



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE

northparkplanning.org

Public Facilities and Transportation Subcommittee

MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

I. Parliamentary Items

- a) Call to Order (6:06 pm): Arash Kahvazadeh, Matt Stucky, Ginger Partyka, Pat Sexton
- b) Modifications & Adoption of the Agenda: No modifications.
- c) Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes: April 13th, 2021: Partyka/Stucky 4/0/0
- d) Announcements: None

II. Non Agenda Public Comment (2 minutes each): None

III. Action and Informational Items –

A. Greater North Park garage utilization follow up- Informational/action Item

Presenters/speakers:

- **Ryan Darsey** - Director of Community Engagement, Office of Council President Pro Tem Stephen Whitburn (RDarsey@sandiego.gov)

Darsey presented an update on follow up items from March 19th meeting:

- Many businesses currently under contract for using the garage for employee and/or customer parking
- Current garage utilization for overnight parking - 39 residents with overnight pass
- Info on who defines parking rates: Ace proposes rates, approved by city
- Approval process for hosting events at the garage: Ace considers requests, requires approval by city
- Approval process for offering parking discount at the garage for local events (e.g. farmers market): Ace considers requests, requires approval by city
- Overall financial statement of the garage including 36 months of itemized income and expenses + current lease abstracts: basic financial information presented, last year saw almost \$4,000 in losses.
- Information from SDPD on reported crimes at the garage for the past 3-5 years: 11 total crimes in past 5 years, nearly all burglary. No crime reported in 2021 so far.
- Info on who individuals should contact to report sanitation and/or security issues at the garage

Public Comments:

Randy Walsh: Asked about who owns the commercial spaces (unknown, Darsey will follow up), questioned why the subcommittee is discussing it, found the information did not fully demonstrate usage. Curious about underlying debt.

Ernestine Bonn: Asked about bringing FRED shuttle to North Park. Curious about how many employees are using garage and whether parking rates are subsidized. Questioned about no parking in new residential developments and how that will drive parking to garage.

Pat Sexton: Opined that one dollar an hour adds up when parking for a week and garage is not close enough to enough businesses to benefit neighborhood. Suggested police reports were minimal compared to what is discussed on Nextdoor. Noted many businesses have closed recently, upcoming projects that affect

parking spaces may cause more closings. Doesn't think garage will ever have much use given distances to other areas.

B. North Park library-
Informational/action Item

Presenters/speakers:

- **Matt Stucky** – Vice chair of North Park Planning Committee's Public Facilities & Transportation Subcommittee

Matt presented brief summary of conversation with library staff (Raul Gudino, Deputy Director of Library Operations): City has goal of building 20-25,000 square foot library to replace current library, but no current plans or funding for new North Park library. City funding focused on communities of concern, but areas like North Park likely need private donations to spur construction of new library, which usually has total cost around \$20 million. Suggested that simply putting library in CIP priority list will not move project forward and committee needs to look for other solutions.

Public Comments:

- Ernie Bonn: provided update on process in University Heights: working with school district on development of Normal Street campus, looking for support and funding tied to that redevelopment to build new library in historic building. Suggested it is always a question of funding, University Heights is looking for funding from any source, but working with school district to contribute. Working with developer on site may be a possible avenue forward. Looking for joint use library site and suggested North Park look at that model, potentially in the community park.

- Randy Walsh: asked about land/location for new library. Building on same site may lead to having no library during construction. Wondered if using increased revenue from parking garage could fund new library.

- Pat Sexton: suggested adding onto existing library rather than moving. Would like to see library stay at current location and could use parking lot across the street. Asked about current library usage and whether usage warrants building a new larger library. Sees need for more computers and digital resources for children.

Board Comments:

- Arash: asked about public/private partnerships to use land for more uses. Library has no current plans in that regard. Sees need to work with city to brainstorm on ideas for how to move project forward.

- Ginger: suggested exploring idea of coworking spaces and meeting rooms to build distributed model with public/private partnership.

- Matt: suggested next step is that subcommittee should be proactive to work on finding a way to move forward and thinks another meeting is warranted to explore ideas, potentially including Library Foundation and others at the city to find a creative alternative solution.

C. Updating capital improvement projects -
Informational/action Item

Arash presented review of timeline and next steps on updating North Park capital improvement projects list in next few months. Suggested having two subcommittee meetings in July (13th and 27th) to discuss CIP list, including potentially in-person meetings.

Public Comments:

- Steve Oechel: would like to participate, questioned whether we would be creating new CIPs or only looking at existing projects. Later volunteered to help with putting together online document to solicit feedback before meeting.

- Lynn Elliott: North Park Recreation Council also working on its own CIP list and may see movement soon. Many of these projects take a long time and shouldn't be moved off of CIP list.

- Randy Walsh: Asked Lynn whether she was referred to projects on North Park's CIP list.

Board Comments:

- Pat: asked about timeline for process, supports special meeting in July.
- Matt: process includes moving funded projects off list, but that board needs to be careful to not remove items that have been a neighborhood priority for a long time. Information about process needs to be distributed as soon as possible. Recommended getting as many people as possible to come to subcommittee to discuss and asked about soliciting written comments before meeting.
- Ginger: asked about how process should work and how to properly weight and rank projects.

IV. Adjournment: 7:31 p.m.

Next PF&T Subcommittee meeting date: Tuesday, July 13th, 2021