



## NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

# Sustainability COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting held at *San Pedro City Hall, Room 452, on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015*

**Committee Member Attendees:** Janet Gunter, Chuck Hart, Laurie Jacobs, Bobbi Lisk, Sarah Valdez, Darlene Zavalney

**Non-Committee Member Attendees:** Bill Browner, Donna Divona (Stakeholder), Frank Divona (Stakeholder), Robin Lynch (Regenerative Design Studios), Renee Orifice, Adam Sapin (Regenerative Design Studios/San Pedro Urban Design Committee), Lee Williams (NWSPNC Board member)

**Committee Members not in attendance:** N/A

1. **Welcome and introductions**
2. **Announcements**

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council (NWSPNC) to host second annual Halloween Movie in the Park night on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Activities commence at 5 PM. Movie to begin at nightfall. Bring the entire family!

3. **Discuss next steps in changing land use and building code to require that parking lots in San Pedro incorporate tree canopy or solar panels to protect cars from increased heat island effect brought on by climate change. (Listed on the original agenda as Item 4.)**

Robin Lynch and Adam Sapin from Regenerative Design Studios spoke on concept of “green” parking lots. Due to climate change, San Pedro has experienced – and will continue to experience – an increase in heat waves. Parking lots in San Pedro often lack foliage and protection from the sun, thus creating a “heat island effect.” The term “heat island effect” describes the disproportionate amount of heat created by areas that have a large amount of asphalt and very little vegetation. Asphalt absorbs huge amounts of heat and then radiates such heat to its surroundings. Such “heat islands” are also associated with poor air quality, as pollutants such as carbon dioxide, particulate matter, etc. remain trapped and exasperated by the asphalt area.

The installation of trees, solar panels, or a combination of the two, may combat this problem. The Sustainability Committee seeks to initiate a “green parking lot” pilot project in San Pedro, with the ultimate goal to implement an ordinance in Los Angeles such as: “All new parking lots must be planned for full coverage, either via tree canopy, a green-roofed canopy structure, or solar panels; and all existing parking lots have five years to remediate their properties to achieve compliance with one, or a combination of the three requirements above.”

How can we work with existing lots in San Pedro? One possible pilot project could be the Target parking lot located on Gaffey and Capitol. Possible groups to partner with include the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Harbor Community Benefit Foundation, Beacon House, TreePeople, and the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. The Sustainability Committee should research the process in creating an ordinance from the pilot project.

**4. Discussion regarding water collection measures in preparation for El Nino this winter. What can the Sustainability Committee do to facilitate the distribution of rain barrels, etc.? Possible motion.**

Sustainability Committee should put in a request to work with L.A. City to obtain free Rain Barrels. Committee will also request “proof of concept” to work with CD 15. Committee has contacted Rain Barrels International – currently planning dates in conjunction with Tree People to host Rain Barrel distribution event in the Harbor Area. Committee should further research LADWP rebate and rebate cap. Committee may host LADWP rebate representative at next meeting. Can we fundraise the remaining un-rebated amount through Home Depot sponsorship? Stakeholder (Divona) had a question regarding safety of rain barrels with mosquitos. Rain barrels come with net coverage to keep mosquitos, etc. away.

**5. Discussion regarding outreach strategy for reusable water bottle/ocean pollution campaign.**

-Tabled-

**6. Discussion regarding Mayor’s Retrofit initiative and Rancho LPG.**

Discrepancy exists between Mayor’s new Retrofit Initiative requirements and current standard of LPG tanks. Retrofit Initiative has already been passed by City Council – too late to propose amendment to include hazardous facilities. Dr. Lucy Jones was geologist who advised Garcetti. Committee should contact Lucy Jones.

**7. Discussion regarding the Port’s use of tideland trust assets to allow hazardous chemical transport.**

N/A

**8. Discussion regarding the Port’s failure to fulfill the obligations set out by the China Shipping lawsuit to curb air pollution.**

The Port of Los Angeles has violated 11 out of 59 court-ordered pollution mitigation measures. Committee to consider letter of support for the efforts of the Homeowners Association and the Natural Resource Defense Council to hold the Port accountable.

**9. Status report on Senator Hall’s request to hold a State Hearing on Rancho LPG. Has the Senator’s office signed onto Sen. Jackson’s legislation to expand their pipeline bill to include above ground hazardous storage tanks?**

Committee has not heard back from Senator Hall’s office regarding updates on State Hearing. Stakeholder (Divona) expressed concerns he has had regarding the safety of the Rancho LPG tanks, as he lives near them – would like to see NWSPNC address this concern. Senator Hall has mentioned interest in committing \$1,000 to installation of hydration station at Peck Park Recreational Center (not final).

**10. Public comments on items not on the agenda.**

- N/A

**Action Items:**

- Remove Laurie Jacobs from Sustainability Committee

**Next meeting to be held on *Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 pm, at SP City Hall, Room 452***