



General Council Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2021

Via Zoom Call

[www.theCVCouncil.com](http://www.theCVCouncil.com) or [contact@theCVCouncil.com](mailto:contact@theCVCouncil.com)

Please turn off or silence cell phones while inside the Council meeting

1. Call to Order & Welcome: President Leon, 7:00 p.m.
2. Flag Salute: Led by Mike Baldwin
3. Invocation: Led by Mike Baldwin
4. Roll Call: Recording Secretary Jeffrey Rodriguez - Present: Leon, Lewin, Libra, Hoffman, Stupakis, Ear, Rodriguez, Ordubegian, Kilpatrick, Brookbank, Rabinov, and Yu Not Present:
5. Approval of December Meeting Minutes as revised, motion to approve by Councilmember Ear. Seconded by Councilmember Rabinov. Approved unanimously.
6. Approval of February Meeting Agenda, motion to approve by Councilmember Ear. Seconded by Councilmember Kilpatrick. Approved unanimously.
7. Community Reports (3 min and questions)
  - a. Youth Council – Selena gave the following updates - The Youth Council’s next meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup>. We are brainstorming safe Covid fundraising ideas. One idea was an AP book fundraising concept. There are a lot of students have AP around the corner, and some students are taking multiple tests. It can be a financial strain on some, so they are thinking of ways to work with other organization to help fundraise for AP books
  - b. Sheriff - No update given
  - c. Fire Department – No update given – Fire stats were distributed to Councilmembers
  - d. CHP – No update given
  - e. CV Chamber – Mr. Baldwin gave the following updates. Not a lot going on. A lot of planning and brainstorming though. On behalf of the Chamber, we’d like to

welcome Harry Leon as our newest chamber member. We are working on possible events to have if the parks open up.

- f. CV Water – Mr. Ochoa gave the following updates. Water district has been very busy. It is budget season and new pipe and infrastructure are being put in the ground. This is thanks to the 5 million dollar bond (put into place last fall). Already 1 million dollars have been put into water infrastructure, and 3 million dollars is already committed in contracts, so good progress on bond projects. This will get us through about a year and half of capital expenditures, but there will likely need to be a need bond issued. CVWD board meeting is next Tuesday at 7 p.m. In January, 8 water leaks to repair, and cleaned 1800 feet of sewer mains. Working on a local hazard mitigation plan. This will look at system vulnerability caused by a catastrophic event. They will report back at March's meeting with the findings of the report.
- g. CV Cert – Mr. Dutton gave the following updates. Next Zoom meeting will be on the Cert web page, Facebook page, and CV Weekly. The meeting will be Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. A lot of the nation is suffering through a lot of storm, and dealing with power issues. We're going to talk about what no power means, no power to stores, no heat etc. etc. We can experience the same power outage from a wind event, so it's important to be prepared. We will send out the zoom link for the meeting.
- h. CV Ready - Fire Council - No update given
- i. CVCA – Mr. Michaels gave the following updates. Honolulu Project - The letter from LUC was received by the CVTC. The CVTC did hear the appeal. After discussion a successful motion wasn't found. To either return the project for redesign or recommend conditions of approval. So that project will be heard again in 2 weeks. Mr. Michaels will speak again. The CVCA meeting is February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. We will also talk about 3950 foothill and Lowell Project. The plans were just posted today. Buildings height range from 41 to 50 feet. This is a SB1818 project. Commercial on the ground floor and up to 4 floors of residential on top. CVCA will put out info on this project prior to the meeting. The design review board of Glendale will hear that on the 25<sup>th</sup>, the same night of our meeting, at 5 p.m. We will put out information to our distro list. The North Glendale Community plan and CV CSD all agree on 35 feet height limit on Foothill Blvd. There is an additional story allowed with a SB1818 density project, but the 51 feet in height exceeds what the single density bonus would allow with the current zoning. This is a concern, and why we want to get the information out to the public.
- j. GUSD – Superintendent Vivian Ekchian provided the following updates. From the perspective of public health, on Monday, the public health guidelines have changed. Now TK through 6th grade can return to school. We're carefully examining what that will look like. First and foremost, is making sure the students and teachers are safe. If we are going to have a hybrid program as we have been discussing, then it's another option that will be available. Some parents may want their children to go a

few times a week, other may prefer staying remote. More info soon. We've signed up for vaccine opportunities, and when it's our turn, we'll start getting vaccinations. We all want to be safe, so we're trying to come up with solutions that work for all families. All students are learning a lot, but it's tough on the youngest students to learn in a virtual environment. Coming in even a few times a week could prove useful to some of our families. However, some who prefer a virtual setting will still have that option. Athletic conditioning is back, and will be expanded. We want spring sports to go on, but with precautions and distancing. We've had very little infections. Likely fewer than 5, it's a very low number. Everybody is being careful, and it's remarkable to see it, and for everybody to come together as they have. We are now stronger because of all we've gone through. Questions by Leslie Dickson – 4 students in GUSD, very concerned about returning a commitment form, when things can change overnight. Right now, I don't feel comfortable, but that may change. Being forced to make decisions when we don't have plans from our school seems very unfair, and not the right approach. Some parents want to go, and some don't, and now it has turned into an online battle between those that do and don't. There doesn't seem to be a forum to talk to people and exchange thoughts constructively. There are a lot of good ways to get kids involved, and a lot of good ideas out there. We live in California, so why aren't we doing more outdoor classes. Superintendent Ekchian response – Tech pods will continue, but 2 schools aren't going to participate. Sufficient space has been found for students currently in the tech pods to continue. At the board meeting, the question came up - how many kids will be on campus? So that is the reason for the survey and form. The results and commitments will determine the volume we could expect. For example, if one school has every student response is that they want to return, then, we'll need to come up with an alternate location because all the classrooms are occupied. So we'd have to move our childcare program. So that was the point of the commitment form. Please remember there are a lot of factors to consider. We've added a Q and A to our website for questions that are coming in. We try and answer and review questions every hour. We want to make sure parents have a place to have questions answered. When time permits we can have a separate zoom meeting and I can answer your questions separately. The MOU that was in front of us, in one that we continue to work on. We have used every single word of what was in the MOU previously. There is nothing controversial, and the only agreement we didn't have, was one agreement with the Teacher's Union. They wanted the MOU to go to June 12<sup>th</sup> and for everybody to be virtual. Situations change, so we weren't ready to make that commitment in December, for next June, when things are so fluid right now. Everything was agreed upon besides the date. Other districts are reversing their previous decisions, and now feel like they committed too early. We understand changes can cause concern, and that is understandable. We hope we can lower anxiety, and we will continue to try and do so. Some parents want to

remain in virtual environments, while others are saying their children are struggling in a virtual environment. Miss Leslie Dickson responds – I've spoken to many people, and it's clear that a lot of kids are struggling with mental health. There are a lot of ideas out there, and I feel like we need to look at those. Glendora is doing a morning zoom session, so it's the same core curriculum, and then in afternoon, those that choose the hybrid program, will do an enrichment program. So some teachers who are ready to go back can, and the ones that aren't, don't have to. Social enrichment activities have been proven to work, and we should be doing more of those. We are forcing kids or teachers to go back, and some of them aren't ready. President Leon - We know this is important, and we want your questions answered, but please ask them via the website. Superintendent Ekchian responds – I'm sorry if your question(s) weren't answered, but please email me directly, and I will try and answer them. Please remember, the questions were more of a survey for planning purposes, not to force a decision on the parents. I have taken all of your names down, and I will connect with you tomorrow. Thank you for your time. GUSD Board member Jennifer Freeman gave the following updates. March 9<sup>th</sup> is the next GUSD Board Meeting.

- k. Land Use Committee – Miss Ines Chessum gave the following updates - Meeting was on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, Chris Kilpatrick has joined the LUC. He is the newest member. I spoke last time about 3 new members, so we've sent out advertising to try and fill the remaining two positions. The LUC has extended deadlines as follows, the applications are now due March 4<sup>th</sup>, the interviews are March 11<sup>th</sup>, certification on March 15<sup>th</sup>, and then at the March 18<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting, the LUC will propose the candidates to the CVTC. No other new applications yet, but hoping we will get some new ones. Mr. Grant Michaels made a presentation to the LUC, requesting a letter from LUC In Re: the 2943 Honolulu Project. The LUC made a motion to draft the letter. This letter has been forwarded to the CVTC and Glendale County. The concern is that the Project does have concessions, but the zoning, and the north Glendale CSD need to be respected as standing requirements. Mr. Dutton asks – How many are on the LUC now. Miss Chessum responds - 9 people on the committee now, for 3 year terms, so 3 are up now. Also, 2 LUC members have to be Town Council members. The Project that is mixed use, on 3337-3343 Foothill (by the Walgreens) – This project is moving forward. The only change has been a reduction of one unit. No concern there. Walgreen requested an extension of their permit to sell alcohol. This will be a conditional use permit. They will go before the LUC on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and explain their premise behind wanting to extend the permit. Oceanview Bar and Grill also want an extension to the permit to sell alcohol, but they haven't contacted us yet. Regional planning is giving a presentation on March 4<sup>th</sup> about various housing elements. Every 8 years regional planning can make revisions to zoning, based on changes they feel might be necessary. So this could greatly impact the unincorporated area of La Crescenta. I encourage everybody to attend this

meeting. These days, the big changes revolve around density. This is a chance to ask questions and express any concerns you may have now, because if you wait, it may be too late. Regional planning will explain the New AB 115 that has to do with commercial housing. They will explain what that is and means. It's important to understand all these elements of housing, especially the CVTC, as you'll ultimately be making a lot of these decisions. So please join the meeting and become involved.

8. Community Announcements (2 minute)

- a. Library: Miss Martha Wiggins gave the following updates. We are one of the busiest libraries in the County, and we're always in the top 3. No dates or plans to reopen. But I am on the Committee offering guidance on how to return. So if we have to offer in person services, we are ready for that. When we do reopen, we'll try and be as safe as possible. Sidewalk services are still in effect. The library has AP book available as an alternative to fundraising proposed by the Youth Council. Tax forms are also available at the library.
- b. Park & Rec - No update given
- c. Vickery Murphy speaks (Office of Anthony Portantino) – Thanks everyone for attending this important Council meeting. Mr. Portantino congratulates JPL on the successful landing of the Mars Rover. I highly recommend looking at the helicopter demonstration, which highlights perseverance and ingenuity. We are working on bill package. SB237 would require dyslexia screening for students at a much younger age. This would help diagnose dyslexia earlier, and in time to be able to help them in their education. This is often realized too late, and they've had years of suffering in school. Mr. Portantino is the lead author SB45 – This is a climate bond. It deals wildfires, clean drinking water, and a few other things. SB224 offers mental health training for educators. For example, how to start a conversation with somebody who might be having trouble with mental health. We are hoping to reduce the mental health crisis in the schools and with suicides. He has SB15 which allow empty big box places to be converted into housing, and other things of need. It will offer incentives to communities, by giving tax incentives to turn these places into housing. I'm also busy working on EDD cases with many in this community. I will post my email address in the chat, and please reach out as needed.
- d. American Legion – Mr. Baldwin gave the following updates. Assisting Glendale Moo squad. Food drive is March 20<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Hall. Food is going to Sue's garden, located on La Crescenta Ave (near the Baptist church). We'll also take food over to Tujung Bailey center. A list of places will be in the CV weekly the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March. Donations are always welcome. More food drives are needed in the community, so if possible, try and buy items to donate
- e. Prom Plus – No update given
- f. Fire House/ Mary O'Keefe - No update given

9. Los Angeles County Staff – Michelle O'Connor gave the following updates. Michelle O'Connor presents her screen and shows the Eagle Canyon Channel Multi-Benefit Improvements Feasibility Analysis. Hello everyone, and thank you for being here. My name is Michelle O'Connor, I work with La County Parks, and I oversee the trail planning section. I'm also joined by Zack Lykins, who is a trail planner, does work in the area, and has good technical knowledge of what has been done to date in the area. We hope to inform every one of where we are now with this project, and where we could be going. This project is mostly about reinforcing, strengthening access to Two Strike Park through the Eagle Canyon Channel. We are currently in an early investigation phase, and as of right now, we don't have funding for the project, nor are there plans to implement it in the near future. Back in 2009, the Town Council Trails Committee provided an extensive report detailing improvements to the Eagle Canyon Channel. Back in 2010, the Board of Supervisors approved a project along the channel called the La Crescenta Recreational Trailing Project. It identified a budget of \$530,000. This does predate my time, but there were concerns expressed then about trail alignment, which then bought the project to a standstill. In future years the funds were redirected. The money was diverted to trail improvement within Two Strike Park. Fast forward to 2020, and that is the work that has been going on at the park. In 2018 our department received a request from residents to reinstate the analysis of the trail improvements along the Eagle Canyon Channel Trail. Back in 2016 a Park Needs Assessment was done, and through that, there were priority projects developed for the Crescenta Valley area. We then reached out to the Department of Public works to find out about the feasibility of recreational improvements in the area. The owner of the Channel is The Flood Control District, which is administered by our Public Works Department. We reached out to them, and had preliminary conversations about feasibility. Miss O'Connor shows an overhead map of the perspective area the Project covers. Shows pictures of the channel and how it could possible connect to Two Strike Park via a safe path. The thought is to provide safe direct access to the park. Some areas are flat and some hilly along the channel. Shows view from Orange Ave and La Crescenta Ave. There is surplus space on both sides of the current channel. Parks is looking at establishing a connection from the park to Henrietta and El Caminito. Public Works will look into installing a concrete cap to cover exposed portion of the channel. Then use surface recreational improvements to cover the concrete cap. This would be 6 to 8 feet wide. Some features/opportunities: Bioswales, filters in the catch basin, new lighting, and temporary/permanent irrigation are possible, and wall or fencing that would provide better buffering to adjacent housing. If this area is covered, it can reduce trash and leaves from collecting. This would also make the trail wider, and we could have more of a meandering trail, and not totally straight. Also it could be safer, and it would eliminate the possibility of somebody falling in the channel. Shows Project Implementation Process slide (what it will take to implement this project) - The first and no. 1 thing that needs to be done is to establish a Land Tenure. Land

rights are needed and we need to find a Use Agreement with Flood Control. Step no. 2 is to secure funding for the project. There is currently no funding, but they will look into grant programs to get projects implemented. They will look into measure A, which has a component in it that can go to park improvements. Step 3 is community engagement. Getting feedback from the community. Again, all these steps are needed to proceed. Lastly, step no. 4 is to establish a Capital Improvement project. The Board of Supervisors needs approve the project, and say yes, we'd like funds to go to this project. The funds need to be specified beforehand, and only then can funds be allocated. DPW and others have received questions about this project, so we wanted to be clear on where we currently are, and how the project will possibly move forward. If things do move forward, the County would need some Support of Action from the CVTC before moving forward.

Public Comments/Questions – Miss Leslie Dickson 2800 El Caminito – I'm really glad you are here. Thorough presentation, and I'm excited we are doing this. We want more trail space, and so this is a great idea. There are no sidewalks in our area, no safe way to go to schools and parks. So I believe this will help make things more secure, and we get more trails and green space in our area. It's also a good way to meet up with Two Strike Park, and the 2016 Survey showed the community wanted more trails.

Miss Amy Jahnke 4837 La Crescenta Ave - I have 5 children, and there is always a problem walking safely to school. I think this is a very good idea for kids walking to school. Currently there are no crosswalks on the east side of La Crescenta Ave. So my concern is accessibility, and I was wondering if there are any thought to putting in a crosswalk to make it safer and easier to access the trail.

Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – That has not been looked at yet, but if things start to progress, I believe that is something that would be looked at.

Adrienne Griffin (Lives in Montrose) – I have and continue to volunteer for CVTC, and know a lot about the history of the Parks Committee. Back in 2009 and 2010 we were looking at a dog park either in Two Strike Park, or adjacent to it. Ultimately this was put to rest because citizens didn't want the project in their backyard. I'm curious if the scope of the project has changed, as I heard in another meeting of an idea to link the Glendale Bridge at the LA River, up to Crescenta Valley Park and the Rosemont Preserve. I don't think that is a good idea. I don't want it connected further than needed. Though I do hear and agree with Leslie's and Amy's view of traffic and safety. But my concerns are, what type of surface is going to be used for the project, and who is patrolling this at night? Is this on the Sheriff's Department? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – As far as overarching connectivity – To my knowledge this was phase 1, but there was potential for other connectivity. I'm not sure how far that would extend. I will say County Parks want to implement this as a community trail more than an extension plan. It's viewed as a community trail, so the intent is not to have a bike path. DPW is considering capping the channel, and it would be covered with granite as to add other landscaping. Lastly, yes, the sheriff would be in charge of monitoring the trail, and we also work with the Parks Bureau.

Mr. Paul Dutton 2700 Harmony Place – My first question, who is patrolling this? We don't have the

manpower to patrol this, and the Sheriff's department budget has been cut. Why haven't the stakeholders in the immediate area been contacted about this? We need to get their feedback first and foremost. Has this been put through the LUC? We don't have the funding to do this, and nobody can patrol this. More people, means more trash, and more potential for crime, and I'd be pissed if I was a stakeholder in that area.

Mr. and Mrs. Brett and Lindsey Hertz 5305 Pineridge – My concern is, if it does extend, my property line is right there. Also, if this does run through our property line, how is the county going to deal with that? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – So your house is on Pineridge and Pinecone – As far as I know there are no plans to use private property. If we do move forward, these property issues would certainly be considered. We would reach out to the community and get feedback if this progresses, but remember we're still in the early stages of development.

Miss Michelle O'Connor circles back to answer Paul Dutton's questions – No funding available or on the horizon. The only work being done now is just preliminary. Stakeholders haven't been contacted because it's still very preliminary at this point. If it moves forward, they will be contacted. We know there are issues and concerns that are important, and we will look at them further as we move forward. There are plans to make the County website more comprehensive, but I'm not sure if this project would be in that update. It's a small trail, so would other areas come here based on a small trail while viewing the County website? This might happen few and far between considering most don't travel far for a smaller trail.

Sean Toro 3106 Henrietta Ave – I'm a Development and Project Manager myself. This should happen because it needs to complete the ADA ramp that was done already. Again, we have no safe sidewalks and it's a big safety issue. There are easements to use these areas around the channel. People knew this going in when they bought property in these areas. We can better regulate things with these improvements, it will be safer, and we can get out of the house more and walk on a nice trail. If we add lighting it will be safe, and we can better regulate this trail that is currently already used.

Mr. Paul Rabinov 4868 Sunset Ave - On behalf of the 200 residents who signed a petition in support of this project and lobbied for this forum presentation. Thank you to the Town Council for having this forum, and thank you to the County and their excellent presentation. Our community has deep roots, and development was different back then. There were fewer residents and fewer cars, and our infrastructure was made for a city with less volume. As mentioned by many, it's not safe to walk in some areas of our community, and anything that promotes and ensures safety is a very good thing. Numerous national studies show, that walking trails, when well designed and maintained, enhance community quality of life, desirability, as well as property values. All concerns are important, and I'd like to address a few that have come up this last month. The first is crime. Studies show crime actually goes down when trails are better regulated, not the opposite. As a test, we took a look at trails in east La Canada, and specifically, a trail from Cross Street, to La Canada Elementary School; because of its similarity to the perspective Eagle Canyon Channel Trail. We



asked the sheriff department about incidents on this trail, and their response was, we haven't had any incidents reported in the area. I also reached out to the La Canada Trails Council, and similarly, they didn't report any incidents in the area, nor with any of the other trails in the area, ever. Which speaks volumes, and is raw data we can look at when discussing the possibility of crime. Frank Colcord 2424 Olive Ave – I'm currently a member of the Friends of Rosemont preserve. I support this trail, and think it only adds to our community. It's a beautiful area already, so why not enhance it. We like to think of ourselves as a very family oriented community, and I think this is a good way to enhance that. Mike Leum – Mr. Dutton reads a statement on Mike's behalf. He's affected by this, and is adjacent to this project. At this point, it's hard to say whether I'm for or against the project, but I do have some concerns. Why haven't the stakeholders been notified of this project? It's my understanding that most of the petition was signed by people who aren't stakeholders. Who is responsible for patrolling this? It seems to me, that more foot traffic increases crime not decreases it. Just recently there was some defacing of property right in the area, so how would more foot traffic not compound the problem. I'm concerned about on how this will look, and the design of the trail. I'd like to see specific plans detailing things, so I can make an informed decision. Christian Hoffman 2713 Prospect Ave. – I'm an avid hiker/biker and love to get outdoors. I've been on virtually all the trails in the area, and I have to travel far to find a good trail. Trails bring people together, and get people outside. We live in a beautiful area, so why not have more trails in the area to explore and see that beauty. I support the project, and I think it's a good addition to the community. Take Silverlake for example, they've done similar things, and it really adds to the community. How long does this process take from start to finish? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – We are not sure yet, and a hard one to answer. Generally, a 5 year implementation timeline seems realistic and a good baseline. There's a lot to coordinate so it's really hard to say. John Kim – I'm a resident adjacent to the wash. My big concerns, like many, are my kids and family. The people who use this trail will still walk it regardless. So either way, it's being used. Just because we beautify it, are people really going to travel it more? If we have all this money, why not put it into the park, and not into a small trail. Engineer question for Michelle – Long term question, what happens when something needs repair and gets buried by this new construction. How is that going to get fixed if we cap it? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – Please reach out to our department of Public Works and contact Kenneth Chow. He can answer some of those technical questions. Jeff and Kim Kelly 4947 Cecilview Ave - I'm concerned about traffic, and parking. My family spends a lot of time in our backyard, and this will be right next to them. Crime has occurred without this, let alone with it. Who's going to be responsible for picking up the trash? It's such a small area to focus on and put emphasis on in my opinion. Just last week we had very loud people talking right near us, and it was very disturbing. I hope people consider how this would affect them if they lived here. John Gates 2626 Harmony Place – We have no property behind us. There is a makeshift walkway there

now, and yet all this trash accumulates. There is a lot of trash currently there, and gets picked up by the people who live there. If other trails and walkways are going to feed into this, what will the trash be like then? It won't be a pretty situation. Richard Nam 2719 Brookhill Street - A lot of concerns about this project and privacy issues. Traffic and parking issues, as well as noise and crime issues. It seems like most of my neighbors, about 40 houses, have the same concerns. Samad Ferdosi 2753 Harmony Place – I wanted to express concerns about safety and traffic. I bought my home based on privacy and safety, so this project is a concern, and a big unknown. Miss Ines Chessum – in 2014 there was vacant land that had been there for many years. We made that into a small pocket park with the help of the Council. There were concerns from the neighbors about their privacy. In the end, the project did a lot of good, and had positive feedback. Yes there have been incidents, but the value the greenspace brings to the community, really outweighs the consequences of maintaining. People will enjoy it, and people will look after it as they have done before. In my experience, people become keepers of the space, and will take care of it with pride. Dave Duce 2531 Piedmont Ave – I support the project. This is a common space and not your property. Everybody is a stakeholder in this community not just the people near the trail. All the objections can be addressed and mitigated I believe. This is nimbyism at its worst. This is everybody property and everybody is a stakeholder in the community. Dede Mueller 5156 La Crescenta Ave – I have lived here all my life, but never have we seen something pushed on u like this. Property values will go down not go up. There is already trash in the basin, there are already drugs at Two Strike Park, and this will only get worse if a trail is put in. The people who live right near there need to have a vote, since it will impact us the most. We are the ones who pick up the trash, and have to deal with the current traffic, and it will only get worse. We use our street now, but I won't feel comfortable doing that if this is approved. Councilmember Rabinov – Thank you for the great presentation, and being here today Michelle. People mentioned sound and trash issues. Are there things to mitigate these things? Does a 1/2 mile trail really increase those issues that much? You mentioned landscaping and fencing, are there other mitigation options? Miss Michelle O'Connor – A lot of options to mitigate some concerns, and once things get further along, those options will get explored. Some things can be mitigated through design. Privacy is a common occurrence, and we can sometimes deal with that concern with fencing and landscaping screening, which can help with noise and visual impacts. Councilmember Hoffman – The trail is already there, and it's not attractive right now. It will enhance our neighborhood, and it will bring our community together. It's a very small strip and I don't think that many new people will come to the area. It creates a safe way to walk around the neighborhood, and get outdoors to enjoy our community. I think it will be a great addition to the community. Councilmember Kilpatrick – in 2010 was the 530k figure allocated then, similar to design/concepts we are seeing today? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – I'm not sure exactly, but for example, it's my understanding that capping is a more recent

development to this project, and not something that was a part of the original design concept. Councilmember Kilpatrick - What does it cost for a wilderness trail? What is the cost ratio for doing a wilderness trail compared to an urban trail? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – Yes, wilderness trails are less costly in general, but I don't want to say any specific numbers. Councilmember Kilpatrick - Who owns this property, and is there an easement? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers - This is owned by the flood control district and not an easement. Councilmember Donna Libra – My aunt lives on Pineglenn, right next to the wash – My aunt and I have big concerns about fires, and the gates being opened 24/7. This means more crime, fire dangers, people are already drinking smoking and doing other things in the area. There are already parking issues now, how about after this is put in. When the trail is put on the website, more people will certainly come to the area, which then becomes a big privacy issue. People bought here to be in a rural area and more lighting means less rural. Councilmember Ted Yu – I have concern regarding the capping. Building over an irrigation system was not its original intent. It was not designed to be capped. What will capping do to the water flow? Are there any other capping projects that you can share with us? How it went, and if it had any issues? The cost of this will be extreme. It was designed not to be capped, so I have concerns about functionality, and structural integrity if capped. Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – Public works will be the ones that look into that, and they wouldn't do something that interferes with flood control and water flow. There is changing technology, and it's not a regular thing, but elsewhere it has been done, and more areas are being explored for capping. We are always looking at better ways to do things, and looking for improvements in areas in and around flood control areas. These flood control areas do occupy space, and there is a high demand for parks and trails, so we're just looking at ways to accommodate that with various public land areas around the County. Councilmember Lewin – Will this be an ADA accessible trail? Decomposed granite, how does that fall into the ADA category? Miss Michelle O'Connor answers – ADA hasn't been identified yet for this project. The inherent nature of trails means it's tough to be ADA compliant. We try to do so when we can, and do what we can, but it's not a requirement. Councilmember Stupakis – Thank you Michelle for being here today. I apologize to Kelly for the noise last weekend if that was us. Some of the council members were up there, and walking the trail. I walked the trail, and I can say, I wouldn't walk that trail again. Even if this project proceeds, it's a very short distance, and I just don't see myself using it. I heard this is functional for a lot of students who walk to Montevista. There is a letter of support from the Principal of Montevista, who thinks it will be safer for the students walking to and from school. I just don't think we'll get that many outside people or internal coming to walk on the trail. It's a block and a half distance, and I just don't see that many people using it. President Leon - Thank you for being here today. We had a lot of emails and calls about this, and I appreciate you taking the time to be here to inform our community. One question – The plan we received at the end of last year, are the plans still the same or has it changed? Miss

Michelle O'Connor answers - No changes to that, and it's the same as before. Thank you for being here Michelle, we really appreciate you taking the time to give the presentation. Please let us know if we can do anything to help you.

#### 10. Public Comments

Public Comments and Community Announcements: This is for non-agenda items only. Please submit a speaker card to the President or Vice President. Speakers are allowed 2 minutes. Council may ask questions or respond to the speaker but there will be no debate or decision. The President may refer the matter to the appropriate committee for investigation and report.

- a. No Public comment given

#### 11. Council Business

- a. Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve by Councilmember Ear. Seconded by Councilmember Hoffman. Approved unanimously
- b. Correspondence: Councilmember Ear provided the following update – No essential emails, and it was double checked
- c. Streets and Transportation - Councilmember Rabinov gave the following updates - The minutes of last month's meeting have been distributed. The next meeting will be on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6 o'clock. Please join us via zoom, using the same link that we use for our general meeting. County of LA Public Works is doing a Complete Streets Master Plan for Foothill Blvd. We'll be discussing timeline and scope of work. We'll be discussing the Metro Open Streets Grant application. This will be for Foothill Blvd. and be for a Ciclavia type of event. This could be in a couple of years if we get a Grant, and we would use Foothill Blvd to bike, and walk, and get out an exercise. We will talk about the Bus Shelter Improvement Plan for Foothill Blvd. We will also be talking about other projects like Vision zero, Slow Streets and Safe Routes to School. President Leon asks – Any news about charging stations? Councilmember Rabinov answers – No news yes, but hopefully later in the year. The project is still in the planning stages. President Leon asks Ines – The La Crescenta sign that was damaged at Pennsylvania and Foothill, is there any news on that? Miss Ines Chessum answers – I sent an email to the people involved, but I haven't heard anything yet. President Leon comments - Public Works said they are looking for a Contractor, and it could take 3 or 4 months to repair. The County is legally trying to get the insurance company to cover the tab to fix the sign. There are concerns about the sign being too low, and the County will see if they can accommodate making them higher. Miss Ines Chessum comments – There was also concern about lighting, and to see if the County can illuminate the signs more. So the County is also looking at that.

- 12. Adjourn: the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.