

# CULVER CITY, WHAT MAKES YOU SO SPECIAL?

## VEHICULAR TRAFFIC CONTRIBUTIONS: 4 CHALLENGES: 29

The general positive comment referring to traffic dealt with the locations that traffic has been slowed intentionally. The "S" through Culver Drive, and the fact that the road system is an eccentric grid, were mentioned. Its proximity to freeways was also mentioned. The challenges were mentioned more than any other issue. The most repeated comments were related to congestion. They said that too much thru traffic goes through the city, and too many people are using Culver as a short cut from one city to another. Other comments were that drivers are not respecting pedestrians and ignoring road signs, further development will bring still more traffic, and that there is a lack of parking spaces.

## DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS: 5 CHALLENGES: 16

Only two tables made a positive comment about development. One table was in favor saying the designs were intelligent and revitalizing dead areas, and the other was open to development if it was "done well." That table also commented on "friendly density." All tables saw development as an issue, mostly worrying that the density was too high and the growth was too fast. Worries were that the development would make Culver City look like West LA and other Westside neighborhoods and there were some concerns that too much development would bring in unwanted "outsiders."

## AFFORDABILITY CONTRIBUTIONS: 2 CHALLENGES: 9

Two of the seven tables made a positive comment that Culver City is currently affordable, however several tables made negative comments that Culver City does not have affordable elements. This was aimed mostly at the lack of housing affordability in the city. The other comments were geared towards retail like that in Platform, where they say it is not affordable for the residents of Culver City and therefore brings in more crowds from other cities.

## PEDESTRIAN CONTRIBUTIONS: 9 CHALLENGES: 5

With more positive than negative comments, Pedestrian issues were brought up frequently. Almost every table commented that Culver City is "walkable." It is said that one can live here and not own a car, the downtown is specifically good for pedestrians and there are hopes that the new developments can improve the pedestrian experience further. Issues flagged for pedestrians are comments related to traffic, saying that the increased vehicular traffic issues make it more difficult for the pedestrian. Other comments are that in reference to sidewalk widths and conditions, as well as a "lack of crosswalks."

## CRIME CONTRIBUTIONS: 2 CHALLENGES: 5

In positive terms, one table commented that Culver City is "safe" and has "fewer homeless" (the comparison is not given). As an issue, most of the comments were that the Expo Line might be bringing more criminals into the city, but mostly "low level crimes" like car break-ins and "front step packages stolen." A comment was also made about the lack of security along Ballona Creek.

## BIKE CONTRIBUTIONS: 5 CHALLENGES: 4

Bike issues were evenly split between positive and negative. Most positive comments praise the bike paths that currently exist in Culver City. One comment saying that parents can bike their children to school, and another praises the growing bike infrastructure. The same table that compliments the growing bike infrastructure also sees the issue of a current lack of it. Other issues brought up are about the conflicts between traffic and bikes as well as pedestrians and bikes. More bike parking is also requested.

## CIVIC/ GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS: 13 CHALLENGES: 3

The local Culver City government is seen as overwhelmingly positive. Multiple comments are made saying the government is very accessible to the people. Comments are made saying that there is an overall feeling of responsibility and "city pride" in the community. There were few issues addressed, but they included a reference to the leaderships lack of effectiveness in dealing with traffic issues, "No TDM," and in reference to development their studies are outdated and there is a need for more outreach projects. These last comments can be meant for government and/or development.

## TOWN CHARACTER CONTRIBUTIONS: 19 CHALLENGES: 3

This is an overwhelmingly positive topic of discussion for the tables. Multiple comments are made referring to the "small town" feel Culver City has. Additionally, many comments are about the history and culture of the city, as well as their feelings that the city has a lot of diversity. Multiple neighborhoods within Culver City are each recognizable and the City is said to be good for families. As issues to address, the comments were in relation to development, saying that the with gentrification and development, Culver City is "losing [its] sense of charm," and the character of the new architecture is out of context for the neighborhoods.

## OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTIONS: 6 CHALLENGES: 3

The positive open space comments refer to the amount of tree lined streets the city has, which is mentioned several times. Additionally, the positive aspects of the parks and beach access of Ballona Creek are commented on. As issues, there are some comments wanting more trees and parks.

## TRANSIT CONTRIBUTIONS: 4 CHALLENGES: 1

Most see the transit connections in Culver City as a positive asset to the city. Negative comments were in reference to a lack of coordination with the bus systems. Other negative comments are in the crime section, with suggestions the Expo Line brings in more crime.

## AMENITIES CONTRIBUTIONS: 19 CHALLENGES: 1

Overwhelmingly positive, several comments make reference to the stores, restaurants, galleries and other commercial spaces in Culver City. They feel it helps give the city a sense of identity and provides "business with character." The only negative comment is in reference to many of these businesses being spread out.

## SCHOOLS CONTRIBUTIONS: 5 CHALLENGES: 0

Schools were mentioned at several tables, and only as a contribution to Culver City. There were no negative comments about schools. The comment repeated by several tables was "great schools," and other comments mentioned referred to their diversity.

## MISC. CONTRIBUTIONS: 4 CHALLENGES: 2

Some comments that were not categorized were positive comments about the weather, environmentally conscious city, no billboards in the city and that the city is "down to earth." Miscellaneous issues referenced the pollution and that the city is "landlocked" with limited ingress and egress.

WHAT CREATES THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF CULVER CITY AND CONTRIBUTES TO ITS SENSE OF PLACE?

TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 4	TABLE 5	TABLE 6	TABLE 7
WALKABLE	EUROPEAN WALKING CITY	BIKE PATHS	WALKABLE	WALKABLE/ DRIVABLE	WALKABLE CITY	WALKABLE
NEAR TRANSIT	PEDESTRIAN AREA IN DT CULVER	GOOD LOCAL GOVERNMENT	HOPE PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE IMPROVE WITH DEVELOPMENT	CAN LIVE HERE AND NOT OWN A CAR	GROWING BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE	METRO - TRANSPORTATION HUB
WAS LESS TRAFFIC	PROTECTED BIKE PATH (CONNECTION ISSUE)	HISTORY	BIKE PATHS	PARENTS BIKE CHILDREN TO SCHOOL	GOOD ACCESS TO METRO - EXPO LINE	ACCESSABLE GOVERNMENT
PEOPLE KNOW EACH OTHER	S - THROUGH CULVER DR. TO SLOW DOWN TRAFFIC	DIVERSITY - SMALL SIZE, GOOD ACCESS, PERSONALITIES. - ADJACENT TO BIG CENTER	CLOSE TO FREEWAYS	TRAIN IS AN ASSET	GOOD ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT - CIVIC LEADERS	DIVERSITY
PEACEFUL	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT	MOVIES/ RESTAURANTS	LIKE ITS POLITICS	ECCENTRIC ROAD SYSTEM, IDENTITY NOT A GRID	EXCELLENT RESOURCES - POLICE/ FIRE	WESTSIDE EPICENTER
LIKE A SMALL TOWN	FEELS LIKE A COMMUNITY	FARMER'S MARKET	ACCESSIBLE, CAN TALK TO CITY HALL/ NEIGHBORS	"EVERYONE HAS A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY"	MANY COMMUNITY EVENTS	CHARMING
AFFORDABILITY	CITY IS RESPONSIVE (CIVIC)		CITY PRIDE	OLD AND NEW	HISTORY/ CULTURE	CULTURAL CENTER
NEAR FAMILY	HISTORY IS EMBRACED		GROWTH & POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE	HISTORY - NEIGHBORHOOD IDENTITY	SMALL TOWN FEEL	FAMILY
CENTRALITY	FEELS LIKE A SMALL TOWN WITH ACCESS TO BIG CITY FACILITIES		NEIGHBORHOOD AUTHENTICITY	GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD SCALE	QUIET RECOGNIZABLE NEIGHBORHOODS	SMALL TOWN
ACCESSIBLE	DIVERSE MIDDLE CLASS CITY		OPENNESS TO DEVELOPMENT/ DENSITY, IF DONE WELL	SMALL TOWN - GOVERNMENT IS ACCESSIBLE	BUSINESS WITH CHARACTER	FULL SERVICE CITY
	NEW INTELLIGENT DEVELOPMENT REVITALIZING DEAD AREAS		WESTSIDE "GHT"	HAYDEN TRACT - DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOOD	WELL MAINTAINED HISTORIC BUILDINGS	ARTS/ GALLERIES
	ENTHUSIASTIC DEVELOPMENT		FRIENDLY DENSITY	DIVERSE	VERY NICE WELL MAINTAINED TREES	FOOD DESTINATION
	ART GALLERIES		LOVE RESTAURANTS	ENCLAVE	DOG PARK/ BALDWIN HILLS	ENTERTAINMENT - STUDIOS
	NO TYPICAL FRANCHISE IE. MCDONALDS (PLATFORM)		SLEEPY CORNER, NOT HIP	AFFORDABLE	BALLONA CREEK - BEACH ACCESS	GREAT SCHOOLS
	"MOM & POP" FEEL ALONG WASHINGTON		GREEN SPACES, PARKS	CULVER HOTEL CENTER, LANDMARK	GREAT SCHOOLS	ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS
	TREES & LIGHTS & WIDE SIDEWALKS (AREAS FOR PEOPLE TO MIX W/O NEEDING TO SPEND MONEY)		SCHOOLS	ARTS DISTRICT GALLERIES SCALE		
	GREAT SCHOOL (DIVERSE DEAL)		DIVERSE, INCLUDING SCHOOLS	AMENITIES ARE HERE... OTHERS COME "MAKES US PROUD"		
			SAFE	STREET TREES GIVE NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER		
			FEWER HOMELESS	SCHOOL DISTRICT		
			CLIMATE/ WEATHER	IRONIC - PROTECTED BY CUL- DU- SAC		
			DOWN TO EARTH			
			NO BILLBOARDS			

TOWN CHARACTER	19
AMENITIES	19
CIVIC/ GOVERNMENT	13
PEDESTRIAN	9
OPEN SPACE	6
BIKE	5
DEVELOPMENT	5
SCHOOLS	5
VEHICULAR TRAFFIC	4
MISC.	4
TRANSIT	4
AFFORDABILITY	2
CRIME	2

WHAT ARE THE CRITICAL CHALLENGES TO THE CITY'S CHARACTER, TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE?

TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 4	TABLE 5	TABLE 6	TABLE 7
NOISY PEDESTRIANS	TRAFFIC	NEED MORE BIKE PARKING	SIDEWALK WIDTH/ CONDITION	BIKES CUT OFF BY TRAFFIC	LACK OF BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE	LACK OF CROSSWALKS
BIKE/ PEDESTRIAN CONFLICTS	NOT ENOUGH OUTREACH PROJECTS	TOO MUCH CUT-THRU TRAFFIC	I DON'T EVEN WANT TO WALK ANYMORE	ECCENTRIC ROAD SYSTEM, IDENTITY NOT A GRID	BUS TRANSIT NOT WELL COORDINATED	PARKING
EXPO BROUGHT TRAFFIC AND PARKING, (WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?)	OUTDATED STUDIES	TRAFFIC/TRAFFIC/ TRAFFIC	DIFFICULT FOR FOOT TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC AND GROWTH	TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC
THROUGH TRAFFIC ON LOCAL, RESIDENTIAL STREETS	NEW DEVELOPMENT GOING TOWARDS SIMILAR TO WEST LA	LACK OF PARKING SPACES	TOO MANY PEOPLE/ CARS	THRU TRAFFIC	LEADERSHIP EFFECTIVENESS WITH REGARD TO TRAFFIC - NO TDM	THRU TRAFFIC
CONGESTION	HUGE DEVELOPMENT HAPPENING ALL OF A SUDDEN CITY SHOULD SLOW DOWN & THINK ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THESE PROJECTS	CHOKING FEELING BY TRAFFIC PRESSURE	TRYING TO BRING PEOPLE TO AN INTERSECTION, HOW IS IT A DESTINATION AND NOT A PARKING LOT?	TRAFFIC EFFECTS DECISIONS TO LEAVE HOME	HOUSING CLOSE TO METRO	THOROUGHFAIR
PEOPLE IGNORE SPEED BUMPS & STOP SIGNS	CONCENTRATION ON NON-DESTINATION DRIVING DEVELOPMENTS	BIG SIZE DEVELOPMENTS ADD MORE TRAFFIC ON THE BUSY STREETS. MAKE IT JAMMED.	USING CULVER CITY TO GET TO SOMEWHERE ELSE	"MARRIED TO OUR CAR"	AFFORDABLE HOUSING	GENTRIFICATION
VEHICLE/ PEDESTRIAN CONFLICTS	TALL DEVELOPMENT	TRAFFIC CONTROL & FLOW (PROBLEM)	TRAFFIC SCALE VS. HUMAN SCALE	MANSONIZATION EVERYWHERE (ARTS DISTRICT)	BALLONA CREEK SECURITY/ LACK OF COORDINATED SECURITY	CHARACTER OF NEW ARCHITECTURE - CONTEXT
TRAFFIC SEPARATES THE COMMUNITY/ CONNECTIVITY	CATERING TO HIGH END CLIENTS	NO DEGREE - STREET NAME, LIKE JEFFERSON BLVD.	OVERDEVELOPMENT	COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL - SINGLE USE, NO MIXED USE	LANDLOCKED - LIMITED INGRESS/ EGRESS	LOSING SENSE OF CHARM
"TIME OUR LIVES TO AVOID TRAFFIC."	WHAT COMMUNITY IS THIS RETAIL SERVING?	PRESSURE FROM BIG SIZE DEVELOPMENT	TOO MUCH GENTRIFICATION	AMENITIES TOTALLY SPREAD OUT		RAPID GROWTH
GROWTH OF BUSINESS/ EMPLOYMENT CENTERS (OUTSIDERS)	SHOULD NOT TURN INTO A BEVERLY CENTER	INCREASED DEVELOPMENT DENSITY	USED CAR DEALERSHIPS	BARRIER BETWEEN TREES		OVERDEVELOPMENT - TOO DENSE
EXPO LINE INCREASES CRIME	TOO BOULY (WE DON'T WANT TO BE TOO BOULY) IE. THE PLATFORM	LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING	MANY RESTAURANTS BUT NOT STORES			AFFORDABLE HOUSING
SAFETY		NEED MORE PARKS/ GREEN CURBS	HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, BUILD MORE (IN LA IN GENERAL) - WITHOUT DENSITY, BECOME EXCLUSIVE, GOOD SCHOOLS			EXPENSIVE
POLLUTION		NEED MORE TREES	LOW LEVEL CRIMES, CAR BREAK-INS, FRONT STEP PACKAGES STOLEN			
		CROSS STREETS VS. LIGHT RAIL	HEARD CRIME HAS GONE UP SINCE LIGHT RAIL			

VEHICULAR TRAFFIC	29
DEVELOPMENT	16
AFFORDABILITY	9
PEDESTRIAN	5
CRIME	5
BIKE	4
CIVIC/ GOVERNMENT	3
TOWN CHARACTER	3
OPEN SPACE	3
MISC.	2
TRANSIT	1
AMENITIES	1
SCHOOLS	0

The image shows seven hand-drawn mind maps, one for each table, summarizing the key points from the tables. The mind maps use various colors and arrows to connect related concepts. For example, Table 1 (Vehicular Traffic) mind map highlights 'Noisy Pedestrians', 'Traffic', and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 2 (Development) mind map focuses on 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 3 (Pedestrian) mind map emphasizes 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 4 (Affordability) mind map notes 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 5 (Crime) mind map mentions 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 6 (Bike) mind map discusses 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. Table 7 (Civic/Government) mind map touches on 'Traffic' and 'Need More Bike Parking'. The mind maps also include various other notes and diagrams related to the tables' content.