

# Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Meeting DRAFT Minutes

September 2, 2015

Chair: Jane Tokubo, Harbor Gateway South

Notes: Diana Nave, Northwest San Pedro

Attendance: Central San Pedro: Frank Anderson, Coastal San Pedro: none; Harbor City: Greg Donnan, Eric DeKlotz; Harbor Gateway North: Rosalie Preston, Lu Watson, Harbor Gateway South: Jane Tokubo; Northwest San Pedro: Diana Nave, Ray Regalado

Other stakeholders: Linda Alexander, Pat Guglielmo; DWP Staff: Neil Guglielmo, Carmen Collins, Jeffrey Childers, Reggie Brewer, Miki Yonamini, Daryl Yonamine, John Dennis, Mark Lucero; DONE: Octaviano Rios; Mayor's Office: Manny Lopez;

## 1. Welcome and Introductions:

## 2. Proposed DWP infrastructure requirements and rate increases

Key staff from DWP were in attendance including their Neighborhood Council Liaison Jeff Childers (213) 367-8693 [jeffery.childers@ladwp.com](mailto:jeffery.childers@ladwp.com).

A comprehensive presentation was given by Neil Guglielmo of the proposed rate hikes and the reasons for them. All of the information, including the videos, provided is available at MyLADWP.Com including an excellent fact sheet. To report power outages call 1800-DIAL DWP (342-5397) and then extension 1.

- Dept has recognized significant savings (\$467 million over three years) and an estimated \$5 billion in savings over 30 years through a variety of methods including refinancing at lower interest rates, restructuring of benefits and retirement and purchase of cheaper water. Finally reached a comprehensive settlement in the Owens Valley so the cost will not continue to escalate.
- About 50% of DWP employees are eligible to retire in the next 4 years.
- This is the fourth year of the drought. Impact of El Nino will depend on the amount of the snowpack and how late in the season the snows occur (the later the better).
- DWP needs an additional \$1.3 million over 5 years (\$900 Million for power and \$230 million for water). Rate increases are being proposed for both power and water over the next 5 years, however after the increases LA's rates will still be lower than the surrounding communities. Average water and power bill to increase 3.4% or \$4.75/month with the high user (top 10%) paying about 5.4% (17.64/month) more. Rate schedule would be based on four tiers, rather than the current two tiers. The last increase was in 2008. You can calculate your increase at [myladwp.com](http://myladwp.com). Select "learn more" and then go to "downloads."
- Goals for increase:
  - a. Replace Aging water & Power Infrastructure. 85% of increase for water will go towards infrastructure: its costs about 3x more to deal with broken pipes than to replace them, not including any costs for damages;

- b. Transform power supplies - 75% of increase for power is to meet state mandates including 33% of energy from renewable sources by 2020
    - i. Currently we are at 23% renewable energy and on track to 40% by 2030; there is legislation pending in the State (SB350) to increase requirement to 50% by 2030 – if this passes, current proposed rate increases would not be sufficient. City Council has taken a position of approve if amended to get full credit for rooftop solar
    - ii. Increase conservation; cheapest power plan is to not build any new facilities
  - c. Protect from drought by developing our local water supply – this is also cheaper; improve storm water capture; ground water clean up; increase use of recycled water; decrease need to purchase from MWD
    - i. There is a large aquifer in the San Fernando Valley but it was contaminated by aerospace and must be treated. Currently about 1/3 of pumps are shut down until this is cleaned up.
    - ii. Our current stormwater capture system was designed to prevent flooding by moving water rapidly to the ocean. Changes in this system will enable us to capture and store more of it.
  - d. Improve customer service; increased on-line self-service capacity; conversion to monthly billing. Customer service wait time has already dropped from 35-40 minutes average to 2 minutes average.
- Timetable – anticipate going to DWP Board in Early Dec. Rate increases will go into effect 30 days after passed by Council, probably April/May.
  - Mydwp.org has a lot of info on rebates/incentives
  - Rate Payer’s Advocate, [Camden.Collins@lacity.org](mailto:Camden.Collins@lacity.org) 213-978-0309 (direct line) or 213-978-0220 (office)  
The Ratepayer’s office, [www.opa.lacity.org](http://www.opa.lacity.org), has worked closely and reviewed DWP’s figures every step of the way. They will hire consultants to review the final plan on behalf of the public.

### 3. Update on the NC Sustainability Alliance

Rosalie reported that Matt Sanderson is no longer the liaison for this Alliance. She distributed a written report from them with information asking every Neighborhood Council to formally join them. Their website is <http://ncsa.nationbuilder.com/>. They will have a table at the Congress.

### 4. DONE

Octaviano Rios is now working at DONE along with three other new staff. His responsibility is outreach and working to increase the influence of Neighborhood Councils with City government.

- NCs need to submit new budgets that incorporate the additional \$5,000 recently approved by City Council
- A survey on DONE services is going out this week

- Board of Public Works and Animal Services have both requested that NC's appoint liaisons. They anticipate that the Board of Public Works liaisons will meet bi-monthly. Meetings will most likely be regional
- Draft Elections Procedures are out for Review
- The Elections Worksheet needs to be completed
- Sept 11 recognition event; Award Winners will be announced at Event
- Congress of NCs will be Sat Sept 26, 7:45-4:30 at City Hall. Please RSVP
- Mayor's Directive to all Depts to contribute to the Clean Streets Initiative resulted in meeting with Public Works and the development of the liaison program.

## **5. Budget Advocates Report**

Rosalie reported on behalf of Hayes Thrower. The Harbor Area Budget Advocates are arranging a Budget Day at POLA High School, Sat Oct 17 from 9-12. It is open to anyone in the community

## **6. Sharing/Announcements**

- Town Hall on the Homeless Issue, Thurs Sept 3, Warner Grand
- Central San Pedro would like to facilitate joint committee meetings of the Port Committees and also the Rec and Park Committees of all NCs
- City Attorney is holding Coffee Hours in various neighborhoods. Lu Watson asked if HANC would be interested. Answer was yes, Lu will pursue
- Concerns were raised about how the new BONC Commissioner was selected
- Dave Behar told Rosalie that he thinks they will be asking for video presentations for the upcoming Congress and indicated that he is willing to put one together again.
- Ray expressed his dismay. He had planned to announce an upcoming State Senate Hearing by Congressman Hall regarding the Rancho facility and had just learned that it had been downgraded from a Hearing to a Town Hall. It is now unclear if the committee will go ahead with the event. He would like the assistance of other NCs in letting the Congressman know of the importance of a Hearing.

## **7. Next Meeting**

October 7. Central San Pedro will Chair, Coastal San Pedro will take notes. Rosalie will continue to follow up with James Diamon and the Council Office to see if the Councilman will be attending.