



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

www.northparkplanning.org

CORRECTED MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011, 6:00 p.m., North Park Main Street
3076 University 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 (arrived 6:14)

Board members not seated: None

Also present: Carline Ali, Jocelyn Luu

Parliamentary Items

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm

Approve October 5, 2011 Agenda. Motion: Approve Agenda. Vidales/Granowitz 5-0-0

Chair's Comments. Chair Carlson announced the following:

- Minutes from the September meeting will be presented in the November meeting.

Announcements:

1. Crime is still down in North Park, possibly due to people tending to stay at home caused by the ongoing recession and lack of employment opportunities.
2. Lecture series titled "Shaping our community's future: Tools and Basics of Community Planning". Lecture series will take place from October 2011 to April 2012, see Announcements.

Non Agenda Public Comment: None

Old Business

A. Mid-City Rapid Bus Project. *Update/Discussion*
No update.

B. Kansas St. Pilot "Head-in" Parking Project. *Update/Discussion*
Chair Carlson checked with Steve Aldana of the El Cajon BIA and with the City about the implementation of the 2nd block of the pilot project. There has been a lot on interest in this project, and so far the residents on the affected block seem pleased. The City will follow up on the implementation of the next phase. Vice Chair Vidales remarked that backing up makes vehicles invade both lanes. The pilot project needs to come back to this sub-committee for evaluation of the recent implementation.

C. 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 (Civitas) Development in Mission Valley.*

No update. Chair Carlson will follow up with Mark Radelow of Sudberry Properties about the implementation schedule of the project.

Chair Carlson will also follow up on the Traffic Control Plan for the lane configuration of Texas Street during construction.

D. Plaza de Panama – Balboa Park (Project No. 233958). *Proposed project includes an amendment to the Balboa Park Master Plan; an amendment to the Central Mesa Precise Plan; and a Site Development Permit. Ongoing discussion of parking, pedestrian & vehicular circulation for possible action.*

The discussion focused on the process for the following documents:

- Amendments of the Balboa Park Master Plan and the Balboa Park Central Mesa Precise Plan
- Site Development Permit
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Balboa Park Master Plan and the Balboa Park Central Mesa Precise Plan

- The amendments have to comply with General Plan for the City to make their findings: The Sub-Committee will look at Park and Recreation Element, Circulation Element, Conservation Element, Land Use Element, and Economic Prosperity Element.

The Master Plan and Precise Plan amendments are inconsistent with several elements of the General Plan:

- The proposed amendments do not reduce traffic (MOBILITY ELEMENT/NOISE ELEMENT)
- The proposed amendments do not reduce vehicle-pedestrian conflicts (CIRCULATION ELEMENT)
- Policies in the amendments would need to be revised to be up to date with Greenhouse Gases and Stormwater Regulations (CONSERVATION ELEMENT)
- Current plan to maintain the organ pavilion parking structure contradicts Jones & Jones (2006?) report which included an appropriate public process, and is closer to current planning thinking. The reason it was not implemented is because Jones & Jones changed the scope of work from the original expressed appropriation and therefore ran out of funds (PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES & SAFETY ELEMENT)
- Trams proposed are insufficient (MOBILITY ELEMENT)
- Proposed people movers do not connect to mass transit (MOBILITY ELEMENT)
- Need bond studies to see if incoming revenue will pay the debt service (PUBLIC FACILITEIS, SERVICES & SAFETY ELEMENT)
- Proposed amendments would not reduce greenhouse gases (CONSERVATION ELEMENT)
- The original intention of the project is to remove the cars from the Plaza de Panama. The proposed plan adds more cars overall (MOBILITY ELEMENT, PARK AND RECREATION ELEMENT)
- Lack of integration of Community Plan Updates (North Park, Uptown, Greater Golden Hill) into the proposed amendments (LAND USE AND COMMUNITY PLANNING ELEMENT)
- Increasing parking, more cars parked and less transit (MOBILITY ELEMENT)
- Makes inappropriate changes to historically designated landmarks (HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT)
- Organ Pavilion Parking Structure design is no longer open to a local competition (ECONOMIC PROSPERITY ELEMENT/URBAN DESIGN ELMEMENT)
- Implementation of paid parking (RECREATION ELEMENT/ECONOMIC PROSPERITY ELEMENT)

The following format was suggested for comments on the amendments:

1. Original language in the planning document, with a reference (in strike-through/underline version)
2. Proposed amendment language (in strike-through/underline version)
3. Space for comment from the planning committee

Site Development Permit

- The related documents have to comply with the findings from the Land Development Code Required Findings for Site Development Permit Approval:
 1. “The proposed development will not adversely affect the applicable land use plan”
 2. “The proposed development will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare”, and
 3. “The proposed development will comply with the applicable regulations of the Land Development Code”
- The documents also have to comply with the following Supplemental Findings:
 1. Historical Resources Deviation for Important Archaeological Sites and Traditional Cultural Properties
 2. Historical Resources Deviation for Relocation of a Designated Historical Resource
 3. Historical Resources Deviation for in a Substantial Alteration of a Designated Historical Resource or Within a Historical District

Environmental Impact Report (EIR):

- Has to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Has to comply with State and Local regulations

The following organizations might have good input on the topic:

- Walk San Diego (Susan Tinsky)
- Normal Heights Community Planning Group (Jim Baross)
- San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

Street Design Manual Standards vs. Park Standards: The Director of Parks and Recreation can make the determination of the width of roads and other facilities, which may be in conflict with the widths and standards required for public streets.

The Sub-Committee concluded that the amendments are narrowly and specifically written to match the implementation of the proposed project and do not accommodate changing community plans. Regarding the implementation of parking fees within Balboa Park; if the Zoo builds a new parking structure (plans for which are already approved) with paid parking, the rest of the Zoo parking lot will more than likely also implement paid parking.

This item will be continued in the November meeting.

E. Discussion of “Park & Recreation Needs Assessment Survey for the Greater Golden Hill North Park, & Uptown Communities”.

No update. This item will be discussed in the PFPA meeting in November.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, November 9, 2011, back to usual location

Adjournment. Motion: To adjourn meeting Steppke/Granowitz. 6-0-0. Meeting adjourned 8:09 p.m.