

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP April 2019 – March 2020

Old Town San Diego Community Planning Group (OTSDCPG) meets the second Wednesday of each month except the month of August. August is a dark month.

The current officers as of this report are:

Chair, Ann Dahlkamp

Secretary, Linda Acuna

Treasurer, Arvilla Rodgers

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic the April meeting was adjourned. Election of officers will take place during the June meeting.

Subcommittees: Election committee, three (3) members; Clean and Safe committee, (2) members; Code Enforcement committee, (2) members.

Most recent, the OTSDCPG completed the task of the Update of Bylaws and reviewed and the City of San Diego Planning Department completed their review and gave final approval on October 13, 2017.

The OTSDCPG consists of fifteen (15) elected members. Currently, there are thirteen elected members. Ten (10) members are local businesspersons and or representative of community organizations that have physical presence in the community planning area. Three (3) members are residents whose primary address of residence is an address in the community planning area. ***A new candidate will be voted in June to hold a resident seat***

Projects that OTSDCPG reviewed in the community throughout the year:

- **May 2019**, project number 623927, Conditional use permit for the construction of new on grade parking lot on the corner of Congress and Harney Streets. It was motioned, seconded and passed, that the committee recommend support for the CUP for the parking lot on the corner of Congress and Harney Streets, and remains consistent with the Planned District Ordinance (PDO) and the Old Town Community Plan; furthermore, mitigation measures are proposed to help decrease any possible impacts to adjacent properties and are acknowledged and accepted as part of the CUP.
- **June 2019**, La Quinta Hotel proposed to the OTSDCPG a request to enhance the exterior color of the building located at 2380 Moore Street. The color selection compliments the approved palette adopted by the Old Town Community Plan Update.
- **September 2019**, Roy Davies Architect presented architectural drawings for a security gate for the property at 3878 Old Town Avenue and houses Casey's programs and a few

other business offices. Increased issues with chronic homeless encroachment makes this decision necessary to help provide additional security measures for their clients and responsibility to the community to help reduce chronic homelessness. The recommendations to have an iron gate retract to the property side instead of the street side is favored as the most efficient and to remain consistent with community plan, a flat top gate is preferred over an arched gate. The project was motioned, seconded and passed.

- A commemorative plaque in Presidio Park was approved to conceptually support appropriate recognition of those buried on Presidio Hill.
- **November 2019**, Extension of the Site Development permit # 381810, 2544 Juan Street was motioned and approved to recommend the applicant site plan be extended for six months as requested.
- In **January 2020**, SPAWAR (*now NAVWAR*) properties asked Old Town, Point Loma, Midway community planners, organizations and agencies for input and comments for the development and redistribution of current SPAWAR properties. Participating in this revitalization of SPAWAR may continue to be a focus for Old Town and to give input with options that blend this revitalization of SPAWAR into the surrounding community areas. Strong mitigation measures to prevent a negative impact on private as well as public views from the surrounding communities: Mission Hills, Presidio Park, and Old Town to include control measures for building height and to assure the project conforms to the historicity of those communities and to prioritize any further sensitive element into the proposed plans. We are proud to have The Department of Defense as a local stakeholder and will continue the ongoing discussions and collaborations.
- Under the Clean and Safe committee, hosted by Fred Grand, President of the Old Town Chamber, Old Town has seen an increase in chronic homelessness. We continue to work with Western Division, Officer Surwillo, our City Council District 3, and County District 3 to help redirect chronic homeless from hot zone areas identified: Presidio Park, San Diego River, MTS Old Town Station, and County Psychiatric Center at Pacific Highway and Rosecrans Street impacting the local communities within a ½ mile radius. The committee has identified alternate resources to help reduce the impacts of chronic homeless by requesting resource sites at the County of San Diego Public Health Department, Rosecrans Street. Under the current stay-at-home orders and COVID health concerns the MTS Old Town Station is increasing public safety and sanitation as appropriate. Under City Council District 3, we are experiencing an increase in Neighborhood Policing and thank our city leaders in their continued support.