

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council Planning
and Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2020
7:00 p.m. to 9:30 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE — QUORUM CALL
 - Present - John Hendry, Brian Edelman, Richard Marks, Jason Ackerman
 - Absent – Jeffrey Lynn
2. No minutes approved.
3. **Planet Fitness Gym**, 6633 N. Van Nuys Blvd. Case# **ZA-2019-6944**. Change of use from retail to 20,050 SF 24-hour gym in an existing commercial corner development. Part of the Van Nuys Central Business District ‘Community Design Overlay’ (CDO) zone area. Applicant/ representative: Kimberly A. Rible, Esq. & Fred Gaines, Esq. Supporting Documents: [Application](#), [Arch Drawings](#), [Photos](#)
 - PLUM voted to support with conditions to add bicycle racks for their business -
 - Concern with the entrance facing away from Van Nuys Blvd as per Community Design Overlay requirements but supported it.
4. **All Right Storage**, 15005-15009 W. Oxnard Street. Case# **CPC-2019-5750**. Proposal for a new 98,458 SF self-storage warehouse with 24-hour access. Requesting a change in height from a zone M3-1 to M3-2-D for a floor area ratio of 2:46:1 vs. 1.5:1 and height of 53 feet for the storage facility. Applicant/ representative: Jerome Buckmelter of Jerome Buckmelter Associates, Inc. Supporting Documents: [Application](#), [Drawings](#).
 - i. PLUM voted to supported it with condition to eliminate the fake windows for the façade of the building(s) and replace it with a mural or alternatives.
5. **45-unit multi-residential building**, 14552-14558 W. Erwin Street. Case# **DIR-2019-6323**.
 - i. Board voted to table this agenda for more information from representative on square footage of the one-bedroom units.
6. **45-unit multi-residential building**, 14400-14412 Vanowen Street/ 6755 N. Sylmar Ave. Case# **DIR-2019-7623-TOC-CDO**
 - i. Board voted to table this agenda for more information from representative on square footage of the one-bedroom units.

7. **Discussion and Possible Action:** The VNNC to send a letter to the Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority) Board of Directors requesting that they lower Metro's COVID-19 Max Load limit for 60' busses such as those used on lines 233, 733, and 901 (Orange Line) as outlined on page 10 of <https://metro.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8440603&GUID=9EF26710-8673-4084-9E00-857DF87460E5> from 30 to 20 in order to enable safer Social Distancing and increasing frequency of affected routes to make up for the reduced seating capacity. The VNNC is concerned that the inability to effectively Social Distance on transit effectively further jeopardizes the health of Essential Frontline Workers riding transit.
 - i.
8. **Discussion and Possible Action:** The VNNC to send a letter to the Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority) Board of Directors asking that they postpone the adoption of the LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) for at least a year. The LRTP in its current form is based entirely on pre-COVID-19 data, and the VNNC feels that it would make more sense to wait until we have a better understanding of how the COVID-19 crisis reshapes working and commuting behavior before adopting a plan for the next 10+ years of transit Policy.
 - i. PLUM voted to supported it.
9. **Discussion and Possible Action:** The VNNC to send a letter to the Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority) Board of Directors requesting that they lower Metro's COVID-19 Max Load limit for 60' busses such as those used on lines 233, 733, and 901 (Orange Line) as outlined on page 10 of <https://metro.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8440603&GUID=9EF26710-8673-4084-9E00-857DF87460E5> from 30 to 20 in order to enable safer Social Distancing and increasing frequency of affected routes to make up for the reduced seating capacity. The VNNC is concerned that the inability to effectively Social Distance on transit effectively further jeopardizes the health of Essential Frontline Workers riding transit.
 - i. Transportation committee voted to support
10. **Discussion and Possible Action:** The VNNC to send a letter to the Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority) Board of Directors asking that they postpone the adoption of the LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) for at least a year. The LRTP in its current form is based entirely on pre-COVID-19 data, and the VNNC feels that it would make more sense to wait until we have a better understanding of how the COVID-19 crisis reshapes working and commuting behavior before adopting a plan for the next 10+ years of transit Policy.
 - i. Transportation committee voted to support on the condition that author of this motion provide sample letter to general board.
11. **Discussion and Possible Action:** The VNNC to send a letter to the Metro (Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority) Board of Directors regarding the NextGen Bus Service Proposal (as of the January 2020 Draft)

- a. The VNNC Supports the Proposed expansion of service hours and days for route 169, but opposes the eastern connection to Burbank
- b. The VNNC Strongly Opposes the elimination of route 218. The Valley needs more transit options over the Santa Monica Mountains, not fewer options.
- c. The VNNC applauds the increase in frequency and span of service proposed for route 233 to add Owl Service hours.
- d. The VNNC opposes the reimagined 236, 237 and 239 routes. All these routes serve vital north/ south needs and offer speedy alternatives to more congested major lines like 240, 234, and 233 in the middle San Fernando Valley and would be great options in their current alignments with increased spans and frequencies of service.
- e. The VNNC is excited to see the resurrection of Route 761 but would like to see the 234/734 continue to connect to Westwood and Expo/Sepulveda Station.
- f. ~~The VNNC is deeply troubled by the eradication of most of the Valley's Rapid network including the 744, 750 and 734. These routes offer considerable time savings over their local counterparts and the loss of them would be highly detrimental to the SFV's transit landscape.~~
 - i. Transportation committee voted to support items 6a to 6e (item 6f is eliminated on the addendum) with the condition that author of this motion provide sample letter to general board for approval.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT - none

13. ADJOURNMENT