City Heights Area Planning Committee Minutes for July 1st, 2019

1. Chair Russ Connelly called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. David Bowen, Rosa Calvario, Maria Cortez, Brenda Diaz, Francisco Garcia, Brian Green-Carson, Wendy Miller, David Nelson, Lisa Nguyen, Dhaha Nur, Blair Overstreet, Scott Paquette, Michael Rossler, Jose Hernandez, Patty Vaccariello, and Russ Connelly were present. Absent were Jake Banfield-Weir, Kelvin Barrios, Roddy Jerome, Juan Pablo Sanchez, and Randy Torres-Van Vleck. As per the Brown Act, the Chair has addressed the voluntary sign-in sheet to the audience.

2. The committee approved the minutes for June with corrections.

3. The committee unanimously approved the agenda.

4. Off-Agenda Public Comment: David Nelson commented on the tentative bus lane on El Cajon Blvd and concerns over public transit issues which may lower bus ridership. Maria Cortez commented on the 7/11 Franchise withdrawing their alcoholic license application at 4350 University Avenue and Cafeina will be having a Grand Opening Sat. July 20th. at 11 AM.

5. Staff reports and comments: Lucas Cruz, from the Office of Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, with updates on AB 555, AB 66 and AB 1747. Internship opportunities also available.

Christopher "Stopher" Vallejo and Anna Ochoa Medina, from the Office of Council President Georgette Gomez present to give updates. Working on inclusionary housing update ordinance by the end of July. Anna Ochoa: Sponsoring events at the library, two senior events in City Heights and Rolando, clean ups, and coffee with the community. Proposed Homless Storage Facility: will have ample time for the community to voice issues and concerns during a Town Hall, July 11th, 6:30-8:00 PM, across from the Chollas Triangle at Tean Challenge on Lea Street.

6. Business Agenda:

6.1. Input on Homeless Storage Facility Planned for Mid-City

Presentation by Eric Young, Mayor's Office Representative, with intern, Devlin Harvard taking notes. Presentor handed out information about the proposed facility and walked through the handout given outlining the facility and proposed services. Access to information is open to the public and a contact list to sign up to give feedback and share new information was circulated. A homeless advisory group is being planned for the proposed location to work with the community. Discussion and questions were taken from the committee and community members. No motions made on the item.

6.2 Request for Stop Signs at 35th and Wightman.

Vincent Robles, on behalf of Cherokee Point neighborhood, requested to place a stop sign off Wightman and 35th Street due to the high amount of traffic and little to no slowing mechanism, creating accidents. Clarification by the Chair about where stop signs can and are placed and other venues to persue for traffic calming. There is a bike plan for a traffic circle at 35th and Wightman. Several residents of the area spoke about traffic conditions in the area and the need for traffic control. Motion to place stop signs on Wightman at 35th Street by Maria Cortez. Seconded by Brian Green-Carson. Letter to go to Cherokee Point Neighborhood Association. (Motion Passed 12/3/0 with Chair not voting)

6.3 Appointment to Fill the Youth 2021 Seat:

No nominations. Tabled until the next meeting.

6.4 Presenter From March and Ash, Potential Billboard Policy for Marijuana Sales Facilities.

Presentation is a collaboration between March and Ash and SAY San Diego. Presenters included Spencer Andrews from March and Ash and William Perno from SAY San Diego. Presentation focused on the issue with cannabis billboard advertisements near youth gathering spaces and would like to change or create an ordinance because of lack of code enforcement, lack of accountability from billboard owners, and would be asking for input from community before drafting ordinance. The ordinance change/creation would be based upon a Denver, CO ordinance to prohibit advertising unless it is on the property of the dispensaries. After discussion by the committee and members of the audience, motion to draft a letter of support for a ban on marijuana billboards throughout the City of San Diego by Maria Cortez. Seconded by Brian Green-Carson. Motion passed. (12/2/1, chair not voting.)

7. Chair's Comments: Update from the Central Planners Committee for the City's removal of the push cart ordinance. The State of California passed a law voiding the current regulations of push carts by the City. Update on Senate Bills: (SB) 50 was pulled, SB 330 in committee, but language from both has been placed in SB 592 in regards to building height in high density areas and the ability to repeal the density changes in the future. The CHAPC previously voted to oppose the bills as a committee. Chair will refresh the formerly passed letter to include SB 592 and resend to proper officials. Update from the Planning Department regarding training opportunities for committee members: E-COW training online and upcoming trainings for July 25th, a seminar on the Brown Act Training, 6-8 pm, Golden Hall in the Silver Room, Project Review Training, Sept 26th, and CEQA training in October. E-mail the City's Planning Group email for RSVP and more information.

8. Committee Comment: Patty Vacarello and Brenda Diaz commented.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM.