

Councilmember David Ryu Discretionary Funds Task Force

Council District 4 Discretionary Funds Task Force
General Meeting, Tuesday, June 7, 2016—6:00PM
Will & Ariel Durant Library, 7140 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046

1. Welcome, Call to Order

Chair to the Task Force, Anastasia Mann welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

8 members present

Bob Anderson
Richard Bogy
Cindy Chvatal
Lucy Gonzalez
Anastasia Mann
Krista Michaels
Owen Smith
Ron Ziff

1 member absent

Chris Laib

3. Minutes

- a) Approve minutes from 4/5/16

MOTION: To approve minutes.

Moved: Anderson Seconded: Chvatal

VOTE: Minutes approved unanimously.

4. General Public Comment

Gerry Hans, *President of Friends of Griffith Park*—Presented the map of the Ford Theater Trail Project. Noted there was major habitat on both sides of the Cahuenga Pass and it is important to preserve these habitats in order to maintain healthy ecosystems. Wants the County and the Council Office to push for a reduced project to stop the trail at the viewing point of the Hollywood Sign and not venture any more south. The fear is that the heavy amount of hiking traffic would disturb the wildlife and ecosystem on the southern portion of the proposed hiking trail within the Ford Theater Trail Project.

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5. Council Office Liaison Updates

Nicholas Greif, Council District 4 Policy Director—Quiet month on the topic of discretionary funds. Through the partnership of the museums on museum row, we reduced the \$50,000 fund allocation for Suisman down to \$25,000. Rec & Parks will be reimbursing the person who funded the retaining wall at Runyon Canyon Park. We haven't ruled out the idea that we might use discretionary funds to help Rec & Parks reimburse the cost because we aren't sure on the amount of funds Rec & Parks set aside to reimburse this project, but at this point, it won't be an issue. Will report back with any future updates.

6. Western Avenue Great Streets Presentation

Presentation on Council District 4 efforts with regards to the Great Streets program and the use of Wilshire-Koreatown CRA Funds (\$600,000) on Council District 4's Great Streets corridor along Western Ave.

Jessica Fugate, Council District 4 Intern—There are two phases to the Great Streets project with Phase 1 being the partnership we have with Beautify Earth who will be painting murals on Western Ave. We have 7 confirmed murals and 5 of them will be finished Saturday, June 11th. The second phase will happen in the fall which will be beautification effort to plant 35 mature trees, the installation of a pedestrian signal, 7 continental crosswalks, and painting 4 utility boxes. The facade improvement program is still to come and it will be a partnership with business owners to increase business activity through similar exterior aesthetics of the shop fronts to have a similar look in fonts, colors, and signs.

7. Data Review of FY15-16 CD4 Discretionary Spending

Review of spreadsheet and charts of spending allocations for the entire first year of the Councilmember's term.

Nicholas Greif, Council District 4 Policy Director—As we go on, we want to get more sophisticated with our tracking of discretionary funds. We want to be able to slice and dice these numbers to see exactly how and where we spent our funds to make sure we stay transparent as well as funding all of our neighborhoods equitably. Currently, we feel pretty good on how we are balancing our discretionary funds spending in between our Council District 4 regions / neighborhoods.

8. Review Prior Discretionary Funding and Updates

Review Council Office documents on discretionary spending since last meeting

DISCUSSION: (a) The City did not give approval for the developer to dig underneath a City street which is now causing a closure due to the instability of the street and public safety concerns. The City will be suing the developer for this action. (b) The **Ventura Cahuenga Specific Plan Board** approved a Council District 4 project of ~\$400,000 to widen the Ventura

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and Woodman intersection that should improve the traffic at that intersection. (c) **The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council** has a vacant City parcel and they've been working a very long time to beautify that parcel. The Council Office provided them with the rent-free ability to rehabilitate the parcel space and to fence it off with their neighborhood council funds to create a more aesthetic neighborhood. (d) **Project requests** approved from various neighborhood groups.

9. Old and New Business

a) Discussion of old or new business

DISCUSSION: No new updates.

b) Community updates

DISCUSSION: No new updates.

Meeting adjourned.