

**Little Italy Residents Association**  
Meeting Minutes  
September 15, 2005

Issues:

*Condominium Conversions:*

The concern over the number of apartments which are converting to condominiums in the downtown area was discussed. The fear is that the result of these collective actions will result in fewer numbers of affordable housing in the downtown area for many working class residents. The Association voted to write a letter addressed to the CCAC to support those who advocate instituting a moratorium on these conversions until the scope and implications of this trend is fully studied by the CCDC.

*Redevelopment Plan:*

The CCAC committees have finished their reviews, and the plan will now be reviewed by the full CCAC, followed by the CCDC and finally the City Council. The association voted to write a letter in support of the Plan.

(for more information see: [www.ccdc.com](http://www.ccdc.com))

*Street Events:*

Complaints were voiced that the frequency of "Events" in the neighborhood was causing undo inconvenience for the residents. Inability to enter one's condominium garage, unnecessary traffic detours, and excessive noise continuing past 1:00 am from the cleanup crews were cited as the most critical, and solvable problems. Chris Gomez from the LIA (who organizes these events) reassured the group that these complaints are already being addressed by his organization.

*Presto Shuttle:*

Chris Gomez reported that the shuttle will be running on India and Kettner Blvd. between Broadway and Kalmia. It will run every 10 minutes during the lunch hour, stopping at designated existing bus stops.

The group suggested that the route be extended to Ralph's grocery store on Market Street and run on Saturday.

*Parking Permit Update:*

Parking use data was received by CCDC from the study which concluded in June. This data is being reviewed by the consultant to obtain their recommendations on changes in the existing parking meter strategy (location of meters, free spaces, rates, and length of time permitted)

#### *Traffic on Kettner Blvd.*

An inordinate number of cars are traveling the wrong way on Kettner Blvd. (which is a one-way street where traffic should travel south). It was noted that Traffic and Engineering is studying this problem.

#### *Stop Light at Front and Cedar Streets*

Nicole Haines of CCDC reported that Traffic and Engineering Department is also studying this situation. There is concern that if a traffic light is installed at this location, that traffic will be cueing back along the off ramp from Freeway 5.

#### *Dog defecation on city sidewalks*

General agreement and concern was expressed at the growing problem of dogs defecating on the city sidewalks and the high incidence of pet owners not adequately cleaning up after their dogs. 40% of the residents now have dogs in this area. New buildings are now being required to provide permeable areas along the sidewalk to provide more opportunities for the dogs to use surfaces other than the sidewalks. It was also mentioned that the urine of the dogs kills many varieties of vegetation. It was suggested that a pet owners education program be expanded to more forcefully promote the need to "curb" the dogs and to use water bottles to wash the ground surface when necessary.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Hallahan