

**Willowbank County Service Area (WCSA) Advisory Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting Held October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Meeting conducted as a Hybrid Meeting (In Person at Montgomery Public School and via Zoom, Hosted by Anne Todgham)**

1.	<b>Call to Order:</b> Committee Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM
	<b>Committee Members Present:</b> Liz McCapes, Anne Todgham, Artie Lawyer, Brian Morrissey, and Olin Woods. <i>Two vacant positions (Oakside)</i>
	<b>Note taker:</b> Anne Todgham
2.	<b>Invited Guests:</b> Deputy Supervisor Sheila Allen, Past WCSA Vice Chair John Lindsey, County Community Services Director Taro Echiburu, Yolo LAFCo Executive Officer Christine Crawford, Residents: 4
3.	<p><b>Consistent with New Legislation, Chair Woods recommends Adoption of the following language</b> “The WCSA Advisory Committee authorizes remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, per Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.”</p> <p>Motion to adopt the new language outlined above  <b>MSP (Lawyer, McCapes)</b></p> <p>Unanimously approved</p>
4.	<p><b>Approval of the August 23rd, 2022, WCSA Meeting Minutes: Woods</b></p> <p>Motion to approve minutes.  <b>MSP (Morrissey, Lawyer)</b></p> <p>Unanimously approved</p>
5.	<b>Public Comments:</b> None
6.	<p><b>Yolo County Report: Deputy Supervisor Sheila Allen</b>  Supervisor Provenza’s office continues to follow the line adjustments along the North Fork of Putah Creek. There will be a meeting next week with Yolo County and the City of Davis about the language of the MOU. Hoping the MOU language will be finalized soon. As part of the discussion about the transfer of the Drainage Channel, the City will likely introduce the notion that Old Willowbank residents should be assessed for any storm water which drains from its streets into the Channel.</p> <p><i>Public Comments: None</i></p> <p><i>Committee Comments: None</i></p>
7.	<p><b>North Putah Creek Vegetation Management Plan: John Lindsey</b></p> <p><b>Note: Full discussion of this topic can be reviewed in the Approved May 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes, with an update provided in the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p>The vegetation management project is close to being finalized. Fire Marshall Sandholdt is happy with the outcome of the project. The land will eventually be transferred to the City and the vegetation management will be assumed by the City of Davis. A local Eagle Scout candidate got involved and created a flyer about the project for the public to understand the project. Scouts</p>

	<p>also did a tour with Fire Marshall Sandholdt. Caution was taken around fox dens. Overall it went really well and important to get the vegetation management done before fire season ramps up in Northern California. The area is now much easier to access and manage if a fire did break out.</p> <p><i>Public Comments:</i> Resident: Question about the brush piles along the trail and their fate. Lindsey: it is being chipped right now and will be returned to the area as mulch. Now that it is cleaned out, everyone is hopeful that the drainage will be improved with all the clearing.</p> <p><i>Committee Comments:</i> McCapes: Wanted to let the committee know that not all residents are happy with the project, based on comments on NextDoor.</p> <p>Lawyer: Were discussions with those that were upset fruitful? Lindsey: No, these residents are still upset about now being able to see their neighbors across the creek.</p> <p>Lawyer: Will fences along the creek that might not be on a resident's property be removed. Lindsey: No, all the fences will remain for now. For many it is not clear how they originated and they are not posing a big problem at the moment.</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Mace Fix Update: McCapes</b> For updated information about the Mace Boulevard Corridor Project, please see the City of Davis Website: <a href="https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/improvement-projects/mace-blvd-improvements">https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/improvement-projects/mace-blvd-improvements</a></p> <p>Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, the City of Davis produced their 65% plans. On Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, the City presented their recommendations to the Bicycling Transportation and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC). Meeting details, including a recording of the meeting, are provided through the link above.</p> <p><b>Phase 1a:</b> Will start Spring 2023. Two full width southbound lanes between Cowell and North El Macero, with one way protected bike lane and modified median Two full width northbound lanes between Cowell and North El Macero Modify striping between San Marino and N. El Macero to accommodate two northbound travel lanes and maintain bike buffers. Modify Mace &amp; Cowell islands ADA access to homes along Mace Blvd Modify blinking light at San Marino to just one</p> <p>Cost of Phase 1a: \$1.7M</p> <p><b>Phase 1b (Signal Pilot Project with Yolo County):</b> Estimated for Fall 2023, following Phase 1a Test traffic lights at Tremont &amp; Mace Two weeks later will test traffic lights at Montgomery &amp; Mace.</p> <p><b>Phase 2:</b> TBD, under consideration and evaluation 2 northbound lanes between Redbud and San Marino Consider 4-way lights at San Marino Consider right turn lane northbound at Cowell</p> <p><b>Next Steps</b> Public Input Revise and finalize drawing Funding allocation Begin Phase 1a Solicit comments on traffic lights</p>

	<p>Collaborate with Yolo County</p> <p><i>Public Comments:</i> None</p> <p><i>Committee Comments:</i> None</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>WCSA 2021-22 Finance Report: Woods</b></p> <p>Final budget for last fiscal year is now available: \$8,872, \$200 less than the Draft Report provided at the August 23, 2022, WCSA Meeting.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Update on Caltrans’ I-80 Managed Lanes Project: Echiburu</b></p> <p>County Community Services Director Taro Echiburu announced that he will be retiring at the end of this year – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and will move back to Chile.</p> <p>Echiburu noted that the I-80 Managed Lane project is a Caltrans job and specific questions would be best answered by Caltrans. However, the Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) is actively involved and has been selected to head up the response for Yolo County jurisdictions. Echiburu felt YCTD would be willing to come to one of our meetings if requested to answer questions.</p> <p>Current status: The portion of I-80 through Yolo County will likely involve Managed Lanes, such as a tolled lane across the Causeway, potentially a FaskTrak like process. That is the project that will be analyzed in depth along with other alternatives. The hope to also improve connectivity for the bikers on Rd 32A and access to the bike lane on the causeway.</p> <p>There don’t seem to be any sound walls on the proposed project to date. If there is a strong desire for this to be considered by Caltrans now would be a good time to make that known through the EIR process.</p> <p>Project is not completely funded yet and it would likely not be done for at least 5 years. The project is estimated at approximately \$100M and much of the funding, though not all, is in place.</p> <p><i>Public Comments:</i> None</p> <p><i>Committee Comments:</i></p> <p>McCapes: Question about whether the toll lane will be anywhere in addition to the Causeway, such as the big bend in Davis? Echiburu: No, just the Causeway at the moment</p> <p>Question about whether CalTrans has surveyed how many bikers use the bike lane. Echiburu said yes, they have surveyed it and he will share the data with the group.</p> <p>Echiburu: The County is looking at the railroad crossing at Rd 32A and looking to make it more safe, especially for bikers. This project is several years out. Recommended that residents pay attention to when the EIR is out and when recommendations can be made.</p> <p>Lawyer: Question about the sound barriers. Has the EIR process ever worked? Echiburu: Yes, with his experience in Sacramento County and Monterrey County it has worked and so there is an opportunity for those affected by sound to be heard. Also mentioned that there are aesthetic solutions for sound walls.</p> <p>Woods thanked Echiburu for all his support over the years and wished him well.</p>
<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b>Consideration of 2023 WCSA Meeting Schedule: Woods</b></p> <p>January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Amended to January 24, 2023)</p> <p>March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023</p> <p>May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023</p>

	<p>August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023</p> <p>Since Committee Member McCapes mentioned that she had a conflict with the third Tuesday in January, 2023, the Chair proposed moving the January Meeting to January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.</p> <p>Motion to accept the proposed, amended WCSA Meeting Schedule for 2023 <b>MSP (Lawyer, McCapes)</b> Unanimously approved.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p><b>LAFCo Municipal Service Review (MSR) &amp; Recommendations for the WCSA: Crawford is recommending the dissolution of the WCSA Advisory Committee in favor of transitioning to a Willowbank Community Advisory Committee.</b></p> <p>Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) Executive Officer Christine Crawford explained a County Service Area (CSA) is any area in the County where the County needs to provide additional services. Funds are raised from the land owners of the area to pay for these extra services. Crawford shared a list of all the CSAs in Yolo County and the services provided. She further explained that, unlike other CSA's throughout the County, since the WCSA has no day-to-day responsibilities under its contract with the City of Davis for Water, it is LAFCo staff's recommendation that the WCSA be dissolved. LAFCo is looking for efficiencies across the CSA's throughout the County.</p> <p>The Willowbank CSA was formed to oversee services to provide water, which until 2000 was furnished by three wells, one in each of the three original subdivisions. When the WCSA recommended that the County contract with the City of Davis to provide water instead of digging one new well that would provide water to all three subdivisions, it also recommended that the City bill each resident directly. As a result, the City invoices individual homeowners, rather than charging the CSA and the CSA collecting funds from the residents (as is done in El Macero). Essentially, LAFCo staff contends that the WCSA's responsibilities for water are minimal and do not justify maintaining the status of a CSA.</p> <p>However, LAFCo Staff concedes that the issues which appear on the agendas over the years indicate that the WCSA Advisory Committee appears to be addressing important issues to the Old Willowbank residents and should be maintained in the form of a Community Advisory Committee. The staff is, therefore, recommending that the Advisory Committee be reorganized from a CSA to a Community Advisory Committee (CAC).</p> <p>The LAFCo Staff report was circulated with the Agenda packet. Crawford discussed that since there no services provided directly to the Willowbank CSA, we have been identified by LAFCo as not functioning as intended. Technically the only charge of the Willowbank CSA is water and so LAFCo Staff contends that the Committee should only be discussing water. Crawford feels we can continue to do all the great work the Committee is doing, with less regulations and overhead, as a CAC</p> <p><u>Public &amp; Committee Comments:</u> There was considerable discussion by the residents, committee members, Crawford, and Deputy Supervisor Allen about what would be lost if the CSA were to be dissolved? Discussions focused on water rates and trash pickup and whether the Committee would still be able to advocate for the community without a formalized CSA. One resident commented how effective it was for the community to discuss and vote on a new trash &amp; claw contract with Recology. There was further discussion of the long history of this neighborhood of taking care of itself and the importance of being able to continue to have the Committee serve as a neighborhood focal point for these discussions.</p>

	<p>Crawford felt residents would still be able to advocate for their needs through the District Supervisor’s office as is done now. The District Supervisor would need to approve a CAC as this is outside of LAFCo’s jurisdiction.</p> <p>Woods discussed his experiences as a member of the South Davis Citizens’ Advisory Committee which provides input to District Supervisor Provenza’s Office on planning and policy issues. In Woods’ view, both the WCSA and the SDCAC, although organizationally different with dissimilar responsibilities, receive the same kind of responsive attention from the Supervisor’s office</p> <p>Allen mentioned that the County Supervisor Office attends CSA and CAC meetings in the same way. Jim Provenza would like to hear from the Committee Members in terms of their thoughts about the change to a CAC.</p> <p>Committee members expressed a desire to hear Supervisor Provenza’s comments on dissolving the CSA and transitioning to a Willowbank Community Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Crawford welcomed comments or edits on the draft provided with the agenda packet at <a href="mailto:Christine.crawford@yolocounty.org">Christine.crawford@yolocounty.org</a>.</p> <p><b><i>The Chair made a suggestion to schedule a special off cycle meeting to discuss further the possible dissolution of the Willowbank CSA and transition to a Willowbank CAC with Supervisor Provenza, Christine Crawford, County CSA Liaison Kim Villa, the WCSA Advisory Committee Members, and Old Willowbank residents.</i></b></p> <p>Motion to schedule a meeting at a convenient time for Provenza at least a week before the LAFCo meeting December 1, 2022.</p> <p><b>MSP (McCapes, Lawyer)</b></p> <p>Unanimously approved</p>
<p><b>13.</b></p>	<p><b>WCSA Advisory Committee Member Comments.</b></p> <p>McCapes: No Comment  Lawyer: No Comment  Morrissey: No Comment  Todgham: No Comment  Woods: Election is in January. Thanked Committee Member Brian Morrissey for his efforts in the last month. Calfee and Woods will meet with Provenza to discuss Water Rate Reduction effort. Reminder to be considerate of speed in the neighborhood.</p>
<p><b>14.</b></p>	<p><b>Recognition of the Contributions and Service, Upon his Resignation, of John Lindsey: Members and Public</b></p> <p>The Chair and each Committee Member made comments acknowledging that, during his short, eighteen-month term on the WCSA Advisory Committee, John Lindsey was elected/served as Vice Chair, made significant contributions to the Committee and the neighborhood; took a keen interest in the business of the Committee; and will be missed by all. Notable among the many qualities he brought to the Committee have been his writing skills, helpful insights, and willingness to step forward to take on numerous responsibilities, both complex and time consuming, as well as those of a</p>

	<p>mundane nature but important to the every-day functioning of the Committee. The Chair congratulated John's move to a new home and commented that he, perhaps more than anyone else will miss Mr. Lindsay's membership on the Committee. The outgoing Vice Chair was presented with a card and gifts, purchased with donations from Advisory Committee Members.</p>
13	<p><b>Adjournment (8:50pm) to the upcoming Special Meeting (TBA), followed by the Next Regularly Scheduled WCSA Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7PM.</b></p>