

Political Forum



What Works: Meeting the City's Transportation Crisis One Intersection at a Time

by **Cindy Miscikowski, Councilmember, 11th District**

What happens when multiple public agencies get together and work with the public to find a vision for just one street? It's a hugely complicated task, requiring months of planning and open communication, but this is happening right now thanks to a group of dedicated public officials and local citizens who are giving their time to make Lincoln Boulevard a better place for both residents and commuters.

Lincoln Boulevard is a major arterial street that stretches from LAX through my district, past Marina del Rey and Culver City and continuing through Santa Monica. It is one of the major north-south thoroughfares on the Westside between the airport and Santa Monica/West LA. Any local resident, daily commuter or LAX airline passenger can attest to the heavy congestion on Lincoln Blvd.

The Lincoln Corridor Task Force (LCTF) includes representatives from Los Angeles County; Caltrans; the cities of Culver City, Los Angeles and Santa Monica; the California Coastal Commission; MTA; and SCAG. It was created to bring these agencies together to address congestion on the heavily traveled Lincoln Boulevard between LAX and Santa Monica and develop a vision for the corridor's longterm transportation needs.

After many months of meetings, discussions and communications between the agencies and community members, LCTF this June hosted an open house in Westchester where the public was invited to review the various proposals, plans and ideas for the Lincoln corridor.

These different proposals made up the "wish list" for the corridor and represented a variety of ideas including light rail, medi-

Council District 11 includes these communities:

- LAX
- Westchester
- Playa Del Rey
- Del Rey
- Mar Vista
- Playa Vista
- Marina Del Rey (City of LA)
- Venice
- Palms
- West LA
- Brentwood
- Pacific Palisades

Elected to the City Council in June 1997, Cindy Miscikowski is the Councilmember for the 11th District of Los Angeles. Covering most of the city's coastline, her district includes LAX and Lincoln Boulevard.

an designs, a modified offramp from the 90 freeway, MTA Rapid Bus lines, pedestrian improvements, and underground utility lines. In addition, the group looked at initiatives like creating a uniform street tree plan along the length of Lincoln Boulevard and establishing building design guidelines that create a consistent and distinctive identity for the corridor and surrounding neighborhoods.

The LCTF open house, which functioned much like a design charrette, was well attended and received by the community. Groups like LCTF that bring together different public agencies to create a community vision are a good model to follow, and I hope that it can be copied into different neighborhoods of Los Angeles to develop new visions for our city. 🗳️

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