



# THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## Stakeholder Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, September 13, 2011 Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5<sup>th</sup> St, San Pedro, Calif.

**Call To Order & Roll Call:** Linda Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:33. The following board members were in attendance: Linda Alexander, James Allen, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Pat Carroll, Sue Castillo, Harvey Contreras, Scott Gray, Kara McLeod, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Andrew Silber and Phill Trigas. Absent: J.R. Perez and Alan Ramirez. Excused: Kali Meridith and Julia Parker. Approx 35 stakeholders in attendance.

### 1. **Presidents Report:** Linda Alexander reported on the following:

- Announcement of upcoming Congress of Neighborhoods event scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Ethics Training Update

### 2. **Approval of Minutes:** Pat Carroll moved that the August 9, 2011 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes be approved as presented, seconded by Andrew Silber. The motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

### 3. **Reports from Public Officials:**

**Mayor's Office:** Ricardo Hong reported on the following:

- Update on the proposed light rail system from Downtown LA to Santa Monica. This project would create 10,000 new jobs and provide help for commuters. First rail option in 50 years.
- The Mayor was in Washington D.C. to push on his plan for "America Fast Forward", requesting a loan for Los Angeles to build transportation infrastructure
- The City of LA has 24 new hybrid delivery trucks which brings the total to 48.
- Andrew Silber commented that he would like to see the waterfront connected with LA through light rail.
- James Allen gave background history on the loss of light rail 50 years ago.
- Linda Alexander asked Ricardo to provide a list of city officials and their ethics training status.

**CD 15 Report:** Elise Swanson reported on the following:

- Announced that she will be joining the staff of Congresswoman Janice Hahn as District Director. Her new position begins Monday. She will now be able to work with the neighborhood councils on Federal Issues. There will be a district office in San Pedro.
- Update on new bus bench contractor.
- The Parking Meter Motion for downtown Wilmington and San Pedro is still being reviewed by the Transportation Committee. May not be heard until late October so they are urging NC's to get impact statements ready.
- Plaza Park is moving forward with improvements, groundbreaking in approx two months.
- A new restaurant called Moderna Taverna is coming to town at the old Papadakis location.
- Resurfacing is taking place on portions of 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Ana Dragin has a complete list. They are trying to push for resurfacing of Gaffey Street.

**Port of L.A.:** Augie Bezmalinovich reported on the following.

- US Navy has selected the LA Harbor for the USS IOWA. Comment period is now open.
- Announced upcoming BOHC meetings.
- Summer concerts at the fountain is over and was very successful.
- SP Slip/Ghost Fish project will begin after Lobsterfest.
- Crafted at the Port of Los Angeles Project is a new project proposed for Warehouses 9 & 10. The recent meeting can be viewed on the website: [www.lawaterfront.org](http://www.lawaterfront.org)
- Maritime Museum is being upgraded.
- This weekend is the Lobsterfest.
- The proposal is out for the Downtown Harbor Project which should take approximately 2 years to complete.
- Front Street Beautification update. The city is requiring that they expand the street which has affected the plans.
- Comment from stakeholder regarding what she feels is a lack of respect of the fishing boats and the fishing industry in general.
- James Allen suggested a discussion topic for next month on the concept of expanding the arts district to include warehouses 9 and 10.

**LAPD:** Officer Nua reported on the following:

- Burglaries from motor vehicles are still up. Also aggravated assaults are up, mostly gang related.
- Crime suppression tactics are being implemented.
- Residential and commercial burglaries are down.
- LAPD is heavily deployed between 4pm to 6am.
- Provided a gang injunction update.
- Veronica de la Cruz replaces Justin Houterman as the Neighborhood Prosecutor.

**Port Police:** Officer Alex Castillo reported on the following:

- The new station will possibly be opened in December.
- Commented on Lobsterfest traffic.
- Sea Marshall program has been implemented to escort the cruise ships in and out of the harbor.
- Traffic jams due to drop off and pick up at POLA High School have improved.
- I-Watch video will be presented next month when Officer Stacey Creech returns.

**PBID Security:**

- They are handling complaints about people loitering in front of downtown businesses.
- Their hours of operation are from 11:00am-2:30am.
- Compliment from Scott Gray on the excellent work of the PBID Security team.

**4. Presentation on Safe Streets Initiative:** Megan Hunter, City Planner, Harbor Region Community Redevelopment Agency talked about the *Safe Routes to School* grant application:

- The purpose of the grant is to enable and encourage children to walk and bike to school to encourage a healthy lifestyle.
- Infrastructure projects include: bicycle improvements such as trails, paths, racks, lane striping and widening. Pedestrian improvements include: traffic calming and traffic control devices.

- Cabrillo Avenue School is one of the schools being studied and the proposed improvements to the area were discussed in the presentation.
- A left turn lane on Pacific Avenue would be created. This type of improvement has been shown to reduce left turn lane crashes.
- The presentation also showed benefits of the improvements.
- The community can give input and feedback.
- They would like a board action supporting the “Road Diet” project. Sue Castillo asked to get input from the merchants first. James Allen suggested that this be discussed with the merchants at the next stakeholder meeting.
- Takes about 2-3 years to complete the project. **James Allen moved that the Board postpone further discussion on this issue until a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Andrew Silber and passed unanimously by the Board.**

**5. Dangerous Intersections Issue (Agenda Item #7):** Crystal Killian from the Department of Transportation provided the following information:

- **Sidewalk issue on Gaffey.** This is an expensive project because it requires retaining structures in order to build the sidewalks. There is a project waiting to be funded. The alternative request is to look at the striping and put an edge.
- **Pacific Avenue between Front Street and in front of Harbor Occupational Center:** This section is scheduled for resurfacing. They will be working with the design group on the striping and lane configurations. Carrie Scoville’s suggestion was a median and Ms. Killian responded that this would be a capitol project.
- **Palos Verdes and 14<sup>th</sup> Street stop sign request.** Traffic counts have been ordered. They will complete a stop sign study.

**6. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**

- People’s Yoga: Michael announced an upcoming fundraiser benefitting the Susan G. Komen Foundation
- Georgiana who spoke about the fishing industry during the Port report, gave additional comments on fisherman issues.
- Robert Brandon announced a Candidate Forum by the San Pedro Democratic Club. Monday September 26, 2011. 7pm at Croatian Hall.
- John Delgado: Announced his candidacy for LA City Council District 15.
- Lanny Nelms: Retired from School District and is now attending neighborhood council meetings as a representative of Dr. Richard Vladovic. [Lnelms2@cox.net](mailto:Lnelms2@cox.net).
- Josephine commented that they have appealed the project for Taco Bell and the hearing is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

**7. Meeting Re: Warehouses 9 & 10:** Update from Frank Anderson on the meeting where the Bergamont Group presented the plans for Warehouses 9 and 10. It will be a craft market place with vendor stalls to include art, jewelry, demonstrations and concessions. More information on “Crafted at the Port of L.A.” is available at: <http://www.lawaterfront.org/>

**8. DWP Resolution (Agenda Item #6):** Andrew Silber gave an overview of the Resolution. **Scott Gray moved that the Board adopt the resolution as presented, seconded Pat Carroll. The following motion was then approved unanimously.**

**DWP RESOLUTION – SEPTEMBER 13, 2011**

Whereas, the DWP is proposing to increase our power and water rates by 26% and 24% respectively over the next two and a half years, the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council urges both the Board of Water and Power Commissioners and the City Council not to consider nor to act upon the DWP proposed water and power rate increases until the Ratepayers’ Advocate is established.

Once that body is established, it should thoroughly review and analyze the proposed rate increases and present such review and analysis to the Ratepayers, to Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles and to the public for their careful consideration.

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council SUPPORTS the motion, as introduced by Councilman Englander (Council file# 11-0452-S4), calling for the OPA (Ratepayers' Advocate's office) to first review the current DWP rate increase proposal.

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council OPPOSES any rate increases until the Ratepayers Advocate has reviewed and analyzed these rate increases and discussed the review and analysis with the Ratepayers and the public. The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council AUTHORIZES the filing of a COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT to Council File# 11-0452-S4 declaring its support for Councilman Englander's motion.

- 9. Cal Trans Meeting Re: SR47/I-110 (Agenda Item #8):** Frank Anderson provided an update from the meeting. Concerns from stakeholders included landscaping, sound wall issues, and mitigation for the skate park. The deadline for comments has been extended to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 10. Request for Rancho LPG EIR:** Frank Anderson gave background information on the issue and a draft motion was presented as follows:
- Whereas, the San Pedro Neighborhood Councils have historically opposed the existence of the Ultra Hazardous Amerigas Liquid Propane Gas facility in San Pedro and have consistently urged the City and Port of Los Angeles to relocate the facility due to its high risk; and
- Whereas, the risk of hazard continues to increase every day due to the facility's aging infrastructure, increased likelihood of earthquake or natural disaster due to its location in a seismically dangerous area and tsunami zone, and a growing threat of terrorism in a port city acknowledged as a probably target site; and
- Whereas, the facility entered into the community 37 years ago without benefit of a Risk Analysis and failed to engage in an EIR process when, for example, the business significantly changed its business operation from the transport of LPG and Butain primarily by sea to the more hazardous mode of transportation by truck and rail, and when pipelines from refineries were constructed and connected; and
- Whereas, the restoration of a legal public process needs to be instituted to ensure the right of our communities to live in a safe environment; and
- Whereas, the rail line spur accommodating the transportation of the Liquid Gas for Rancho LPG falls under the jurisdiction of the Port and City of Los Angeles;
- The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council hereby moves that the Port of Los Angeles immediately revoke their permit to the rail line access to the Rancho LPG Facility until an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) process is completed that reflects the current Rancho LPG operation and proves that the Harbor communities are not exposed to an unnecessary and elevated risk of hazard due to their operation.

Andrew Silber moved to support the resolution, seconded Carrie Scoville. During discussion comments included:

- Dan Kelly, representing Rancho LPG, commented that an EIR was filed in 1973. He also talked about the Risk Analysis reports from Cornerstone Technologies and Quest Consultants, as well as a recent review of both reports that was conducted by Professor Daniel Crow.
- Chuck Hart, representing San Pedro Homeowners United, read a statement in favor of the motion.
- After discussion, the board voted in favor of the motion as presented with 9 yes votes and 0 no votes.

- Andrew Silber commented that our elected officials aren't looking out for the people in the city if this is an ultra hazardous facility.

**11. Stakeholder Issue (Illegal Dumping):** Andrew Silber referred to an email from a stakeholder that was included in the agenda packet and talked about the problems with illegal dumping in the areas near the Bandini Canyon Trail Park. Elise Swanson has given these locations to the GAP representative to add to their list for picking up bulky items. She also mentioned that Nicole Wells at CD15 office can assist with these issues.

**12. Downtown Parking Structure on 7<sup>th</sup> Street:** Andrew gave background on the issue. He is hoping that the Central San Pedro NC will support "in theory" a multi-use 5 story building with 3 floors of public parking. **Pat Carroll moved to support the concept of a multi-use 5 story building with 3 floors of public parking, seconded by Art Almeida. The motion was passed with 10 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

**13. Finance Committee Report:**

- **Kara McLeod moved that the Board approve the August monthly expenditures as presented in the agenda packet. The motion was seconded by Pat Carroll and passed with 9 yes votes and 0 no votes.**
- **Approval of funding for Candidate Forum and LA Congress of Neighborhoods:** A motion was brought forth from the Finance Committee to approve funding of \$250 for the LA Congress of Neighborhoods event on September 24<sup>th</sup> and up to \$100 for the HANC Candidate Forum planned for October at Harbor College. The motion was passed by the board with 8 yes votes and 2 no votes.

**14. Port Committee Report:** Frank Anderson reported on the following:

- Front Street update and the proposed undergrounding of utilities.
- Knoll Hill: Eastview Little League is trying to justify the extension of their lease.
- Ports O'Call will be receiving sod covering at the southern end. Neighborhood Council involvement is being asked for in the Ports O'Call future plans.
- Plaza Park update.
- Grand Jury Report and the new structure of PCAC. Frank commented that the Board needs to look further into this issue and respond to it. Comment period extends to end of this month. Augie commented that the Port has 90 days to respond to the Grand Jury. They will bring the Port's letter to the Central port committee. No action taken.

**15. Outreach Committee:** Pat Carroll reported on the following:

- **Marketing Plan for San Pedro:** Background information was provided on the need for creating a coordinated committee representing those organizations that want to participate to develop a marketing plan (branding) for San Pedro. The following motion was brought forth from the Outreach Committee: **The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council agrees to participate in the development of the coordinated marketing plan for San Pedro and will appoint a representative providing that the meeting process is transparent. The motion was passed by the board with 7 yes votes and 2 no.**
- Pat Carroll was appointed temporarily as Central SPNC's representative to the committee. During discussion Michael from People's Yoga voice his concerns that this might not be a public meeting and hoped that those who wanted to participate would be welcomed to give input.
- Pat commented that the three San Pedro Neighborhood Councils have developed a three-council brochure to be used at local events.

- The next newsletter is being developed for distribution in November (Fall 2011).
- 16. PCAC Report:** Carrie Scoville reported that there was no PCAC meeting last month. At the next meeting there will be informational items not voted on until October. Carrie read one of the PCAC proposed motions.
- 17. HANC:** Carrie Scoville provided a written report in the agenda packet. The main topic of the HANC meeting was a town hall on the four Krekorian motions which dealt with the issues of Training, Grievance, Governance, and Funding
- 18. CRA:** Andrew Silber provided a written report in the agenda packet.
- 19. ACE:** Linda Alexander reported that the CRA is having trouble with funding. Beata is working with ACE and reaching out in marketing.
- 20. Announcements:**
- LA Congress of Neighborhoods, September 24
  - NC Election Alternatives Meeting, September 26.
- 21. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristina Smith  
Administrative Assistant to the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council