#### Greater North Park Community Plan Update



#### North Park Community Plan Update Advisory Committee Meeting War Memorial Building – Room 2, Balboa Park Tuesday, December 15, 2009



City Planning & Community Investment Department

#### Welcome This Evening's Agenda

- 6:00pm Welcome/Introduction
  - Review Agenda
  - Recap of CPUAC meeting #1
- 6:20pm Tonight's Discussion: Slideshow of Community Concerns & Issues
- 7:30 pm Summarize key points from Slideshow and Next Steps
  - Key Points
  - Next Steps: Design Walking Tour
- 7:45pm CPUAC Debrief Process
  - Summary of what was shared tonight
  - Evaluate Process
  - Future Meetings
- 8:00pm Adjournment

#### **Community Assignment**

- Community members provide photos and statement of likes and dislikes in the community
- Purpose: identification and sharing of community issues
- Information submitted will be used to plan out Self-Guided tour in January 2010 and part of existing conditions effort

#### "Likes"

- Positive aspects in the community, desirable conditions.
- Common themes:
  - Desirable architecture and design
  - Cultural & Historic
  - Open space
  - Transportation/Mobility
  - Other
  - Opportunities



30th Street/Juniper. Attractive storefronts.



Sidewalk eateries take advantage of (free) ambient SD weather and livability.





Promotion in zoning code and discretionary approvals that promote water conservation landscaping.

3135 Bancroft – like Xeriscaping



Unique Architecture (28th Street)



30th Street. Unique treatment of utility boxes/wall.



Granada Bldg tile.



Residential Arts & Crafts-style landscaping features.



3700 block 30th street. Compatible contemporary remodel.





Granada Bldg. University Avenue.



NPMS Bldg. University Avenue.





Upas/30th Street. Historically significant remodeled auto repair garage.

2525-2543 University – like Cadillac Courts bldg. great rehab of a historic structure.



2300 block 30th Street. Pedestrian friendly building scale, landscaping, sidewalks.



Nice sidewalk experience



Ray/University



#### Landis/Lousiana



28th/Upas. Public improvement with historic character. Textured materials & landscaping.



Bancroft/University - Public art





#### 3933-3945 Hamilton – like historical court

Upas/30th. Historic courtyard units.



3600 block 29th Street. Historically designated home.

#### Burlingame. Well kept historic home.



Murals



Masonic Lodge (Utah/North Park Way)



Water Tower (Howard/Idaho)





North Park Theatre (University Avenue)

Georgia Street Bridge (University Avenue)



<text>

Appreciate the use of an historical building in a small business area.

Post office is convenient and should stay.



Community identification sign on tree grates. University Ave. and 28th St., looking west.



Street name sign that serves as community identification sign. University Ave. and 32nd St., looking west.



Rockwork pillars & wall from Mission Cliffs Gardens



University Heights identification monument (Park Blvd)

#### **Open Space**



Redwood & 28th Street. Open Space. Natural vegetation. Nice entryway to community.

Switzer Canyon and Downtown views.

#### **Open Space**



Plant restoration projects are inexpensive community building opportunities that contribute to the management of our city's natural resources.



Previously restored vegetation helps keep canyon ecosystem intact.

#### **Open Space**



City Ranger and Canyon Friends Group cooperating to perform work on a Saturday morning in Juniper Canyon.



Bird Park rest area; view of the city; interesting "nature story" re local birds; historically compatible use of materials.

# Transportation/Mobility



Bike routes are a plus and enjoyable for all cyclists.



Bike paths are safer and preserve neighborhood value.

#### Other



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Community Activities such as concert festivals bring people together.

Ethnic and economic diversity.

# Other



Individual expression.



# Other



North Parkers enjoy excellent access to Balboa Park.

#### "DISLIKES"

- Problems, issues, bad conditions, etc. in the community
- Common themes:
  - Undesirable architecture & design
  - Utilities: Overhead and in the P.R.O.W
  - Parking issues
  - Sign clutter/Bad Signs
  - Poorly maintained properties
  - Inappropriate/incompatible uses
  - Poor pedestrian conditions
  - Threats



Western Gateway unwelcoming, not very cohesive, and without identification signs. University Ave. & Georgia Street, looking east.





Northern Gateway unwelcoming, without safe pedestrian access, and without identification signs. Texas Street north of Camino Del Rio North, looking south

Eastern Gateway unwelcoming and without identification signs . University Ave. & Boundary St., looking west.





Send strip malls and parking lots to Santee.

KFC University/Utah – dislike parking setback



Dislike: Unscreened parking adjacent to sidewalk. University Ave. and Mississippi St., looking east.



Florida Street. MF Box architecture. Tiny windows.



3700 block 30<sup>th</sup> Street Box architecture; no buffer for car/equipment parking.



60's architecture.

What is it?
## Utilities: P.R.O.W & Overhead



Laurel St/30<sup>th</sup> Overhead lines.



**Electric elementary!** 

#### Utilities: P.R.O.W & Overhead



Adams Avenue. Vile V-RAD boxes. City needs to regulate configuration, placement, and consolidation of these boxes.

## Utilities: P.R.O.W & Overhead





Utility cabinets and other appurtenances that foster challenges.

Not only do we have problems with graffiti, but these boxes are unsightly

#### **Parking Issues**



3511 30<sup>th</sup> street. Hauling truck parked daily in front of house.

Without any parking limitations trucks from neighboring businesses without parking will park for days on the street (with open container for dead fish) some people live out the vans

## **Parking Issues**





3933 Hamilton – dislike it when street is resurfaced and illegally parked cars aren't towed - what remains is cracked, crumbling pavement. 3206 Bancroft – dislike- code compliance –no curb cut with boat and old truck in "driveway" of an otherwise lovely styled historic house.

## Sign Clutter/Bad Signs





2045 University Avenue. Sign code violation.

El Cajon Blvd. Too many signs!

# Sign Clutter/Bad Signs



Big enough billboard????



Permanent, temporary signage.

## **Poorly Maintained Properties**



3636 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Unkempt house/papered windows on commercial corridor.

#### 3361 Dale Street. MF with exposed wiring and dilapidated furniture.

## **Poorly Maintained Properties**





3216 Bancroft – dislike Zeroscaping

3689 31<sup>st</sup> St. @ Landis – dislike zeroscaping

## **Poorly Maintained Properties**





3300 block 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Ugly window covering for empty space.

Pat's at Upas/30th - façade is deteriorating and unsafe at bus stop.

## Inappropriate /Incompatible Uses





Proliferation of payday advance/check cashing stores and lack of pedestrianoriented stores. Adult Entertainment establishments that bring negative externalities. Not appropriate for modern El Cajon Blvd

## Inappropriate /Incompatible Uses





probation office good for neighborhood? At least fix up façade!

Dislike: Next to craftsman bungalows?

## Inappropriate /Incompatible Uses



Issue of building scale.



The dangerous and unsightly lack of sidewalks are an obstacle to this intersection (30th & Upas).



Wasted, ugly, unsafe place





Unmaintained pedestrian walkway within public right-of-way. University Ave. east of Georgia St. bridge, looking east.







Crossing El Cajon Blvd/I-805.

Wide Iowa Street.





Unmaintained sidewalk. 31st St. between University Ave. and North Park Way, looking south. Dangerous vertical curves with no traffic calming for pedestrians.

#### Threats



Like others, we have problems with Graffiti.



This weed infested hillside off 3th Street in Switzer Canyon is a fire hazard.

## Threats



Steep hills + ice plant = erosion.

Expensive emergency intervention needed.



This leveled floodplain in Switzer Canyon is an old building site that could be restored to native habitat.



Opportunity - North Park Theatre (University Ave) complete restoration of marquee with dagger sign.



Hon: Opportunity - Western Dental & Annex Bldg (30th/University) - Restore historical facade



#### Insist on decorative fencing and art from them San Diego Unified School District.



ENSHRINE our Ted Williams Field within a revitalized Civic Center Core and Mall to include a new state of art Community Library, "Civic" Center, with upgraded park components, ie., a safe water feature.



2575-2589 University - like great possibilities for rehab.



H. A series of four landscaped islands are recommended for 30<sup>th</sup> Street between Adams Avenue and Madison Avenue. Each island would be approximately 30'long by 10'wide, oblong, with space for two street trees at either end and the potential of providing a shelter for pedestrians should the City ever consider allowing midblock crossings along 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Islands would be spaced with gaps of approximately 90', allowing commercial vehicles to park safely between islands for loading and unloading. Though this may not currently be specified under city codes, this form of commercial loading is a daily occurrence along 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Adams Avenue, and Park Boulevard (see inset). Existing yellow curb space could then be converted to time-limited metered space, better serving the businesses.

Given the relatively narrow sidewalks, these landscaped islands can contribute greatly to providing greenery on 30th street and aid in its commercial renaissance.



CFD Request No. MC 05-03.2

#### **Hamilton** WEST ADAMS Hamilton Street Pop-Outs



While its size and configuration would not be appropriate for the intersection of Hamilton and Adams, Little Italy's Piazza Basilone demonstrates how a pop-out can be designed to create a usable public amenity by carving away from excess street space. While Hamilton Street is anothe most important pedestrian connector, the streetscape is unusually intact and pedestrian friendly, and the shop on the corner has set up a coffee cart outside as something of a neighborhood amenity. Pedestrian pop-outs on the NE and SE corners of this intersection could create a small seating area, an entry statement, and provide some needed traffic calming.









More historic districts. Homes in the Between Heights neighborhood



Possible improvements to Adams Avenue off ramp from I-805.



"Loveless" bus stops could be more creative and reflective of our neighborhood's architectural character.



Potential neighborhood entrance/directional signage. Could house utility boxes.



Boundary Street – Linear park?

Create an urban orchard, not a boutique park.

#### Discussion

 Are there other issues that should also be brought up?

## Debrief

- Summary of what was shared tonight
- Evaluate process
- Future meetings

#### Greater North Park Community Plan Update



**Meeting Adjourned** 



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