



Downtown Community Planning Council San Diego

*Planning a Vibrant Downtown for All*

## **Downtown Community Planning Council (DCPC)**

### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**August 21, 2024, 5:30 PM**

**12th Floor Committee Room, City Hall,  
202 C Street, San Diego, CA, 92101**

- I. **Call to Order 5:39 pm**
  - A. 11 Present: Rodriguez, Bargmann, Link, Barr, Helmer, Hewitt, E. Schwarz, J.P. Schwarz, Werve, George, Winslow
  - B. Absent: Gu, Villarina, Eddy
- II. **Consent Agenda:** Approved Unanimously
- III. **Non-Agenda Public Comment** None
- IV. **Appointments (Unanimous Approval)**
  - A. At Large Vacancy: Moira Tan
  - B. Community Organization Vacancy: Kevin So
  - C. Airport Noise Advisory Committee: Ethan Paul
- V. **Community Reports**
  - A.a. Emily Bonner (for CD3 Stephen Whitburn)
    1. Promised reply re encampment status on Caltrans ROW.
  - A.b. Marcelo Marco Ramirez (for Nora Vargas)
    1. Introduction, available for questions, updates promised at future meetings
  - B. Balboa Park Working Group
    1. Presenting Chair Michael Stepner, members Roger Showley, Rene Smith
    2. Highlighted scheduled 9.5.24 presentation to Balboa Park Committee followed (dates tbd) by presentations to Parks and Rec then City Council
    3. Highlights include:
      - a) 99 year SDHS lease extension including campus rehabilitation
      - b) Opportunities and advantages of public spaces on SDHS and SDCC campuses through a "Story Map"
      - c) Connect schools to Park cultural offerings

- d) Connecting Bay to Park
- e) Reopen 8<sup>th</sup> Ave link to the Park
- f) Freeway Lids
- 4. Public comment (Smith, DRG) – noted schools and communities are starting to talk
- 5. Board Feedback:
  - a) (Rodriguez) Need wider sidewalks. Stepner acknowledged City College is better, SDHS construction in process
  - b) (to board (Stepner)): Downtown Partnership has expressed interest in Clean and Safe managing maintenance and security. Details to follow. Intent is to reflect the “Crown Jewel”. Also Working Group will return do request DCPC endorsement, Burnham promoting stronger relationship with city, Mayor is requesting strengthening of Balboa Park Master Plan

C. Trash and Recycling Services Presentation

- 1. Public Comment (Gary Smith, DRG) – noted that budget “savings” from increased collections would go to the General Fund.
- 2. Board (Gary) Question re Apartment trash – reply promised

**VI. Initial Infrastructure Prioritization**

A. Public Comment

- 1. (Gary Smith, DRG) – 6<sup>th</sup> Street corridor noted as impossible for pedestrians. Requires prioritization as the most dangerous intersection in San Diego.

B. Board Feedback

- 1. (Gabrielle) 6<sup>th</sup> is dangerous and poorly designed, especially at Elm. Pedestrians “wait for drivers to decide”. Recommend coordinate prioritization with Uptown Group (and CPC (Bob))
- 2. Shared board agreement with need for wider/improved crosswalks to Balboa Park
- 3. Ash Street and A & Ash intersection – JP expressed concern with narrowness. Need traffic control (lights) at 8<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, crosswalk. Share concern re street closure(s) while pedestrian promenade not yet built.

- C. Brendan motion, JP 2<sup>nd</sup> – Add Ash (& A) to top 3 priorities as part of Downtown Complete Streets. Passed unanimously. Final budget requests to the City to be decided at the September 2024 meeting.

**VII. Subcommittee Reports**

A. Public Spaces

- 1. Balboa Park Committee report - Chris Eddy

2. Downtown Parking Management Group report - Manny Rodriguez
  - a) DCPC prior recommendations well received
  - b) Interest in newsletter and agenda announcements
  - c) Manny volunteered as Secretary
  - d) Updates to City administration of parking management:
    - (1) No parking within 20' of crosswalks (loss of 500 metered parking spaces)
    - (2) Added 41 motorcycle parking spaces
    - (3) Education and grace period in progress
  - e) Gaslamp Quarter creating a new website focused on mobility. Will share with other city groups.
  - f) Manny to share Parking Management minutes
  
3. Fault Line Park Update
  - a) Pinnacle has disappointed community regarding the Park's management
  - b) Pinnacle is limiting communications to the city only.
  - c) City appears to have limited Faultline Park communications and DCPC inclusion. Park and Rec has offered to review.
  - d) EVA Manager New City America has offered to help maintain the park but Pinnacle has not been following through on conversations.
  - e) Public Comment
    - (1) EV Doers email input noted and appreciated by board members
    - (2) (Gary Smith, DRG) – since City is not enforcing Pinnacle public/private partnership contract recommend DCPC not approve
  - f) Board Comment –
    - (1) JP recommends consideration of DSDP Clean & Safe provide maintenance and security due to Pinnacle breach of contract
    - (2) Manny distributed contracts to enable board review of City prior financial consideration such as a density bonus.
    - (3) Agreed that unanswered questions will be addressed in future meetings.

**VIII. Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda Items pulled from the Consent Agenda (None)**

**IX. Remainder Non-Agenda Public Comments (None)**

**X. Adjournment: 7:30pm**

**Next meeting on September 18th, 2024,  
5:30 PM, at City Hall's 12th Floor Committee Room**

**August 21, 2024 Written Submitted Public Comments**

**Deanna Ratnikova**

Tue, Aug 20, 1:01PM

to comments ▾

Faultline Park continues to be poorly maintained. The amount of feces around the area (presumably from dogs) is shocking and unsanitary.

Deanna Ratnikova

**Jeana Wallace**

Wed, Aug 21, 10:44 AM ☆ ↶

to comments ▾

This email is intended to advise you of the request for more attention to the safety and cleanliness of the above mentioned property. Please make sure this item is addressed in your agenda at tonight's meeting. Thank you.

**'Tiffany J Wolf' via Public Comment** <comments@downtownplanningsd.org>

Wed, Aug 21, 11:20 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮

to comments ▾

This park has made my current dog sick 3 times and killed my other dog due to the toxicity and uncleanliness of this park.

I am currently in a lawsuit with Pinnacle Development regarding the unsanitary and disgusting upkeep of their property, inside and out.

The poop shown here has been sitting outside of a Pinnacle apartment for approximately 1 month. I asked Carlos Inzunza, the manager, to clean it, but he shows the mannerisms of a misogynist, and he seems to be more concerned with having women NOT tell him to do his job than he is with actually DOING HIS JOB. He is a huge problem as to why the park looks like it does... His ego is way more important than the death and sickness of our dogs.

If you want my help in any way, I will gladly help. I can also send you tons of photos for the past 4 years of negligence at the hands of Pinnacle Development.

Off-leash dogs are also a problem. I rehab dogs and have a service dog that these off leash dogs approach... people leave them off leash and don't pay attention so they won't pick up the dog poop. We need to have tickets given out more frequently for these people. If you have laws, please use them.

Sent from my iPhone

**Scott Chasen**

Wed, Aug 21, 12:37 PM ☆ ↶

to comments@downtownplanningsd.org ▾

I live in the East Village neighborhood. Please help with a solution for Faultline Park. It's still a mess and there are many concerns. Please help the citizens that live nearby.

Thank you

Scott Chasen

**Cookie Serrano**

Wed, Aug 21, 1:26 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

to comments ▾

Hi,

I am writing to you to express concern about the state of Faultline Park over the past several years. It is not maintained at all and is full of feces, both human and dog, drug paraphernalia, transients, and is an eye sore for the community. It is my understanding that Pinnacle is responsible for the maintenance of this park based on an agreement with the city but it appears they are doing nothing to maintain it. Nor is the city doing anything to help maintain it. I have been involved in clean ups at the park and attest to how filthy it is and I have personally picked up dangerous drug paraphernalia such as needles, fentanyl foils, glass pipes, etc. It is just a matter of time before someone or a dog gets seriously injured at the park. In addition, the park is now home to one of the best bakeries in Southern California and it is important that we help this local business thrive as all other businesses at this site have failed, in part at least, due to the dangerous surrounding park area. The park needs consistent attention, patrols, and consequences for those who abuse drugs there, who do not clean up after their pets, or use it as their own sleeping site and bathroom. Please help by getting more resources assigned to maintaining the park and holding Pinnacle accountable. Thank you.

Cookie Serrano  
East Village Resident

**Alexandra Ferrer**

Wed, Aug 21, 2:02 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

to comments, info, Clnzunza, alexandralovesca ▾

From:  
Alexandra Ferrer  
Marina District Resident from 2001-2016  
East Village Resident since 2016 to present

To Whom it may concern:

As a downtown resident since 2001. I corroborate to the stark contrast of living in the Marina District, to living in East Village of downtown San Diego.

Marina District has train noise and some unhoused, who slip through to the West side. We had over flowing trash bins in the Marina District during Comic Con. That's is about it.

Now travel East and every street East of Gaslamp gets exponentially worse!

Welcome to ground zero, which is Faultline Park. Welcome to needles, dog poo, human poo, humans stuck in drug freeze of a fentanyl hybrid mix. City signs tagged with graffiti for drug sales, gang affiliation and human trafficking. The park is ground zero for the filth of humanity. Yet there are swings for children to play?

It is time to hold Pinnacle Development, out of Canada, to what they are contractually obliged in a mutual contract with the City of San Diego. The residents are able to see the City of San Diego has a contract with Pinnacle Development. Why is Pinnacle Development allowed to disregard it's obligations? It is time to fine, penalize and or pull permits from Pinnacle Development, until they shape up and follow through with their decades old written contract with the city of San Diego and Faultline Park.

Would you allow any child you know, to play in that filth? Then how do you expect the residents of East Village to do so?

Enough is enough.

Alexandra Ferrer

**Jane**

to comments ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 2:10 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Good afternoon,

As a resident of the East Village, I am extremely disappointed in the lack of attention that Faultline Park receives from the City of San Diego. Daily drug deals, drug addicted people hanging out, trash and feces, both human and pet are amongst the issues that need immediate attention.

About a year ago I participated in a clean up of the park and public gathering of all parties affiliated with the park, City resources, Park Rangers, animal control, Pinnacle management and community members that gave a lot of hope for the future of the park's cleanliness. Unfortunately that only last a few months and here we are a year later and the park is worse than it has been in a long time.

As a city and community, we can do better that this. This park needs immediate attention!

Thanks,

Jane Hill  
East Village Resident

**Tyra Ippongi**

to comments ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 2:32 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Hi Downtown Planning,

I'm an East Village resident requesting for there to be a higher priority on fixing Faultline Park permanently. With East Village Green opening in the next year, we need to show that parks can be well maintained in the EV neighborhood.

There is a clause in the Faultline-Pinnacle agreement that allows the agency (City) to issue Enforcement Assessments to the developer (Pinnacle) in the case that they do not abide by the agreement and the City has to step in. This should have been done ages ago and we need all of downtown to be on board to pursue this. Without enforcement from the City, Pinnacle will continue with their half-assed maintenance of Faultline with the brunt of it affecting EV residents and visitors.

Your team is well aware of all of the issues at Faultline and needs to get all of the necessary Downtown parties on the same page to pursue enforcement action against Pinnacle.

Thank you,  
Tyra

**Krystle Talbot**

to comments ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 2:49 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Hello,

My name is Krystle and I have lived in East Village for the past 5 years. I am extremely disgusted at our so called "park". There is dog poop everywhere and it smells. Also, the money that was given to Pinnacle to create the dog park is ridiculous. It was not used for that. Something is off because it is not maintained and the dog park isn't even enclosed. It's rock and disgusting.

Also, the sidewalks around pinnacle and spire are riddled with dog poop and smells of pea every single day. Drug users are everywhere. I can't go out without feeling unsafe now and encountering someone shooting in fentanyl.

I am so disgusted. We pay HIGH rent here and taxes and what isn't going to??  
Sent from my iPhone

**Kevin Jones**  
to comments@downtownplanningsd.org ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 2:54 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

To Whom It May Concern.

I am a resident of East Village who was just a few blocks from Faultline Park. I remember before the park and the buildings were completed we were told that it would be the developers responsibility to provide security and cleaning and maintenance for the park as part of their sweetheart tax deal.

Flash forward to today. Grassy areas are closed due to reseeding more often than they are open. Do like the Padres did get rid of any real grass there and replace it with artificial turf! And for heaven's sake do the same with the dog park and get rid of the gravel which was really the worst idea! It's difficult enough to scoop up poop from the sidewalk. Try picking it up when it's sitting on loose rocks!

The city really needs to get its act together and understand that there is going to need to be much more security, cleaning and maintenance involved with parks in downtown, especially with the proximity to the homeless. Better learn on a small project like Fault Line Park, because if you don't all the money you are spending between F and G Street at 14th to develop the big new park will be similarly like spending good money after bad

Regards,  
Kevin Jones

**'Alma Espiritu' via Public Comment** <comments@downtownplanningsd.org>  
to comments ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 5:09 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

To whom it may concern I'm emailing today to ask that fault line park located in the east village be better managed and looked after. The park is well located but is not being maintained. As it is constantly filled with litter and drug needles . There is no enclosure for off lead dogs to play safely they can easily run in to the street. Other neighborhoods like the marina, and little Italy have been provided with enclosed dog parks. We need help putting safer measures in place so that this park can be safe for kids ,dogs, and residents to enjoy. Please we need better security at faultline park as it is unsafe and unsanitary for all residents .  
Thank you for your consideration.

**'Rob Beachley' via Public Comment**  
to comments, Rob ▾

Wed, Aug 21, 5:20 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Downtown Planning Counsel,

Thank you for directing your attention to our Fault Line Park in East Village. We urgently need around the clock security here to keep this park safe. It is overrun at night with drug addicts and homeless persons. The children's playground is always trashed and there are always used up needles laying around. This is unacceptable to be treating our children this way with an unsafe environment. There is no where else for them to play in the East Village neighborhood.

Additionally, the dog park is not safe for dogs's paws, it's not enclosed, and is always littered with dog feces. If you compare to Little Italy, Children's Park, and Waterfront dog parks this is an outrage. They have adequate dog parks and playgrounds for our children.

Lastly, we can't even enjoy the grass then for picnics because it is always overflowing with trash and drug addicts.

Why is East Village neglected and treated differently? We are the biggest neighborhood in the city. This supposedly keeps falling on the responsibility of Pinnacle and they are failing. Please, we are asking you to step up and take care of what our East Village community deserves and needs.

Thank you  
Rob Beachley

'cindy Cook' via Public Comment <comments@downtownplanningsd.org>

Wed, Aug 21, 1:02PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

to comments ▾

Good afternoon,

Thank you all for gathering here today to shine a light on the urgent need for attention at Faultline Park. This park, nestled in the heart of East Village, is more than just a patch of green in our urban landscape; it should be a sanctuary, a place where we can all reconnect with nature, find peace, and foster community. Yet, it has been neglected for far too long.

I am calling for the presence of Park Rangers and increased SDPD activity in the areas surrounding the park. This is not just a matter of convenience—it's a matter of necessity. Faultline Park is the only true green space for the largest district in our city. Petco Park, while technically a park, is often inaccessible, with limited hours and artificial grass. It doesn't offer the natural refuge we so desperately need.

Downtown residents are crying out for nature. We need a safe, clean, and drug-free environment where we can breathe fresh air and escape the stresses of city life. This park should be a haven for everyone, especially our children and pets. Yet, as it stands, Faultline Park is unfit for use most of the time, plagued by filth and neglect. Our cries for help have been met with indifference, as SD Parks and Rec continues to pass the buck, each new person we talk to claiming ignorance of the problem.

The situation is dire. Pinnacle's neglect of this space is nothing short of criminal. We are not asking for much—just the basic decency of a well-maintained park where our neighbors can lay out a blanket, read a book, or let their children play without fear of stepping in filth, dirty needles, or encountering off-leash dogs.

As a dog owner myself, I am appalled by the lack of enforcement here. Every other park in our city has rules that are followed (to a much greater extent) and enforced. Why is Faultline Park any different? This park has the potential to be a jewel in our community—a place where we can gather, connect, and thrive. But that will only happen if we all take responsibility for its care and demand better from those in charge.

We need help, and we need it now. Let's make Faultline Park a place we can all be proud of, a sanctuary in the middle of our bustling city. Thank you.

Please help us.

Sincerely,

Cindy Cook