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**Annual Report of the
Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group
April 2022 - March 2023
www.ktpg.org
April 12, 2023**

Introduction

The following is the Annual Report of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group (KTPG). For the period covered by this report (April 2022-March 2023) the officers were David Moty, Chair; Brian Helmich, Vice-Chair; Ken Baer, Secretary; Lisa Sinclair, Treasurer.

The planning group maintained standing subcommittees for Project Review, and the Kensington Maintenance Assessment Districts: Kensington Heights, Kensington Manor, Kensington Park North, Talmadge Park North, and Talmadge Park South, and the following ad hoc subcommittees: CIP & Planning, Communications, Historic Review, Transportation, Utility Undergrounding, and Elections.

Administrative Issues

Ten regular meetings of the full board were held during the twelve months from April 2022 through March 2023. No regular meetings were held in July and August of 2022. A special meeting was held on February 16, 2023.

There is no differentiation made in membership between residents, renters, property owners, or business or non-profit owner/operators, nor are there any seats specifically assigned for large institutional entities.

Community Plan Preparation and Implementation

No community plan amendments were enacted between April 2022 and March 2023. However, contacts were made with the chairs of the City Heights, Eastern Area, and Normal Heights planning groups to form a joint Community Plan Update Committee in April 2023. It is anticipated that each planning group will appoint members to this committee. Other key stakeholders will be invited to participate.

Special Projects

June 2022 – As part of the City’s revisions to the community planning group system, the planning group took a position supporting continued cost-free project appeals and limiting the break in service to one year.

September 2022 – The planning group supported renewal of a Wireless Communications Facility CUP at 4770 Norma Drive.

November 2022 through March 2023 – In late October 2022, the City sent notices announcing that as part of the Kensington Heights Circuit Upgrade #2, they intended to remove the existing street lights in Kensington Heights. These would be replaced with poles and luminaires shown on the plans for the construction of the Kensington Heights #2 Series Conversion. These would replace the various inconsistent lights installed over the years, as well as the nearly 100 year-old original lights, regardless of condition. The Kensington Heights MAD met on November 28, December 6, December 30, January 18, and February 13 to make recommendations on this matter. Over this period, the other Kensington MADs met to review their annual budgets.

At the November 30 meeting of the Kensington MADs, the Kensington Park North MAD voted to approve its budget. The other MADs had questions which could not be resolved by staff at that meeting, including the parameters of the Kensington Heights Circuit #2 upgrade, the lack of functioning lights in Talmadge Park North, and the use of certain accounting terminology in the Kensington Manor and Talmadge Park South budgets. Therefore, the remaining four MADs did not take action to approve their budgets.

At the December 6 meeting of the Kensington MADs, questions regarding the Kensington Heights, Kensington Manor, Talmadge Park North budgets were not resolved and no motions to approve their budgets were made. Talmadge Park South did not reach a quorum. The Kensington Heights MAD supported a motion to halt the circuit upgrade and inspect the existing lights.

At the December 14 regular meeting of the planning group, the December 6th motion of the Kensington Heights MAD was not approved and returned to the subcommittee for further work.

At the December 30 meeting of the Kensington Heights MAD, a motion with detailed instructions was passed by the MAD which included their support for the circuit upgrade, called out the failure to properly comply with CEQA, supported the inspection of the existing historic lights for possible rehabilitation, and requested that new lights be comparable to six fairly recent replacement lights (poles and luminaires installed in 2017), known colloquially as the Tully lights, which were very compatible with the historic style of the original lights.

At the January 14 regular meeting of the full planning group, the December 30th motion of the Kensington Heights MAD was approved and a letter was sent to the City.

On January 18, the Kensington Heights, Kensington Manor, Talmadge Park North, and Talmadge Park South MADs met to review their budgets which were not approved at the November 30th budget meeting. At these meetings all four MADs voted to affirm their decision to disapprove their budgets. However, the Kensington Heights MAD while disapproving its budget, did recommend that \$10,000 be allocated to inspect the 56 lights slated for removal.

On January 30, Engineering & Capital Projects responded to the planning groups letter of January 17th which did not address the main issue which was preservation of as many of the original street lights in Kensington Heights as possible.

At its February 13 meeting, the Kensington Heights MAD met again to address the issue of the historic street lights in Kensington Heights and respond to the City's letter of January 30th. A new motion was authored focusing on listing issues with the Spring City Electrical Mfg. Company Empire style luminaires, and preserving the existing luminaires by budgeting \$57,000 for this purpose. The motion was passed by the subcommittee.

At the February 16 special meeting of the full planning group, the February 13th motion of the Kensington Heights MAD was approved and a letter was sent to the City.

On March 8th, Engineering & Capital Projects responded to the planning groups letter of February 16th in which they indicated they would work closely with the community on the Kensington Heights Circuit Upgrade #1, but did not address any of the MADs concerns about the fate of the existing historic streetlights within Circuit Upgrade #2. The March 8th regular meeting of the full planning group was attended by Lucero Maganda from the mayor's office who said she would try to schedule a meeting of city departments and the planning group to address this issue.

March 2023 – The planning group supported the renewal of a Wireless Communications Facility CUP at 4030 Terrace Court.

Historic Review – Through the course of the planning group year, the 45 Year Review liaison received 58 permits for potential historic review and requested city staff investigate 10 properties for historicity.

For additional information, please see the posted minutes for the planning year at the Kensington Talmadge Planning Group website: www.ktpg.org (April 2022 through March 2023).

Planning Group Objectives

The planning group will begin work with other planning groups who represent other component areas of the Mid-City Communities Plan, as well as other stakeholders as identified, to prepare for the Mid-City Communities plan update.

David Moty
Chair, Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group

Kensington Talmadge Planning Group Public Roster Summary for April 2022 through March 2023

Membership as of Apr 2022	Current Term End Date	Initial Term Start Date	Membership as of March 2023
David Moty, <i>Chair</i>	APR 2024	APR 2020	David Moty, <i>Chair</i>
Brian Helmich, <i>Vice Chair</i>	APR 2023	APR 2019	Brian Helmich, <i>Vice Chair</i>
Ken Baer, <i>Secretary</i>	APR 2023	FEB 2022	Ken Baer, <i>Secretary</i>
Lisa Sinclair, <i>Treasurer</i>	APR 2024	JUL 2019	Lisa Sinclair, <i>Treasurer</i>
Geoff Hueter	APR 2024	APR 2022	Geoff Hueter
Melanie Irwin	APR 2023	APR 2021	Melanie Irwin
Ari Isaak	APR 2023	APR 2019	Ari Isaak
Paul Krueger	APR 2023	APR 2021	Paul Krueger
Daniele Laman	APR 2024	APR 2020	Daniele Laman
Fred Lindahl	APR 2024	APR 2018	Fred Lindahl
Carolyn Satter	APR 2023	JAN 2020	Carolyn Satter
Deborah Sharpe	APR 2023	APR 2014	Deborah Sharpe
Vito Spano	APR 2024	APR 2022	Vito Spano
Ralph Teyssier	APR 2024	APR 2018	Ralph Teyssier
Roger Utt	APR 2023	OCT 2021	Roger Utt

Kensington Talmadge Planning Group Election Results for March 8, 2023

CANDIDATE	VOTES RECEIVED	ELECTED/NOT ELECTED
Ken Baer	28	Elected
Brian Helmich	32	Elected
Ari Isaak	18	Elected
Paul Krueger	31	Elected
David Roth	22	Elected
Lisa Stone	30	Elected
Paul Tourkin	17	Elected
Roger Utt	16	Elected

There were eight candidates for eight positions, with 41 total ballots cast.

