



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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Land Use Planning & Public Works Committee Minutes
Submitted for the April 9, 2013, Stakeholder Meeting

On Wednesday, March 27, 2013, this committee met at 327 W. Seventh Street commencing at 5:00 pm. Attendees included Sue Castillo (chair), Linda Alexander, Andrew Silber, Carrie Scoville, Allyson V, Ray Medak, and J.K. Drummond. We discussed the agenda items and agreed upon the following:

1. Public comments on non-agenda items:

Carrie Scoville noted the recent loss of several locally-controlled grocery stores in our community, and it was agreed that we should discuss this further at the next meeting of this committee.

2. **Public transit connection needs between downtown San Pedro and the Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital at 1300 W. 7th Street.**

Discussion did not result in any consensus or recommendation for a particular route modification, but it was agreed that we should bring MTA and LADOT representatives to a stakeholder meeting where the general topic can be raised. In particular, Scott Green on the MTA staff should be invited.

Action Item: At our next stakeholder agenda-setting meeting, this recommendation should be considered.

3. **Bus stop improvement concept for bus stop on the south side of 7th Street east of Pacific Avenue.**

The chairperson suggested consideration of the following improvements to this bus stop:

- Relocation of the bus shelter nearer to the adjacent building wall to provide more width for passers-by.
- Removal of the illegal pay phone obstructing the sidewalk adjacent to this bus shelter.
- Replacement of the old trash can with a new receptacle matching our CRA and PBID-provided downtown street furniture.
- Provision of a pedestrian-scaled light fixture for better sidewalk lighting at the bus stop.
- Repaving the sidewalk in the immediate vicinity of the bus stop, possibly with special paving to create an enhanced sense of place.
- Removal of the iron security gates and canister wall signage on the adjacent building.
- Creation of a mural or other artwork on the adjacent wall.

It was agreed that 1) Linda Alexander would ask the PBID what efforts have been made to collaborate with the adjacent building owner on the removal of the security gates and the replacement of the canister wall sign; and, 2) committee members will visit this site and

bring back to committee at our next meeting their thoughts on the improvement of this bus stop.

4. Removal of the publicly-owned benches on 6th St by the PBID.

It was the opinion of the majority of the meeting attendees that these benches were removed for good cause and that no further action should be taken.

5. Gaffey Street rezoning proposal to incentivize development.

Ray Medak, local architect and board member of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council, led a discussion regarding suggestions for optimizing the potential for new development along Gaffey Street. He suggested that the commercial parcel depth be increased to incentivize new development, although there were concerns about rezoning existing adjacent residential parcels as commercial. It was agreed that zoning alternatives to incentivize and facilitate new development on Gaffey Street should be considered. This discussion did not result in an immediate action item, but is to be agendaized for our next Land Use Committee Meeting.

6. Discussion on the San Pedro Community Plan Update process.

Action Item: *It is recommended that this Neighborhood Council respond to the City's scheduling process leading to the approval of our new community plan document with the following statement, to be sent to our Councilperson, the City Planning Department, the City Planning Commissioners, the Planning and Land Use Management Committee of the City Council (PLUM), our City Attorney, and our new mayoral candidates.*

WHEREAS the Draft San Pedro Community Plan Update was released to the community on February 28th, heard at the Harbor Area Local Planning Commission level on March 5th, and scheduled for approval by the City Planning Commission on March 14th, all within an approximately two week period; and

Whereas the release of the "matrix summary"/ table of proposed changes to parcel zoning at the December 12, 2012 Open House & Public Hearing did not satisfy the presumed goal of providing for community review of the actual plan document; and

Whereas no written response to this neighborhood council's previously submitted comments has been received; and

Whereas two weeks is insufficient time for a neighborhood council to review and prepare an official response to a document of such great significance to the community as its community plan; and reasonable time for Neighborhood Council review and comment on a draft community plan should be no less than 90 days; and

Questions and issues remain pertaining to 1) the optimization of the potential for new development on Gaffey Street, 2) roadway classifications in our downtown area, 3) policies that reflect the community's desire for improved public transit, and 4) the protection of a downtown adjacent multi-family residential street; and

Whereas other questions and issues might be identified if this Neighborhood Council were to be provided with reasonable time to review the plan document.

THEREFORE, the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council objects to the scheduling of the City approval process prior to providing the community and affected Neighborhood Councils with reasonable time to review and comment; and

We therefore insist that a minimum of 90 days be provided for our review and comment on the draft plan prior to the hearings that provide for final plan approval, and that this 90-day period should commence upon confirmation by the City that this review and comment period will be provided to us; and

We request that a City policy be established to stipulate that City Departments provide a written response to Neighborhood Council formal communications.

We request the opening of a council file requesting the codification of a requirement that Neighborhood Councils be provided with a minimum of 90 days to review and comment upon any new or revised community plan document.

7. Ports O'Call redevelopment discussion.

Discussion resulted in the recommendation that our previous comments on Ports O'Call redevelopment be submitted directly to the LA Waterfront Alliance, currently negotiating with the Port of Los Angeles as their preferred development partner. Furthermore, the committee recommended the following additional comments:

- a) Ports O'Call should be conceptualized as a world-class destination, and direct public access to the waterfront should be a guiding priority.
- b) Public transit connection by bus, light rail and water taxi should be provided directly to Ports O'Call.
- c) We prefer that any conference space/building be located on top of the downtown adjacent bluff parking structure instead of within the area prioritized for public access.
- d) We do not favor the location of visible solar collection panels on top of a bluff parking structure.

Action Item: Send a letter to LA Waterfront Alliance stating the above.

- 8. It is the intention of this committee to standardize a monthly meeting schedule and that its meetings regularly be held on the Monday following the monthly stakeholder meeting. Therefore the next scheduled meeting of this committee shall be on April 15th. Notice of venue and time of meeting will follow.

Land Use & Public Works Committee Continuing Action List – April 2013 Agenda Package Report for April 9, 2013 Stakeholder Meeting (This list incorporates items from the “CD 15 Issues Committee List”).

- 1) Improvement of the sidewalk to ADA accessibility standards along the east side of Pacific Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets (alley intersection, nearest address is 726 S. Pacific), as this is an important pedestrian connection between a City parking lot and downtown.

Status update needed from CD 15.

- 2) Parking meter poles surrounding downtown with meters removed.

Allyson Vought wants to take the lead on this.

- 3) Removal of the kiosk at the 6th & Mesa Plaza.

Ongoing – kiosk is to be removed according to CD 15. Currently empty and open to access (this is a potential problem). Status update needed from CD15.

- 4) Lilyan Fierman walkway improvement.

Per Alison Becker of CD 15 on March 10, 2013, LADOT is in the process of entering into a contract with LANI to provide design services for this project. The contract has not been approved by the City Attorney's office to date.

- 5) MOJO sculpture at the Centre Street Lofts failure to function.

Per Phil Trigas, this sculpture is owned by the Centre Street Homeowner's Association, and they do not plan on taking any action. Allyson Vought is interested in developing further action on this issue.

- 6) Bollard Repair on 300 block of 7th Street (near 7th Street Chophouse Restaurant).

Broken bollard tops were removed, capped, and painted "gratis", thanks to Rene Bracamontes, San Pedro resident.

- 7) Deficiency of Centre Street sidewalk between 6th & 7th Streets.

See letter dated Feb 26, 2013 to LADOT asking for review of modifying the street classification (secondary highway) so that sidewalk can be widened.

- 8) Request for the provision of bus transit services between downtown San Pedro and San Pedro's hospital and medical offices on 7th Street.

This is still in committee, and definitive input needed from DK Drummond.

- 9) Create and distribute a pamphlet on public transit to our stakeholders (for outreach purposes as well as encouraging use of public transit).

The map needs to be created by us (City will not create for us as a part of the community plan process, as previously assumed). We posted an internship opportunity for Marymount College students to create the text for the pamphlet (in February), but have received no response.

- 10) Signage code violations on 700 block of Pacific Avenue and liquor/convenience store at 304 W. 7th Street.

The Signage Division of the City Code Enforcement group inspected the 700 block of Pacific Avenue in October of 2012, and made plans to issue citations. Follow up needed to determine whether this is complete to our satisfaction. The complaint regarding 304 W. 7th Street needs to be reactivated.

11) Maintenance of newsracks.

All newsracks in poor condition or abandoned should be reported directly to Kevin Bingham of CD15 (or through Sue Castillo to Kevin Bingham). In November, newsracks at 1103 S. Gaffey Street (on 11th St frontage) and 736 S. Pacific Avenue were reported as abandoned – these were both corrected. A newsrack at 399 W. 6th St was reported on March 5, 2013.

12) Replacement of the Norman ad-bearing bus benches.

This is believed to be complete (if anyone observed any of these remaining, please report it to the Land Use/Public Works Committee).

13) Improvement of bus stops at the intersection of Pacific & 7th Street

A complaint regarding the pay phone obstructing the sidewalk at the bus stop S/7th St, E/Pacific was made on March 5, 2013 to Kevin Bingham of CD15. The LUPW Committee is currently reviewing a potential action plan for general improvement of the stop.

SC/ April 6, 2013