



NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

4649 Hawley Boulevard San Diego, CA. 92116 (Conducted via Zoom)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86163627338?pwd=N21ma25HRWN3bHAwckZiZkE2MFBjQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 6362 7338

Passcode: 913640

Minutes for Tuesday, October 6th, 2020, 6:00pm until about 8:00pm

NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Board Attendance (X means "present"):

X	Gary Weber		Linda Case	X	Mark Lawler
X	Gautam Dey		Richard Valentine		Scott Kessler
X	Jim Baross (VC)	X	Alison Flynn (C)	X	John Hartley
	Eric Tamayo	X	Nancy Lawler		Vacancy
X	Dan Soderberg		Alberto Foglia (T)	X	Adam Deutsch (S)

C=Chair; VC= Vice Chair; T= Treasurer; S=Secretary

6:00 Call to Order - Start of regular NHCPG Meeting

1. Introduction of planning group members and audience
2. Agenda Setting/modifications (*Note: items may be addressed out of listed order*).
3. Approval of September meeting minutes – Adam Deutsch: M/S: Jim/Gautam. All approved.
4. Treasurer’s Report including use of City’s annual allocation – Alberto Foglia is not present, but forwarded a report: Our current balance is \$2085.99, and we plan on use city funds to reimburse Jim for Zoom expenses.

6:10 Public Comment

5. Non-agenda public comment may be limited to two minutes per person
 - a. Jim wants to ask about joint use spaces reopening now that park space has been re-opened by local government. Jim also wonders if this will be addressed in revisions of joint-use agreements.
 - b. Brett commented that while the property is joint use, it’s school property, and the district regulates the use of that land, and they have been hesitant to allow use of that space.
 - c. There was also questions about the cones on the 805 overpass coming down, but they’re still up.
 - d. Gary comments that they should be down by the end of the week.
 - e. Adam said he’ll attach letters written in response to actions last month in these minutes.
 - f. Iriz Lomeli gave us an update on participating in the Census.
6. Social Media & other communications – Adam, Alison, & Alberto: Been quiet.

6:20 Reports

7. Government Representatives
 - a. Brett Weise from CM Chris Ward’s office: the cones on the bridge over the 805 have been

removed, and a student has been recently done to assess a redesign of that bridge. The AABA has invested in a redesign over time, and the city seems to be willing to work with the neighborhood to make a new design that works for everyone.

The city recently decided to remove a local ordinance about “seditious language,” which was likely unconstitutional.

668 people have been moved from the convention center into transitional housing. There are over 900 more people there, and work is underway to move them into transitional housing.

Adam asked about what other excuses police might use to silence folks, if not “seditious language,” and there is a ballot measure for community oversight commission to oversee the SDPD. Alison asked about when we should start messing people about making changes to the police budget for next year, and that would be around January, if not sooner.

Alina Shumakova asked about the bridge over 805 at Meade, and the homeless encampments there. The city reached out to AT&T who have the maintenance responsibility for that property at Meade and Boundary.

- b. Miller Saltzman from Senator Atkins office: He’s filling in for Chevel. Introduced himself, to the group.

The legislative session ended last month, and a number of bills were signed and vetoed. A list of those is here. <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/09/11/governor-newsom-signs-legislation-7/>

- c. Jayme Anderson from Supervisor Nathan Fletcher’s office. Covid assistance has been approved, and the links were provide in the chat of the meeting. Also, for small business owners, please apply for the Small Business Stimulus grant.

8. Community Groups

- a. Adams Avenue Business Association: Scott wasn’t present.
- b. El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association: Nobody present.
- c. NH Community Association and NH Urban Arts: Nobody present.
- d. Adams Rec. Advisory Group: Nancy reported that they had their first Zoom meeting. Their next meeting is the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm. They discussed the idog park, and no progress has been made on that.
- e. Mid-City CAN – Measure B Presentation: The Youth-Organizer spoke in support of Measure B, to establish and independent commission on police practices.
<https://www.midcitycan.org/policeaccountability>

- 9. Candidates for public office may address the group: none showed up.

6:50 Chair Report

- a. Alison talked about how community is important, and working together.

6:55 Working Group Reports

- 10. Transportation Group: there was no meeting, and we already discussed the 805 bridge thing. There was also another person hit at Adams and Cherokee on Saturday, and Vickie Everich expressed concern about that intersection. Brett said that’s a known concern, along with Adams and 34th. Apparently the improvements that were made still need to be explored. Jim asked if the SDPD has backed off of enforcing moving violations of cars, but he says that is not the case.
- 11. Parks: Brett discussed the land north of Adams along the east side of the 805, and there is drainage that

lets out in that land, so conversations about what would have to be done need to be had between the city and CalTRANS.

12. Undergrounding (to potentially be established): Jim asked Brett about contacts to follow up on the projects, and he provided contacts to Jim.

7:10 Action Items

13. Designate a NHCPG Rep to Adams Rec. Advisory Group: Jim volunteered to do that. Hartley made an official motion, which Gautam seconded. All approved.
14. Ward Canyon Off-Leash Area: the next Phase has been designed for about a year, and should take another 3-6 months, and the project is dependent on funding for construction, either via a grant or in the next budget cycle, so hopefully 2024 or so if it goes to plan. Parks and Rec should come to us with a plan.

Adam is opposed to action tonight, as we are on record as advocating for the completion of Ward Canyon park. No action was taken.

15. Historic Properties 45-Year Review: the properties are listed below. Dan mentioned that most of the places has small changes, like updates to the porch or windows, and that would take it out of the original condition; he didn't flag any as should be carefully reviewed. Alison will move this up on the agenda, so we get to it sooner, and Dan will be the point person for that.
16. Vacant Seat Election: Nobody present and eligible expressed interest.

7:15 Discussion Items

17. Transit Corridor Density – 40th and ECB

7:40 Information Items

18. Mid-City CAN – Measure B. Was updated.

7:26 Adjournment

Appendix

1. Properties flagged for 45-Year Review
 - a. [4973 East Mountain View Dr](#)
 - b. [3382 North Mountain View Dr](#)
 - c. [4390 37th St](#)
 - d. [4821 East Mountain View Dr](#)
 - e. [3401 Adams Ave](#)
 - f. [4778 Wilson Ave](#)



9/10/2020

Councilmember Chris Ward
City of San Diego
City Administration Building
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Councilmember Ward,

The Normal Heights Community Planning Group, in our September Meeting, passed a motion expressing support for slight modifications to the barricades on 40th Street, to create narrow openings to allow bicycles to pass through them.

The NHCPG has long supported the barricades on 40th Street south of Ward Canyon Park to mitigate traffic cutting through, and slow the speeds of vehicle traveling in the neighborhood, adding to the safety and peaceful atmosphere of those blocks. We've also supported inclusion of the barriers in pending changes to Ward Canyon Park and access to the 15 freeway. Restricting access to cars cutting between Meade and Adams was the will of the residents, and is a rare examples of the city responding directly to the needs of Normal Heights.

The change we request is also outlined in our community plan, (on page 50, figure 29): a proposed bikeways for our neighborhood. By modifying the barricades to allow bicycle passage, we would be fulfilling a vision on that diagram. Making this change would also allow cyclists easier access to the Georgia-Meade Bikeway, currently under construction by SANDAG, which is a project we have been excited to provide feedback on when given the opportunity.

Please consider these modifications in the interest of continuing to fulfill our community plan, increase safe bike mobility, and to connect Normal Heights residents to other regional projects we're invested in.

Thank you,

Adam Deutsch, Secretary

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

C: Mayor Kevin Faulconer



9/10/2020

Councilmember Chris Ward
City of San Diego
City Administration Building
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Councilmember Ward,

The Normal Heights Community Planning Group, in our September Meeting, passed a motion expressing our support for removing the no-parking/cone marking on the length of Adams Avenue that crosses over the 805 freeway (the Roscoe Hazard Bridge), and we call on the city to redesign that bridge to accommodate pedestrians, bicycle riders, as well as parking.

While we understand the motivation for the “slow streets” initiative, it seems to have become clear to the city that the desired impact was not achieved, and the businesses along Adams Ave. have expressed frustration with a lack of reliable parking in the neighborhood; at the same time, pedestrians are frustrated with the narrow sidewalks, whether in the pandemic where people are committed to keeping distances from others (as outlined by state and local health guidelines) and also in healthier times where it’s not possible for people to comfortably cross paths moving in opposite directions.

This stretch of road is a crucial connection between Normal Heights and North Park into University Heights, but it seems to be designed without the fluid mobility of non-drivers in mind. We ask that resources be devoted to redesigning that area to accommodate wider sidewalks, parking both residents and businesses depend on, and clear markings and infrastructure for those who aren’t driving cars, such as cyclists, those wheeling small children in strollers, and those who rely on other mobility devices who are entitled to the use of public paths according to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Thank you,

Adam Deutsch, Secretary

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

C: Mayor Kevin Faulconer