



North Park Planning Committee

Full Board Meeting Draft Minutes: August 18 6:30PM

Meeting Location: North Park Christian Fellowship 2901 N Park Way San Diego, CA 92104

Board Member	Present (online)	Absent (excused)
Edgar Ramirez Manriquez	X	
Jason Vance	X	
Rachel Murray	X	
Cody Cocanig	X	
Holden Leslie-Bole	X	
Jay Robinson-Duff	X	
Krishna Hammond	X	
Johanna Mall		X
Barbara Forsyth		X
Malachi Bielecki		X
Douglas Schueler	X	
Roger McClish	X	
Meghan Traynor	X	
Molly Ryan	X	
Steph Rojas	X	

I. Parliamentary Items

- A. Call to Order. Roll Call.
 - 6:33pm meeting call to order
- B. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - None
- C. Approve Today's Agenda
 - Cody move to adopt, second by Roger, 11-0
- D. Approve Last Meeting's Minutes
 - July 21, 2026 - Holden move, Second by Roger, 11-0-1
- E. Treasurer's Report
 - \$310.77 Normal Zoom and Google payments, still waiting for reimbursement from the city. We now have Zelle, for donations @NPPCSD is our handle. Someone wanted to donate, confirming with the city that this is acceptable.

II. Non-agenda public comment, announcements, event notices

- A. Becky Rapp, article in Times of San Diego on August 7 - City seeks fine against owner, several businesses in North Park - smoke and vape shops being sold. Continue to be aware of any illegal activities, please report to appropriate law enforcement.
<https://www.newsbreak.com/times-of-san-diego-555715/4813234048563-san-diego-targets-owner-of-11-smoke-shops-for-selling-kratom>
 - Where do fines go? Can we check with the city council on this?

- B. Matt - Shared travel experience to Atlanta, GA and Huntsville, AL - Huntsville managed to accommodate the different modes of transportation in city planning. Feels like we're in a zero sum game here in North Park, but we can strive to accommodate all modes. Would like to see that here with this organization.
- C. Holden and Erin - North Park Main Street - 30th and Upas, deteriorating street cleanliness conditions, and litter on the street from bars in particular. How best to address these concerns? Who would be the right person to reach out to? Erin would contact Chad, the ED at NPMS assuming it's within the BID's footprint. They may be able to offer her assistance or could point her to other resources. Erin will email Edgar. Erin notes there's a limited ability to work.
- D. Tyler Renner, former staff for council member - works for PATH - dedicated team for mid-city. Love to hear from the community on how to help.
 - Steph - Where is he seeing most issues? Where people are physically seeing the need.
 - Erin - last meeting Paul was voicing concerns around Smart & Final. Brought it up with NPMS and limited what they're able to do.
- E. Edgar - City of San Diego - last workshop on city master plan - proposal to develop housing on public land. Two sites are particularly relevant. North Park Library and University Heights Library. City is in preliminary phase. Taking public input. Good opportunity at UDPF to provide comment. Edgar to provide public comment information. Closes end of August.
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/ae361ef69942497f89f0626dc39c735d?portalUrl=https://webmaps.sandiego.gov/portal>
 - They would expand and renovate the library, to include housing on top, library on first floor.

III. Elected Official & Planner Reports

- A. **State Senate Dist. 39:** Dr. Akelia Weber, (619) 688-6700
Liaison: Sam Gonzalez - not here - updates are online.
- B. **State Legislator Dist. 78:** Chris Ward, (619) 280-7801 - Not present
Liaison: Christopher Gris, Christopher.Gris@asm.ca.gov - not here
- C. **County Board of Supervisors Dist. 3:** Monica Montgomery-Steppe, (619) 325-7178
Liaison: Joshua Dunn, Joshua.Dunn@sdcounty.ca.gov - not here
- D. **Mayor of San Diego:**
Liaison: Randy Reyes, randyreyes@sandiego.gov - not here
- E. **City Council Dist. 3:** Hon. Stephen Whitburn, (619) 236-6633
Liaison: Logan Braydis, LBraydis@sandiego.gov - not here
 Edgar contacted Logan to get an update
- F. **Planning Department:** Sam Solis, soliss@sandiego.gov, (619) 235-5221 - not here
- G. **NP Library:** Zar Shain, SDhain@sandiego.gov, (619) 533-3972 - not here
- H. **UH Library:** Rachel Esguerra, resguerra@sandiego.gov, (619) 692-4912
 - Staying the same size and also really busy. Hours are changing after August 29, so the last Monday open is August 24, 2026.
 - Gearing up for September, library card signup month.
 - August - if you've completed your reading challenge, pick up your prizes by end of the month.
 - Support your small but mighty library!

- I. **SD Police Community Relations Officer:** Jenny Hall, jmason@pd.sandiego.gov
- In contact with a gentleman, Paul, trying to work with Smart & Final. Nick from PATH was at the NPMS meeting last week and there's a couple working with S&F, they're well aware of it and discussed different issues. Sure they're on their radar.
 - On Saturday, burglary 4300 block of Iowa, woman ran into her apartment as she went to take out trash. There was a confrontation and they IDd him and was arrested on burglary and battery.
 - Last Thursday morning, 2am, 3900 30th St, bar area, shooting, minor injuries. Last seen going north bound on 30th st. Suspect still not identified.
 - Break-in 4100 block of Illinois on Aug 11th. Residents were inside and individual came in through back window, took some things and left. Officers recognized the individual and found and apprehended him. He was at Wightman and 41st when apprehended.
- J. **North Park Main Street:** Erin Minelli
- NPMS prosecuting upwards of \$50K of graffiti damage in the BIN.
 - Puttober is on Sept 17, 4-8pm
 - Taste of North Park, Oct 3 11-4pm
 - Mural on Dr. Walton's optometry office - wall is significantly damaged so mural on hold
 - Funding NPMS from the city - BID is a self-elected tax and part of a filing for a business license - \$85K SED is a tax assessment on property tax (La Boheme pays), residents at \$550K, BANF - \$300K, event \$. NPMS took over certain services. \$20K quoted last time was a request not final, budget of \$10K was planting and a few other items.
 - Homelessness is an issue - NPMS recommends contacting non-emergency lines, and submitting via Get it Done. Keep making noise to get those resources.
 - Jay - NPMS entertainment zones. Prepare a presentation before economic development committee so support may not be immediate bc of procedural requirements/Brown Act
 - a) We will still work on it with subcommittee - UDPF - but if anyone from NPMS wants to join the subcommittee meeting to help NPMS would want out of entertainment zones, we would welcome any interaction.
 - b) Erin needs to confirm with Chad to determine what can be discussed outside of board meetings.
 - c) Jay to send Erin the presentation from last month.
 - Doug - Community member asked about the quick build AARP project on North Park Way and Ray Street. Anything we can do to help unlock that work to move forward? Erin will go back and ask Chad and let us know next month. If it's possible, can Erin email so we can move forward rather than waiting a month. Erin will follow up before the next meeting via email.

IV. Consent Items

- A. NA

V. Action/Informational Items

- A. **Informational Item: North Park Community Garden** - Board Member Molly Ryan and neighbor Scott Payne will provide an overview of the proposal for a Community Garden within the North Park Community Park, including the project concept, anticipated timeline, and opportunities for community participation.
- Met with Parks and Rec last week with a positive meeting
 - Minimum of \$5K to complete phase 2, planning, environmental review, etc

- Survey - Had over 50 responses from residences, majority prefer location 1, desire to share survey to get more feedback.
- Many people want to get involved based on survey results
- Next up is nonprofit and board of directors, Scott & Molly are co-presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Garden Operations Coordinator, Volunteer Manager, Communications
- They need to raise funds
- Any interest, please contact npcommgoarden@gmail.com
- QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY:
 - a) Combine garden with the CIP project on the structure in North Park Community Park - it's slated for demolition, and community plan notes it would be renovated. It would be a much longer term project.
 - b) Membership style? Typical gardens here have a waitlist of over 50 people, members pay an annual fee
 - c) Nick, DSA - college area and another garden - they helped it from being sold and they have lots of experience and he can offer services to help.
 - d) Roger - looking at map, there could be an opportunity for expansion by old building but there would be a lot of damage during the demolition per UC master gardeners feedback
 - e) Meghan - mandate for beds? No mandate, but people do get territorial. Minimum of 25 beds is a city requirement.
 - f) What kind of security would be there against trespassers? 7 foot fence chainlink is usually standard.
 - g) Permitted events at north park community park - did it come up at Parks & Rec? Hasn't come up yet, but it probably will.
 - h) Are there other groups that are competing for the same spot? Maybe if someone's trying to hold an event, but nothing noted.
 - i) Doug - up front cost for permitting - generally self-sustaining or grants? Contributions from parks & rec? Water is highest cost. P&R has to go in for maintenance. Cost would be entirely on the nonprofit. Some people rely on grants, others on community, others on businesses.
 - j) Jay - What plans are there for tree growth? The size should grow a little bit but not much.
 - k) Holden - conversations from other community gardens, process - how much can NPPC be involved or once it passes, how easy is it? This is so beyond the scope of the NPPC. There's some permitting from the city, but once that approval happens, the onus is on the nonprofit to execute.
 - l) Cody - how many beds can fit now? 8x5 beds - 30 beds in either, that's the planned capacity.
 - m) Edgar - noting we are happy to support in whatever way to help carry this forward
 - n) Bird Park/Morley location? unfortunately that's outside the boundaries of North Park and is under the jurisdiction of Balboa Park and the hilly land is challenging
 - o) Really like the use of permaculture - if there's a way to work with the city to make it more accessible to create these gardens on a broader scale. They're definitely taking permaculture and climate change into consideration.

B. Informational Item: City of San Diego Rain Tank Voucher Program - The City of San Diego's Stormwater Department will present on a new program that offers

vouchers to residents to support the purchase of a rain tank at a discounted price.

Renters and neighbors living in multi-family buildings are eligible. Application:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHlvC_3U_E2yVv4pjT94AvS_w-MfhFU6cXaQ5Kh0KXnNwdhg/viewform

- Cassandra Smith and Mariah Mills - policy section of stormwater
- Launched April 2026
- Rebate program happening over 10 years
- Catching H2O partnership to get a rain barrel
- Voucher is an upfront discount rather than a rebate you get after purchase
- Steps to receive a voucher - submit google form, decide on tank size and plan for rain cistern, receive voucher number and go to Catching H2O website and purchase tank
- Applicants should wait 2-4 weeks to get the voucher
- Tanks at City Farmers in City Heights
- Program ends in June 2027 or when funding runs out - first come first serve, apply as soon as possible
- Zone 0 - California Assembly Bill 3074 - buffer around your home - free from combustible materials
- Rebates currently on pause until further notice
- Other rebate programs offer other benefits

Questions/Comments:

- Many of the older homes 1915 - have cisterns under houses. Any option to do something if ever expanding?
- Super el nino, incredibly rainy winter
- How expensive are the tanks? \$1.50 per gallon capacity. Maxes out at \$800. Discount of about 30-40% off.
- Jason - rainwater is non-potable
- Jay - lot of complaints on overflowing, with el niño coming up, any changes around water support with the municipality? Dept has a system on prioritizing channels cleared out before rains come. The best way is get it done to prep for the season. Got some extra funds from city council, across the board. El Niño web page created by the city. All areas flooded in 2024 storms are being prioritized.
- Edgar - we've lost a lot of the permeability in our cities and having these programs help mitigate flooding.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Urban Design & Project Facilities: Krishna Hammond, Chair
 - RideSD - some potential improvements to Ray St
- B. Mobility: Holden Leslie-Bole, Chair
 - Local business owners 30th and Polk, owner of Working Class captured bad accident
 - Heard Ride SD on potential solutions for North Park - neighborhood residential parking permit system
- C. Communications: Johanna Mall, Chair
 - Edgar - Johanna having conversation with farmers market to increase visibility
 - Molly and Mark are working on a monthly NPPC newsletter, layout and draft discussed next comms mtg
 - Community garden communication

VII. Liaison Reports

- A. *Maintenance Assessment District*: Rachel Murray

- FY2027 MAD budget review
- Rachel made board chair
- Still working toward getting MAD under NPPC as subcommittee
- B. *Balboa Park Committee*: Howard Blackson
 - Not here
 - Doug - Native plant society south part of Bird Park - opened up a new area - three different workshops August 29th, is the first 'work' shop - preparing the hardscape, then another one third Sat in Sept, irrigation for native plants and first weekend in Nov planting the plants - 9am perhaps? There's also a sign for more information
- C. *Adams Avenue Business Association*: Roger McClish / Edgar Ramirez Manriquez
 - Not able to attend
- D. *El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association*: Roger McClish
 - Holden - July 8, gave presentation on SDPD crash data, did some clustering based on crash - El Cajon blvd has a lot of high speed crashes, interested in supporting safer roads and data is helpful; two new stop signs
 - *University Heights Community Association*:
- E. Holden Leslie-Bole / Edgar Ramirez M.
 - Quarterly mtg next month
- F. *MTS Advisory Board*: Holden Leslie-Bole
 - No meeting
- G. *CPC Liaison*: Roger McClish
 - Independent La Jolla movement - citywide ballot measure for 2028
 - affordable homes master plan discussed
 - If CPG could have enough money to challenge an assessment (\$1K) - appeals process - should they have fee waved perhaps? This would be for challenging projects
 - Midway rising Bill 958 - presenter from Uptown - circumvent CEQA - many concerns - letter asked Ward to vote no on the bill - 19-4 vote for the letter.

VIII. New Business

- A. Edgar - engaging the community

IX. Adjournment:

- A. Cody - adjourn
- B. Next meeting: July 15, 2026, 6:30PM