

Golden Hill Planning Committee 7/14/2021

Zoom Meeting

6:33 pm meeting called to order

**Members Present**

Sabrina DiMinico - here

Will Link -here

Susan Bugbee - here

Cheryl Brierton – here

Monica de la Cruz – here

Joe Coneglio – here

Valerie Pasquetto – here

Kerry Wesson – here

Michael Gruby – here

Paul Schumacher – here

**Members Absent**

Celestine Faustino – not here

*Reyna Ayala – Resigned*

*Ian Koskela – Resigned*

Kathy Vandenheuvel – not here

Richard Santini - not here

Victoria Curran – not here

**Update to the Agenda:**

Toni Atkins has sent word she is unable to attend this evening. So the agenda will be updated to remove this item.

**Will makes a motion to approve the minutes from June 9,2021.**

**Mike Gruby seconds**

Paul abstains as he was absent

Sabrina DiMinico - yes

Will Link -yes

Susan Bugbee - yes

Cheryl Brierton – yes

Monica de la Cruz – yes

Joe Coneglio – yes

Valerie Pasquetto – yes

Kerry Wesson – yes

Michael Gruby – yes

Paul Schumacher – yes

Motion passes

### **Government Reports**

Ryan Darsey public report– Today at public safety/livable neighborhoods the parks master plan moved forward. The new version includes climate index ratings (low,very low,moderate). This does include Golden Hill in both expanded definitions. For more questions, feel free to reach out to Ryan.

During first week of August, we can expect details on proposed increased fees for water/waste water rates. This is for infrastructure improvements. In addition, there may be regional water cost increases that will be passed to the consumers. There will be a meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss. If we know any non-profits, the city is accepting applications for CPCS funds from the council office. Non profits can apply for funds for projects. The deadline is July 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Monica question/comment:**

Monica: August 2<sup>nd</sup> was given as the date to remove out door dining. What exactly does that date apply to?

Ryan: The city is notifying businesses that August 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date they have to comply with getting their outdoor dining areas up to code standards, and is working with them to help them get this done.

### **Joe question:**

Joe: That 5% wastewater increase is that going to be starting on January first or will it be graduated?

Ryan: If it is improved by city council it will go into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

Joe: We've had some emails back and forth in the last few months about growing/building homeless encampments and there doesn't seem to be any movement from the city or Caltrans. There was an article that they are offering services but many of those people are turning down services. What is the policy for people that refuse services?

Ryan: I've spoken to a community relations officer and they are ramping up enforcement. Be sure to report those on get-it-done. Regarding the service outreach in the Gaslamp, they have found shelter for almost 300 individuals, so those are working.

### **Kerry question:**

Kerry: Regarding the get-it-done app, I was walking from Sherman Heights to downtown (district 8 -> district 3) and couldn't walk on the side walk because of the debris of a large homeless encampment. Yes, it did get cleared out in a few days, but they then came right back a few days later. Unless they continuously get cleared out, there will be an encampment there.

Ryan: Reiterates the use of the get-it-done app. Also suggests that Ryan can be contacted directly if get-it-done isn't moving fast enough.

**Cheryl questions:**

Cheryl: I wanted to follow up on the 5% waste water increase. I know the county has been exploring the possibility of a massive new irrigation system coming from Imperial. Is that 5% related to those increased costs?

Ryan: The 5% is the city is proposing to pass through the regional water costs to its customers. It's regional water increases. This is the first increase in a decade. There will be an August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting for public comment.

**Kohta Zaiser, mayor rep:**

We are in fiscal year 2022, we have a new passed budget. Top lines items

10 million for complete streets

10 million to support homelessness

Climate action/climate equity

Cool zones have been made available throughout the city anytime it's hotter than 85.

The 10 million for homelessness expands contracts with path, father joes, alpha project to increase outreach. Adding 300 additional shelter beds. The most significant one is safe-haven beds, these will be beds for people who aren't sober/on the path to sobriety that will allow them housing even if they refuse the requirements for more traditional shelters.

In terms of encampments- now that we are coming out of covid SDPD has been going in and clearing out encampments. There are now staff to clear those out. If get-it-done or Caltrans isn't moving fast enough, reach out to Ryan or Kohta.

Jail capacity has increased, so lower level offences can be booked instead of cited and released, which is helping clear out encampments.

**Joe questions:**

Joe: Following up on the homelessness, if they are offered help and they refuse is there anything that the city is planning to do?

Kohta: They are still working on this with the city. A plan has been floated to take the worst repeat offenders, the top 25 or so with extreme mental health issues, and possibly make them wards of the city/state.

The downtown outreach has been largely successful, but there are people refusing services that remain.

**Sabrina questions:**

Sabrina: We know that there are a group of homeless people who don't want help. We want to cut through the PR and the spin. What we are hearing from residents is that the issue is bad, we're seeing the issue is bad. It's an issue that effects the whole community, so what can be done?

Kohta: I can only reiterate that we are doing what we are doing. We hope that safe haven beds will allow us to reach the people who are refusing services because they aren't on a path to drug recovery. We are aware the situation is dire, and as I mentioned the city attorney and SDPD are exploring alternatives for the hardest to reach people.

**Paul questions:**

You mentioned that due to declines in cases SDPD can start addressing the encampments. Are officers the first to respond to homeless encampments?

Kohta: No, the first to respond are homeless outreach team (HOT) and path.

**Cheryl questions:**

Cheryl: I'm really excited to hear about this top 25/conservatorship for people who cost the tax payers a lot of money. But the conservatorships in the past have been stymied by a lack of staff/public guardians. I know the district attorney was hoping for more public guardians?

Kohta: We're not at that level yet. Conservatorship is very rare, but it's an idea currently being floated going around. It's an idea being investigated but it's not being actively pursued yet.

Cheryl: Is this idea being discussed with the people who have the power to implement it? The district attorney/county supervisors?

Kohta: Right now it's internal discussions

Cheryl: That means no.

**Community member Kate Callen:**

Kate: Just for the record, it's *not* clear that homeless don't want to live in the streets. Many don't want to live under the rules of shelters. And it's not illegal to live on the streets.

Kohta: We're hoping the safe-haven beds will offer a place to go for those people that is more appealing than the streets.

**From Toni Atkins office, Stopher Vallejo:**

Two major updates:

The state budget framework, sb129, has been signed. Highlights:

The state will put 12 billion toward the housing crisis and homeless outreach.

5 billion toward broadband access

10 billion toward climate research/health care and the arts

Further trailer bills are being discussed.

Second update: the eviction moratorium was set to expire June 30<sup>th</sup>, now it will expire September 30<sup>th</sup>. Landlords will receive the full amount of unpaid rent so this should be a relief for them.

Stopher has been working with Caltrans to clear out homelessness, and has observed encampments along the 94 being cleared out.

**Sabrina questions:**

Sabrina: Just to be clear, the moratorium will be extended and landlords will get paid?

Stopher: Yes. Link to apply: <https://www.sdhc.org/housing-opportunities/help-with-your-rent/covid-19-rental-assistance/>

Sabrina: And Toni Atkins does want to attend one of these meetings? She has now cancelled twice?

Stopher: Yes, she does. She still lives in the neighborhood and is very interested in attending. However, with the budget discussions on going her schedule has been very tight.

**Question from Mark Reiser with no microphone (read by sabrina)**

Mark: Are sb9 and sb10 a done deal? Have those been passed?

Stopher: Sb9/10 are legislation designed to address the housing crisis. It's currently going through the appropriations committee. It's not a done deal, it's still going through the process, and as part of that process we are hoping to get community feedback.

**Sabrina questions:**

Sabrina: A lot of community residents don't believe these laws will solve the problem. New ADUs are being built by developers, local investment groups, and this really isn't providing more affordable housing. Laws like these aren't going to solve the issue. How is Toni Atkins collecting the community feedback? We're hoping Toni Atkins will come to these meetings to collect feedback.

I don't see how this will solve the problem, and I'd like Toni Atkins to come and layout how this will actually solve the problems!

Stopher: I hear you, I'm happy to address a few points. The bottom line is that we're facing a housing shortage. Sb9 is one piece of a broader conversation, and questions about who is building these units, etc are worth discussing, but sb9 is aimed at increasing the housing supply. Making it easier to build accessory dwelling units should take some pressure off the housing market.

Sabrina: People like their neighborhoods and don't want increased density, and these units aren't creating affordable housing. The key word is affordable.

**Paul Question/Comment:**

Paul: This is more a comment to Stopher. From a renters a perspective there is value and merit to provide more housing as a neighborhood changing and the city evolves and single family voting has a very exclusive history. Increasing density is part of a shift that is necessary and ultimately people who

weren't lucky enough to buy a home at a certain time. I agree that isn't one solution to fix everything but I appreciate the effort to create more entry level housing and I'm not alone in the community.

Sabrina: I agree with you but I don't think this bill will work.

Will: Basically reiterates what Paul said, tells Stopher that there are members of the community who support bills like sb9, and that we have a shortage of both affordable and market rate housing.

**Kerry Questions:**

Kerry: I have a plan that might change things. Canada taxes foreign investors for purchasing investor properties. If we did something like that we could raise billions of dollars. This will raise money for the city which can help fund services to help those in need.

Stopher: These bills in front of us are narrowly aimed at increasing the housing supply by making it a bit easier to build.

**Sabrina:** We need a broader solution. Just increasing the numbers of ADUs isn't going to do anything. The idea that supply and demand can fix the problem is a myth, it won't solve the problem.

**Kerry:** We can tax foreign investment. As a landlord, adding an ADU in my backyard won't solve anything, it will just put more money in my pocket.

Stopher: I hear you and your concerns.

**Sabrina:** Toni Atkins should come talk to us and collect community feedback on these laws.

**Non Agenda Public Comment:**

None

**Nominations for open position:**

Sabrina: Ian has resigned for there will be a new position on the board on September. Tonight we can appoint Reyna's position. We have two candidates, so we'll let them introduce themselves.

**Barbara Mitana:**

I really enjoy being here and the homeless issue is near and dear to me and such an important issue. I love this community and am really looking forward to being able to help out.

**Isaac Warner:**

My husband and I are residents of golden hill. I've enjoyed being part of these meetings and hearing more about what is going on the neighborhood. I think there are a lot of really pressing matters at hand and I'm happy to jump in.

**Susan:** We normally appoint one person at a time, and we have one opening right now, but a second member has just resigned. So is there one of you willing to step aside until another position open ups?

**Barbara:** I'm happy to step aside for Isaac

**Will:** Another position will open up basically immediately, so the only real difference is whoever waits until next month won't be able to do a few votes at the beginning of the meeting, right?

**Susan:**

Yes, I think that is right.

**Mike Gruby makes a movement to appoint Isaac Warner as a new member replacing Reyna**

**Kerry Seconds**

Sabrina- yes

Will – yes

Cheryl -yes

Susan -yes

Joe- yes

Mike - yes

Monica -yes

Valerie- yes

Paul – yes

Kerry – yes

Motion passes unanimous

**Cheryl:** Do we have to wait for September? Couldn't we appoint Barbara today?

**Cheryl makes a motion to appoint Barbara Mitana as member**

**Susan and Will:** I think last week we decided we should wait so we could give notice of the open position?

**Isaac Warner:** I'm looking at the bylaws and they say we can appoint someone immediately upon resignation.

**Sabrina:** Do we think we should do it?

**Will:** Why not play it safe? There isn't really any harm in waiting.

**Mike:** I disagree, if we can do it now we should just do it now. .

**Susan:** The bylaws do say we can fill vacancies at the time they are declared.

**Cheryl remakes her motion to appointment Barbara to Ian's vacancy which was just announced**

**Isaac seconds**

Sabrina- yes

Will – yes

Cheryl – yes

Kerry – no, we could wait for next month

Susan -yes

Joe – yes

Monica – yes

Mike – yes

Valerie- yes

Paul – yes

Motion carries 9/1

**CIP (capital improvement) update:**

Monica's report items are on a pdf, which is now discussed. Some concerns are raised that items from the old spreadsheet haven't been included but Monica explains that the subcommittee was asked to focus on a top 5, and anything outside that top 5 is in the remaining CPIC projects.

Monica and Isaac together explain that Caltrans projects have been split out to the end of the document.

Valerie wants to make sure the green lid is included. Isaac notes that it's in the "Caltrans projects" section of the document and he suggests submitting it to Caltrans partner survey because that project would be a Caltrans and not a city project.

**Sabrina:** We are going to decide what the top priorities are, and then vote on this, and then there will be another subcommittee meeting to input these priorities.

**Cheryl:** We can adopt the subcommittee motion and then Valerie could input the Caltrans partner survey? I don't think we need another subcommittee meeting.

**Sabrina:** Monica, do we need a meeting for that?

**Cheryl:** I don't think we need a meeting. We've supported the freeway lid multiple times, so let's go ahead and make a motion to complete that Valerie can complete that Caltrans partner form.

**Kerry :** Just for understanding how projects work- asking to have the freeway lid over the entire 94 won't work, we need to specify the streets (22<sup>nd</sup>- to 25<sup>th</sup>). Let's add that to the document.

**Valerie:** We've talked about the freeway lid multiple times everyone supports it. I'm happy to submit the freeway lid project to the form.

**Cheryl:** We can amend the document to include 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Cheryl makes a motion to adopt the subcommittee priority report with the change that we add the language to specify the 94 freeway lid runs from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> language.**

**Monica:** Just to be clear we prioritized the top 5 list in the subcommittee. We were told that Caltrans items like the freeway lid should be put into the Caltrans partnership form because that is outside city



planning. Everything that was outside the top 5 is towards the end of the list in remaining CPIC projects and everything Caltrans related needs to be input into the Caltrans form which is separate.

**Sabrina:** Lets move forward with Cheryl's motion?

**Cheryl makes a motion to adopt the subcommittee priority report with the change that we add the language to specify the 94 freeway lid runs from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> language**

**Susan Seconds**

Monica – yes

Susan -yes

Mike -yes

Joe – yes

Will – yes

Kerry – yes

Cheryl – Yes

Valerie – yes

Paul -yes

Sabrina – yes

Isaac – yes

Barbara – yes

Unanimous passing

**Cheryl makes the motion to authorize Valerie Pasquetto to input the freeway lid into the Caltrans partner survey**

**Valerie seconds**

**Monica:** Wait. There might be other things that we need to go in the partner survey beyond the freeway lid we should make sure those are covered.

**Isaac:** We took the list of previous projects and put them into the document under Caltrans recommendations.

**Kerry:** Can we add the planting of local trees along the green way to the Caltrans project?

**Isaac :** Yes, I think we can.

**Sabrina:** What are the options here? How can we input these projects? Is it an individual, or a group?

**Monica:** I have taken the individual survey, there is the option to do things individually. We can do individual surveys, but we should also put in our group recommendations.

**Sabrina:** It sounds like we can just amend the motion, and have Valerie put in all the planting along the greenway, the freeway lid, and the other projects?

**Valerie:** Wait, I'm not sure, can the survey be done by individuals or not?

**Isaac:** One person can do the survey.

**Will:** Since Isaac and Monica know the most about this, I'm going to pick on Isaac, why don't we just have him input the Caltrans partner projects?

**Will makes a motion to authorize Isaac to input the Caltrans partner projects from the subcommittee document into the Caltrans Partner survey, and for Monica to be authorized to input the other projects into the city's form.**

**Valerie seconds**

**Cheryl withdraws her motion to authorize Valerie Pasquetto.**

Cheryl – yes

Paul – yes

Susan -yes

Isaac – yes

Kerry – yes

Mike – yes

Will – yes

Monica – yes

Barbara – yes

Isaac -yes

Valerie- yes

Joe – yes

Sabrina -yes

Unanimous.

**Sabrina:** Do we need a subcommittee meeting to enter it the tool?

**Monica:** I don't think so, if everyone is ok with the document I'll go ahead and enter it.

**Vice Chair Report:**

Sabrina: We do have one more item committee will dissolve if we can't find a chair Is there anything to discuss on that?

Cheryl asks if one of our new comers might be willing to take chair.

**Isaac suggests he might take chair**

**Monica suggests she might take vice-chair.**

Meetings Ends at 8:28