



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE

PUBLIC FACILITIES, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

www.northparkplanning.org

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 11, 2010, 6:30 p.m., North Park Main Street office
3076 University Avenue, San Diego, CA 92104

Attendance:

Board Members: Dionné Carlson (Chair), René Vidales (Vice-Chair), Rob Steppke, Vicki Granowitz, Lynn Elliott

Community

Voting Members: None

Also present: Mark Radelow, Stephan Vance, Chuck Van Hise, Nan McGraw, JD Abercrombie

Parliamentary Items

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 6:34

Approve August 11, 2010 Agenda. Motion: Approve Agenda with the following change: Move Non-Agenda Public Comment and Approval of Meeting Minutes after the SANDAG presentation. Carlson/Vidales 5-0-0

Information Items:

A. Presentation on SANDAG Urban Area Transit Strategy: SANDAG is working to craft a new vision for public transit as part of its [2050 Regional Transportation Plan](#) (RTP). This vision of creating a world-class transit system is taking shape now, as SANDAG develops the Urban Area Transit Strategy, an innovative transit network within the San Diego region. Presentation on how North Park fits into the overall Transit Strategy. *Stephan Vance, Senior Regional Planner for SANDAG* presented the project.

The presentation covered mobility, reliability, and preservation, as well as what is needed to a prosperous economy, a healthy environment and social equity.

A map was shown with 2050 projections on housing density mostly happening in the Mid-City area. The employment centers are expanding in Kearny Mesa, Carlsbad, and Mission Valley.

Senate Bill 375, which is a state requirement was shown with Greenhouse gas targets, sustainable communities strategy, sensitive resource lands, regional housing needs assessment, public involvement, and CEQA.

The Urban Area Transit Strategy is made of the following items:

- Transit propensity, which expands transit in the most urbanized areas.
- Commuter point-to-point, which emphasizes quick access to work
- Several centers, which connect local smart growth areas and activity centers

A draft unconstrained transit network map for 2050 showed the following:

- High speed and commuter rail

- Coaster rail
- Light rail transit
- Express light rail transit
- Bus rapid transit
- Peak bus rapid transit
- Rapid bus
- Streetcar/shuttle-circulator
- High frequency local bus services

Also shown in the plan:

- Unconstrained traffic network
- Bikeway Improvements
- Airport strategy to better serve customers

In early 2011 the Public Comment period for the Draft 2050 RTP and EIR will begin.

The following answers were given to questions from the sub-committee and public in attendance:

1. Unincorporated areas of the county and rural areas are very expensive to serve
2. Better Mass transit will be offered between San Diego and Orange County
3. Rapid Bus Transit currently not available in the San Diego area. The College to Downtown segment will be the first project
4. I-15 will be adding more rapid bus transit ramps. Existing bus ramps are already located at University Ave. and El Cajon Blvd.
5. Lindbergh Field Airport has currently no transit options. High-speed rail will connect to the airport, and there will be an intermodal transportation center on the north side of the airport.
6. No transit shown on Texas Street on the maps. No explanation was offered.

For additional information on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, visit: www.sandag.org/2050RTP

Approve July 14, 2010 Minutes. Motion: Approve July 14, 2010 minutes with the following changes: Revise from “Approve July 8, 2010 Agenda” to “Approve July 14, 2010 Agenda”; and revise from “Approve June 8, 2010 Meeting Minutes” to “Approve June 9, 2010 Meeting Minutes”. Granowitz/Elliott 5-0-0

Chair’s Comments. None

Announcements

1. July 23, the SANDAG Board selected LRT Alternative 1 for the future extension of the San Diego Trolley from the Old Town Transit Center to UCSD and UTC www.sandag.org/uats.
2. According to an annual study conducted by SANDAG, more than half of the juveniles arrested in San Diego County in 2009 tested positive for at least one drug, with marijuana use on the increase, while methamphetamine use declined. http://www.sandag.org/enewsletter/feature_4.html
3. SANDAG is now on Facebook! Join SANDAG at www.facebook.com/SANDAGregion for another great way to get the latest updates on projects and activities around the region.

Non Agenda Public Comment

1. Chuck Van Hise would like to find out more about the new handicap ramps that are being installed throughout the City. He would like to find out who makes the decision to rebuild the ramps that do not meet ADA. He

stated that ramps that are being removed do not necessarily need to be replaced, but the urgency should be placed on existing locations that do not meet ADA. Noticing should be posted.

2. Lynn Elliott made the announcement that Montclair Park is re-opening the playground on Nile Street tomorrow and the public is invited
3. Lynn Elliott also announced that the next North Park Concert will feature the Group Agua Dulce, on Saturday from 5 to 7
4. Dionné Carlson stated that Omar Passons of the North Park Community Association (NPCA) is setting up a small amount of money for purchases of equipment and other items for community organizations
5. Dionné Carlson also announced that the Mobility Element discussion for the Community Plan Update will be on August 18 at Garfield Elementary.

Old Business.

- A. Texas Street Improvement Design:** 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 Development in Mission Valley. *Mark Radelow from Sudberry Properties* presented the project.

Public Art:

Mark Radelow suggested the idea of incorporating public art into the decorative concrete and to coordinate with the City in order to close a travel lane during the day. Sub-committee members suggested coordinating with Lynn Susholtz for the possibility of a public art project.

Landscaping:

Cobble and boulders to be installed at the ends (Mission Ave. and Camino Del Rio South). Cobble, boulders, and agave desert plants to be installed in the center of the project near the Adams Avenue overpass. Mark suggests for the sub-committee to get back to him with redlined plans and comments.

Blocks:

Mark presented samples of blocks with different colors. The following colors were selected: light Grey, earth brown, and sand

Lights:

Jeff Strohminger, Deputy Director of Development Services said that the City cannot install Acorn lights without a Maintenance Assessment District (MAD). According to the Street Design Manual, Street Lighting, Street Lights, page 94, which states that “Supplemental street lighting for a) ornamental, b) continuous street lighting, or c) pedestrian-scale lighting purposes, shall be installed in street lighting assessment districts. Street lighting assessment districts will be formed only upon the request of the properties which will be included in the district.”

Community members would like the street light pole and base design of El Cajon Blvd. and the street light top of University Ave. It was also mentioned that the existing Acorn lights are a historic precedent, and that language in the Street Design Manual is meant for new developments.

The Quarry Falls project had the following condition of approval:

“Prior to the issuance of any building permits for Phase I, applicant shall assure by permit and bond, the implementation of the following traffic calming measures on Texas Street from El Cajon Boulevard to Camino Del Rio South: provide pedestrian lighting and a new sidewalk from Camino Del Rio South to Madison Avenue (per item T4 in the Greater North Park Planning Committee's Priority List on page 13 of the Public Facility Financing Plan, 2002), and contribute \$100,000 (2007 dollars) in funding for traffic calming to be determined by the community from Madison Avenue to El Cajon Boulevard.”

The following points were made:

1. The mitigation measure in the Quarry Falls EIR requires providing pedestrian lighting on Texas Street. Single Acorn lights are used for pedestrian lighting.
2. Cobra lights are for roadway projects and the Street Design Manual emphasis is on the suburban environment and not old/historical areas.
3. The lighting to be placed on Texas Street is only for pedestrians.
4. Acorn lights are the “historic pedestrian” lighting for North Park with the first ones being installed in the 1920s. The City made allowances to incorporate historic resources that do not meet current regulation (whether or not they are in a historic district).
5. There is consensus between Sudberry and the community.
6. There was consensus between Sudberry and staff for several months following the April meeting
7. Sudberry has already been in design for the Acorn lights and spent money thinking the city has supportive of using Acorn lights.

This issue is likely to be discussed at a future meeting.

Unfinished, New Business & Future Agenda Items

A. Possible future Agenda item: None

B. Next meeting date: Wednesday, September 8, 2010

Adjournment. Motion: To adjourn meeting. Granowitz/Steppke. 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned 8:33 p.m.