



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PARKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2012

**Civic Center Plaza
1200 Third Avenue, 14th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101**

Board Members PRESENT	Board Members NOT PRESENT
Richard Stegner Benjamin Nicholls Landry Watson Gary Smith Tom Brady John Cunningham Ernestine Bonn Linda Stanley Jennifer Finnegan	Andrew Phillips Michael McNeill Roger Lewis

CITY STAFF
Meredith Dibden Brown – Economic Development - CPD Program Mark Rogers – Transportation & Stormwater - Transportation Engineering George Gazallo – Transportation & Stormwater - Transportation Engineering

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Chair John Cunningham called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. and then attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from January 19, 2012 were approved with corrections.

Motion: Gary Smith / Second: Jennifer Finnegan. Approved as corrected 9-0-0.

Revisions to Draft: Corrected Board Members Present to include Linda Stanley and Jennifer Finnegan. Corrected Item 8b. first sentence typographical error “id” to “is”.

3. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Ms Lauri Keller from IPS advised the Board that the company recently donated meters to the Downtown San Diego Partnership for fundraising for an initiative to aid the homeless. IPS still has 50 meter mechanisms installed in Gaslamp and Uptown under a pilot arrangement and they were recently updated. IPS continues to waive the communications charges for these pilot mechanisms. Finally, IPS recently received an award from the U.S. Conference of Mayors for their parking program with the City of Los Angeles which required no upfront payment to IPS and instead is funded through the increase in parking meter revenue.

4. Board Administrative Items Administrative Items

- a. None
- b. None.
- c. Ms. Bonn thanked staff for arranging the San Diego Historic Streetcars presentation and noted that she is on the Board of the organization. She also noted that there is a parking industry exhibition in Chicago.
- d. Staff conveyed apologies from acting Lt. Connelly who was unable to attend the meeting.

5. Veterans Exemption from Parking Meter Fees – Action Item

Mark Rogers from Transportation Engineering provided an update on the proposal to have the City opt in to exempt veterans displaying certain special license plates on their vehicles from paying parking meter fees, as provided for under State California Vehicle Code. This item was previously supported by the Board in October 2008 but did not proceed to Council at that time. However, the proposal is now being moved forward by staff and is anticipated to be at the Land Use & Housing Committee on March 7, 2012 and then at Council after that. Mr. Rogers estimates that the annual impact from waived fees will be less than \$2000.

There was a lively discussion among board members, many of whom identified themselves as veterans though not eligible for the program. Points of discussion included: those eligible as being a limited group where the underlying award cannot be made at a field level; the appropriateness of distinguishing between veterans and degrees of valor; but also the possibly precedent-setting nature of the proposal; the accuracy of the estimates with regards to San Diego which has a higher percentage of veterans leaving service in San Diego and then staying; and the possibility of eligible veterans finding the proposal to be an incentive to register for special plates or for others to fraudulently apply to save money; and training costs for enforcement staff.

Mr. Rogers explained his methodology in calculating the estimated fiscal impact and will seek clarification on training costs. The Board suggested allowing for potential fraud or higher usage and providing a range for the potential fiscal impact.

Motion: To approve the Veterans Exemption from Parking Meter Fees Proposal as presented. Landry Watson / Second: John Cunningham. Motion Failed 3 yes - 6 no – 0 abstentions.

6. San Diego Historic Streetcars Presentation – Information Only

Ms. Brianne Cross and Ms. Jocelyn Watkins presented information and introduced the topic by touching on successful streetcar services provided in other cities such as Tampa, Florida, San Francisco, and New Orleans. Ms. Cross then provided some background as to the original streetcars and network in San Diego. The San Diego Electric Railway Company designed and ordered 24 Class 1 streetcars from the St. Louis Car Company in 1911 and the first of these went into service in 1912. Then in 1939 the streetcar bodies were auctioned off to be used as homes then, in 1996, the last three of these faced the threat of destruction. The structural integrity of the streetcars was evaluated and they were deemed to be prime candidates to return to the rails. These streetcars (No. 126, 128, and 138) have all been properly preserved (and named San Diego Historic Landmark #339), and are ready for full, professional restoration and re-integration into a proposed new urban network to provide fun transportation alternatives to residents and visitors alike. As the streetcars were designed in anticipation of the 1915 Exposition in Balboa Park, a possible first phase is to connect the waterfront to the cultural center, Balboa Park, once again utilizing these Class 1 streetcars.

There was also some discussion about streetcars, costs as compared with buses which provide a similar service, funding opportunities, and service area and times using three streetcars. The staff noted that streetcars encourage development in proximity to the line; more people are willing to ride streetcars than buses, they are conducive to cultural tourism, and streetcars are greener; though they were not sure about possible schedules in San Diego. As a comparison, in Tampa, seven cars are used to provide services on 2.4 miles of rail. SANDAG's plan includes street cars but funding is uncertain therefore the organization is funding including through public-private partnerships. Mr. Stegner commented that that there is a very interesting streetcar museum in Perris.

7. City Parking Regulations and Processes

Mr. Gary Smith advised that he had not yet incorporated traffic-calming procedures into the plan since some of these kinds of items are already reviewed by community planning groups. Once he gets clarification from Transportation Engineering on these kinds of items then he can include those not already being reviewed. He also noted that Transportation Engineering staff is concerned about the extra staff time and cost that could be incurred in complying with such a policy and so there has been a proposal to work with staff and pilot the policy concepts for a few months before finalizing.

Discussion on this item included: correcting a typographical error in the draft policy, and excessive red curb which was previously installed at the direction of the Fire Marshall for older fire engine access but may no longer be needed.

8. City's Residential Permit Parking Program Ad Hoc Committee Update – Information Only

The Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Mr. Benjamin Nicholls, provided an overview of the most recent meeting which included a wide-ranging discussion of the program. The committee concluded that most of the suggested parking program elements could be accomplished using the current ordinance but issues would arise with implementation of elements requiring after hours enforcement. Perhaps one of the communities interested in evening enforcement could be a test case by forcing discussion of the issue which would be a good pilot process. The committee members still felt that before proposing changes, they needed more information on administration and how new districts could be established, how cost recovery would occur, and what are the real issues for city staff in creating small permit areas, Ms.

Jennifer Finnegan advised that the College area would not be willing to be a pilot area as the planning group did not support evening enforcement for events etc. under the residential parking permit program and suggested previous views had been mis-represented. Ms. Finnegan had compiled information on the various permit programs and each of the changes as a tool for review and discussion but the only interest expressed by the planning group was in possible enforcement until 7:00 p.m. and perhaps working with SDSU police/security for enforcement. Ms. Bonn commented on issues at UCSD and the sale of parking permits and a traffic circulation study which perhaps should include problems and abuse of the existing program in Hillcrest. Mr. Smith suggested the Sgt. Connelly be asked to attend a future meeting to discuss enforcement and suggested that enforcement be added to the DPMG issues since there is some new discussion about considering extending hours in the Gaslamp area to evenings and/or weekends. If this item was moved then it would require a discussion and cost estimates for enforcement. Mr. Nicholls concluded by indicating that he would submit a written summary of his comments to serve as a final report from the Ad Hoc Committee.

9. In-Lieu Parking Fees

Mr. Smith advised that he did not yet have a report for the Board but in Downtown, as part of the updates to the Community Plan, that re-use projects in historic buildings are exempted from parking requirements since Downtown has a parking reservoir from various parking facilities. Also, there is a report prepared from five or six years ago for Old Town regarding parking which included an analysis of implementing an in-lieu parking program to be funded by restaurants. In other cities, historically, in-lieu fees were collected but if the parking structure was not built then parking problems were compounded. However, this provides an incentive to install parking meters which provide a revenue stream for bonding. He also touched on a study by Donald Shoup. Mr. Smith noted that in-lieu fees should be included in PDO's since the precedent has been set with inclusionary housing in-lieu fees.

10. Board Priority Items

The Chair tabled discussion on these items to the next meeting (other than those already discussed under previous agenda items).

- a. Additional Meters
- b. In-lieu fees (See Item 9)/Parking Requirements/Transit Overlay Zones
- c. New Technology
- d. Angle Parking Policy
- e. Parking Meter/Time Limits Council Policy 200-04
- f. Parking Permit Programs (See Item 8)
- g. Valet Parking
- h. Balboa Park Parking

10. Updates from Represented Constituencies – Information Only

The Chair tabled discussion on these items to the next meeting except for 1. where the Council District 6 representative, Ms. Linda Stanley, circulated photos showing commercial vehicle parking on Clairemont Mesa Bl opposite Clairemont Square Shopping Center and indicated that she could not see any evidence of enforcement even though staff had promised this at the last meeting.

- a. Downtown CPD (Andrew Phillips)
- b. Uptown CPD (vacant)

- c. Mid-City CPD (Roger Lewis)
- d. Pacific Beach CPD (Michael McNeill)
- e. La Jolla CPD (vacant)
- f. Old Town (Richard Stegner)
- g. CD1 (Tom Brady)
- h. CD2 (John Cunningham)
- i. CD3 (Ernestine Bonn)
- j. CD4 (vacant)
- k. CD5 (vacant)
- l. CD7 (Jennifer Finnegan)
- m. CD8 (vacant)
- n. Community Planning Committee (Landry Watson)
- o. BID Council (Benjamin Nicholls)
- p. At-large Representative (Gary Smith)

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Final Approved: April 19, 2012

Motion by: Ernestine Bonn / Second: Gary Smith. 8-0-1 with Andrew Phillips abstaining.

Revisions to Draft: None
