

# Old Town San Diego Community Plan Update Advisory Committee Meeting

March 20, 2012 • 3:00pm - 5:00pm  
Caltrans District 11 Office Building, Gallegos Room  
4050 Taylor Street San Diego, CA 92110

## Meeting Summary

**The following were present:**

**City Staff:** Nancy Bragado, Corey Braun, Tait Galloway, Myra Herrmann, Katrin Kunz, Cathy Winterrowd  
**Consultants:** Christine Babla, Richard Carrica, Yara Fisher, Stacey Jordan-Connor  
**Committee Members:** Bruce Coons, David Bevilaqua, Geoffrey Mogilner, Marie Pedrin-Gizoni, Fred Schwartz, David Swarens, David Thornton  
**Public:** Sean Cardenas, Patricia Fillet, Rachel Gregg, Stephen Jones, Rashik Patel, Ken Ralph, Ed Seegmiller, Abel Silvas

**This meeting was called to order by David Thornton at 3:10. A quorum was not established.**

- 1. Opening Remarks** Opening remarks were made by David Thornton and Tait Galloway. Introductions were made by those present.
- 2. Non-Agenda Public Comment** There was one non-agenda public comment. Geoffrey Mogilner related to the discussion of last meeting and commented that he was not aware of the 2007 amendment to the Old Town San Diego Planned District Ordinance.
- 3. Approval of Meeting Summary for the February 15, 2011 meeting** No action was taken on this item due to a lack of a quorum.
- 4. Archaeology Report Results Presentation Part 1**

Stacey Jordan-Connor and Richard Carrica, AECOM, presented Part 1 of the Archaeology Report Results which covers the prehistoric era. Aim of the study was to integrate site data, archival research and Native American contributions to discuss prehistoric and ethnohistoric use of the community plan area, identify areas of resource potential, and discuss constraints and opportunities. A further aim was to make recommendations to provide the city with a picture of the community's cultural landscape that will be useful in guiding local planning decisions.

### Questions and comments:

- The Old Town area has non-recognized Native American tribes.
- There should be State historic landmark to commemorate, preserve a spot to tell story from Presidio Hills to the San Diego River.
- The San Diego River Park also addressed landmark signage.
- There have been movies about the place and the role of Old Town

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- Important to commemorate the place with dignity.
- Native American people need to be acknowledged
- Would like to see recommendation in the community plan, outside of State Park possibly to identify an area.
- Still have prehistoric context and landscape that was named and can be seen from Old Town
- Tait Galloway commented that the updated community plan should address the cultural importance of the Native American people, the cultural resources, and the Village of Kosa'aay within Old Town.

## 5. Historic Survey Discussion

Cathy Winterrowd, Principal Planner, City of San Diego, presented on behalf of Kelley Stanco the Historic Survey. Besides the results of the Historic Survey, Cathy addressed the role of the Historical Resources Board (HRB), the Historical Resources designation and the correlation with the Community Plan Update process. As a result there are one potential Historic District (George Marston Historic District), one potential Conservation Area (Congress-Hortensia Conservation Area), and 23 potential Individual Historic Resources defined.

### Questions and comments:

- Original building at 3920 Conde Street (a potential Individual Historic Resource) was removed and reconstructed.
- El Camino Real should be mapped (also applies to archeological study).
- Is there potential for multiple properties to be considered a “district” together (i.e. State park, etc.)?
- Story of individual buildings together, such as Whaley House, Church, Old Adobe Chapel, etc. is important. These buildings existing when there was vacant land separating each of these buildings.
- Discussion of markers/monuments for existing or known resources
- Naming the potential historic district “George Marston” should be looked at more carefully. Name should be associated with the past.
- Clarification on
  - Human vs. structures
  - Existing structure vs. archaeological remains
  - Re-designation
- The report should state that Hwy 101 moved out of Old Town in 1934.

## 6. Community Plan Goals Discussion

Tait presented the major goals and objectives listed on page 17 of the adopted community plan. He also handed out a matrix on which the attendees can write down comments to



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every single goal. The sheets with the comments can be mailed, emailed, faxed or turned in personally.

Due to running out of time, from the 13 listed goals only the first three were discussed. For a discussion of the remaining ten goals Tait proposed to schedule a new meeting in April. The committee uttered a keen interest in this topic.

## Questions and comments:

- Goal # 1
  - There were no comments.
- Goal # 2
  - Link Presidio Park to State Park to Old Town core
  - Facilitate walkability
  - Discussion about the meaning of “gateway”
  - Adjust punctuation
    - i.e. a major gateway to create a sense of place
    - be careful about interpretation
  - Bring focus of Old Town at specific gateway to let people know they are there
  - This needs to be restated and brought back
    - Expand sense of State Park into core
    - Create gateways
  - District can be seen as triangle composed of three cultures: Native American, Spanish/Mexican and American
  - Use bold architectural elements that are unique to Old Town
  - Reference of successful Old Towns like Las Vegas, New Mexico, Santa Barbara and chance to learn from them
  - Need to define what is special and how it should be presented
- Goal # 3
  - This goal needs to be reworded.
  - What period of historical importance?
    - Historic sites from each period of economic assets. Everything else is just a frame and should not detract from authenticity.
  - National and international historical importance is too undefined.
  - Should try to define design theme
  - 1869 “lost time period”
  - Challenge of how to get quality design and not kitsch
    - homemade, non machine quality
    - massing

7. **Closing** Tait Galloway commented that he would email the committee about scheduling the next CPUAC meeting to continue discussing the major goals and objectives listed on page 17. The meeting was closed by Tait Galloway at 5:10 pm.

