

Old Town San Diego Community Plan Update Advisory Committee Meeting

January 9, 2013 • 3:45pm - 5:00pm*
Whaley House
2476 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Draft Meeting Summary

The following were present:

City Staff: Cecilia Gallardo, Tait Galloway, Samir Hajjiri, Nicholas Abboud, Elizabeth Ocampo Vivero

Committee Members: Chuck Ambers, Thurston Coe, Bruce Coons, Fred Grand, Diane Lowery, Geoffrey Mogilner, Marie Pedrin-Gizoni, Richard Stegner, David Swarens, Fred Schwartz, David Thornton, Ann Dahlkamp

Public: Michael Christopher, Stephen Hill, Chuck Ross, Damon Feters.

The meeting was called to order by Tait Galloway at 4:30.

1. Opening Remarks

Opening remarks were made by Tait Galloway. Introductions were made by those present.

2. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Tait Galloway asked the Committee for any non-agenda public comment, to which the members and public responded that no comment needed to be made.

3. Approval of Meeting Summary for the August 8, 2012 meeting

As soon as the quorum was established, the meeting summary for the August 8, 2012 meeting was passed 12-0.

4. Discussion of Communitywide Parking Related Issues

Tait Galloway presented a matrix and summary of recommendations from the Old Town Community Plan Update workshop on September 2012, the Visitor Oriented Parking Facility Study, 2002 and the Old Town Parking Management Plan, 2007. He explained these recommendations in detail.

Tait Galloway explained the common themes identified from the community workshop such as the need for additional parking, the possibility of the establishment of parking structures, as well as the need for parking wayfinding signage and other parking management strategies.

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Tait Galloway presented an outline of potential community plan parking policies. The policies include measures and strategies to: manage publicly owned on and off-street parking facilities available for the community and its visitors; manage tour/coach bus parking space in the public right-of-way and publicly owned parking facilities; and to increase on and off-street parking available. As well as to seek regional, state and federal funding for capital facility improvements that increase supply of vehicle parking and support the continuation of the Old Town San Diego Community Parking District to seek funding, create, and implement parking related strategies, plans and programs.

Tait Galloway also mentioned the two maps included within the handouts. He explained that one map showed the observed parking demand for Old Town, while the other showed the location of parking facilities within Old Town and potential parking sites that would be considered if they become available.

Comments:

- There are a great number of volunteers who serve within the community and their parking needs are important to be considered.
- When the Rosecrans corridor study was conducted, a resolution was passed to provide parking within the vicinity of Old Town Transit Center coordinating with Point Loma to manage Navy related traffic.
- There is plenty of parking available within the Caltrans property. Is public use of this parking lot still an option?
- Regarding the parking time limits, these should be more than in a business district. Here in Old Town visitors come to dine, shop and explore, people stays at least 4 hours. Their visit takes longer than other destinations that are just retail-oriented. Trying to accommodate for those longer visits would benefit the community.
- Employee parking should also be addressed. Old Town has a large number of employees and it is possible that they would park in the residential areas if they were restricted from everywhere else.
- Is it possible to include the wayfinding signage within the Community Plan? Can it be included within an Appendix?
- The current boundaries of the Old Town San Diego Community Parking District include a portion of Mission Hills.
 - Another member of the Committee stated that the boundaries are the same as the business improvement district.
- There are concerns about the parking meters and paid parking.



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- TOT would be a natural choice to fund a parking structure, because Old Town generates a high percentage of the TOT citywide.
- There should be an economic analysis of the feasibility of an in-lieu parking structure.
- There is a need for commitment to Old Town as transit hub, people want to park at Old Town, visit other destinations in San Diego and then come back to Old Town.

Tait Galloway asked the Committee about their thoughts about a potential parking site within the Old Town Transit Center.

- Need to focus attention on the area that would work, the transit center is a natural choice. There is a need to provide parking for Old Town in the long term at the Transit Center.
- The map showing the locations of parking facilities should state the transit center as State Historic Park.
- The transit center site is property of State Parks, do they have interest in a parking structure?
 - State Parks has stated that they are not opposed, but that they would need to see the details.
- The possibility of a parking site at the Navy property on Pacific Highway north of Taylor should be explored.

Tait Galloway commented that the current community plan recommends siting additional parking at the Fremont School. There was support for this at the workshop, but there was also concern that this may not be the best location due to traffic.

The Committee members provided the following comments:

- Fremont School site should still be considered as a potential location for future parking.
- The ownership of the Fremont School site needs to be researched, to determine if the City owns the property.

5. Overview of Next Steps

Tait Galloway stated that as soon as the Community Plan Update Draft is ready it will be presented to the Old Town San Diego Community Plan Update Advisory Committee for their input.



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6. **Closing** The meeting was closed by Tait Galloway at 5:20 PM.

