



Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
 Monthly Board & Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
 Harbor Division Station Community Room, San Pedro

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by President Ray Regalado. There was a quorum of 16 board members. See list below for board member attendance. Approximately 24 stakeholders in attendance.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
Scott Allman	Present
Bob Bryant	Present
Pete Burmeister	Present
Rogelio Cuevas	Present
Dan Dixon	Present
Craig Goldfarb	Present (6:20)
Cynthia Gonyea	Present
Carolyn Grayson	Present
Laurie Jacobs	Present
Diana Nave	Present
Raymond Regalado	Present
Barbara Schach	Present
George Thompson	Present
Sarah Valdez	Present
Darlene Zavalney	Present
Yvette Thomas	Excused
Joe Zaarour	Present

Reports from Public Officials and First Responders:

2. **Council District 15 Report:** Ryan Ferguson provided highlights from his written report (available on the nwspnc.org website) where the following items were discussed:
 - a. Ponte Vista: Demolition should be completed by the end of the year and grading is scheduled to begin the first quarter of 2015 with installation of infrastructure anticipated the second quarter.
 - b. Legislative updates were provided on: 1) the Status of a Resolution for the City to support AB8 (Gatto) which would authorize law enforcement agencies to issue a "Yellow Alert" if a person has been killed or seriously injured in a hit and run accident and there is a reliable description of the vehicles; 2) An Ordinance requiring ammunition vendors to electronically transmit all records of ammunition transactions to the LAPD (approved unanimously); 3) a Motion requesting that the Board of Public Works require a 30 day public notice and hearing for any permit application for the removal of three or more trees on private property; 4) See report on nwsanpedro.org for additional council motions.
 - c. Other ideas being considered in Council include sidewalk and street repairs being a line item on property tax bills. .
 - d. Upcoming events were announced and then questions from board members and stakeholders were answered. Questions related to:
 - i. The property at Gaffey and Channel - a car wash permit was pulled back in April 2014.
 - ii. Marijuana dispensaries in high crime areas.

- iii. Concerns with all the digging/boring along Western.
 - e. RON CONROW of Rancho LPG gave an update on a recent incident which concerned residents near the Rancho LPG facility. He commented that the company understands the neighborhood councils' concerns and offered to provide a tour of the facility and access to the books. He explained that a recent electrical short in a conduit required that the plant be shut down temporarily. The fire department was notified, as well as the AQMD and EPA. The large stream of water that residents had observed was the testing of the water cannons on the premises which are part of the emergency system. These systems are tested before the facility can come back on line. CD15 has asked Mr. Conrow to keep them informed in advance when such testing is necessary so that they will have information to provide the community when they contact the CD15 office. Diana Nave asked Mr. Conrow if he could provide a write up on the incident to be provided in an upcoming NWSPNC newsletter.
 - f. Mr. Conrow was asked if Rancho could improve communications in the future by notifying the surrounding neighbors whenever anything unusual occurs at the facility. Ron stated that in the future he will notify NWSPNC.
3. **Los Angeles Port Police:** The Port Officer gave a brief report on the recent Holiday Parade and announced that the Port Police have a new Commander as of December.
4. **LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Bravo reported that this past month she and Sr. Lead Lopez and Wight worked on the homeless issue. On December 3rd they had an outreach event but there was a low turnout. Fifteen homeless individuals attended and were provided service information. Officer Bravo also provided a review of crime statistics for the past month commenting that five home burglaries occurred during daytime hours.
5. **Port of Los Angeles:** Augie Bezmalinovich reported on the following:
- a. Provided information on upcoming Board of Harbor Commissioners' meetings.
 - b. The Ports of Call feasibility study has been completed and is available on-line on the Port's website. LA Waterfront Alliance negotiations have been extended to January 18, 2015.
 - c. The Port is moving forward with the Sampson Way project.
 - d. Dredging of Cabrillo Beach Boat Launch will be occurring early next year so the launch will be closed for few days.
 - e. Boat Parade update and announcement of movies been shown during the holiday season at the Downtown Harbor.
 - f. There will be a Parking Analysis Presentation at the Harbor Commission meeting this Thursday and the Commission will also be adopting their 2015 calendar which will be available online.
 - g. There will also be a Presentation for discussion on the Public Access Infrastructure Funding Policy looking at operational revenues.
 - h. Commented from board members included Laurie Jacobs commenting on the Boy Scout Camp RFP. In her opinion it appeared that the request for public input was disregarded. Requests were sent in the form of formal letters sent to the Port. Augie explained that he had never seen any of the formal letters and asked that in the future he be sent copies.
 - i. Bob Bryant felt that the neighborhood council system is basically excluded due to scheduling since they only meet once a month. Without a longer comment period, he wonders how the community is going to be able to have input for this process.
6. **Presentations/Conversations:**
- a. Overview regarding Nation Builder program – Andres Ramos gave a brief overview of the Nation Builder program and was asked to meet with Northwest's Webmaster to provide more extensive information on the benefits of utilizing the program.
 - b. Overview regarding Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) – David King spoke for Jim Montgomery who also made comments.

- 7. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None.
- 8. **Consent Calendar**
 - a. Approval of November 10, 2014 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
 - b. Appointment of Janet Gunter to Green Committee
 - c. Removal of Scott Allman from Youth and Outreach Committee
(Motion by George Thompson, seconded by Scott Allman, to approve items A through C by consent. Approved with 16 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney and Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions.

Committee Reports and Motions

- 9. **Issues Committee:** Dan Dixon reported that there was not a quorum at the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, 2014.
- 10. **Port Committee:** The following Motion was brought forth from the Port Committee for discussion and consideration:
RESOLUTION REGARDING FUNDING FOR CERTAIN WATERFRONT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
WHEREAS, in 2009 the City adopted an EIR for waterfront improvements, including an extension of a waterfront promenade, a public plaza at the end of Sixth Street, and realignment of Sampson Way and Harbor Boulevard ["Projects"]; and
WHEREAS, the EIR included completion dates for these improvements that are already past, but the work has not been done; and
WHEREAS, neither the current Harbor Department budget nor the Capital Improvement Program include funds for the Projects; and *WHEREAS, the Board of Harbor Commissioners [BHC] will soon consider and adopt a budget and Capital Improvement Program for the coming fiscal year;*
NOW THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council hereby requests that the Board of Harbor Commissioners include funding for the Projects in its upcoming budget and in its Capital Improvements Program for the coming fiscal year; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Harbor Commissioners direct staff of the Harbor Department to design the Projects, prepare the specifications for them, and advertise and receive bids for their construction during the coming fiscal year or before.
Motion from Port Committee: Approved with 16 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney and Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions.

- 11. **Green Committee.** Sarah Valdez submitted a written report and presented the following resolution for consideration by the board:
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED CITY ORDINANCE REPORT NO. R14-0427 COUNCIL FILE NO.13-1374 ADDING ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER XIX OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE REGULATING THE PROPAGATION, CULTIVATION, RAISING, GROWTH AND SALE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISIMS
WHEREAS the California State Assembly passed a new assembly bill (AB2470) which will take effect on January 1, 2015. AB 2740 includes language that would preempt the City of Los Angeles from regulating GMO seeds and crops unless the City enact its own ordinance prior to the assembly bill's effective date.
WHEREAS Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council and the City of Los Angeles, desires to protect the natural environment, the private property rights of land owners, and the health, safety and welfare of those who live work and visit the City, deems it necessary to

restrict the cultivation and sale of genetically modified crops and other organisms (GMO) within the City limits.

WHEREAS the City declares it's goal to fashion an agriculture landscape that is sustainable as the natural eco-system and establish Los Angeles as a "GMO-Free Zone"

WHEREAS the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council and the City has legitimate concerns about people's allergic reactions to products containing GMOs, the negative environmental impacts of increased pesticide use, the creation of pesticide-resistant super bugs and super weeds and the problems resulting from mono-cropping

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles has additional responsibility to protect the City's backyard and community farmers from the threats of contamination by GMO crops, GMO pollen in wind pollinated plants that without regard to property lines can contaminate organic crops, thereby destroying the value of non-GMO varieties without the consent of farmers, putting them at economic risk due to lost markets and under threat of litigation from GMO seed patent and license holders.

WHEREAS GMO contamination has already jeopardized millions of dollars in exports for American farmers, including exports through the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach the City of Los Angeles is taking a public stand in protecting declaring protection for its port exports and port jobs.

NOW THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council urges an expedient vote to approve Council File No 13-1374

Moved by Darlene Zavalney, seconded by Laurie Jacobs and approved with 9 yes (Allman, Burmeister, Cuevas, Gonyea, Jacobs, Regalado, Schach, Valdez, Zavalney); 5 no (Bryant, Goldfarb, Grayson, Thompson, Zaarour), 2 abstentions (Dixon, Nave).

12. **Youth and Outreach Committee:** Written report submitted by Darlene Zavalney.
 - a. **Candy Cane Lane report and review:** Bob Bryant thanked all the board members who assisted with the event which was a huge success.
 - b. **Newsletter:** Bob asked for a commitment from the board members to write articles for the newsletters.
 - c. **Youth Projects:** Reminder from Darlene to submit youth projects for Neighborhood Purposes Grants.
 - d. **San Pedro Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade report and review.** Thank you to Joe Zaarour and the youth that assisted him at the Candy Cane Lane events and at the Parade. Ray Regalado rode in the parade representing NWSPNC.
 - e. **Pathways to Employment update:** Next Wednesday is the first Planning Meeting. The Olguin campus has been chosen for the event.

13. **Planning and Land Use Committee:** Diana Nave gave highlights from her written reported:
 - a. **Last Meeting:** A recent Joint meeting with the Central and Coastal NC's was well attended.
 - b. **Proposed Gas Station on North Gaffey (Gaffey & Sepulveda):** The project has run into soil issues.
 - c. **Discuss and consider motion to send letter opposing the proposed reduction in lanes on Gaffey from the 110 freeway to Fifth St. as shown on the Gaffey Conceptual Plan.** Diana Nave explained that this is in combination with the Great Streets Project:
Wording of letter follows:

DRAFT LETTER RE GAFFEY STREET CONCEPTUAL PLAN

SUBJECT: Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan

On November 11th, over 40 community members attended a Joint Central and Northwest Neighborhood Council Land Use Committee Meeting, primarily concerned about the proposal to eliminate traffic lanes on Gaffey Street between the end of the 110 Freeway and 5th Street, as shown in the Conceptual Plan. All in attendance at the meeting had grave concerns about

reducing capacity along this portion of Gaffey Street. Long time residents recalled the congestion that was finally ameliorated when the third lanes were added in response to community demand. Traffic has of course only increased since then.

As well as serving as the major conduit in and out of San Pedro, the subject portion of Gaffey Street serves as a funnel for traffic entering and exiting both the 110 Freeway and Highway 47 to Long Beach. The third lanes provide the necessary transition between traffic entering our community and our residential neighborhoods. Routes in and out of lower San Pedro are quite limited: Pacific Avenue will soon be reduced to single lane traffic, Western Avenue, already congested, will become more so as Ponte Vista is developed, and Harbor Boulevard bears the brunt of Port traffic and waterfront attraction visits. These are also our only escape routes in case of an evacuation. Residents suspect a full traffic impact analysis for the lane reduction would point to significant worsening levels of service in this transitional zone. To date we have seen no traffic analysis, nor heard the position of Caltrans on the proposed lane reductions.

San Pedro residents primarily experience Gaffey Street when they drive through it, stopping for gas, groceries or library books. Many avoid stopping altogether due to safety concerns. We have hopes that this planning process will result in a more attractive streetscape that will engender community pride, and that improvements will make us feel safer when we park to shop, or walk across the street. We hope that public improvements will incentivize private improvements, bringing new goods and services to our community. While making Gaffey Street attractive and safe for pedestrians is a fine goal, it is just as important to provide a good experience for those driving through it, and hopefully stopping to shop along the way. Gaffey Street is of necessity far more auto-centric than our downtown Arts and Entertainment District.

Moving forward, we hope to see the Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan give major attention to improvements to reduce crime areas and homeless gathering places on the street, better street furniture, pedestrian lighting, bus stops, public art, street graphics such as crosswalks and other safety markings, landscaping, design guidelines, and economic revitalization tools. The proposed curb extensions (bulb-outs) that would reduce crosswalk length and add space for landscaping look very promising. A well thought out street tree planting would add natural beauty. Attractive signage that would celebrate our local attractions is needed. Eliminating trash, graffiti and other blight would go a long way towards making San Pedrans happy and proud of their community. Your local neighborhood councils look forward to assisting with this process,

Sincerely, etc.

Motion from Committee to approve above letter approved with 16yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney and Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions.

- d. **Discuss and consider letter to Cal Trans requesting increase clean-up of their right-of-way from Channel St. to Swimford.** *The following letter was brought forth for approval:*
CAL TRANS RE: Upkeep Problems
The southbound 110-off ramp and 47 off ramps to Harbor Blvd and the Port of Los Angeles and the Channel Street off-ramp at Miraflores should be welcoming Gateways to our community but they are not. The roadside and its embankments are constantly littered with trash and the landscaping is unkempt. The homeless have taken up residence and dispose of their trash at the site. This will only get worse with the installation of sound walls now underway. This roadway also serves as the entrance to the Los Angeles Cruise Terminal. Consequently thousands of visitors and vacationers are left with a negative first impression of San Pedro, which certainly does nothing to encourage them to explore its many positives. Our Community deserves

better from Cal Trans.

Because of its unique destination, the area shown on the attached map should be put on a special maintenance schedule to keep it clean of trash and graffiti. The landscaping should be upgraded, made unique and special. It should be something that visitors from around the world will remember as inviting, beautiful, and worthy of photographing.

The installation of the sound walls, while welcome, presents new challenges as these walls are prime targets for graffiti. We respectfully request that the walls either receive some type of artistic treatment such as murals or be covered with vegetation such as bougainvillea, roses, or ivy to beautify them and discourage graffiti.

San Pedro has many active residents who would willingly participate in the clean up of these areas to augment the services provided by CalTrans. We would like to know the process for such participation.

Motion from Committee to approve above Cal Trans letter approved with 16 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney and Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions.

14. **Public Safety Committee:** Carolyn Grayson provided highlights from her written report. The following resolution was brought forth for approval:
*RESOLUTION RE: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL FILE NO. 14-1553
DIRECTING CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE ORDINANCE REGARDING INDIVIDUALS'
STORAGE OF FIREARMS*
The Los Angeles City Council Motion, Council File No. 14-1553, instructs the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance requiring gun owners to store firearms in a locked container or disabled with a trigger lock when not in use, and to model such an ordinance on the City of San Francisco's ordinance.
WHEREAS, Motion 14-1553 was initially presented to the City Council on November 7, 2014 and was adopted by the Council on November 25, 2014, this short time period did not allow sufficient time for the Motion to be considered, discussed and responded to by Neighborhood Councils and the City's constituents; and
WHEREAS, the Motion is duplicative of existing State of California Safe Gun Storage Laws (Penal Code Sections 25100, 25105) requiring gun owners to safely store firearms; and
WHEREAS, gun dealers are already required to post signs warning purchasers that it is a crime to store a gun where a child may find it and that guns should be locked with a locking device or stored in locked containers; and
WHEREAS, Motion 14-1553 is vaguely worded; therefore
RESOLVED, that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council opposes Los Angeles City Council Motion 14-1553, and that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the City Attorney's office.

Motion from Committee approved with 16yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney and Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions

15. **Budget and Finance** – Sarah Valdez
a. **Consider Approval of November Expenditure Report:** Sarah reported that there was only one expenditure to “The Mailroom.” It will be brought forth for approval next month.

- b. **Consider Approval of November Budget.** Motion by Bob Bryant, seconded by George Thompson, to approve the November Budget as presented in the agenda packet. Approved with 15 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney); 0 no, 0 abstentions, 1 ineligible (Joe Zaarour)
- c. **Reimburse Darlene Zavalney \$112.00 (Michaels) and \$28.08 (.99 Cent Store) for the purchase of arts and crafts materials for Candy Cane Lane event.** Motion by Bob Bryant, seconded by George Thompson to approve reimbursements of \$112 and \$28 as stated above. Approved with 15 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, and Zaarour); 0 no, 1 abstentions (Darlene Zavalney), 1 ineligible (Joe Zaarour)
- d. **Reimburse Sarah Valdez \$34.90 (Albertson’s Market) for the purchase of water, veggie plate and cookies for the November Board Meeting.** (Motion by Bob Bryant, seconded by George Thompson to approve reimbursement of \$34.90 as stated above. Approved with 15 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Zavalney); 0 no, 1 abstentions (Sarah Valdez), 1 ineligible (Joe Zaarour).
- e. **Reimburse Sarah Valdez \$98.00 (Smart and Final) for the purchase of candy by NWSPNC for Peck Park Recreation Center for community Halloween “Movie in the Park” event.** (Motion by Diana Nave, seconded by Laurie Jacobs to approve reimbursement of \$98.00 as stated above. Approved with 15 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Zavalney); 0 no, 1 abstentions (Sarah Valdez), 1 ineligible (Joe Zaarour).
- f. **Consider expenditure of \$750.00 for disaster preparedness events organized by Public Safety committee.** Expenditure includes: \$220.00 – Refreshments (water, coffee, snacks); \$30.00 – Paper goods; \$450.00 – Publicity; \$50.00 – Rentals/custodial. Motion by Pete Burmeister, seconded by Bob Bryant, to approve \$750 as outlined above. Approved with 15 yes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Dixon, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Thompson, Valdez, Zavalney); 0 no, 0 abstentions, 1 ineligible (Zaarour).

16. Executive **Committee** – Ray Regalado

- a. Announcement of invitation extended to Port of LA Director, Gene Seroka
- b. Ray announced that the January meeting will feature Councilman Buscaino and City Controller Ron Galperin who will give a presentation).
- c. Diana Nave will follow up with letters to BONC and DONE regarding the missing MER’s.
- d. Laurie Jacobs spoke briefly on the issue of the Port of LA RFP for the Cabrillo Youth Sports Facility.
- e. Bob Bryant made a comment regarding the city departments’ disregard of NC’s.

17. **Announcements/Future Agenda Items:** No further announcements.

18. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kristina Smith for NWSPNC