



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE
PUBLIC FACILITIES, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

www.northparkplanning.org

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 6:00 p.m., North Park Recreation Center/Adult Center
2719 Howard Avenue, San Diego, CA 92104

Attendance:

Seated Board Members: Dionné Carlson (Chair), René Vidales (Vice-Chair), Vicki Granowitz, Lucky Morrison, Peter Hill

Community Voting Members: Rob Steppke, Ernie Bonn, Kitty Callen (arrived 6:12)

Board members not seated: None

Also present: Keoni Rosa, Gaetano Martedi, Roman Arias, Glen Davidson, Beth Jawkoski, Chris Chaffee, Brianne Cross

Parliamentary Items

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 6:04

Approve May 11, 2011 Agenda. Motion: Approve Agenda with the following correction: Revise the date to May 11. Granowitz/Hill 7-0-0

Chair's Comments. None

Approve April 13, 2011 Minutes. Motion: Approve April 13, 2011 minutes. Vidales/Bonn 7-0-0

Announcements:

1. SANDAG Public Workshop to provide input on the Draft 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. Meetings at various locations within the month of June.
2. South Park will hold their 13th Annual Old House Fair on June 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
3. Re-districting hearings at different locations. Go to www.sandiego.gov/redistricting/index.shtml
4. North Park Mini Park Community Workshop on Saturday June 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Grand Room in Claire de Lune building on Kansas Street.

Non Agenda Public Comment

None

New Business

- A. **Juniper Street Sidewalk Proposal – DSD Project #234305 – WBS#B-00947.92.06.** Proposal to modify asphalt shoulder and install new sidewalk, retaining walls and guardrail on the north side of Juniper Street between 33rd St. & Westland Ave. *Gaetano Martedi, Project Manager, Right-of-Way Division, City of SD Engineering & Capital Projects Dept.*

Gaetano Martedi presented the project. The project was initiated by a complaint from residents, thru the CIP division. The project funding comes from the following: ADA (\$1.1M), TransNet (\$455K), and Prop 1B (\$300K). Construction is to begin in January or February 2012 and will not take more than 3 months.

The project will add a 5' sidewalk, retaining walls, and backfill. Guard rail will be removed and replaced per current standards. Retaining wall will be up to 4' high, chain link fence will be 4' high. ADA Curb returns have been previously installed at both corners. There will be a 3½' gap in the wall (similar to an entry wall) between the edge of the wall and the steps to the trail, but will not be putting the steps back because that action would trigger ADA requirements.

The public mentioned craters forming on the street possibly due to water main leaks, pavement subsiding and other similar issues, but Mr. Martedi stated that those issues need to be coordinated with the Water Division. The water main replacement along Juniper Street is a separate project with a different schedule; in addition the sewer will be replaced in the side streets but both projects will happen at the same time.

The project is located within the multi-habitat planning area (MHPA) and is very sensitive; in addition, an initiative for preserving dark skies in open space areas was adopted by the County. Street lights are currently not part of this project.

Traffic issues along Juniper Street will be dealt with at a future meeting.

After further discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: To support the project and recommend dark green vinyl clad fencing in lieu of standard chain link and to consider low level pedestrian lighting; and to request lighting follow up with the Planning Committee. Steppke/Bonn 8-0-0.

Old Business

- A. Texas Street Improvement Design:** Update/Continuation of discussion of improvements to Texas Street from Madison Avenue to Camino Del Rio South, part of the mitigation improvements for the Quarry Falls (Civita) Development in Mission Valley.

Chair Carlson previously followed up with Mark Radelow. A total of \$103,000 for mitigation has been deposited into an interest bearing account from the City; Chair Carlson will write a cover letter to go with the motion from NPPC in order to document the history on this item.

Rob Steppke left at 6:55

- B. Mid-City Bus Rapid Transit Project:** Discussion/Update
René Vidales attended the Open House on Thursday on April 14 at the El Cajon Boulevard BID office. The total net gain of parking spaces is now 16. At the Hillcrest Town Council there was a presentation and there was a vote not to support the Park Blvd. portion of the Mid-City Rapid project as currently designed. The next step is the City Council hearing for the installation of angle parking. The relocation of parking spaces is on the opposite side of street as where the businesses are.

Vicki Granowitz left at 7:01.

Additional information can be found on:

http://www.sandag.org/index.asp?projectid=317&fuseaction=projects_detail

Information Items:

- A. San Diego Historic Class 1 Streetcar Restoration Project.** Presentation on historic Streetcars and how they might integrate into North Park. *Chris Chaffee*

Chris Chaffee made a presentation.

A special Street Car was designed for San Diego for the Panama-California exposition and delivered in 1912; this Street Car was in service for 27 years. A Feasibility Study was performed when Jay Turner and Rick Kurylo were involved with North Park Main Street and is included as an Appendix in the University Avenue Mobility Plan.

The Street Car is no longer part of the current version of the University Avenue Mobility Plan, but Street Cars are listed in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. San Diego Vintage Trolley is pushing for the PCC Cars on the Mid-City Rapid Route. Class 1 Street Cars can share the rail with the red trolley system; they can also use the low profile rails (like Park Blvd.)

Mr. Chaffee stated that he acquired 3 Street Cars and according to his sources, they are in very good condition. The ceilings are 9' high and the back of the car has open windows. He is in contact with a company that would restore the 3 street cars and make exact replicas.

There is a plan to implement Street Cars in San Diego: Phase 1 of the network would start downtown at the Santa Fe Depot in order to connect to the trolley. The route would start at Broadway, and continue to 12th Avenue to Balboa Park.

Good examples of recently implemented Street Cars in a high density urban area are Tampa, Florida and Little Rock, Arkansas. The San Diego system can be modeled after Tampa in order to be successful.

The next steps are: Restore the 3 existing Class 1 Street Cars; order replicas of the Class 1 Street Cars; lay down rails and test overhead cables.

Funding would be coming from private donations possibly from Embarcadero project downtown, investors in real estate along Broadway. A separate non-profit organization entity would have to be formed to run the system and start taking donations.

According to Mr. Chaffee, the implementation of the Street Cars will bring new businesses, increase property values, and create jobs.

Mr. Chaffee would like a letter of support. Sub-Committee members felt that more research needs to be done as far as the Mobility Plan, the Feasibility Study, in order to put the letter of support as a future agenda item.

Additional information can be found on:
<http://www.sandiegohistoricstreetcars.org/>

- B. South I-805 off-ramp into North Park Way and South I-805 off-ramp into Madison Avenue.** Ongoing discussion of North Park Signage and Entry Monuments. *Lucky Morrison*

The river rock covered land appears to be in Caltrans property, and the ability to put something in there may be very limited. Chair Carlson will bring some designs for Texas St. at Madison Avenue. René Vidales to give lucky some Caltrans contact information.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, June 8, 2011.

Adjournment. Motion: To adjourn meeting. Vidales/Hill. 6-0-0. Meeting adjourned 8:05 p.m.