

**EASTERN AREA COMMUNITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2022**

7:00 PM: Meeting Called to Order (by Linda Coffman, Chair)

Present: Linda Coffman (Chair), Business Rep
Lynn Edwards (Vice Chair), Rolando Park
Derryl Williams (Treasurer), Webster
Richard Diaz (Secretary), Oak Park
Kristen Hurst, Webster
Jennifer Bennett, Redwood Village
Elida Chavez, Oak Park
Any Huelskamp, Oak Park
Bob Scott, Rolando
Mario Ingrassci, Rolando
Alex Zukas, El Cerrito
Lorna Zukas, El Cerrito
Daniele Laman, Community Organization Rep
Laura Riebau, Member-at-Large

Absent: Tanner Blackman, Redwood Village

Quorum: Yes

Members of the Public: Enrique de la Cruz, Steve Lamprides, David Moty, Tim Davey, TJ Cote

Communication from the Public: None

First Order of the Chair: To board members: Keep comments restricted to planning issues and refrain from adding comments from more general topics discussed at your respective community council meetings. To presenters: Keep updates concise to allow time for Q & A.

Reports from City, County, and State Representatives (Abridged)

- Jawad Al Baghdadi (U.S. Congresswoman Sarah Jacobs' team): The Congresswoman participated in a symbolic protest for women's rights in response to the recent Supreme Court decision reversing Roe vs. Wade. She also

has introduced the My Body, My Data Act, which will protect the privacy, data, and safety of patients seeking reproductive health care. Aside from those activities, she has helped secure \$2M for child care vouchers for working women, as well as another \$250K to improve training of workers answering 2-1-1 calls. All in the San Diego area.

- Toni Duran (Cal. Sen. Toni Atkin's team): The senator has helped to budget the following FY 2023 funds: Total of \$485M for projects and programs in San Diego, including \$20M for the Oak Park Library; \$500K for improvements to the tennis racket club at Martin Luther King, Jr., Park; \$2M for the MLK pool upgrade; and \$3.3M for the Urban Sustainability Coalition.
- CRO Terry Hoskins (SDPD): Attended several National Night Out events, incl. those held in Talmadge and Kensington, to promote police-community partnerships.
- Bruce Williams (Ombudsman, City Council Dist. 4): Meet with Councilmember Montgomery Steppe on Fridays. Contact Stephanie Sanchez at SMSanchez@sandiego.gov to arrange a 30-minute appt. In addition, Dumpster Days continues to be a success in D4. Rolando Park did a great job in getting out the word and encouraging residents to participate. In addition, many vehicles came from outside of SE San Diego (Poway, Rancho Bernardo, ...) to dump, so local communities need to be made aware of these special events in their own backyard. NOTE: Elida Chavez reminded us of the dozen or so youths from Teen Challenge who helped with the unloading of disposables at the event.
- Naveed Haris (City Council Dist. 9 representative for Kensington and Rolando and the D9 policy advisor on Housing and Homelessness): Budget requests for 2023 are due September 30th.; e-mail Naveed to set up appointments with CM Sean Elo-Rivera; the Homelessness Strategies and Solutions team can provide data on local agency outreach efforts to our homeless population in D9—contact Naveed for more information.
- Lucero Maganda (D9 rep, Mayor Gloria's team): Sexy Streets road repairs in under-served communities will be conducted in the next 4 - 24 months; Rachel's Homeless Shelter is now housing 40 women and providing health care; the Midway Dist. Bridge Shelter is opening and will house 120 individuals (see CHAT for link); and the City Council passed the "Privacy Ordinance" (Transparent and Responsible Use of Surveillance Technology) in July 2022.

Responses from Board Members

(Daniele): When will SDPD begin enforcing the after-hours “no parking” on College Grove Dr. to prevent unapproved nighttime access to the park? The curb is painted red and signs are in place.

(Daniele): Will D9 send a rep to the Storage Connect Center II meeting tomorrow evening? (The facility is on Lea St. in El Cerrito, not City Heights, and bordering Redwood Village.)

(Lorna): Will the City be taking money from the Sexy Streets fund to offset costs with the Ash St. settlement?

Information Item 1: Roundabout at Gayle St. and Streamview Dr.

- Presented by April Mahoney, Oak Park resident for 30 years
- The Streamview Dr. traffic improvement project is in two phases, i.e., Phase I was built first to address speeding and parking issues around the high-density MFD area in the middle of the street, while Phase II would address issues at the far west and east ends of the street where SFDs predominate.
- In Phase I, which the roundabout project costed \$3.5M, but there have been 8 collisions in the last 18 months due to faulty design that does not prevent speeding, drifting, ramping, etc., around and on the roundabout.
- This is a “quality of life” or death issue for residents.
- Phase II should not proceed unless Phase I is fixed. Residents may seek an injunction, if necessary.
- Stamped concrete is not the solution when other neighborhoods have vegetation, lighting, speed reduction BMPs, practical signage, etc.
- Request: That the EACPC provide a letter of support for the the retrofits of Phase I and amendments to Phase II.

Responses

(Lorna): Drives down Streamview regularly—illegal dumping just terrible.

(David Moty): Agrees that signage at the roundabout is just confusing.

(Derryl): Webster has the same problem with those types of reckless activities.

(Lorna): **Motion to write a Letter of Support** for April Mahoney’s efforts—committee decides to table it for the September 13th meeting. Jennifer has the current plans, and Laura has older e-mails which she can share.

Action Item: Letter of Support for Verizon Smartlink Upgrade at Rubio's, College Grove Shopping Action Center

Approval of letter written by Jennifer (Redwood Village) in support of the Smartlink Upgrade with the addition of hedges: Motion to approve by Daniele; seconded by Lorna; passed unanimously

Information Item 2: Groundwork—San Diego Update

- Presented by Patrice Baker, Community Outreach Director, and Vicki Estrada, Landscape Architect
- Groundwork—San Diego (GWSD) is a non-profit org. formed to oversee long-term improvements of the Chollas Creek Watershed
- Creation of trails, bike paths, interpretive centers, arts projects, urban amenities, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- To provide equity for children of color in poverty without access to cars—to use the creeks, open spaces, and parks as “connectors”
- GWSD has brought together various CBOs, non-profits, community leaders, planning professionals, etc., to form the Chollas Creek Coalition
- Sample grants awarded: \$3M for the California Wildlife Conservation; \$6.5M from Jeff Bezos Fund
- Goal: To establish a regional park from 54th St./Chollas Parkway south to the Bayshore Bikeway
- Of 7 possible sites, MTS is proposing to locate its Clean Transit Advancement Campus (CTAC)—maintenance and parking yard servicing up to 600 e-buses—next to the Oak Park Trail along Chollas Creek north of Federal Blvd. (in Webster area) that would lead to undeveloped land disturbances, construction-related issues, and pollution impacting a pristine open space. Expected impact to the residential neighborhoods include traffic congestion, noise and air pollution, and public safety.
- Some of the other proposed sites are already developed for commercial and industrial activities. The Gateway Center Industrial Park is more fitting for CTAC.
- MTS has released a Mitigation Negative Declaration (MND) for the Federal Blvd. site, but the MND does not address all issues of concern for the neighborhoods.

Responses

(Linda): Known burn ash site in proposed CTAC site is not addressed in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

(Lorna): How would the MTS project interrupt Groundwork's plans?

(Laura): Support the MTS site being located at the Gateway Business Center on Market St.

(Richard): Oak Park Community Council will be submitting a letter in favor of Gateway Business Center as the better location.

Motion (Daniele): EACPC (1) to write a **Letter of Concern** to MTS addressing the 6 inaccuracies/omissions in MTS's MND; (2) to write a **Letter of Support** for Groundwork and to refer MTS to Groundwork's letter for specific objections.

(NOTE: Individual councils can submit letters to MTS as well.)

Seconded (Kristen): Motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report—Derryl: The balance in the bank is \$75.

Review, Correction, and Approval of June & July Minutes

Motion to approve minutes to June and July meetings: Daniele

Seconded: Derryl

Discussion: Lynn asked to amend one paragraph on the elections

Vote: Minutes approved with amendment, all "Yeas" with one abstention (Andy)

Subcommittee Reports

- El Cerrito (Alex): A July questionnaire of residents re: the PATH Villa El Cerrito and Family Health Centers project received 87 responses. El Cerrito will be gearing up for a community protest.
- Rolando Park (Lynn): Movies in the Park will begin this weekend.
- Redwood Village (Jennifer): The RVCC will meet this Monday at 7 PM. Please get on the RV e-mail list if you haven't done so already.
- Oak Park (Elida, Andy, and Richard): Movies in the Park will also take place at Gloria's Mesa; the Mayor named Chollas Lake as his San Diego's Best park; we also appreciate the effort by D4 staff to arrange the recent Dumpster Day at Gloria's Mesa.

- Webster (Kristen and Derryl): No updates as committee members are aware of the proposed CTAC project and its expected impacts to the community; a lawsuit might be needed “to lock in” MTS to a discussion.
- Rolando (Bob): No updates as RPCC does not meet in July and August.
- Bike Lanes (Mario): No activity on plans for route from College Ave. to 70th St.; the stretch on University Ave. across from the Food-for-Less is wide but there are no sidewalks—they should be put in while planning the bike lanes.
- Parks & Rec (Daniele): Clay Park: \$4M from the state will be going to Clay Park; the dog park will be a priority project. Chollas Lake and North Chollas Community Park: The Rec Council had a Picnic “meeting”. Colina del Sol Park: Re-doing Montezuma Park. Little League: Fall Ball begins.
- CPC (Bob): At the July meeting, many public comments were made about cannabis outlets over-saturating the city. Liz Saidkhanian, PM with the Planning Dept., informed the CPC of the need to update the 2022 Land Dev. Code to comply with state law. Fifty-one items to be changed have been identified and will be presented at public workshops in Sept. before going before the Planning Commission in Oct. and the City Council at the end of the year for a vote. A CPC subcommittee will review the 51 items. Reach out to Andrea Schlageter (Chair) for questions and comments. Another subcommittee, the Affordable Housing Policy group, will be chaired by Howard Wayne. The CPC will reconvene on Sept. 27th.

8:50 PM: Motion to adjourn by Andy; seconded by Derryl. The meeting was adjourned.