



Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council  
 Monthly Board & Stakeholder Meeting Minutes  
 Monday, May 13, 2013 - Peck Park Community Room

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by President Diana Nave. See list below for board member attendance. Approximately 20 stakeholders were present. The resignation of board member, Laureen Vivian, was announced. The open board seat will be filled at the June 2013 Board and Stakeholder meeting.

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call/Attendance</b>
Scott Allman	Present
Bob Bryant	Present
Pete Burmeister	Present
Gary Buss	Present
Dan Dixon	Excused
Cassidy Feltenberger	Present
Craig Goldfarb	Present
Cynthia Gonyea	Present
Carolyn Grayson	Present
Laurie Jacobs	Present
Katie Marrie	Present
Connie McOsker	Present
Diana Nave	Present
Raymond Regalado	Present
Barbara Schach	Present
George Thompson	Present
Vacant Board Seat	

2. **Request for Support letter for funding application to SCAG for Western Avenue Visioning Committee** (This item taken out of order due to technical difficulties with the projection equipment): Kit Fox gave an overview of the request. The next step is developing design guidelines. The following letter was presented for approval:

*Mr. Mark Butala, Manager of Comprehensive Planning  
 Southern California Association of Governments  
 818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor  
 Los Angeles, CA 90017*

*Re: SCAG Compass Blueprint Sustainability Program – City of Rancho Palos Verdes Western Avenue Corridor Design Implementation Guidelines*

*Dear Mr. Butala:*

*The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council, which has been a participant with the Western Avenue Visioning Committee, is happy to support the City of Rancho Palos Verdes' Compass Blueprint Sustainability Program application to develop design implementation guidelines for the Western Avenue corridor, one of the most heavily-traveled arterials in the South Bay region. This application signals the next phase of the Western Avenue Corridor Strategy, which will help influence and guide architectural and streetscape guidelines for private development and public right-of-way along this 2.3-mile segment.*

*Western Avenue runs north-south on the eastern side of Rancho Palos Verdes from Summerland Street in the City of Los Angeles to Palos Verdes Drive North. It also forms a major commercial corridor that serves the residents of both San Pedro and Rancho Palos Verdes. The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has been tasked with overseeing and responding to many development proposals along this segment of the Western Avenue corridor, which has become increasingly congested and chaotic over the past several years. I believe the Western Avenue Corridor Design Implementation Guidelines will encourage consistent private and public architectural and streetscape guidelines, providing long-term sustainability benefits to both of our cities. There has been a longstanding relationship between the cities of Los Angeles and Rancho Palos Verdes.*

*Our residents live, shop, and share this corridor in a unique way. We are committed to collaborating with our neighbor city to successfully implement this planning project. Please join me in supporting the City of Rancho Palos Verdes' next step in bringing the Western Corridor Strategy closer to fruition.*

**Motion by George Thompson to approve the letter as presented, seconded by Katie Marrie. Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Presentation on ExpressLanes:** Kathy McCune gave an update on the Metro ExpressLanes now in operation. Highlights included:
  - ✓ Pre volume weekday average was 50,000 trips. 42% increase from 1<sup>st</sup> week of operations.
  - ✓ 59% are car pool HOV2 users
  - ✓ There is a carpool loyalty program in effect with gift card drawings. So far 120 gift cards have been awarded.
  - ✓ Pricing has been decreased to make it more attractive to consumers.
  - ✓ 152,787 transponders have been issued.
  - ✓ Equity Plan in place for low income households with just over 3,000 using Plan.
  - ✓ Mobile web app is being developed to access accounts.
  
4. **Emergency Evacuation Plans:** Report from Capt. Graham Everett of the Los Angeles Fire Department. Presentation highlights included:
  - ✓ An overview of potential threats.
  - ✓ An overview of Types of Evacuations: Evacuation Warning; Evacuation Order; Shelter in Place.
  - ✓ Preparing for Evacuation: Have a plan; Most valuable items by door or in vehicle; Insurance, medical and financial info; (additional information can be found on the website, readyla.org).
  - ✓ An overview of agencies involved in Evacuation Plans and Resources such as Alert LA; readyla.org.
  
5. **City Budget Presentation:** Dennis Gleason, Legislative Deputy from the Office of Councilmember Buscaino, gave a summary on the processes of the City Budget. Highlights of the presentation included:
  - ✓ City Charter requires the Mayor to propose a budget. A City Council committee goes through the entire budget and reports back.
  - ✓ The current total proposed budget is \$21.3 billion. \$7.7 billion (3.6 billion in restrictive levels; 4.1 billion is unrestricted and is known as the General Fund).
  - ✓ The single source of revenue is property tax, also utility users' tax, fees, and fines, as well as business tax, sales tax etc.
  - ✓ 71% of the budget goes to the police and fire departments. \$359 million is discretionary. 90% is salaries, pensions etc.
  - ✓ Labor contracts are coming up for renegotiation.
  
6. **Reports from First Responders**

**LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Ashcraft reported that the numbers are down, although burglaries are up in the Northwest area, especially burglaries from motor vehicles. Reports show that most of the vehicles were unlocked. He gave an overview of crime statistics which showed that violent crime is down in the area. The Cyber Block Captain Program will hopefully assist in reducing these problems.
  
7. **Public comment on non-agenda items:**

**Chuck Hart:** Spoke on behalf of "R Neighborhoods are 1" commenting on the Ponte Vista Plan for 830 homes.
  
8. **Item 8d was taken off the consent calendar and addressed out of order as follows: Motion relative to the restriping of Westmont and Capitol:**
  - ✓ Three stakeholders spoke in opposition of the new striping and related safety concerns.
  - ✓ The Bike Plan was presented to the neighborhood council in 2010 and at that time no design details were presented. The Neighborhood Council was not consulted about the re-striping.

- ✓ Dennis Gleason of the Council Office commented that the re-striping was part of the 2010 Bike Plan and was paid for with dedicated funds from Measure R. The following Motion from the Executive Committee was moved by Bob Bryant and seconded by Barbara Schach:

*Whereas Westmont and Capitol Drives were re-striped without consultation with or notification of the community; and*

*Whereas the re-striping of these streets has resulted in a reduction in lanes for cars; and*

*Whereas the result of this re-striping has been a significant traffic tie up at the corner of Taper and Westmont, particularly in the peak morning hour; and*

*Whereas the intersection of Taper and Westmont is utilized by students going to and from Taper Elementary, Johnston High School, Mary Star of the Sea High School, Dodson Middle School, and Christ Lutheran School; and*

*Whereas motorists are exhibiting unsafe behavior, particularly at Westmont and Taper where they have been observed to try to pass rapidly through the intersection by using the right hand lane inappropriately, made illegal U turns, tried to go through the intersection when it was not their turn resulting in several “near misses”, and tried to find alternate ways around the intersection by going through the adjacent residential neighborhoods; and*

*Whereas the reduction in traffic lanes, while known to the Department of Transportation, was not considered in the Draft Ponte Vista EIR;*

*Now therefore be it resolved that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests:*

*1. That prior to any more restriping that would result in a reduction in lanes for cars, the community and the impacted Neighborhood Council be consulted, and*

*2. That adequate notice be given to the community prior to initiation of any future work; and*

*3. That the Council Office establish a task force to further examine the impacts at all intersections and develop recommendations within 30 days for possible alleviation of the problems, said task force should at a minimum contain representatives of Taper, Mary Star of the Sea, the Department of Transportation, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council, San Pedro Homeowners United, a cyclist, and representatives of at least one of the HOAs from the Gardens;*

*4. The Planning Department and Department of Transportation re-analyze the traffic impacts of the proposed Ponte Vista project to incorporate the new (but previously planned) road configurations and revise the Draft EIR and Traffic Study accordingly.*

**Motion carried with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes.**

## 9. Reports by Public Officials

- a. **Council District 15 Office:** Kevin Bingham talked about the impacts of the bike lanes which were designed to improve safety due to reduction in speed. The council office is having the Department of Transportation conduct a new count. Once the information is gathered it will be studied. He emphasized that the Council Office is listening to the stakeholders.
- b. **LAUSD:** Freddie Quintana provided an update on the San Pedro Science Center. Funding has been secured for another year thanks to the hard work of Dr. Vladovic's staff.

## 10. Consent Calendar:

- a. Approval of Minutes of the April 8, 2013 Board Meeting
- b. Acceptance of resignation of Gordon Teuber as member of the Planning and Land Use Committee.
- c. Conduct Board Officer Elections in June 2013, new officers to take office in July. **Motion by Bob Bryant, seconded by Katie Marie to approve the items a, b and c on the Consent Calendar as listed above. Motion approved unanimously.**

## 11. Committee Reports and Motions:

- a. **Planning and Land Use Committee:** The following motion was brought forth by the Committee and passed by the Board with 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

### Motion regarding Time for Review of Community Plans

*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 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 Whereas the Final Environmental Impact Report has not yet been released and it is two months since the rushed Planning Commission Meeting, and*

*Whereas no written responses were received to our comments on the draft plan, and*

*Whereas two weeks is not a sufficient time for Neighborhood Councils and the community to review and respond to a document of this magnitude,*

*THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests that:*

- 1. A minimum of 90 days be provided for review and comment on draft Community Plans and similarly complex documents prior to the public hearings that provide for final plan approval, and*
- 2. That a City policy be established to require City Departments to provide a written response to Neighborhood Council formal communications, and*
- 3. A council file be opened 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.*

- b. **Youth and Outreach Committee:** An update was provided on the Youth Service award, as well as the status of the upcoming NWSPNC newsletter

### c. **Budget and Finance**

- I. Responses to Proposals for Revising Funding Program: The Finance Committee's Comments were presented to the Board for approval. (See attachment to these minutes). **Motion by George Thompson to approve the comments as presented, seconded by Gary Buss. Motion passed by 10 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions.**
- II. Approval of April Expenditure Report: **Motion by George Thompson to approve the April Expenditure Report, seconded by Bob Bryant and passed with 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
- III. Consider approval of \$1500 to Cabrillo Boosters to sponsor Fireworks at Cabrillo Beach. **Motion passed with 11 yes, 1 no, 2 abstentions.**
- IV. Consider approval of \$1500 to sponsor Dodson Middle School Drama Department advertisement in program and banner at event. **Motion passed with 10 yes, 2 no, 2 abstentions.**
- V. Consider \$1500 to sponsor San Pedro Boys and Girls Club Golf Tournament (proceeds go towards college funds for local youth). **Motion passed with 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.**
- VI. Consider approving up to \$250 to purchase a Table Cloth with the Neighborhood Council logo for use at outreach events. **Motion passed with 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
- VII. Motion to Reaffirm \$250 to support Congress of Neighborhood Councils. Craig Goldfarb moved to amend the motion to include \$250 to the Budget Advocates. Seconded by Pete Burmeister. **Vote on amendment: 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Vote on amended motion 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Motion passed.**

- d. **Port Committee:** Diana Nave reported that the PCAC was disbanded therefore the MOU will be reconsidered.

- e. **Outreach:** Bob Bryant reported that there has been a good response to the outreach for youth applications for the Service award. He also commented that he needs assistance on the newsletter.
  - f. **Safety and Security:** No report.
  - g. **Presidents report:** Written report submitted by Diana Nave.
12. **Announcements:** Scott Allman talked about the Congress of Neighborhoods on September 28, 2013. They are looking for ideas for the workshops and also need volunteers.
13. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC