

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LA VERNE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OF THE LA VERNE CITY HALL
Monday, April 29, 2019
(Gold Line Construction Study Session)**

1. A regular meeting of the La Verne City Council was called to order by Mayor Kendrick at 4:30 p.m.
2. Council Members present: Mayor Don Kendrick
Mayor Pro Tem Charlie Rosales
Council Member Robin Carder
Council Member Muir Davis
Council Member Tim Hepburn

Absent: None.

Advisory personnel present: City Manager Robert Russi
City Attorney Robert L. Kress
Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Keesey
Assistant City Clerk Lupe Gaeta Estrella
Community Development Director Eric Scherer
Principal Planner Candice Bowcock
City Engineer Dominic Milano
3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Kendrick.
4. Study Session - Staff on the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Foothill Gold Line Extension. City Manager Russi stated that staff would be reporting on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) on the Foothill Gold Line Extension. He stated that the City's role is to provide comments to the Gold Line Construction Authority on the draft SEIR. The SEIR is relative to the changes due to the new phasing plan and the City's comments are focused on the proposed new phasing, not the entire project. He stated that Staff would report on their observations regarding the changes to the project and report on which comments would be transmitted to the Gold Line Construction Authority. He stated that the presentation is informational only and that no actions will be taken.

Principal Planner Bowcock reported on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) on the Foothill Gold Line Extension along with a slide presentation.

Public Works Director Keesey reported on the Traffic/Transportation, the history of White Avenue and White Avenue Crossing Options. According to the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), after multiple studies and further analysis of White Avenue traffic/transportation impacts were identified at the intersections of White Avenue and First Street and White Avenue and Second Street. He reported on the proposed traffic/transportation mitigation measures for White Avenue Improvements. He stated that two lanes in both northbound and southbound directions are being proposed with a dedicated median turn lane, and curbs, gutters, and sidewalks; a Queue Cutter at First Street. All improvements will be within the City's right of way with the exception of three easements that are needed. There are six properties that will have vehicle access that may be affected and the Gold Line is working to avoid any private acquisitions.

City Engineer Milano reported on the Parking Observation as presented in the slide presentation. He stated that the Gold Line Authority believes that the updated model has more riders' walking, biking or using other models of transportation to the stations. He stated the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) does not provide the updated model for staff's evaluation of the results.

Community Development Director Scherer reported on Safety. He stated that the tunnel was removed. He stated there would be surveillance cameras in parking lots and parking structures with the possibility in the future the cameras can be tie-in to the La Verne Police Department. In addition, he reported on D Street median regarding pedestrian, vehicle, and emergency access concerns.

Principal Planner Bowcock reported that the comments are due to the Gold Line Construction Authority on May 6, 2019. The Gold Line Construction Authority will respond to comments in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and be presented to the Construction Authority, who then certifies the final SEIR. She stated the City Council should have the opportunity to attend the Construction Authority Board meeting scheduled for some time in July and voice the City's concern. Any other change would be done through a challenge of the SEIR.

Mayor Kendrick called for public comment on this matter.

The following La Verne residents opposed the widening of White Avenue because of traffic safety, property value, and increased traffic speed on White Avenue if more lanes are added, pedestrian safety, posted speed limit is high now, quality of life, residents leaving their homes and renters coming in who don't care to maintain property.

Roy Halberg, 2828 White Avenue.

Mark Vincent, 2546 Third Street.

Catherine Geerken, 2478 Bonita

Steve Johnson, 2571 Third Street, (He also presented a petition signed by 20 residents opposing the widening of White Avenue and requesting traffic signals on the intersections of Second Street and Third Street at White Ave.

Roy Cardenas, 2422 Second Street.

Sue Gladden, 2510 Bonita Avenue

Carol Kile, 2481 Bonita Avenue, opposed the widening because she would lose her driveway and where are they expected to park.

Carole Dahl, 2135 White Avenue.

Donna Redman, 2714 Second Street.

Heather Hills, 2729 Third Street

Andrew Geerken, 2478 Bonita

Ian Stewart and Kathryn Butler, 2513 Third Street.

Anna Anderson, Sloan 2486 Sloan Drive, La Verne

Marilyn Oliver, La Verne

Sutton, 2324 Bonita Avenue

Rudy Leyva, 2533 Bonita Avenue

Li Huang, 2465 Seventh Street

Lisa Levy Buch, Chief Communication Officer, Gold Line Construction Authority stated she was taking notes of the residents' concerns and especially about White Avenue. She stated she brought a sign-up sheet for residents to subscribe for updates on the Gold Line Construction.

Tom Skahill, 2618 Hanawalt Street, La Verne, thanked City staff and City Council for the presentation. He stated that the City Council needed to do what is best for the community and businesses. He stated any decisions made now would affect the City for the next 30-40 years.

Mayor Kendrick thanked the residents for attending and for being respectful

Council Member Carder also thanked the residents for attending and for being respectful. She stated she was at the last Gold Line Meeting held in the Community Center. She stated that she wrote down that the residents' concerns about White Avenue. She stated that White Avenue is a main thoroughfare. She spoke about when she lost her home when the Foothill Freeway was constructed and she fully understands their concerns. She stated that the City needed to take advantage of the Gold Line Authority coming in and paying for the White Avenue improvements now. She suggested that the residents could visit the Pasadena and Azusa Gold Line Stations and call those cities to see what the issues that affected them were.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosales stated that the City of La Verne is evolving and he spoke about the upcoming development in the area when the Gold Line comes in. He spoke about how White Avenue is not safe now and suggested that truck route traffic be removed as suggested by a resident. He stated that the City Council and Staff are looking at all the aspects of the project and the improvements to the area to meet the needs of the community.

Council Member Davis stated the he has lost sleep over this matter. He stated that progress is good. He stated the next few years would be challenging. He spoke about mitigation measures. He stated that it hurt to hear that residents want to move from the City.

Council Member Hepburn stated it was not an easy process. He stated that he opposed the widening of White Avenue. He spoke of the historical value of the neighborhood and how the residents are trapped in their neighborhood. He stated that there should be no bike lanes, it was too dangerous. He suggested restriping White Avenue, putting in signal lights, and lighted pedestrian crosswalks. He stated it was important to keep the residents safe and do it the right way.

Mayor Kendrick stated that quality of life is important and spoke about the residents who lost their homes when the 210 freeway was put in. He urged residents to go to the Gold Line Construction meeting in July and voice their concerns. He stated that he wants the best of quality of life and the safety of the community.

5. Public Comment This was the time set aside for anyone wishing to address the City Council on items not listed in any other place on the agenda. Mayor Kendrick called for public comment.
There was none.

6. Adjournment at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lupe Gaeta Estrella, CMC
Assistant City Clerk