

Little Italy Residents Association

Meeting Minutes: March 15, 2007

The members thank Kara Garcia and the Village Walk Apartments for their hospitality.

Train noise

Due to construction of the "Slope Stabilization Project" in Del Mar, trains will not be running from 10:00pm to 5:00am on Sunday through Thursday night for several months.

Quiet Zone

(This refers to the agreement between the City, NTCD, and MTS which will change the requirement for the train engineers to sound their horn at each intersection between Broadway and Laurel streets)

Although some design work and approvals are still pending, the construction of improvements at the designated intersections should begin in the fall of 2007 with completion scheduled for spring of 2008

Please see www.viva-city.info/cityNews.htm for more information

Crudos

As approved during the last meeting, the committee wrote letter to CCDDC requesting enforcement of the current CUP which states that the establishment of the Crudos Bar and Restaurant shall have no impact on the neighborhood including an unacceptable level of noise, and problems created by patrons after closing hours.

The hearing for this issue is scheduled for:

April 19 , at 2:00

CCDC office
225 West Broadway, Suite 1100

(for more information or to express an opinion, please contact Ms. Lucy Contreras, CCDDC at contreras@ccdc.com or 619.533.7132)

Residential Parking Permit

There has been no progress made by CCDDC on this issue for several months. The membership expressed strong disapproval and formed a task force to pursue this issue.

C Street Corridor Master Plan

Mr. Sachin Kalbag provided an interesting overview of the difficult issues involved in the development of “C” Street and the exciting potential of the area. In addition, Mr. Bill Keller who is the CCAC representative on the Master Plan committee provided an update on his committee’s perspective and actions.

The membership discussed the issues and possible solutions currently considered, and agreed upon priorities it considers to be most critical for the successful implementation of the plan . It was agreed that:

- LIRA supports an option that does not compromise pedestrian circulation and enhances the effectiveness of downtown mass transit.
- LIRA does not believe street closures are an effective solution to this problem because the closures would certainly compromise circulation downtown and provide additional congestion.

A motion was passed concerning the dilemma resulting from MTD’s purchase of trolley cars which are longer than the downtown San Diego blocks. The motion read:

The solution to the problem caused by an unwise decision made by MTD to purchase trolley cars longer than the city blocks, should not, in any way, negatively impact the streetscape.

It was also emphasized that the plan must accommodate bicycle travel. Mr. Kalbag replied that, although this aspect of the plan has not been directly considered as yet, bike travel will be accommodated.

Both Mr. Kalbag and Mr. Keller urged the membership to attend the upcoming Advisory Committee meeting on the “C Street Corridor Master Plan” which is scheduled for :

Thursday, March 29
3:45 pm
CCDC Office
225 West Broadway, Suite 1100

Priority List

The document was approved contingent upon the addition of the following priorities:

- the need to maintain affordability in the area, as it is a priority of the neighborhood to promote the maintenance of economic, racial, and social diversity.
- It is critical to maintain the pedestrian friendly atmosphere of the area.

Early Morning Garbage Collection Proposal

Although LIRA members expressed appreciation for the problems faced by the private trash haulers who work in the downtown area, they also had strong objections to the “early morning pick-up” scheme originally proposed by the trash haulers. Although the proposal has been amended to limit the early morning trash pick-up to commercial areas, it was agreed that this change is not a solution since many areas are currently zoned as commercial, but have substantial residential populations.

Ken Cluskey was directed to write a letter to CCDC mentioning the following points:

- The addition of load, early morning noise resulting from early morning trash hauling would result in a significant impact on the quality of life experienced by the downtown residents.
- Consideration of a more efficient system of “territorial” contracts for trash haulers which incorporates an efficient system of routes, resulting in less environmental and noise pollution.
- The addition of more trash trucks assigned to the downtown area until a more efficient system is devised.
- A more comprehensive recycling program be instituted in the downtown area.

Peace / Roberts Waterfront Visionary Plan

A video was shown which presented this proposal. LIRA membership supported the ideas and concepts which are incorporated into the plan.

A motion was made and passed which stated the following:

LIRA supports all aspects of the Peace/ Roberts Waterfront Visionary Plan, especially as it supports the existing proposals of the area and is compatible with the North Embarcadero Plan, the Sasaki/ Quigley Arc Walk Plan, and the County Administration Park.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2007. It will be held at the “W” (421 West “B” Street).

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Hallahan