

**Port Community Advisory Committee Report
August 2007**

Starting this month I will be following the PCAC reports with an extra section, "Other Port Items of Interest." This month is the Senate Hearing on vessel emissions and the first baby born by a sitting Harbor Commissioner.

This month's PCAC meeting was mainly on public comment items for the TraPAC EIR. There was also a presentation by the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) on inland ports. Other discussions centered on truck issues in Wilmington and the Port's Master Plan.

Action items passed: 1) Cerritos Channel/East Basin marina infrastructure improvements; 2) \$2.9M for the Air Quality Mitigation Incentive program; and 3) a 24 month extension of the Air Quality Subcommittee consultant contracts.

I spoke during the final Public Comment period about Knoll Hill. I did not have a copy of our August 14 Request for Public Records motion with me so I reported in general terms. I said we have passed 4 resolutions on Knoll Hill within the past year, the latest one being an open letter to the Mayor, the Port and the Councilwoman. We have consistently opposed privatization and grading of the Hill. Northwest and Coastal had just passed resolutions supporting our request for a public review process on Knoll Hill and the San Pedro NCs are united on this issue. Chairman Jayme Wilson added that the SP Chamber passed a resolution on this also. Pat Nave of Northwest NC asked the Port staff what the CEQA status is for this project. Kathryn McDermott was to get back to me with an answer.

The full report follows.

Carrie Scoville
PCAC Alternate
Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
11/19/07

PCAC Meeting - August 21, 2007

Public Comment:

Andrew Mardesich requested a regular report from the Port Police of all the citations/violations written up for Port related truck traffic in Wilmington. He presented photos of illegally parked trucks that had not been cited.

Dr. John Miller discussed the TraPac EIR's assertion that mitigation measures would mean loss of jobs and revenue from freight that would be diverted, which he claimed is false. The EIR also states other CA ports cannot absorb this cargo without new construction of additional facilities, which he also claimed is false.

Connie Rivera of the ACTA announced the Draft EIR for the Schuyler Heim Bridge Replacement and SR-47 Expressway project has been released. There will be a public meeting September 25, 6:00 pm at Banning's Landing, Wilmington. The public comment period ends October 16.

Arthur Hernandez stated the TraPAC EIR mitigation should include a public access to Van Muilligan and Machado Lakes.

Report from POLA Staff:

Tony Gioiello, Chief Harbor Engineer reported for David Mathewson. There are no PCAC motions for the next Port Commission meeting. The September 6 Port Commission meeting will be an informational meeting instead, the next official meeting of the Commission will be September 20 where PCAC membership changes may be addressed.

Presentation:

Art Goodwin, Director of Planning for the ACTA gave an informative presentation on Inland Container Yards. These are off-site warehouse or rail facilities which can alleviate Port congestion and other land use issues. He explained that 60% of the cargo through the Ports is not for the LA Basin and inland ports could be used for this freight. Concerns were raised from PCAC members about spreading off-port impacts and pollution to other communities. Concerns were also raised about the capacity of the Alameda Corridor and the need for more rail capacity through to Victorville.

Action Items:

1. The Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee request for Port staff to evaluate infrastructure improvements for the Cerritos Channel/East Basin marina area **passed 18-0.**
2. The Air Quality Subcommittee request to extend Subcommittee consultant contracts for 24 months **passed 17-1.**
3. The Air Quality Subcommittee request for \$2.9M from China Shipping Settlement funds for recommended Air Quality Mitigation Incentive Program R&D projects **passed 17-1.**

Subcommittee Reports:

1. Port Master Plan Subcommittee – Chair absent, no report. Carrie Scoville announced that the Port recently released its new master land use plan and asked when this Subcommittee will meet to discuss it. Jesse Marquez added the Port's purchase of public property in Wilmington also needs to be discussed. PCAC Co-Chairman Wilson will get in touch with the Subcommittee Chair and have him call a meeting.
2. Air Quality Subcommittee – Richard Havenick reported the subcommittee discussed a letter being drafted for the TraPAC EIR, the next and final round of Air Quality Mitigation Incentive Program projects, and a Health Risk Assessment.

3. San Pedro Coordinated Plan Subcommittee – June Smith reported the meeting had been cancelled due to lack of quorum. Next meeting September 12, 5:00 p.m. at the POLA High School.
4. Water Quality Subcommittee – Donna Ethington reported the July meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. The next meeting will be August 28, 5:00 p.m. at the POLA High School. PCAC Co-Chair Jayme Wilson reported Subcommittee Chair Cathy Beauregard would be taking an extended leave of absence from the PCAC. She occupies a “San Pedro At Large” seat which is appointed by CD 15. Donna Ethington will be conducting meetings as Co-Chair of the Subcommittee.
5. EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee – Dr. John Miller reported the subcommittee discussed the TraPac EIR and that there had been no presentation by the Port to the PCAC on this project. A special Subcommittee meeting has been called August 23 for a Port presentation.
6. Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee – Gary Kern reported the August meeting had been cancelled. The next meeting will be September 4, 5:30 – p.m. at the Wilmington Senior Center. They will be discussing the TraPAC EIR, Triangle Park and a presentation on building concepts for the buffer area. Donna Ethington asked for a status report on the Wilmington Aesthetics Mitigation Proposals to the State Lands Commission.

Public Comment:

Jesse Marquez announced an EPA hearing on the ozone standard will be held August 30. This is related to the Coalition for a Safe Environment filing of a notice of intent to sue the EPA last year. The EPA wants to settle, which requires them to hold public hearings and discuss new standards.

Arthur Hernandez discussed noise pollution in Wilmington from the Watson railyard at all hours.

Carrie Scoville spoke about Knoll Hill. She said the CSPNC passed 4 resolutions on Knoll Hill within the past year, the latest one (August 14) being an open letter to the Mayor, the Port and CD 15. The CSPNC has consistently opposed privatization and grading of the Hill. Northwest and Coastal have just passed resolutions supporting the request for a public review process on Knoll Hill and the San Pedro NCs are united on this issue. Co-Chairman Jayme Wilson added that the SP Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution on this also. Pat Nave of Northwest NC asked the Port staff what the CEQA status is for this project. Kathryn McDermott is to get back to Carrie Scoville with an answer.

Agenda Items for next meeting, September 18, 2007:

- PCAC TraPac EIR Comments
- Port Police enforcement of Wilmington truck problems
- Update on Alternative Technologies Study
- New San Pedro Waterfront project description

Other Port Items of Interest – August 2007

- Senate Hearing on Ship Emissions - POLA 8/9/07: Senator Barbara Boxer conducted a Field Hearing at the POLA Headquarters on port pollution and additional vessel emissions controls pertaining to recently introduced legislation (S.1499). The program opened with an address by the Senator followed by testimony from Rep. Hilda Solis, new CARB Chair Mary Nichols, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (LA), Mayor Bob Foster (Long Beach), S. Roy Wilson (SCAQMD), POLA Commissioner S. David Freeman, POLB Executive Director Richard Steinke, POLA Executive Director Dr. Geraldine Knatz, Dr. Ed Avol of USC, and Dr. John Miller of Kaiser Permanente and the PCAC.

Since there was no public comment period many people in the audience wore surgical masks bearing messages like “help”, “I can’t breathe”, and “toxic”.



The most moving testimony was given by our own Dr. John Miller of San Pedro who told how he is the ER doctor who informs patient’s families of terminal health conditions. He decided he could help vastly more people by speaking up about the health effects of pollution than by any work he does in the ER. There was not a dry eye in the house. Sen. Boxer invited him to come to Washington, DC to testify before the Senate.



- A new baby! Port Commissioner Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza gave birth to a beautiful baby girl on August 16. This is her first child, and the first birth ever by a sitting Commissioner. Congratulations to Mom and baby Mikayla.

Acronyms :

ACTA	Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority
CARB	California Air Resources Board (State agency)
CD 15	LA City Council District 15 (Hahn)
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (Federal)
PCAC	Port Community Advisory Committee
POLA/LB	Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach
R&D	Research and development
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District (regional division of CARB)
SPNC	San Pedro Neighborhood Council
USC	University of Southern California