvement Projects Roundtable
Wednesday, March 24, 2010—10:00 AM
World Trade Center, Suite 370
Long Beach, CA 90831**

PRESENT

Derek Burnham, City of Long Beach Department of Planning
Mark Christoffels, City of Long Beach Department of Public Works
Sumire Gant, City of Long Beach Department of Public Works
Sandra Gonzalez, City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine
Kraig Kojian, DLBA
Cory Kristoff, The Swig Company
Kris Larson, DLBA
Carl Morgan, RDA
Erin Murphy, DLBA
Brad Segal, PUMA
Brian Ulaszewski, Studio 111
David White, RDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

DLBA Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Task Force Chair Cory Kristoff called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

II. INTRODUCTIONS and REVIEW OF PAST AND CURRENT CIP PROJECTS

Kristoff provided information about the CIP Task Force's purpose—to support projects to enhance the safety and/or beautify the Downtown in partnership with other organizations and agencies. David White provided the example of the 1st Street project in 2009, in which the RDA and DLBA added on the original scope of work identified by Public Works, as one instance of partnership as well as a demonstration of the need for collaborative planning. White suggested that one outcome of the roundtable might be the creation of a Downtown master project calendar and schedule. Kristoff then mentioned projects in which DLBA and other organizations had been involved, such as LED lighting, tree planting, and street bollards, as well as pending projects to which the CIP Task Force had committed funds, including the Pine Avenue Street and Landscape Plan, Ocean Boulevard art (*Sea Grass*), and parking garage signage. Sandra Gonzalez requested a clarification

of DLBA boundaries, which Kraig Kojian noted were approximately the 710 to Alamitos Avenue and the waterfront to 10th Street.

III. REPORTS ON UPCOMING DOWNTOWN PROJECTS

Redevelopment Agency, Central Project Area - David White

- Downtown Courthouse—relocating courthouse from Ocean Boulevard and Magnolia Avenue to an area bounded by 3rd Street, Magnolia Avenue, Daisy Avenue, and Broadway. Will remove on-street parking around perimeter of new site due to Homeland Security regulations prohibiting parking adjacent to a courthouse. Potential impact to Long Beach Transit service as well as bicycle lanes. State is choosing from among three designs. Escrow expected to close in July, with construction beginning in November. RDA hasn't yet determined the future of the current courthouse building upon the new building's completion. The current courthouse will remain in operation during construction of the new building.
- 6th Street Median Improvements—removing art elements from triangle median at 6th Street and Alamitos Avenue, re-landscaping area in summer 2010.
- 7th Street and Washington Place—new parking lot adding 27 residential spaces. Managed by City's Parking Operations office.
- Willmore City—installing historic neighborhood signage and converting system of courts and ways from alleys to regular streets.
- Temporary Art at Lime Avenue and Ocean Boulevard—Urban Lab will turn space from gated, mulched area with two metal sculptures into passive park space that can be programmed for events. Funding is \$60,000 from RDA and \$15,000 from an Arts Council grant. Urban Lab allows for park elements to be removed and relocated as needed.
- 4th Street between Long Beach Boulevard and Alamitos Avenue—proposed lighting expansion in FY11.
- Linden Avenue and Broadway—addition of bulb-out on Linden Avenue corner pending Public Works construction on Broadway. Will not affect bike lane.

Redevelopment Agency, Downtown Project Area - Carl Morgan

- Promenade—finished midblock and pulling back fence around grass area by mid-April for Grand Prix. Bidding south block (inclusive of pedestrian crossing at Ocean Boulevard to Convention and Entertainment Center), with construction start date estimated for late 2010. Maintenance of sidewalks and park space upon completion of construction is to be determined (must go to Parks and Rec Commission before Parks/Rec/Marine assumes responsibility for park space).
- Uplighting palm trees on Ocean Boulevard—completed at cost of \$296,000 using vendor City Light and Power.
- Pine Avenue Streetscape—Design palette has been determined, and construction drawings estimated to be created end of 2010, followed by initial implementation simultaneously between 7th and 8th and also south of Ocean Blvd

- CityPlace Shopping Center Garage C (at 3rd and Promenade)—\$6.828 million upgrade adding fourth level with 220 new spaces (125 for Park & Ride per an MTA grant), LED lighting, solar panels, painting, elevator improvement, and other outstanding deferred maintenance projects. In FY11.
- Lincoln Park—meeting with Parks/Rec/Marine re: Moore Iacafano Group (MIG) proposal to improve Lincoln Park
- Miscellaneous—Utility box art, Phantom Galleries, \$100,000 available for façade improvements, additional security cameras in coordination with LBPD

City of Long Beach Planning - Derek Burnham

- Downtown Community Plan—land use ordinance focused primarily on private development, working with Public Works on streetscape standards as well as sidewalk dining. Program Environment Impact Report (EIR) for the Downtown will be a financial relief and save time. New draft expected in April with EIR to follow.

City of Long Beach Public Works - Mark Christoffels

- Long Beach Boulevard—federal funding for resurfacing street between Ocean Boulevard and 8th Street, starting construction in May 2010 and working mostly at night, maintaining access to parking structures and MTA and bus routes. Sumi Gant observed that the street is a barrier to pedestrians. Morgan suggested considering crosswalk enhancements to promote connectivity.
- Pacific Avenue—federal funding for resurfacing street between Ocean Boulevard and 8th Street, construction expected to begin in June 2010 and occur in the daytime.
- Broadway sewer upgrades—currently ongoing between Pacific Avenue and Long Beach Boulevard.
- Magnolia Avenue, Broadway, and 3rd Street resurfacing on hold pending courthouse and bike lane construction.

City of Long Beach Transportation Planning - Sumire Gant

- Bike Lanes on Broadway and 3rd Street between the 710 and Alamitos Avenue—one-year pilot program to evaluate safety of bike lanes painted on Broadway and 3rd Streets, to be followed by permanent lane enclosures after one-year evaluation of any safety and traffic concerns. Christoffels and Gant explained that having the lane on the left side of the road violates federal safety codes, but is less impactful to transit routes and more natural for cars making protected left-hand turns, thereby necessitating the one-year trial period. Gant added that Manhattan is creating similar lanes. City Council will hear the plan on April 20, to be followed by lane painting in June 2010 and then installation of special traffic signals for bicyclists. Project will not impact number of parking spaces.
- Possible bike lane on Daisy Avenue from Ocean Boulevard to 9th Street in two or three years after completion of Vista bike lane.

- Bike racks—adaptation of former parking meter poles at the Pike at Rainbow Harbor into bike racks. Goodling interested in transforming unsightly newsracks into bike racks.
- Bike rentals—100 bikes at Downtown locations for Downtown employees and visitors, with additional 60 at CSULB campus. Major cost is maintenance and operations. No dedicated service contract identified yet.

City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation, & Marine - Sandra Gonzalez

- Lincoln Park dog park—completed
- Lincoln Park—build playground in place of Yokkaichi Garden in Lincoln Park. Can move Yokkaichi elements to Recreation Park.
- Long Beach Boulevard MTA Landscaping—conceptual drawings prepared in next six to nine months
- Interested in collaborating on connecting Downtown to Chavez Park and LA River as well as enhancing beach access and promoting California Coastal Trail

Long Beach Transit - Guy Heston

- Upgrades to bus stops—21 stops citywide with several Downtown, using stimulus funds. Canine art elements at K-9 Park bus stop, and art added at 4th Street and Linden Avenue stop.
- Overhaul of Transit Mall—Incorporating wave theme in architecture of shelters, lighting, and landscape elements, in accordance with design palette of Pine Avenue Street and Landscape Plan. Using \$5 million in grant funds. Construction slated to begin in late 2010, with bidding for elements separately to speed up the process. Cantilevering of wave elements over curb line to reduce “tunnel-like” feel of 1st Street. Sidewalks not included in plans. Morgan invited those in attendance to Long Beach Transit presentation to RDA on March 25.

Long Beach CVB - Steve Goodling

- CVB does not usually fund capital improvements, although partnered in LED and Ocean Boulevard lighting projects to enhance visitors’ experiences in the Downtown’s built environment.

IV. NEXT STEPS

Goodling suggested convening follow-up meetings to discuss storefront activation and bike racks. White requested attendees to send images and handouts to DLBA staff for group distribution along with meeting minutes as well as to convene quarterly meetings in order to facilitate coordination and communication, with DLBA serving as a clearinghouse for Downtown development information.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.