



**City of San Diego | Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment
Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting | OCTOBER 29, 2020**

CHAT LOG

OVERVIEW

The first Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting for the Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment was held via zoom on October 29, 2020. At the meeting, the Subcommittee members discussed their goals for the plan effort and opportunities for Subareas that were presented by City staff. Subcommittee members also provided feedback on potential public space and mobility considerations within the subareas.

The meeting was conducted with the Zoom videoconference platform. Attendees typed comments and questions through the “chat” tool. Each chat submittal includes the time and the participant’s name, which are provided in this document.

CHAT LOG

- 18:00:58 From oscar T : Hello everyone!
- 18:01:52 From Scott Sandel, Parks Planning To All Panelists : I do not have audio or video as I usually do.
- 18:03:22 From Gail Friedt To All Panelists : Hello everyone - great to have you here.
- 18:05:04 From Gail Friedt : Great to see everyone interested in this project.
- 18:06:42 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : Thanks for the welcome. Non-panelists can't see everyone who is here & there's no participants list. Who is here? & who can be seen by whom?
- 18:07:02 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : Hi everybody. Thanks for opening this meeting up to everybody.
- 18:07:47 From Gail Friedt : You should be able to click on “Participants” and see the attendee list.
- 18:08:06 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : No participants button on my screen.
- 18:08:25 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : The participants list that you see is not available to non-panelists. We have a different view & access because of the type of Zoom meeting this is.
- 18:09:47 From Rene Smith : I don't see "participants"
- 18:12:04 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : Do these positions need to be Board members?
- 18:12:30 From Mat Wahlstrom : I maintain that the chair and vice chair need to be residents of Hillcrest

18:12:35 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : Michael—Could you please explain to all of us here how this meeting is setup. Who is present? Who can see whom? Please let everyone know and understand the differences between panelists and participants access to Zoom features.

18:13:09 From Rene Smith : so, can members of the community be on the subcommittee? I'm just a local resident, not an uptown planners member... lived here 25+ years

18:13:52 From Mat Wahlstrom : Are there non-CPG members on the subcommittee?

18:14:39 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : are non-panelists on video?

18:14:55 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : how many people are here?

18:15:20 From Rene Smith : again, where are the participants list?

18:16:58 From KyleAmdahlDesign : It looks like participants do not have ability to see participants.

18:18:15 From Claudia - City of San Diego To All Panelists : I am not in the panel and can't see the list of participants either. But I can see everyone's message on the chat

18:18:15 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : yes

18:18:15 From Gabriella Folino To All Panelists : yes we do

18:18:20 From Claudia - City of San Diego To All Panelists : I can raise my hand

18:18:23 From oscar T : yes, we can raise our hands

18:19:02 From Lu Rehling To All Panelists : Please let us know how many non-panelists are present. Thanks.

18:19:13 From Zach Bunshaft To All Panelists : 26

18:26:29 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : I don't see anything about ADA concerns.

18:29:58 From Zach Bunshaft To Mary McKenzie and All Panelists : Good point, Mary! Happy to have you here to share your perspective on areas that need improvement

18:32:28 From Clint Daniels To All Panelists : Do I need to use a different URL to join as a member of the committee?

18:35:11 From Gail Friedt To All Panelists : Hi see you on the panelist list clint.

18:35:24 From Mary McKenzie To All Panelists : What is B?

18:37:23 From Jerald Moser To All Panelists : What is the proposed construction time frame? Also will it occur in numerical sequence, i.e. Area 1 then area 2 etc?

18:45:44 From oscar T : Very excited about the increased density!

18:46:17 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : I agree Oscar

18:46:27 From Mat Wahlstrom : I want to reiterate that the Community Plan Update for Uptown was pushed through and threw out the recommendations of this CPG at the last minute, and left a four-block hole in the area around the Hillcrest sign for a later “specific plan amendment.” But instead of looking at fixing that little hole, instead we have opened up *the entirety of Hillcrest* for a developer-friendly do-over: “As part of the approval of the 2016 Community Plan Update, the City Council recommended staff consider a Specific Plan for the Uptown Gateway in the Planning Department’s Work Program. This Focused Plan effort is the department’s approach in response to Council’s recommendation during the adoption of the Uptown Plan,” as quoted on page 2 of the Existing Conditions Community Atlas.

18:46:31 From Mat Wahlstrom : So, I want to be on record again declaring this entire process as illegitimate under any circumstances. And as this meeting as demonstrated, to continue to plow it through during a pandemic is unconscionable. I am participating only insofar as the Titanic has now sailed, to try to keep it from hitting an iceberg.

18:48:36 From Mary McKenzie : Matt Medeiros was this long comment from you? The name got cut off.

18:49:00 From oscar T : that's Mat Wahlstrom

18:49:12 From Mary McKenzie : Thanks.

18:50:43 From KyleAmdahlDesign : Thank you Tom. I also would like further clarity. I’m unclear on density needs and what is current. I keep hearing “crisis”

18:50:50 From sanjay stonr To All Panelists : I agree with Clint W university Ave is very dangerous for cyclist and would add that it is also problematic for pedestrians with cars ignoring the hawk light crossing,

18:52:15 From Mary McKenzie : But I also wonder about how we go further during the pandemic when we don't know what Hillcrest is going to look like when we get over this.

18:53:38 From Gail Friedt : I would argue that we have no idea how long the pandemic is last and we need to keep moving forward.

18:53:40 From Zach Bunshaft To All Panelists :
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/923eff9678c346be81d3c8b6d6dd641b>

18:53:43 From Marc Bielas To All Panelists : Thanks for answering my questions Michael!

18:54:05 From Zach Bunshaft To All Panelists : There's also the link above to give input on Hillcrest's LGBTQ+ Historic Places

18:55:29 From KyleAmdahlDesign : thank you Michael.P and Roy D. I like this format. Learn as we go . But, great!

18:56:47 From Lu Rehling : Thanks, Roy. Just to clarify: Chat is available in regular meeting format as well, so that’s not really an advantage of the webinar format, which has particular disadvantages for non-panelists. Moderators can retain significant control even using a meeting format. So it is not clear why webinar format would be chosen. Thanks for considering this input. Again, it would be great to have

your email in order to not take up time with this issue during this busy but be able to share thoughts with you about it for your consideration before the next meeting. Thanks for considering this suggestion.

18:57:46 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : the housing and homeless crises haven't stopped due to the pandemic. this is a way to continue making progress until we can meet in person again.

18:58:12 From Mary McKenzie : I think we're going to need outdoor dining opportunities for a long time.

18:58:20 From Jerald Moser To All Panelists : I feel this area available to public use on streets for temporary dining is excellent and should be allowed going forward. These areas are a better use of space than parking. There are plenty of high density parking areas within each "Area" that should be able to accommodate.

18:58:25 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : the street dining has added vibrancy and street life to Hillcrest

18:58:32 From Michael Donovan : I'm very supportive of increasing the pedestrianized area into the right of way to allow for expansion of both specific establishments as well as shared space for carry out from those without dedicated right of way space. We need to ensure that the pedestrian area remains clear of tables and allows free movement (see 5th ave today)

18:59:09 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : I'd like to see how we can accommodate street dining and bike lanes through creative approaches to public street space

18:59:32 From Michael Donovan : I'd like to see the expansion as part of the permanent plan

19:00:48 From Tim Novara To All Panelists : The allowance for the restaurants to use these spaces during the pandemic has been great. It activates our sidewalks and brings life to the neighborhood. This should be something we keep and losing a few parking spaces is worth it.

19:01:28 From Stu McGraw To All Panelists : I would like to see more pedestrian improvements and bike lanes on Washington St from 8th Ave to Normal St.

19:01:34 From KyleAmdahlDesign : Yes - the bike path seems so eliminate outdoor dining on both side of the street? I think that there is an opportunity to "rethink" quickly.

19:04:26 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : I have also been stumped as to why colder cities have more outdoor dining than San Diego

19:04:28 From oscar T : The bike path on 5th is just on one side of the street

19:05:35 From Clint Daniels To All Panelists : People appreciate scarce resources more. We are flush with good weather, so we take it for granted. In Chicago, you embrace it when you can get it.

19:05:55 From KyleAmdahlDesign : Yes Gail! All of my community is asking this.

19:06:37 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : I like the street closure idea - could MTS route buses to 6th during closures on 4th or 5th?

19:10:09 From Stu McGraw : I would like to see more pedestrian improvements and bike lanes on Washington St from 8th Ave to Normal St. Thank you!

19:10:11 From Paul Jamason To All Panelists : Also seeing a lot of delivery drivers (Grub Hub) parking in bike lanes and red zones. This is dangerous. Convert some street parking to 15-minute zones?

19:12:00 From Al : I love outdoor dining. There's no better place for dining outside than San Diego. We've used our own patio more this year than any other. Personally, I do not enjoy sitting in the areas of the parking spaces. You're sitting right next to traffic. When traffic stops you are sitting next to autos spewing exhaust. In an emergency situation, you are next to large noisy vehicles traveling at high speeds. It's scary. Lastly, the outdoor dining facilities do take away from the availability of parking. There seems to be a focus of eliminating parking before we have other means to get around in the neighborhood.

19:14:06 From Mat Wahlstrom : There is more to mobility than "choices" for the abled regarding parking and sidewalk space. And there are other legal questions regarding the repurposing of public right of way for private commercial benefit. For both these reasons, I believe this discussion needs informed advice from the City Attorney, or else we're just "spinning our wheels," as it were.

19:18:56 From oscar T : Great point Sharon, this plans is what is implemented for the long term future not short term or mid range.

19:19:38 From Gail Friedt : please mute

19:19:51 From KyleAmdahlDesign : I've been working on a "test" project to refresh the Hillcrest brand. It started as an effort to help drive foot traffic. Done right the customer, visitor and tourist traffic will grow. Please look at the trash cans on the 5th at university. Also check out www.uptownout.com #uptownout Your input will be great.

19:22:37 From Jerald Moser To All Panelists : Thank you for the sub committees hard work and look forward to making Hillcrest even better than it is currently

19:23:16 From Mary McKenzie : Accessibility!

19:25:04 From Matt Medeiros To All Panelists : Mary - we will definitely keep the need for accessibility in mind in discussing the different options that come forward. We want Hillcrest to be inclusive to all.

19:25:08 From Clint Daniels To All Panelists : I may have missed this at the first part of the meeting, how does the historic context piece you mentioned feedback to this process?

19:25:09 From Mat Wahlstrom : @MaryMcKenzie Agree completely

19:25:18 From Mary McKenzie : Thank you, subcommittee!

19:29:23 From Clint Daniels To All Panelists : thanks

19:29:41 From Gail Friedt To All Panelists : Thanks Matt and Clint

19:32:05 From Mary McKenzie : I'm sure I don't need to mention the Lamda Archives...

19:35:45 From Mat Wahlstrom : Suggest nothing under consideration by this subcommittee cannot wait until after the election or holidays. which would be after 1/20

19:36:06 From oscar T : 6:30 works

19:36:26 From Michael Donovan : 6:30 on 3rd Thursday sounds great!

19:37:13 From KyleAmdahlDesign : Thank you!

19:37:23 From Mary McKenzie : Thanks!