



Downtown Community Planning Council San Diego

Meeting Minutes of the
Downtown Community Planning Council (DCPC)
Wednesday, MAY 17, 2023, 5:30 PM

In-person at San Diego City Hall, 12th floor Conference Room
Civic Center Plaza, San Diego, CA 92101

Due to scheduled City maintenance, online viewing & commenting was not available.

I. Call to Order: 5:35 p.m.

A. Roll Call & Approval of March Minutes.

1. Present: Manny Rodriguez (Chair), Chloé Lauer (Vice Chair), Bob Link (Secretary), Nima Bahrami, Brendan Bargmann, Chris Eddy, Greg Helmer, Terry McCleary, Jean Paul Schwarz, and Nancy Wilson-Ramon
2. Absent: Dan Wery, Emmett Cahill, Tyler Winslow, Craig Russell, Edward Kaen, and Aldo de Dominicis Rotondi
3. QUORUM: 10/16 members in good standing are present. There are three vacancies: Marina & Columbia Business seats and Gaslamp Resident seats.
4. April Minutes approved without any objections. McCleary, Bahrami abstained due to absence from the April meeting.

II. Serving as a Communications Link

- A. Invited Representatives from Elected Officials and local Organizations: Mayor Gloria, Councilmember Whitburn, Development Services Department - Urban Division, Assembly Member Tasha Boerner, Senator Toni Atkins, Downtown San Diego Partnership.
- B. Present with comments:
 - a. Emily Bonner (Whitburn):
 - i. Budget meeting 5/18 2:00pm, Hybrid
 - ii. Selected Safe Sleeping Sites are 20th & B, "O" Lot
 - iii. Unsafe camping ordinance at city council on June 13th.
 - b. Margaret Doyle (Boerner)
 - i. CA Budget review in process
 - ii. SB411 (Open Meetings) is on way to Assembly
 - iii. AB557 (Teleconferencing). Boerner voted yes, on way to Senate



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- iv. AB648 (Common Interest Development) Boerner voted yes, is at Senate
- c. Kohta Zaiser (Mayor Gloria) re May budget revisions
 - i. Streetlight repair contract awarded externally with permission of City Unions. Start anticipated soon. Streetlight funding is at DSD for permitting. Repairs will include protective shielding to reduce historical damages. Partners include selected City Electricians, Contractor, and Clean & Safe.
 - ii. Pay Increases in Budgeted for Council
 - iii. Unsafe Camping is on City Council Tuesday June 13th meeting
 - iv. Safe sleeping sites is considered to be a companion bill to Unsafe Camping Ordinance as a comprehensive shelter plan, initial budget \$5M
 - v. Projected capacity B&20th – 136 tents, ready in July, O lot 300 tents, projected fall 2023 ready as shelter site
 - vi. Dozens of other sites under consideration include Sports Arena, Inspiration Point.
 - vii. Housing Action 2.0 to be head by Planning on June 1st, followed by LUH
 - viii. Question Responses:
 1. (Manny) Montgomery Airport and Sports Arena are outside CD3 and intended to be pursued following a model based on initial successes for non-Emergency circumstances. CALTRANS is responsible for camping along freeways. County has committed to being more participative Downtown. More porta potties are committed for Downtown (County).
 2. (JP) Cedar Street is not projected to be a safe camping site; fencing will be provided to provide privacy and minimize exposure to neighbors. Downtown Porta Potty locations will be on web / kiosks.
 3. (Wilson-Ramon) SDPD is committed and confident to enforcement. Plan is that with incentives and resources SDPD will not accept “no”. Will protect students walking through overpasses.
 4. (Bahrami) City is committed to perimeter security



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- ix. Kohta in closing – Plan includes improvements in power washing (Clean & Safe), trash removal. City remains concerned with objections. Is asking for support.

III. Action Items

A. Live Entertainment CUP for 815 5th Avenue

1. Marco Polo Cortes presents on behalf of the business owner
 - a. 11 am - 1:45 am - hours of operation
 - b. Amplified music indoors only, doors closed
 - c. No residences to either side or above the location
 - d. Liquor license imposes constraints: ABC Conditions
 - e. 50/50 Rule food/beverage
 - f. 8 am - 12 pm curfew for use of outside space
 - g. 1 security officer for every 50 patrons
 - h. Acoustical study complete.
 - i. Complies with Community Plan
2. Motion to approve passes with only Link voting against.

B. New DCPC Domain & Email Addresses

1. Chair proposes email & domain ending in “DowntownPlanningSD.org”
2. Rodriguez motion to adopt email.
 - a. Wilson-Ramon second.
 - b. Unanimous approval.

C. Downtown Community Plan Update Committee Appointments

1. No volunteers. No action taken.

IV. Informational Items

A. Proposed Comments and Amendments to Downtown Community Plan

1. East Village Education Corridor - Link

- a. Schools in the East Village, community leaders, and representatives from the City and County in talks to formalize an education corridor in the East Village.
- b. Discussion to expand the Education Corridor from Barrio Logan to Roosevelt Middle.
- c. Gary Smith recommended prioritizing safe routes to school as a potential Grant Program. Also highlighted that school crosswalks should be yellow.



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2. Neighborhood centers from the community plan have not been successful - Lauer

B. Civic Center Revitalization - Manny Rodriguez

1. Kohta Zaiser highlighted there are 6 blocks in the revitalization effort including City Operations Bldg, City Hall. The Surplus Land Act requires 25% be set aside for affordable housing.
2. NOA was issued in May 2023 for JULY 1, 2023 responses. Bidders were at expo 6/5/2023.
3. Civic Theater is included in the 6 block parcel. Question is whether to repair or replace. City recognizes economic impact in jobs and income. Schools prioritized the use of theater.
4. City planning long term lease of the 5 (not theater) blocks as an income opportunity. This is recognized as the first effort at revitalization.

V. Reports

A. Communications Committee - Brennan Doyle

1. Created instagram and TikTok accounts (@downtownplanningsd)
2. Ideas for content in the works.

B. Pre-Design Committee - Chloé Lauer

1. Next meeting will be reviewing a townhouse in the Marina, an apartment building in Little Italy, and a hotel in the Core Columbia District.

C. Public Spaces Committee - Manny Rodriguez

1. Balboa Park Committee Representative - Chris Eddy
 - a. Balboa Park redesign near completion
 - b. Casa del Prado modernization /historic implications pending consultant review
 - c. Twilight Concerts anticipated summer 2023
 - d. Botanical Garden Completion Early 2024
 - e. Auto Museum Exterior scheduled for June completion
 - f. Lawn Bowling refurbishment complete
2. East Village Green and Children's Park Progress
 - a. East Village green to open Spring 2025, Children's Park this July.

D. Chairperson's Report

1. Homelessness



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- a. Already discussed by the Councilmember and Mayor representatives.
- 2. 8th & Market
 - a. Notice of availability soon to go out for surplus land that failed to become a Ritz-Carlton.

VI. Board Members: Urgent / Non-Agenda Comments

- A. JP re CHARG (Cortez Hill) – focused on input to community plans, Park & Market Portland Loo – looked clean. Wilson Ramon commented on preference for process orientation, not line item review.
- B. Council Pres (Elo-Rivera) is considering sponsoring State Legislation to charge for toilet use – status unknown.
- C. Gary Smith highlighted 4 opportunities to submit budget recommendations
 - a. NOV 2025 – Fiscal Facility Financing Plan
 - b. NOV 2023 – CIP, Capital Improvement Program, City Attny is poc. Community Planning Advisory Board
 - c. Clean & Safe
 - d. Parking District

VII. Adjournment. Next Meeting on June 21st, 5:30PM.