



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE (NPPC)

Draft Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2019; 6:30 pm (Special Date)

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I. Parliamentary Items

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Attendance Report

Member	Steve Billings	Steve Doster	Daniel Gebreselassie	Arash Kahvazadeh	Marc Gould	Sarah McAlear	Aria Pounaki	Jen Spencer	Chelsi Sparti	Melissa Stayner	Matt Stucky	Tim Taylor	Eduardo Velasquez	René Vidales	Randy Wilde
Attendance	1		2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Late															
Absences		1	1	1	1							1			

2. Modifications to the NPPC Agenda

a. **Urgent Non-Agenda Action Items: MOTION: To move Action Items V.1 (Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon Letter of Support) and V.3 (2018-2019 NPPC Annual Report) to the consent agenda. Wilde/Gebreseassie 13-0-0**

b. Consent Agenda Items:

i. Urban Design/Project Review. Members present: Melissa Stayner, Aria Pounaki, Ernie Bonn, Peter Hill, Robb Steppke, Tim Taylor, René Vidales

1) **Map Waiver at the Hamilton III Project (Process 3).** Map Waiver to create three (3) residential condominium units for a duplex currently under construction and existing detached single dwelling unit for a total of 2,745 sf of conversion located at 4174, 4176 & 4178 Hamilton St. The 0.12 acre site is located in the RM-3-7 Base Zone of the North Park Community Planning area. PTS 627462. Applicant: Robert J. Bateman. SUBCOMMITTEE MOTION: To approve the Map Waiver for 4174, 4176 & 4178 Hamilton St. due to desirability of home ownership within the community for stability. The NPPC disagrees strongly with the practice of “dual tracking” which allows projects to initially be permitted as apartments and then be entitled as condominiums. Vidales/Taylor 5-2-0 (Bonn and Steppke voting no)

2) **Neighborhood Development Permit for the Lincoln Project (Process 2).** Neighborhood Development Permit for deviations to development standards related to the construction of a four level, 10,978 sf, 11-unit (including 1 affordable unit) apartment building with stacked parking at 3770 Alabama St. The 0.11-acre site is located in the RM-3-9 Zone in the North Park Community Planning Area. PTS 619766. Applicant: Francisco Garcia and Alex Ruezga. SUBCOMMITTEE MOTION: To approve Neighborhood Development Permit for the Lincoln Project at 3770 Alabama St. including requested deviation for the omission of common open space. Taylor/Hill 7-0-0

ii. Former Actions Items now part of the Consent Agenda

- 1) **Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon Letter of Support.** Request for a letter of support for Rock ‘n’ Roll San Diego Marathon and Half Marathon. Discussion of course that will take place in North Park during the upcoming Sunday, June 2nd race. Road closures will be in place between the hours of 5 am and 10:45 am, and will be lifted on a rolling basis. Course map and full list of road/ramp closures at <https://www.runrocknroll.com/san-diego/>. Lee Collenberg, Community Relations, Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon Series.
- 2) **2018-2019 NPPC Annual Report.** Summary consisting of administrative issues, awards, historic districts, letters of support and special projects, summary of project review, and activities of associated community organizations along with approved meeting minutes from April 17, 2018 to March 19, 2019. The annual report is to be submitted to the City after approval from NPPC.

MOTION: To Approve Consent Agenda. Sparti/Wilde 13-0-0

3. **Agenda:** Adoption of the May 14, 2019 NPPC Agenda. **MOTION: To approve May 14, 2019 Agenda as modified. Velasquez/Gebreselassie 13-0-0**
4. **Minutes:** Approval of the April 16, 2019 Minutes. A member of the public requested that the statement in the minutes be re-written to specify how many members of the public spoke at last month’s meeting in favor and against bike lanes. Two members of the board had taken a tally of the pro/con speakers, and those tallies will be added to the April 16 minutes. **MOTION: To approve April 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes, adding information on tally of pro/con speakers. Billings/Wilde 10-0-3 (Taylor, Gebreselassie, Kahvazadeh abstained as they were absent at last meeting)**
5. **Treasurer’s Report:** Chelsi Sparti/Randy Wilde. NPPC account balance is \$1,050.26. **MOTION: To donate \$200 to church for allowing us to hold the NPPC meetings here each month. McAlear/Gebreselassie 13-0-0**

II. **Non-Agenda Public Comment**

1. Lee Collenberg, Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon Community Relations. This will be 22nd year running, will be held June 2, 2019. Made map available to public at meeting. By 10 a.m. roads will reopen.
2. Matt Thompson. Encourages crowd to introduce yourselves and where you live during meeting when discussing one of the upcoming action items.
3. Bernardo Heime, business owner and resident. Wonders how to find out about items being heard at this meeting. Instructed to sign up for emails and check NPPC website.
4. Michael Bagnas. Pointed out to all members of the public present that they need to sign into this meeting in order to be eligible to vote in next NPPC election.

III. **Announcements**

1. **North Park Thursday Market (Farmers Market).** Every Thursday 3pm-7:30pm year-round. More info at: <https://northparkmainstreet.com/events/farmers-market/>
2. **Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon.** Sunday, June 2. Covered under Non-Agenda Public Comment
3. **50th Annual San Diego Greek Festival.** Music, food and vendors. Friday, June 7 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, June 8 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, June 9 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saint Spyridon Church at 3655 Park Blvd. <http://sdgreekfestival.com>
4. **Hess Fest – Hess Brewing Anniversary Party.** June 22, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Grim Ave. between University Ave. and North Park Way.
5. **First Annual Scoop San Diego Ice Cream Festival.** June 23, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., North Park Way between Granada Ave. and 30th St.
6. **Bird Park Summer Concerts.** July 6 & 20, and August 3 & 17, 3-8 p.m. at the northeastern portion of Balboa Park. More info at: <http://www.northparksd.org>

IV. **Elected Official & Planner Reports:**

1. **Jawad Albaghdadi, Hon. Susan Davis, US Congress Dist. 53,** 619-208-5353, jawad.albaghdadi@mail.house.gov. Wounded warrior joined Davis’s office with 2-year fellowship for veterans’ issues. HR9 Paris Climate Accord passed the House, gone to Senate.
2. **Mathew Gordon, Hon. Todd Gloria, State Assembly Dist. 78,** 619-645-3090, Mathew.Gordon@asm.ca.gov. Provided report via email
3. **Toni Duran, Hon. Toni Atkins, State Senate Dist. 39,** 619-645-3133, Toni.Duran@sen.ca.gov. No update
4. **Tyler Renner, Hon. Chris Ward, City Council Dist. 3,** 619-236-6633 TRenner@sandiego.gov. Skipped update since he will be part of a presentation of an upcoming action item.
5. **Elizabeth Ocampo Vivero,** 619-236-6301, EOcampo@sandiego.gov. No update

V. **Action Items:**

1. **Proposal for the implementation of Bike Lanes along 30th Street from Howard Avenue to Juniper Street.**

The 30th Street Pipeline project, which will replace water pipelines from Polk Ave. to Juniper St. is currently underway and resurfacing presents an opportunity to add improved bike facilities. The pipeline construction timeline is from April 2018 to July 2020, and repaving will occur in phases after construction, beginning at Juniper St. and ending at Polk Ave.

- Segment 1: Howard Ave. to Upas St.
 - i. Option A: Cycle Tracks (No Parking). This option offers a Class IV protected bike lane on both sides of the street. This option maintains the center turn lane and removes on-street parking. Loss of 258 parking spaces
 - ii. Option B: Cycle Tracks (Floating Parking). This option offers a separated bike lane with ‘floating’ parking spots between the bike lane and travel lanes. This option removes the center turn lane and retains some on-street parking. Loss of 142 parking spaces
 - iii. Option C: Buffered Bike Lanes. This option offers a Class II separated, painted bicycle lane on both sides of the street. This option removes the center turn lane and retains most on-street parking. Loss of 111 parking spaces
- Segment 2: Upas St. to Juniper St.
 - i. Option A: Cycle Tracks (No Parking). This option offers a Class IV protected bike lane on both sides of the street. This option removes parking on both sides of the street. Loss of 162 parking spaces
 - ii. Option B: Bike Lane (uphill) / Shared Lane (downhill). This option offers a downhill shared bike lane and an uphill separated bike lane. This option removes parking on the uphill portion of the street. Loss of 74 parking spaces

See City Fact Sheet for street reconfiguration options. Everett Hauser, Mobility Program Manager at City of San Diego, Transportation & Storm Water Department 619-533-3012 erhauser@sandiego.gov

Public comment. The audience reception was mixed, with 27 attendees who spoke in favor and 31 against. Most of those who spoke in favor supported Option A, the fully protected bike lanes. Some speakers echoed other speakers, and this is not reflected in the comments below. Everett Hauser and Tyler Renner were instructed to save responses to the end of the public comment.

Comments in support:

- Representative from BikeSD. Reducing greenhouse gases is imperative to future
- People’s lives more important than convenience of parking
- Support of Option A
- Have to support cycling and pedestrians otherwise our City will be left behind
- Uptown Planners have already approved bike lanes making it safer for pedestrians and cyclists encourage us to do the same.
- White striped lines do not keep bikers safe, need barriers
- Successful shopping areas are pleasant for pedestrians and cyclists
- Option A provides safety for families
- The American Disabilities Act (ADA) was not passed to benefit the majority, but rather the disadvantaged minority
- People are currently scared to bike, need safe bike lanes
- Andy Hanshaw from SD Bike Coalition. Supporting Option A. This will help businesses.
- Do not design cities for cars, design them for bikes and people
- Option B provides a happy medium to support bikes and pedestrians.

Comments against:

- N/S lanes already on Utah St.; do not need additional lanes on 30th St.
- Seniors need more areas to park.
- Current bike lanes are not used
- Cannot safely park 3 blocks away for work (speaker is a jeweler who often carries fine jewelry)
- Several speakers expressed concerns for safety for residents (women) of NP (cannot park near their homes)
- Need neighborhood permitted parking for residents so there will be enough spaces for residents to park.
- Use less trafficked streets

- 420 parking spaces lost if Option A is approved
- No bike lanes; expand FRED (Downtown shuttle that picks up people up for free) so people would not need to bike.
- Vernita Gutierrez from SoNo Neighborhood Alliance. Use side streets instead of 30th St.

Questions:

- Why was a 'No Project Alternative' not considered?
- What happens to handicap parking?
- What happens to loading zones?

Responses by Everett Hauser and Tyler Renner

- Residents can oppose head-in angled parking if enough decide they do not want it. The City does not currently allow that for bike lanes.
- The reason an alternative to Utah St. was deemed necessary is that Utah St. does not go through to South Park, and there are blocks in the center portions of Utah St. that are not protected.
- There are current projects such as SANDAG Pershing Bikeway and the SANDAG Landis and Howard Bikeways. 30th St. would connect all of those projects.
- Studies show that people want to connect to businesses and South Park, this is why 30th St. was chosen. That is why the 'No Project Alternative' was not considered.
- Handicap and loading zones will be evaluated by Everett Hauser's division individually
- Residential Permit Parking is not an option. City Council Policy says they are only available near hospitals, colleges, or facilities driving a lot of parking.
- With Option A, approximately 400 spaces will be lost from Howard to Juniper- this includes the side street conversions.
- With Option B, approximately 50% of parking remains.

Board Discussion. The following are comments from different board members.

- Opportunity for NP to integrate bike lanes.
- Studies show that removing parking can help businesses.
- NP Main Street voted for Option B.
- Help to move scooters off sidewalks into bike lanes.
- Just because you do not presently see cyclists, it does not mean there is not a demand for it. It is just not safe with the limited bikeways we presently have, which only have small sections that are protected.
- According to NP Community Plan, a goal is to increase safe bikeways for all ages and abilities.
- Legally mandated increase mode share for bikes.
- Drivers and cars are favored right now over people outside of vehicles like bikes and pedestrians who are at a severe safety disadvantage.
- This proposal would result in only 1.6 miles of protected bike lanes in NP. That is not too much to ask.
- Cannot support Option A due to parking loss; cannot support Option B due to lack of safety.
- There is currently less and less parking available and more and more people want to live here, and property values keep going up.
- Support the Vision Zero plan.
- The NP Garage needs to be marketed more.
- Handicap parking solutions need to be made a priority.
- Construction of the I-805 in the 60s & 70s displaced many, and construction of CA 15 north of I-8 decades later displaced many more; this was done through eminent domain to benefit the entire region
- North Park is part of a region that needs to be connected, it does not exist in a vacuum. What we recommend here has impacts on other communities.
- The 30th St. Bike Lanes project has been previously discussed and listed in the October 2013 & July 2017 Capital Improvement Program priorities for North Park. It has also been discussed at the March Public Facilities subcommittee meeting and the April NPPC meeting, in addition to three North Park Main Street meetings.
- The goal is to reduce fatalities by preventing collisions between cars with pedestrians and bikes. Even one fatality is too much.
- This project complies with many goals and policies of the Mobility Element of the 2016 North Park Community Plan.

- Regardless of what option the board chooses, there should be some conditions attached with the approval of this project.

After board discussion the following motion was made:

MOTION: To recommend Option B for Segment 1 and Option A for Segment 2. Taylor/Billings 5-8-0 (Motion Fails)

Since the motion failed, after further board discussion the following motions were made:

MOTION 1: To approve Option A (fully protected bike lanes) for Segment 1 (30th St. from Howard Ave. to Upas St.) and Option A (fully protected bike lanes) for Segment 2 (30th St. from Upas St. to Juniper St.). Velasquez/Spencer 7-6-0 (Voting No: Billings, Gebreselassie, Kahvazadeh, Stayner, Taylor, Vidales)

MOTION 2: The Planning Committee makes the following recommendations with the implementation of bike lanes on 30th Street from Howard Ave. to Juniper St.

1. Conduct a search for parking opportunities and implement angle parking at adjacent side streets and nearby parallel streets to the 30th Street corridor from Howard Ave. to Juniper St and consider implementation of Residential Permit Parking.
2. Provide enhanced bollards with a type that is easy to replace where bollards are proposed
3. Preserve the Parklet at 3933 30th St.
4. Relocate any displaced parking meters to a suitable location.
5. Provide annual reporting to the NPPC on bicycle counts, similar to how traffic counts for vehicles are gathered within the 30th St. corridor from Howard Ave. to Juniper St. The bicycle counts survey should be taken before project implementation, and annually after project implementation. Bicycle Counts Annual reporting for the 30th St. corridor should be part of the Climate Action Plan Annual Report.
6. Provide annual reporting to the NPPC on the number of bicycle and pedestrian accidents with vehicles including fatalities by vehicles encountered within the 30th St. corridor from Howard Ave. to Juniper St. Annual reporting on accidents for the 30th St. corridor should be part of the Vision Zero component of the Climate Action Plan Annual Report.
7. If results from reports from items 5 and 6 do not show an improvement in both an increase in the number of users and a decrease in the number of fatalities/injuries 1 year after project implementation, then the project should be re-evaluated at a future time by the City of San Diego, NPPC and other stakeholder groups.
8. Evaluate impacts on businesses through tax revenues along 30th St. yearly after project implementation
9. Evaluate Utah St. for the floating parking option before it gets resurfaced
10. The City is asked to consider extending the bike lanes on 30th north of this project. Vidales/Kahvazadeh 13-0-0

- 2) **Right-of-Way Vacation and Neighborhood Development Permit for the Wilshire Terrace Development (Process 5).** Right-of-Way Vacation and Neighborhood Development Permit (NDP) for portion of Myrtle Avenue Map No. 526 located at 3605 Wilshire Terrace. The 0.14 site is in the RM-3-7 Base Zone of the North Park Community Planning Area. PTS 611694. Applicant: Shahriar Afshar. Due to time constraints, this item was not able to be heard.

- VI. **Adjournment. MOTION:** To hear the Right-of-Way Vacation item during the June NPPC meeting and adjourn the May NPPC meeting. Gebreselassie/Sparto 13-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Melissa Stayner