



Downtown Community Planning Council San Diego

## **DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Chair Michael Rosenbaum @ 5:33 pm. Opened with Best Thanksgiving wishes.

**1. Roll Call:** Noted that 17 of 23 current members were present, constituting a quorum.

**Members Present @ Call to Order (17):** Baker, Barbano, Blair, Collin, Egan, Gattley, Hunt, Lawson, Link, Meloncelli, Orabone, Priver, Ramos, Rosenbaum, Takara, Wery, Wilson-Ramon

**Late Arrival (1)** DiFrancesca,

**Members Absent (5):**, Ball, Clark, Dion, Pensabene, Swearingen,

**Early Departure:** Hunt, Wery

**Noted:** Current vacancies EV South Biz (Perry), Little Italy Biz (Cepada), Gaslamp/Horton Res (Nauta), Columbia (Theisen)

**Elected onto board during meeting (Item 10):** Hasan Ahmed (EV South Biz), Unanimous Consent

### **2. Approval of OCT 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Corrected typo “DIP” to “CIP”. *In favor - unanimous consent of those in attendance at October meeting.*

**3. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items –** MTS Vision Builder, Jennifer encouraged all to participate in survey.

### **4. Elected Representative Comments (none)**

- Marshall Andrews, Downtown Partnership
  - Encouraged interest in 12/5/2019 Homelessness Forum, EV Green, Transportation
- Councilmember Ward Office (Brittany)
  - Community Power transition is in process, expected to take about 2 years. Alternative to SDG&E may provide savings to consumers
  - Community Plan has been submitted to City Council. Focused on reducing homelessness by 50%. \$1.9B estimated cost. Chris Ward supports Housing Bond issue to help fund plan.
  - Requested DCPC members and community guests to support 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Promenade (Michael Trimble). Handout provided to streamline individual input.
  - (In response to C. Blair) Navigation Center is opening DEC 2019.

### **5. Chairperson’s Report.**

- Lawson announced he is resigning position in Park and Open Spaces Committee – encouraged volunteers to join.

### **6. Subcommittee and Liaison Reports:**

- **Elections:** Rosenbaum encouraged all those not running for reelection to join the committee for 2020-21 elections. First meeting is 12/4/2019. Rosenbaum to provide templates from prior years.

- **Operations, Budget & Finance (Orabone)** provided overview of budget, space to meet discussions
- **Communications (Priver)** Status review: Communications Project is to identify 8 targets: Print, TV, Radio, City Council, Board of Supervisors, Port Commission, Downtown Businesses, Downtown residents.
  - Ask for Task Force Volunteers. (Bob to provide member email list to David)
- **OPEN SPACE (Gathey):**
  - Park Ranger Interviews in process. FEB 2020 hire anticipated.
  - Concern expressed re Traffic and pedestrian interruption at 1<sup>st</sup> & F during tunnel construction
  - Recommends DCPC letter to Petco Park re noise complaints, compliance and enforcement.
  - Rosenbaum requested action item from Committee. Gathey committed to have reply by DEC DCPC meeting

## Information Items

### 7. Project Updates (Richter)

- 11<sup>th</sup> & B – appealed consideration 11/14 0900
- 13<sup>th</sup> & F – Staff approved
- J Street Telcon scheduled 11/20 hearing
- Grocery Outlet alcohol CUP scheduled 11/20 hearing
- 14<sup>th</sup> Street Promenade – bids due 12/19, construction early 2020.
- EV Green RFQ to follow. Special meeting scheduled 12/11. City Council 12/17
  - Estimated completion EV Green Phase One – 2 years
  - Estimated completion Children’s Park – 1 year
- 11<sup>th</sup> & A – minor design revision
  - (In response to Wilson-Ramon) start construction late 2020
  - (In response to Eagan) – Brad support at both Childrens Park mtgs appreciated.

### 8. CIP Priorities (Orabone)

- Current Year projects prioritized
- Reached out for other years and projects
- Need better job with specifics in member requests
- Require input to “nudge” CIP priorities

## Action Items

### 9. Pinnacle Park (11<sup>th</sup> between B & C (moved from Consent) James Alexander

- With Architect – highlighted changes
- Public Comments
  - Opposed Jorge Viramonte – opposed to
    - Outside commercial and retail
    - Plain / stacked blocks
    - Need more activated and engaging
    - Why change iconic buildings

- Opposed Christopher Allen – opposed to
  - Garage on major thoroughfare
  - Conflicts with pedestrian in bus lane
  - Questioned whether architect consulted with MTS re bus lane
- Favor David Dick (on behalf of developer)–
  - Successfully addressed review comments
  - Iconic / Classical Building
- Favor Gary Smith, President DRG
  - Unanimous DRG support
- Member Comments
  - (Baker) – concern with window washing. Reply is there is arm to lift over obstacles
  - (Blair) – questioned whether all parking is underground. Reply addressed parking access – Bus lane begins after underground parking ingress. There are four lanes on 11<sup>th</sup> North at that point to Routes 5 and 163
  - (Orabone) – 422 units, 30 affordable? Reply is 10% affordable from base unit count approx. 100 units are off site.
- Motion to approve (Link, Wilson-Ramon 2<sup>nd</sup>)
  - (Baker) in favor of motion while questioning detail of diagonal line and first floor commercial – why blue line
  - (Ramos) in favor – expressed concern with rush hour, 10' back. 45 degree angle
  - (DiFrancesca) in favor – reservations about traffic flow
  - Vote – Unanimous support by those present. Collin recused. Wery, Hunt had departed early

**10. Elections – see above.** Hasan Ahmed comments referenced 9<sup>th</sup> & J Business. Objective is to keep EV Alive, future growth, Quality of Life. Concern with homeless and vagrancy, drugs. Objective is to help EV Businesses to be heard.

#### **11. 5<sup>th</sup> Street Promenade – Michael Trimble**

- Presented video – New Brand for Gaslamp
- Project defined as 20 years in the making - closed to traffic
- 2018 Carrier Johnson redesign
- Cross Streets to remain open
- K to L to remain open to support existing traffic patterns
- Objective is to drive people and development patterns downtown
- Hydraulic Bollards to be used – will help access to Police and Fire
- Safety – Clean and Safe and Downtown Partnership support
- CIP / City Council funding to built
- June – Dec 2020
- Funded by Grants, Corporate donations, Privately donated “bricks”
- Supported by Public and Ward, Gloria, Fletcher, others
- Trimble share information, FAQ, letters of support
- **Board Questions / responses**
  - **(Gatley)** Is furniture is strategically placed? Opportunity for business to expand?
  - Compares with Little Italy seating history

- Concern with bike access – there is separation for pedestrians, dogs and bike parking
- Responses – bike lanes marked. No motorized vehicles. Reviewed bike parking and furniture plan. Highlighted Clean and Safe and Code Compliance approvals
- Trash and Delivery hours of operation – Reply – meet with service providers, valets prior to June 2020.
- Without curbs how will water drain. Concern with smell of urine if continuous trench like stench on 4<sup>th</sup>. Reply – aggressive storm water plan. Best Balance landscaping for dogs, effective drains to move water and urine. City Cleans streets, Clean and Safe cleans sidewalks.
- **(Barbano)** do cross streets have lights? Reply – no motorized vehicles.
- E and Island closure? Reply - In design process. Could be that 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> on E permanently closed.
- **(Lawson)** FAQ Correction, Recommend scooters be considered with geo fencing for speed
- **(Wilson-Ramon)** follow up re access hours – Reply to be addressed during design
- Plans for trees to survive dogs? Reply – prioritize pet relief areas
- **(Priver)** request clarification re vehicle access. Reply – Hydraulic bollards, Education. Stuck cars will be able to exit with bollard operator. Test and training, adjust thinking in final design.
- **Motion to Approve (Lawson, Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>)**
  - In favor - Gattey, Blair support draft DCPC letter of support
  - Unanimous approval. Wery had left early.

## MISC

### 12. Potential Agenda Items and Member Comments

- Priver recommended promote Gaslamp Promenade with task force chairs
- Blair Promoted Waterfront event / festival on 11.22
- Link promoted Symphony Hall presentation of waterfront shell
- General comment – 12.11 City Council Room meeting, 12/17 City Council Chambers re Council consideration / approval items

### 15. Urgent Non-Agenda Items – none.

**Meeting Adjourned 7:14pm. Next meeting Wednesday DEC 11, 2019**