



**NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE (NPPC)**

**Draft Minutes: August 16, 2022, 6:30 p.m.**

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**I. Parliamentary Items**

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Attendance Report (6:31 p.m.)**

	Kenny Bedoya	Steve Billings	Kate Callen	Lynn Elliott	Claudia Flores	Marty Graham	Arash Kahvazadeh	Steve Oechel	Tyler Renner	Mark Spitzer	Victor Torres				
Attendance		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Late															
Absent	X														

**Community participants:** Georgina Alvarez, Rubi Baricuatro, Lynn and Earl Braverman, Emily Creegan, Emily Fierer, Stevie Ford, Antoinette Goodbody, Armen Janazyan, Stu McGraw, Barbara Mitana, Basil Mournian, Janice Pennington, Walt Pennington, Laurel Schwarz

**Modifications to the NPPC Agenda:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

**1. Project No. PTS 699360 – Alley Vacation, West of Georgia St. midblock between El Cajon Blvd. and Meade.** Presenter: Steven Bossi, Senior Project Manager, Atlantis Group

**SUBCOMMITTEE MOTION:** To approve the alley vacation, Project No. PTS 699360, midblock between El Cajon Blvd. and Meade. Ripper/Spitzer (3-0-0)

**MOTION: To approve Agenda and Consent Agenda. Graham/Elliott, 14-0**

2. **Minutes:** Approval of the July 19, 2022 NPPC meeting Draft Minutes. Kate Callen asked to amend the minutes to include Walt Pennington's e-mail message warning about the northparkplanning website's security issues.

**MOTION: To approve the July Minutes with amendment. Greene/Elliott (14-0)**

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Victor Torres reported that our balance is \$1,124.47, reflecting a \$6 Google charge. Victor and Kate have completed signatory and transfer paperwork at Union Bank with the help of past Chair Aria Pounaki.

**II. Clarification: Time Limits on Speakers:** Kate reviewed the rules concerning limits on speaking time:

- Each participant gets a single allotment of 2 minutes of speaking time per agenda item.
- Aria Pounaki achieved fairness by imposing same limit on the public, the Board, and elected reps.
- Anyone who asks for more time or extra turns is asking for preferential treatment.
- Feedback is always welcome (info@northparkplanning) and will be shared and followed up.

**III. Non-Agenda Public Comment**

- Pat Sexton reminded Board members that they represent the entire community, their positions are not personal fiefdoms, and they are required to complete the online Community Orientation Workshop.
- Don Lightling asked that an effort be made to track every time the City cancels a meeting.
- Edu Santana of Impact Housing announced the demolition of 2911 Adams Avenue to make way for an unsubsidized housing project for low/moderate-income residents; presentation to come in September.
- Lynn Elliott reported SDPD representative Jenny Mason will be available to the community at Farmer's Market. Recent crime stats: 1 residential burglary, 12 vehicle break-ins, 9 stolen vehicles, 14 thefts.

**Announcements & Event Notices:**

- Steve Oechel announced his Public Facilities & Transportation Subcommittee held its first meeting. He will send out e-mail reminders for next month's meeting. Agenda items may include bike racks and updates to University Avenue Mobility Plan and the Mini-Park; all are welcome to attend.

**IV. Elected Official & Planner Reports**

**Abbey Reuter, Hon. Nathan Fletcher, SD Board of Supervisors Dist. 3,** (619) 531- 4936,

[Abbey.Reuter@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Abbey.Reuter@sdcounty.ca.gov). Abbey reported that updates on monkeypox vaccines and treatment are on [the County's monkeypox website](#) and the new "[Experience the Outdoors](#)" program will acquaint public with regional park and mountain biking recreational opportunities

**Kohta Zaiser, Hon. Todd Gloria, Mayor of San Diego,** [ZaiserK@sandiego.gov](mailto:ZaiserK@sandiego.gov) [could not attend].

**Stophor Vallejo. Toni Atkins, State Senate Dist. 39,** 619-645-3133, reported that nearly \$500 million in state funds will support regional ventures like Task Force on Homelessness and LGBT Center and both the Constitutional Amendment on abortion and CA Dream for All down payment assistance has passed.

**Ryan Darsey, Hon. Stephen Whitburn, City Council Dist. 3,** (619) 236-6633 [RDarsey@sandiego.gov](mailto:RDarsey@sandiego.gov),

could not attend, sent a statement about the recent Park Blvd. Reconfiguration workshop [addendum]

**Jeffrey Ryan, Planning Department,** (619)235-5221 [JTRyan@sandiego.gov](mailto:JTRyan@sandiego.gov), [could not attend]

**Chris Gris, Hon. Chris Ward, State Assemblymember,** [Christopher.gris@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Christopher.gris@asm.ca.gov), reported on bills to update transgender marriage certificates, allow lawsuits against gun manufacturers, and prohibit ghost gun sales at Del Mar Fairgrounds and on state relief payments of \$9.5 billion to 23 million households.

## V. Information Item

### 1. New Organic Waste Recycling Collection

**Presenter: Polina Osipova, Recycling Specialist, City Environmental Services ([posipova@sandiego.gov](mailto:posipova@sandiego.gov))**

Polina reported that the City's Recycling Ordinance has been amended to comply with Senate Bill 1383 requiring all property owners to start recycling organic waste, including food scraps and yard trimmings. The residential roll-out will be done in phases. The City will provide collection containers (kitchen pails), add new routes, and buy new trucks. Businesses and multi-family residences using private haulers will need to provide education and contract with haulers for organic service.

#### **Discussion:**

Georgina Alvarez: Education about composting is important, what about non-English speakers?

Basil Mournian: Will there be more than one green recycling bin for multi-family complexes?

Laurel Schwartz: How we will keep bugs and rats out of organic waste containers? Rats are a problem.

Lynn Elliott: Difference between "green" and "brown"? Refrigerator magnets can help educate.

Marty Graham: Kudos to Environmental Services; what about organic waste contaminated by grease?

Steve Oechel: Can we throw palm fronds and succulents into bins? Will costs be passed to consumers?

Mark Spitzer: What about waste loads contaminated with PFAS chemicals and other toxins?

Steve Billings: North Park is infested with flies; have other cities done this w/o rodent & fly problems?

#### **Responses from Polina:**

Education: We are planning multi-lingual outreach; efforts include door-to-door, social media.

Multiple Bins: There will be options, we're working that out. Haulers should be able to accommodate.

Pest Control: We will consult with other jurisdictions on best practices; keep containers clean & closed.

Contaminated Loads: We can't sort these out; they will go to landfill. We test loads for toxins.

Palm Fronds/Succulents: They are currently allowed in green bins.

Funding: Our department is paid through general fund; we receive some fees from haulers.

*Further information:* <https://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/sb1383>

## VII. Action Items

### 1. Website Security

Jim Greene and Kate presented four options for addressing the planning.org website's security issues that were raised by Walt Pennington:

-- Leave the .org website the way it is and ignore Walt's warning: This could raise liability issues.

-- Unplug the .org website and close NPPC's GoDaddy account. This could sacrifice needed content.

-- Try to fix the website on the cheap: This would provide minimal protection and mean extra fees.

-- Pay GoDaddy a \$300 annual fee for an SSL certificate with backup: This would give full coverage.

Community members have offered to contribute to cover the costs. Fundraising could help secure additional funds for an overdue revamp/redesign of the .org website.

#### **Discussion:**

Pat Sexton: Dump the .org website, too much work, city officials use the City's NPPC webpage.

Lynn Elliott: The .org website needs upkeep, security is important, appoint a subcommittee to review.

Mark Spitzer: \$300 seems cheap, solves security problem, transitioning content from .org not easy.

Steve Oechel: Unplugging .org simplifies this; we should document transition; maintenance is hard.

Tyler Renner: Successive Boards have different website ideas & skills; we could try a one-time revamp.

Janine Rochelle: Every Board will want to revamp; we can put the \$300 to other uses.

Carmen Cooley-Graham: GoDaddy escalates its fees; we have other priorities.

Claudia Flores: People can get info from our City webpage; we can use Facebook more.

Marty Graham: I agree with all expressed views; maybe we need a subcommittee.

Kate: Jim and I have discussed formation of an ad hoc website task force; Jim will head.

Jim: Pat's comment about City officials using our City webpage is enlightening.

Kate: Jim and I will form ad hoc subcommittee; we have no one to handle Facebook/social media.

## **2. Nomination of Marty Graham for Alternate CPC Representative:** Passed unanimously

**VII. Subcommittee Reports:** Both Standing Subcommittees have met; Steve previously reported on Public Facilities & Transportation; Mark asked anyone interested in Urban Design & Project Review to email him at [mspitzer1@hotmail.com](mailto:mspitzer1@hotmail.com); he needs more Board and community members and people with expertise in residential zoning and climate action plan; San Diego's severe housing crisis has policy roots.

## **VIII. Liaison Reports**

**Balboa Park Committee (BPC):** Howard Blackson reported BPC voted 7-2 to support Option D for the Park Boulevard Reconfiguration; World Beat Center expressed concerns about lost street parking; having great bike/pedestrian/bus system is important; this is a temporary test, 2 to 3 years, to see if new system works. Kate: Will project be changed if system doesn't work? Howard: Yes, it's just paint, no curbs will be moved.

**North Park Main Street/ Maintenance Assessment District:** Steve Billings will update in September. He will consider being liaison for both groups, which meet on the same day.

**Adams Avenue Business Association:** Marty Graham will fill this position.

**El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association:** Brian Saull is new liaison, attended July 21 meeting, directs people to <https://theboulevard.org> for info on events, new mural guide, etc.

**North Park Community Association:** Lynn Elliott has not learned if the group is still active.

**University Heights Community Association (UHCA):** Carmen Cooley-Graham is new liaison, attended August 15 meeting, events include seed swap and community mixer, UHCA is looking into November school bond issue, details are at <https://www.uhsd.org>.

**CPC:** Kate reported CPC will not meet in August. City Council is set to consider modified CPG reform package in September. Council Policy 600-24 will change, and planning groups will revisit their bylaws. NPPC's bylaws are problematic and will be the focus of a September NPPC Chair's Report on governance, specifically how confusion over bylaws hampers effective Board governance.

**New Business:** Steve Oechel reported that the Serra Mesa Planning Group agenda had an action item, "Proposed Amendments to Council Policy 600-24, Standard Operating Procedure and Responsibility."

Motion to adjourn (Elliott/Greene 14-0) at 8:12 p.m.

**NPPC August 2022 Meeting Minutes: Addendum****From Ryan Darsey, Hon. Stephen Whitburn, City Council Dist. 3:****Park Blvd Community Workshop**

Last week the District 3 office hosted a community workshop on the Park Blvd. Our office felt that it was important to gather additional feedback from community members. This meeting was intended to inform the community and collect feedback on proposed alternatives for the restriping of Park Blvd between Upas St and President's Way after upcoming pipeline replacement and repaving.

We had over 100 people participate in our community workshop. 60 people made comments. In those comments 40 people spoke in favor of option D, 18 spoke in favor of option C/D. The main concern of those that do support option D was taking away parking in front of the World Beat Center.

The city will draw heavily from those comments and from the community input in previous meetings as it finalizes the plan to stripe new lanes on Park Blvd. We are grateful to the many stakeholders who have engaged in a robust and constructive conversation as the city weighs the different interests and options.

Best regards,

Ryan