





NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE

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PUBLIC FACILITIES, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014, 6:00 p.m., North Park Recreation Center/Adult Center
2719 Howard Avenue, San Diego, CA 92104

Attendance:

Seated Board Members: Dionné Carlson (Chair), René Vidales (Vice-Chair), Vicki Granowitz, Peter Hill, Lucky Morrison, Daniel Gebreselassie

Community Voting Members: Ernie Bonn, Kitty Callen (arrived 6:11), Rob Steppke (arrived 6:11)

Board member not seated: None

Also present: Kevin Clark, Lynn Elliott, Kathy Morrison, Adrian Granda, Don Leightling, William Schneider, Harold Bream, Joan Moore, John Shepard, Lina Shepard, Robert Foti, Joel Harrison, Tanya Ta, Paul Jamason

Parliamentary Items:

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm

Approve March 12, 2014 Agenda. Motion: To approve March 12, 2014 Agenda Granowitz/Callen. 7-0-0

Chair's Comments: Based on the number of member from the public who oppose Action Item B on the agenda the sub-committee will not be voting on this item but the item will be discussed.

Approval of Previous Minutes, January 8 and February 12, 2014

Motion: To approve January 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Granowitz/Callen. 7-0-1 (Hill abstained)

Motion: To approve February 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Gebreselassie/Hill. 8-0-0

Announcements & Non-Agenda Public Comment:

- 100 years of University Heights Library, April 12 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Clairemont Community News announced in their February 2014 Newsletter that the previously proposed drive-thru at Balboa Ave. & Genesee Ave. which was strongly opposed by neighbors will not be constructed. Instead a project *without* a drive-thru is now proposed.
- Don Leightling announced a proposal for a Residential Permit Parking District. For more information eMail at np-rid@cox.net
- Lynn Elliott announced a NPCA Mixer to be held on March 20th at the North Park Farmers Market 5 to 7 p.m.
- Adrian Granda from Council District 3 made announcements pertaining to North Park

Non-Agenda Public Comment. None

Information Items. None

New Business:

- A. **Community requests for letters of support.** For the North Park Community Association's Summer Concert series, and for Jefferson Elementary's San Diego Foundation Grant application for a community garden.

Lynn Elliott has been in charge of the summer concert series at Bird Park for more 10 years; the concerts are to be held on June 14th, June 29th July 26th July and August 9th

Motion: To provide a letter of support for the North Park Community Association's Summer Concert series. Bonn/Callen. 9-0-0

The grant for community gardens is for \$5,000. Birney Elementary has a community garden already.

Motion: To provide a letter of support for Jefferson Elementary's San Diego Foundation Grant application for a community garden. Gebreselassie/Steppke. 9-0-0

- B. **Proposed parking conversions from parallel to diagonal or head-in:** Ohio, Louisiana, Idaho, Mississippi, Illinois, and Iowa streets between University Ave. & Lincoln Ave.; Polk Ave. between Kansas & Ohio streets; 31st St. from University Ave. to south of North Park Way.

Kevin Clark from North Park Main Street the parking conversion plans. Most of the parking conversions in this request are a result of the University Avenue Mobility Plan.

The project on Polk Ave. is laid out as follows:

- Polk Ave. from Kansas St. to 30th St. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (south side only) from 11 to 19 parking spaces for a total of 8 parking spaces gained.
- Polk Ave. from 30th St. to Ohio St. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (north side only) from 11 to 20 parking spaces for a total of 9 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved. The projects on Polk Ave. would result in a total gain of 17 parking spaces.

The project on 31st St. is laid out as follows:

- 31st St. from University Ave. to North Park Way conversion of parallel parking to angle parking (east side only) from 10 to 12 parking spaces for a total of 2 parking spaces gained.
- 31st St. from North Park Way to south of North Park Way conversion of parallel parking to angle parking (east side only) from 5 to 6 parking spaces for a total of 1 parking space gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved. The projects on 31st St. would result in a total gain of 3 parking spaces.

The project on Ohio St. is laid out as follows:

- Ohio St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to angle parking (west side only) from 17 (15 + 2 White Zone) to 25 (22 + 3 White Zone) parking spaces for a total of 8 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved.

The project on Louisiana St. is laid out as follows:

- Louisiana St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (east side only) from 29 (27 + 2 Handicap) to 54 (52 + 2 Handicap) parking spaces for a total of 25 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved.

The project on Idaho St. is laid out as follows:

- Idaho St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (east side only) from 22 (21 + 1 Handicap) to 31 (30 + 1 Handicap) parking spaces for a total of 9 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved.

The project on Mississippi St. is laid out as follows:

- Mississippi St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (east side only) from 25 (23 + 2 Handicap) to 32 (30 + 2 Handicap) parking spaces for a total of 7 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved.

The project on Illinois St. is laid out as follows:

- Illinois St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (east side only) from 25 (21 + 4 Green Zone) to 35 (31 + 4 Green Zone) parking spaces for a total of 10 parking spaces gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved.

The project on Iowa St. is laid out as follows:

- Iowa St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to head-in parking (west side only) from 31 to 38 parking spaces for a total of 7 parking spaces gained.
- Iowa St. from University Ave. to Lincoln Ave. conversion of parallel parking to angle parking (east side only) from 17 to 18 parking spaces for a total of 1 parking space gained.

The project only adds paint on the road and there is no construction involved. The projects on Iowa St. would result in a total gain of 8 parking spaces.

The following information was presented by Kevin Clark:

- California Vehicle Code 22.503 authorizes the City to make parking changes to permit angle parking by ordinance
- Municipal Code 86.0.03 permits angle parking by resolution (Angle Parking Policy authorizes the City to install angle parking within previously striped parallel parking). A policy is going to Council soon to remove the requirement of angle parking projects to go to City Council.
- Head-in parking is installed using the same Municipal Code 86.0.03
- There may be a policy similar to the Angle Parking Policy going to City Council in the future

The upcoming policy will change the process for converting parallel to angle parking. Such conversions will no longer need to go to City Council. If 25% of the residents who are fronting the property that is being changed oppose the project than the City will not change the striping of the parking.

- Polk Ave. was requested by a business owner

- Iowa, Mississippi, Idaho and Illinois are per the UAMP (Ohio and Louisiana are also included)
- Ohio Street has been taken off because the revised layout from the City does not match what is presented tonight.

Public discussion:

- The residents are notified per City policy so they can weigh in, whether they are owners or renters
- There was disagreement on whether an apartment complex would get 1 vote total for the property instead of one vote per resident
- The Kansas St. head-in parking re-striping project between El Cajon Blvd. to Monroe Ave. was a pilot project and apparently there was no follow-up on that pilot project as to how well it went with the neighbors
- There were bike rider safety concerns, especially widths
- North Park Parking Structure should be promoted by the businesses
- All streets on the North Park proposal met the City's criteria for all parking that is being proposed per Joe Jimenez at the City.
- Noticing is done per the City's policy and per the public noticing meeting (Brown Act) that this sub-committee follows
- Commercial vehicles are too wide to maneuver in the heavily residential areas
- The proposed parking spaces are not metered
- Property values issues were raised

Adrian Granda mentioned that Normal Heights recently went through implementation of head-in parking.

Board Discussion:

Ernie Bonn expressed that she has been involved in installing numerous angle parking spaces in the University Heights area; Ms. Bonn sits on the Parking District Board and she also sits on the Uptown Planners board. She stated that since the angle parking went in along North Ave. in University Heights there has not been one single complaint.

Carlson mentioned that no complaints have been received since the pilot head-in parking project was installed at Kansas and El Cajon. Granowitz & Bonn confirmed this.

Vicki Granowitz explained that in her 20 years serving in public planning committees, usually people write letters and show up in numbers at public meetings when there is blatant opposition, but when there is no opposition nobody writes or shows up to public meetings.

Research on property values due to installation of angle parking or head-in parking has not been made available and there is no knowledge of such studies.

Kitty Callen expressed that the recently installed head-in parking is wider than most parking stalls and that is one benefit it provides.

(Steppke left at 7:09)

Additional public comment:

- A resident living in the community since 1936 stated that in 1980 the City changed the zoning codes and allowed more density but that did not increase parking supply. Concerned that residential votes by multi-family sites outweigh votes from long time single-family residents. This resident received no notification.

- Suggestion was made to talk to Bank of America and North Park Library for them to share their parking lots during non-working hours.
- Data should be available stating that more parking is required, just as there should be data showing that no more parking is required
- The corner of University & Mississippi is very dangerous with head-in parking; University & Louisiana also dangerous with head-in parking. Suggestion to install head-in parking further from corners/intersections to make them less dangerous
- 31st angle parking re-striping is not necessary because it does not increase significantly the number of parking spaces. (gain of 1 single space only)

Board discussion:

Morrison: Bank of America has been previously approached by Councilmember Todd Gloria but there has been no response. Noticing sent by the City does not include notification of upcoming public meetings because the City cannot know so far in advance when the item can be agendaized any future NPPC meeting.

(Morrison left at 7:34)

Gebreselassie: This is a quality of life issue. Suggests talking to tenants

Hill: Will be looking for numbers on property values; would also like to evaluate safety

Vidales: Brought up the North Park Parking Management Plan from 2010 that disclosed a number of recommendations to be implemented within the following years; suggests talking to businesses like CVS Pharmacy who lets the community use its parking lot for the Farmers Market

Bonn: Mid-City Rapid Bus project also displaced parking. Head-in parking is now being instituted in more places.

Granowitz: NPPC has been dealing with these issues for many years

Callen: NPPC is only advisory in nature and NPPC recommendations are not always implemented by the City.

Carlson: It is worth noting that there are public benefits conveyed by head-in and angled parking where the street-width allows for these configurations; Data supports that they provide significant traffic calming by narrowing the street, in addition to providing more much-needed parking spaces. So far, has not seen or had data presented that show any increased danger or hazard to these configurations. Chair Carlson suggests visiting Kansas St. (from El Cajon Blvd. to Monroe Ave.) which is the original City Head-in pilot project. The pilot project was implemented with a mechanism to have it removed after the first year of trial, in the event that it was unsuccessful. Zero requests for removal have been received 2 years after implementation.

This item will come back to the Public Facilities sub-committee at a future date (unknown at this time)

(Granowitz left at 7:48)

- C. **SANDAG Regional Bike Corridor, North Park-Mid City & Uptown:** Discussion and formulation of feedback on the most recently proposed routes. Rene Vidales presented overview of project.

The Uptown Bike Corridor Community Open House & Community Advisory Group Meeting was held on February 6, 2014 at Roosevelt Middle School Library. The meeting included an introduction by former Interim Mayor Todd Gloria. The presentation drawings were not very clear as to what the ultimate project may look like; business owners expressed concerns about possible loss of parking spaces especially along University Ave. in Hillcrest.

The North Park-Mid City Bike Corridor Community Open House & Community Advisory Group Meeting was held on February 19, 2014 at Franklin Elementary. The Councilmember did not attend this meeting. The presentation drawings at this meeting were much more clear as to what the project intends to build. The following is a summary of the three east-west corridors:

- Meade-Monroe corridor: The project currently proposes mini-roundabouts, reverse angle-parking, curb extensions, and removal of stop signs along bike route at specific locations .
- Howard-Orange-University corridor: The project proposes mini-roundabouts, removal of stop signs along bike route at specific locations, and traffic signal modifications
- Robinson-Landis corridor: The project proposes mini-roundabouts, removal of stop signs along bike route at specific locations, reverse angle-parking and curb extensions; the highlights include the incorporation of a new bike/pedestrian bridge along Robinson St. from Florida St. to Alabama St. within a paper street, as well as the incorporation of a new I-805 bike/pedestrian overpass along Landis St. from Nile St. to 35th St.

Other items included were diversion of vehicular traffic at specific locations to allow only bicycles and pedestrians and way-finding elements. The preferred design captures comments from previous outreach efforts.

Peter Hill expressed the importance of integrating attractive landscaping & shelter/shade elements to the success of all three proposed routes. Need for shade along routes in summer, need landscaping on roundabouts.

Chair Carlson encouraged everyone to look at the plans, walk and bike the routes, and prepare comments and questions for next month's subcommittee meeting. Consider how best and in what order to review the routes.

Project was well received by most of the audience.

- D. Water Quality Project ideas for San Diego County**: Identify possible Watershed Protection projects in North Park. This item was tabled due to time constraints
- E. North Park Community Plan Update – Remaining Elements & Discussion Draft**: Mobility, Recreation, Public Facilities, Historic Preservation, Noise, Arts & Culture Elements. This item was tabled due to time constraints

Ongoing Business

A. Angle Parking Policy: No update

B. Utility Box Task Force. No update

Unfinished, New Business & Future Agenda Items. None

Next Meeting date: Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Adjournment: Motion: To adjourn meeting Callen/Bonn. 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.