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Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Report
March 14, 2016

I. Highpark (Ponte Vista) Update:

- a. They received their grading permits last week. Grading is scheduled to start this week. Highpark also anticipates receiving retaining wall permits this week.
- b. With regards to BOE permits for onsite infrastructure, things have been progressing well in terms of review, and they anticipate receiving this permits soon.

II. Buscaino and Krekorian Sidewalk Repair Plan

- a. Today, two key panels gave preliminary approval for a long-term sidewalk repair plan proposed by Councilman Joe Buscaino and Councilman Paul Krekorian. At a joint meeting of the Public Works and Budget and Finance Committees, members unanimously voted in favor of URGENTLY moving forward a new sidewalk repair policy for the City of Los Angeles.
- b. The proposal will create a cash rebate program for DIY repairs, prioritize sidewalk repairs for residents with disabilities, emphasize diverse hiring, and provide one no-cost repair to every sidewalk in the City.
- c. The City will also establish a cash rebate program to incentivize proactive repairs by property owners. This limited-time rebate program will pay property owners a cash rebate per square foot of sidewalk repaired at a rate of approximately 50% of the average repair cost per square foot. The rebate program will also eliminate all permit and inspection fees related to the do-it-yourself repair.
- d. The new proposal would immediately hire new city crews to begin repairing sidewalks requested by residents with disabilities. Twenty percent of the annual repair program budget will be set aside for those repairs requested by residents with disabilities.
- e. Properties that do not participate in the rebate program will still eventually receive a no-cost repair from the City with a warranty period of 20 years for residential properties and 5 years for commercial properties. If a sidewalk breaks during the warranty period the city will perform one fix at no cost. Future sidewalk repair responsibility will be returned to property owners at the conclusion of the warranty period, or after one warranty repair is made, whichever comes first.
- f. The proposal will also explore tree removal mitigation measures to preserve the urban forest and explore the use of alternative materials for sidewalk construction.

- g. The proposal will go into effect with a final vote from the City Council and was sponsored by Councilmembers Buscaino, Krekorian, Martinez and Bonin. Residents can report their sidewalks in need of repairs by calling 311 or using the [MyLA 311 App](#).
- h. This summer, Councilman Buscaino privately funded the repair of the sidewalk in front of his San Pedro home:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AiS2XIGTP8>.

III. Animal Services Community Meeting

- a. The City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services is happy to announce that they are working with the Mayor's Office, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners and a third party consultant to deliver a strategic plan for the department.
- b. Their consultant, Francisca Baxa, is a licensed attorney since 1985. Francisca has worked with hundreds of organizations, assisting them with strategic planning, leadership development, business planning, and maintaining and growing businesses.
- c. With her expertise and the department's guidance, they want to develop a transparent and inclusive strategic plan. In order to accomplish this, they would like to ensure that their process not only involves the Council Offices, but also staff, volunteers, and the communities of Los Angeles.
- d. The community and our constituents are integral to this plan. Their goal is to conduct 15 different community meetings, one in each council district. At each meeting, their consulting team will present information about LA Animal Services operations, and gather feedback and input from the community about the department.
- e. The community meeting for Council District 15 is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2016, 6pm – 8pm, at the Peck Park Recreation Center, in the auditorium.

IV. Neighborhood Council Requests

a. Warner Grand Theatre RFP

- 1. The RFP is being written by the Department of Cultural Affairs, with assistance from the Department of Recreation and Parks. The purpose of the RFP is to solicit professional management and maintenance services for the Warner Grand Theatre.
- 2. There is no definite date of release for the RFP as the departments are still working on the language. We are also gathering additional input from stakeholders. Councilman Buscaino encourages those who wish to provide input regarding this topic to do so as soon as possible via the email address set up by the Department of Cultural Affairs: warnergrand.rfp@gmail.com

b. San Pedro Public Market

- 1. If you have not seen them already, please view the YouTube videos of the Councilman's Future of the LA Waterfront Speech,

and the LA Waterfront Alliance's San Pedro Public Market Unveiling.

2. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= HF0EWB-L1M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF0EWB-L1M) (Future of the LA Waterfront)
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4w4Q9HBluO8> (San Pedro Public Market Unveiling)

c. Gaffey Street Exit Park

1. The Recreation and Parks Commission approved the project a few weeks ago. Construction will start in the next few months and is anticipated to be complete by the end of the year.

V. Legislative Update

a. Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations & Neighborhoods Committee, 03.03.16

1. The Committee considered a Motion (Fuentes – Wesson) for City Attorney and CAO to prepare language for necessary amendments to Charter and Admin Code for 2016 ballot measure which would:
 1. Restructure DWP's governance system in order to increase oversight and transparency, reduce political interference, streamline departmental operations, and get approval from voters.
 2. Replace part time, voluntary board with 5-7 full-time professional Board members (exempting from rules governing appointment and removal)
 3. Require them to have expertise in fields of public utility management, environmental policy, consumer advocacy or finance, and cannot be a lobbyist.
 4. Staggered terms, with term limits and process for appointing or electing them.
 5. Remove requirements of City Council and/or Mayor Approval or oversight over certain board actions (Board and GM rules, regulations, acquisition of real property, approval of contracts, GM appointment, GM removal, GM compensation, granting franchises, concessions, permits, licenses, leases, power contracts and actions regarding real estate, debt issuance, sale or exchange of surplus water, powers and duties.
 6. Give Council veto power.
 7. Allow board to hire its own legal counsel/adviser via authorization, amendments
 8. Allow board to hire its own budget/policy advisers to serve a CAO/CLA analyst like function.
 9. Allow DWP to oversee own hiring functions and exempt from civil service rules.
 10. CAP City's annual transfer to City General Fund at its pre-Prop 26 level.

- a. Committee continued item to/for dates to be determined, and requested various reports from the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst.
- b. *CF 16-0093*
- c. *Please see attached documents.*

b. Council, 03.02.16

1. City Council considered Ordinances relative to the LADWP's Water and Power Rates.
 1. Rates will increase 4.7% for water and 3.86% for power each year for five years. This will take effect in the coming months.
 2. Half of the residential customers in Los Angeles will have a combined Water and Power bill increase of 3% or less per year.
 3. The typical resident currently pays around \$130 a month. This resident's monthly bill will increase only by around \$21 in 5 years.
 4. For the low use resident, their monthly bill will only increase by around \$10 in 5 years.
 5. For the high use resident, their monthly bill will increase from \$276.03 to \$357.56 in 5 years.
 6. 78% of the new Water Revenues will go to improving our water infrastructure.
 7. 80% of the new Power Revenues will go toward mandates and supply transition (35% will be going to renewable energy and local solar, and 38% toward energy efficiency). The remaining 20% will go toward Fuel (7%) and Reliability (13%).
 8. Around 43% of power poles are 60 years or older and 65% over 50 years old.
 9. In CD 15: increased reliability and cost savings on emergency repairs by replacing 236 poles, 984 cross arms and 192 transformers.
 10. Even with this rate increase, LADWP will on average charge lower water and power rates than Burbank, Pasadena, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, Glendale, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Beverly Hills and Arcadia.
 11. Approved, Councilmembers Cedillo and Englander dissenting.
 12. *Please see attached fact sheets.*

c. Council, 03.01.16

1. City Council considered a Resolution (Buscaino – Harris-Dawson) in support of legislation or administrative action that would reevaluate the savings formula for the SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS AND SCHOOLS FUND to increase local resources to support youth

development, crime victim services & treatment services, size of reentry population, unmet mental health needs, and adopts framework of CA Legislative Analyst's' Office Calculations (out of state contract bed reductions, court savings and prison savings).

1. Approved unanimously.
2. *CF 15-0002-S131*
3. *Please see attached Resolution*

d. Council, 02.26.16

1. Councilman Buscaino introduced a Motion, seconded by Councilwoman Martinez, requesting that the City Attorney prepare and present an Ordinance that would authorize the City to disconnect water and/or electricity service at any property that is being used in violation of local, state or federal law.
 1. This is intended to help enforce Prop. D.
 2. Referred to the Energy & Environment Committee
 3. *CF 14-0366-S3*
 4. *Please see attached Motion.*

VI. Upcoming Events

- a. Port of Los Angeles Bicycle Rodeo
 1. Saturday, March 19, 2016, 9am
 2. Parking lot area near Via Cabrillo Marina and Whalers Walk, San Pedro
 3. The Port of Los Angeles is hosting a community bicycle rodeo scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2016 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. A Bike Rodeo is a family event focused on bicycle safety. Guests will bring their bikes, learn and put into practice safe riding techniques, learn where the bike routes are along the LA Waterfront and Port area, get their bikes checked for safety and culminate in a family bike ride along the LA Waterfront. We are working with a variety of City Departments and groups who put on these types of events in schools on a daily basis. The event is designed to bring a new family audience to the LA Waterfront through biking as an activity as well as providing valuable safety information and techniques.