

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

**MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, June 7, 2007, 6:30 p.m., North Park Main Street  
3076 University Avenue, San Diego, CA 92104

Called to order: 6:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Sal Aréchiga (Co-Chair), René Vidales (Co-Chair), Jeffrey Wergeles (Community Member), Melissa Magee (Community Member), Mary Lou Ruane (Community Member), Mike Burrows (Community Member), Jennifer Ohman (Community Member).

**Approve Agenda. Motion: Vidales/Aréchiga 2-0-0.**

**Approve Minutes. Motion: Approve Minutes from May, 2, 2007 meeting Vidales/Aréchiga 2-0-0.**

**Non-Agenda Public Comments:** None

**Chair's Comments:** Sal mentioned that from now on, the subcommittee is going to write down the name of the members who are attending the meeting, including members who are voting members, and members who abstain or recuse.

**Old Business:**

- A. Signing & Striping for La Bohème. René stated that the developer D.R. Horton has had a rough time over the past few months, and the project has had 4 superintendents since beginning of construction. The improvement plans for the streets called for a 'slurry seal', and the type the City prefers is called 'rehab slurry seal', which requires sunny weather for 6 to 7 hours prior to application. Even though the plans call for a slurry seal, the City would prefer to have the streets overlaid with A.C. pavement. The City has contacted D.R. Horton in the last few weeks, with no response yet as to when the work will be performed. In the meantime, D.R. Horton's permit has not expired, and they still have a bond amount that the City is holding on to, until the work is completed
- B. Request for Traffic Calming along the 2500-2900 blocks of Boundary Street. The Constituent, Jennifer Ohman, provided the subcommittee a copy of the petition from the McKinley Elementary School Safety Officer. The petition states the following: "I request a crosswalk and two stop signs be installed on 2700 Boundary Street at the intersection with Cooper Street, exceptionally heavy and fast moving traffic creates unsafe conditions for pedestrians attempting to cross Boundary Street. McKinley Elementary School is located a few blocks west of this location". A sketch for that intersection was included in the petition. Sal and René are to follow-up with the City on the status of this request.
- C. Request for stop sign for Granada Avenue at North Park way. The City has evaluated the intersection the intersection, and it was awarded 10 of the 20 required points under the current Council Policy 200-08. There have been no reported accidents at this location from March 21, 1999 to March 21, 2007. The

City concluded that an all-way stop is not recommended. The stop sign facing traffic on Granada Avenue sufficiently establish right-of-way.

The City will install red curb on the southwest corner of the intersection. This should improve visibility of cross traffic and result in a safer intersection. This work is expected to be completed within 60 days.

- D. Request for stop sign at for Thorn Street at Gregory Street. René received the results of the second evaluation from the City, and it was granted 11 points out of a minimum 20 points for an all-way stop for this intersection. The subcommittee previously informed the constituent Melissa Magee about the results of the report. The subcommittee provided a copy at this meeting, The subcommittee suggested Ms. Magee to contact a school officer at the McKinley Elementary School to evaluate and generate a petition for that intersection. It was also suggested for her to collect signatures. If the school officer's evaluation/petition recommends a stop sign at this intersection, Sal stated that this subcommittee will support the school officer's recommendation.
- E. Grant for Jacaranda and Pershing Drive intersection. Vicki Granowitz contacted the subcommittee co-chairs, expressing she received a call from Mark Arnold, Associate Engineer from the Engineering and Capital Projects department at the City. Mr. Arnold would like to update the North Park Planning Committee on the latest on the grant for the Pershing-Upas-Redwood corridor, including the roundabout. Ms. Granowitz had suggested for Mr. Arnold to attend the June 19 board meeting, to get the entire board up to speed. After the June 19 presentation, Mr. Arnold will be referred back to this subcommittee for management of this issue.
- F. Mission Avenue (University Heights): Possible installation of Angle Parking for the northwest side of the street, and reduction of the travel width from two lanes to one lane. Constituents May Lou Ruane and Mike Burrows gave a background on the issue about Mission Avenue.

The reason for requesting a change to the street/lane markings on Mission Avenue, was to slow down the speed of the traffic and decrease the number of cars that use the street as "cut-across" from Park Boulevard to Texas Street. It is understood that the only way to change the parts of Mission Avenue that are two-lane to one-lane – as it is at the beginning and end of the street – was to institute diagonal parking on the north side of the street. Ms. Ruane stated, that although she had talked with many people on the street, and have received almost overwhelming support for the one-lane street, has obtained more than three pages of signatures. It was brought to her attention that a couple of neighbors have become vehemently opposed to the diagonal parking section of the proposal. Due to this, and the fact that for Ms. Ruane neighborhood relations are extremely important, she will not be submitting the signed petition that requested one-lane, but also include diagonal parking on the north side.

Ms. Ruane then requested the City to alter the original request and evaluate the possibility of getting the street changed to one-lane and incorporate a designated bike lane, to facilitate the change to one driving lane.

At the subcommittee meeting, Ms. Ruane stated that she and another constituent had just met with Kathy Keenan of the Bicycle Coalition, who came to the site to

talk about re-striping, and bike lanes. She rode the area in her bike and she brought to their attention the idea that the City could re-stripe to one-lane with no problem, giving wider parking areas on each side. This in itself, will be good for cyclists. Ms. Keenan will bring this up to her board.

It was discussed in the subcommittee meeting, that since Ms. Ruane has started this process and has good communication with the City, for her to continue with this petition with the following adjustment to the petition: “To emphasize the request for one lane for Mission Avenue, from Park to Madison, and also to study the feasibility of placing diagonal parking on the north side of Mission, from Park to Florida Street only”.

Ms. Ruane provided copy of the original petition signatures supporting the request to this subcommittee.

### **New Business:**

- A. Request for stop sign for 29<sup>th</sup> Street at North Park Way. René received an email from Liz Studebaker of North Park Main Street, stating that there was a gentleman in her office complaining about the intersection of 29<sup>th</sup> Street and North Park Way. She asked if there was a possibility that a 4-way stop sign would be reinstalled at that intersection.

René stated that during construction of the Parking Garage, there was a stop sign for 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue at North Park Way, and it was removed after the structure was completed. This caused confusion during the following months, but most people are used to the current 2-way stop. An evaluation was just performed just one block west of this intersection, at Granada and North Park Way, and the evaluation did not grant for a 4-way stop. The subcommittee decided that a petition will not be made for this intersection and Ms. Studebaker will be informed.

- B. Request for a stop sign for Mission Avenue at Georgia Street. The Co-chairs of this subcommittee received an email from constituent Jeffrey M. Wergeles, who has lived in Mission Avenue for the past three and a half years, who stated that he had noticed an increase in traffic, as well as an increase of speed on Mission Avenue, in particular to the intersection of Mission Avenue and Georgia Street.

There is an Elementary School at the intersection of Meade Avenue and Park Boulevard, and Mission Avenue is the fastest and most direct way to get to Texas Street then to I-8 from the Elementary School. There is a traffic light at the intersection of Park Boulevard, and the next traffic stop sign is on Mission Avenue at Florida Street. Mr. Wergeles stated that Mission Avenue starts going downhill at Georgia Street, and generates an increase in speed, and therefore traffic starts going faster between Georgia and Florida Streets.

Mr. Wergeles was present at the meeting, and withdrew his petition in favor to the revised petition that Ms. Ruane will be requesting at the City, in order not to interfere with such petition.

- C. Research for Safe Zone School Route for William McKinley Elementary School. Co-Chairs stated that it might be beneficial for the Subcommittee to contact McKinley Elementary School, in order to better understand their criteria for Safe Zone School

Routes.

**Announcements:** René announced that Vicki Granowitz forwarded a message from Carrie Schneider that she was informed from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Office that the undergrounding of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Power Lines is not part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District list. Ms. Schneider would like to make this item be included in that list. This item is to be included at the next subcommittee meeting agenda.

Sal announced that the re-stripping of the median (island) at Mission Avenue, Monroe Avenue and Florida Street has been painted to red curbs. This item is to be included in the next subcommittee meeting agenda.

**Next Meeting is Thursday, July 5, at the North Park Main Street office.**

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sal Aréchiga (Co-Chair) and René Vidales (Co-Chair)