



NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Planning and Land Use Committee Report

Meeting Held March 19, 2015 at the San Pedro Municipal Building.

Committee Members:

- Diana Nave, Present
- Carolyn Grayson, Absent
- Chuck Hart - Absent
- David Rivera, Present
- Pete Burmeister, Absent
- Jason Herring, Present
- Lee Williams, Present

Quorum? Yes

Non-Committee Member Attendees Bob Bryant (NWSPNC), Sarah Valdez (NWSPNC), Larry Smith (LA Conservation Corps) Augie Bezmalinovich (Port), Lisette Bice (PSOMAS), Tomas Munoz (Navis), Wendy Delgado (Port)

NORTH GAFFEY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Port staff and their contractors gave a presentation on the proposed continuation of the N. Gaffey Beautification Project. This project is the result of a proposal submitted by the NWSPNC that was funded with China Shipping mitigation funds. Phase I of the project was completed several years ago from Gatun to Westmont. Phase II begins at Gatun and connects under the freeway to the path on N. Pacific which was also the result of our Board efforts.

Prior to the meeting, the committee had the opportunity to walk the length of the property with Port staff. There has been a huge increase in homelessness and graffiti in the area and Port staff have observed drug deals. There are also several property owners who are encroaching on Port property. The Port Police are concerned about safety. The pathway will be very well lit and Port Police have requested that any pathway built be able to accommodate their vehicles. The consultants also recommended removal of the existing palms which are considered invasive and tend to hide the area. The committee concurred.

Disappointingly the freeway construction blocks a portion of the original pathway on the backside of the skatepark. Consequently another route needs to be found at that point. The consultants presented four alternatives and the committee unanimously agreed with their recommendation that the best route would be for the path to go along the fence on the westside of the CalTrans Parking lot. The entire underpass area will, however be beautified.

See the attached letter for a description of the recommendations the committee made to the port.

Larry Smith is interested in exploring how to connect this pathway to the proposed sidewalk on N. Gaffey through Leland Park.

The port will now proceed to the 50% design phase at which time they will schedule another meeting with the committee (probably in about 6-9 months).

MOTION REGARDING PROPOSED SIGN ORDINANCE

The committee unanimously adopted the attached community impact statement requesting that San Pedro not be designated as a Tier I sign district and recommends its approval to the full Council.

MOTION REGARDING LIGHT RAIL

At a recent HANC meeting, a representative from Metro reported that they are considering developing a ballot proposition in 2016 and asked what we would like to see included. She recommended that the Neighborhood Councils formally submit their suggestions to both the Council Office and their office.

The committee unanimously adopted the attached resolution requesting the extension of the green line to San Pedro, which they have previously studied and where they already own the right away, and a study of the feasibility of a light rail line to downtown Los Angeles.

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED WESTERN AVENUE DESIGN GUIDELINES

The committee discussed the proposed Western Avenue Design Guidelines and brainstormed a number of recommendations. These recommendations are contained in the attached draft letter for consideration by the Council.

Proposal to build 17-23 Units at approximately 825 Miraflores

Diana reported that she met with the Miraflores HOA President and Neighborhood Watch chair. They are generally supportive of the proposal. A meeting has been scheduled for Sat April 18 for the developer to discuss his ideas with the residents of that area.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The committee had a discussion of other possible opportunities for future improvements.

- Jason suggested a tunnel under the freeway connecting Westmont to John Gibson as a way of alleviating some of the traffic, particularly the truck traffic, on the Channel off ramp and N. Gaffey. Concerns were raised about the cost and feasibility, particularly the difference in elevation
- Recommend that CalTrans study the widening of the 110 Channel Street off-ramp to add another lane on the right side.
- Look at how the “bridge” at the end of the harbor freeway can be beautified, possibly as part of the great streets initiative. Consider tile mosaics. This is part of the major entryway to our community.
- Look at how to beautify the Elberon Bridge
- Development of proper street with a right angled corner off of Miraflores where Cabrillo joins the alley and request installation of stop sign at that corner

Next Meeting

6 pm Wed April 15, San Pedro City Hall

Tentative Agenda: Urban Greening (Larry Smith, LACC);