

Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group



P.O. Box 16391, San Diego, CA 92176

www.ktpg.org

Regular Meeting Minutes

2012-11-14

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PARLIAMENTARY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

[Secretary’s note: KTPG minutes are not an exact transcript of the meeting. They are meant to capture votes taken as well as a general sense of what discussion occurred on various items.]

A regular meeting of the Kensington Talmadge Planning Group (KTPG) was called to order by acting KTPG chair David Moty on November 14, 2012 at 6:30pm in the Franklin Elementary Auditorium (4481 Copeland Ave., San Diego, CA, 92116). The minutes were recorded by acting KTPG Secretary John M. Garrison.

Members present at the start of the meeting: Guy Hanford, John M. Garrison, Sean Harrison, Sherry Hopwood, Ken Horsley, Daniele Laman, Fred Lindahl, David Moty, Ann Pease, Keith Roudebush, Elvia Sandoval

Members absent at the start of the meeting: Frank Doft, Kevin Kelly, Richard Lesser

Also present: Daniel Hazard (Senior Community Representative for Susan A. Davis, Member of Congress, 53rd District, California), City Council Member Marti Emerald and two members of her staff, City Council Member Todd Gloria and Dion Akers from his office, and approximately 30 members of the public.

MODIFICATIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA)

David Moty asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING(S)

David Moty asked some questions about the October 2012 and September minutes. After some discussion a vote was called to approve the minutes from those two meetings.

In favor: Guy Hanford, Sean Harrison, Sherry Hopwood, Ken Horsley, Daniele Laman, Fred Lindahl, David Moty, Ann Pease, Keith Roudebush, Elvia Sandoval

Abstaining: John M. Garrison

The motion to approve the September 2012 and October 2012 minutes was approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT – REPORT FROM PRIOR MONTH



Starting Balance: October 1, 2011 - \$434.94

Income

\$0.00 – donations from April meeting

Expenditures:

\$120.00 – Check number 3107 – Postmaster for P.O. Box

Ending Balance: \$314.94

COMMUNITY FORUM / NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

San Diego City Council Member Todd Gloria (Previously the City Council Member for Kensington and Talmadge, prior to redistricting) – thanked the community for the things we have been able to accomplish together working between his office and the KTPG.

San Diego City Council Member Marti Emerald (now representing Kensington and Talmadge) – expressed her excitement about starting to work with the group.

Board members Bob Coffin, John M. Garrison, spoke on the importance of doing Undergrounding well.

Kelly Waggoner also mentioned a concern relating to Undergrounding – the removal of overhead lines through the alleys will have the undesired effect of removing the lights from the alleys. The utility companies say they aren't responsible, and the City says we don't light alleyways.

Sean Harrison – spoke in favor of the Kensington Sidewalk Garden Project, who are planting vegetation in the sidewalk plots along Adams. They have a group on Kensington.nextdoor.com for anyone who wants to know more.

Bob Coffin – mentioned that he thinks the traffic pylons (on Adams just East of SR15) are doing their job of preventing illegal left turns onto Westbound Adams.

Daniel Hazard (Senior Community Representative for Susan A. Davis, Member of Congress, 53rd District, California) gave a report on the representative's activities.

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

None.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION

Subcommittee chair John M. Garrison gave a brief report and mentioned the need for some help with A-frame signs that had previously been done by Gail Greer. These signs are put out the morning of KTPG meetings (not



subcommittee meetings) and taken back up that night. The two in Talmadge are still being done, but we need someone new to do the ones in Kensington. Bob Coffin offered to take over the sign at the gas station on Adams and Marlborough. Keith Roudebush offered to take over the sign at the southeast corner of SR15 and Adams. John said he would work with Gail to get them the two signs.

UNDERGROUNDING

INFORMATION ITEM: DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING CITY AUDIT OF THE UTILITY UNDERGROUNDING PROJECT

Chair Bob Coffin said that we had partly been waiting on the election to see who would be Mayor. Carl De Maio had promised an audit of the project (along with former KTPG-chair Tom Hebrank), and even though he didn't win the election it is still a work in progress. We don't know yet what Mayor Filner's stance is.

[More information on Undergrounding is at <http://www.ktpg.org/projects/undergrounding/index.htm>]

PROJECT REVIEW

ACTION ITEM: COPLEY YMCA

Chair Ann Pease gave an update on discussions with the City and SDG&E and other utilities for the relocation of utility boxes on Meade and Fairmount Avenues. Action could include a possible planning group response to the Planning Commission's exclusion of utility box relocation from their recommendation on the YMCA project.

There are currently utility boxes in the sidewalk. The KTPG subcommittee recommended that these be moved as a result of the project. We would like to see them moved onto the Copley Y property. The YMCA has said they will grant an easement.

Marti Emerald said this may or may not take a vote of the City Council, but either way they would get it done. The estimate is that it might take about \$10,000 per box to move them. She believes the City should pick up that tab and not saddle the YMCA with it. She believes that soon after the first of the year her office can come back to us with a plan.

David Moty – our concern was that if this didn't make it in to the City Council resolution (scheduled for Nov 27, 2012) that we would lose our opportunity to get it done.

[More information on this project is at <http://www.ktpg.org/projects/price/index.htm>]

ACTION ITEM: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – ALDINE PARK

David Moty gave a presentation on possible planning group support for submittal of our first priority Capital Improvement Project, the Aldine Drive park, bike path connector, drainage improvements, and road realignment for a SANDAG funded planning grant. Subcommittee discussed the grant, but did not have sufficient information at the time of the subcommittee meeting to make a recommendation.



Sean Harrison – the one thing I would like to impress upon Council Member Marti Emerald is that this is probably the primary entrance into Talmadge. From staff's perspective, they have come to the realization that 18,000 a day is the design for that road, which it's not, but they've basically come to accept it. That needs to change. If you spend some time on that corner you will see a lot of illegal behavior, like people driving that one way street section the wrong way. That flooding shown of the first video (I'm not sure about the others) was not even a measurable event that one should need to plan for in this area.

Marti Emerald said she believes the water sheeting over the road is a huge public safety issue. Chris has a great relationship with the Traffic Engineers and we might be able to drive it, walk it,... Sometimes some new eyes can come up with new solutions.

Marti Emerald said Eminent Domain has to be a high public use. I think they generally have in mind things like highways and hospitals.

Sherry Hopwood – I have a real problem with Eminent Domain for something like this. I think it is a very serious thing to take someone's home and that the "fair value" of a home may not be what it is really worth to them.

Nick ___ (Talmadge resident) - I called David Moty this week because I heard the idea of Eminent Domain. I think the presentation points out some real issues. The park might help that area, but it isn't solving the problems uphill for that. Such as the trash that is collected that goes straight into the San Diego storm drains and waterways.

Noreen (last name unsure)___ (lives on 47th near the proposed park location) – I would fight tooth-and-nail against a park there. The storm drain that goes through our back yard, the City has been saying we could put that in for 10+ years. Now I hear this about Eminent Domain and making a park and it just makes me really mad. You can't give me enough money for my house for me to go buy something equivalent now in the area. Things like flooding and such in this area have nothing to do with making a park. I have a real problem with taking our homes and putting in what you call affordable housing. There are apartments and condos there now. I think there are plenty of places to walk to on El Cajon and it is really diverse and I like that. I think some people don't like that and they want to change that.

Elvia Sandoval – some residents had problems with speeding there and we got speed bumps put in.

Chuck Kaminski___ (Talmadge resident) - What I am hearing is there are a lot of layers of issues that Talmadge is suffering from: flooding, traffic, facilities. I think they are trying to solve a lot of issues. I agree with the woman who said Eminent Domain is a huge mountain to overcome. I agree with the woman who says the diversity along El Cajon is attractive to me.

Janet Desrochers___ - We've been in our house 42 years and when a park on Janet Place was proposed. The people in the surrounding areas didn't want it because they said it would bring undesirables into the neighborhood. It may be the same with this park. She also said that they fought hard to have the park and was dismayed that it was defeated.

Paul Desrochers asked if there was a particular road plan to go along with this idea. David Moty stated that he wasn't a traffic engineer and just wanted to allow more room for Traffic Engineering to come up with a better idea.



INFORMATION ITEM: DISCUSSION OF RE-ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN PROJECT REVIEW, TRANSPORTATION & NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES, AND A POSSIBLE NEW SUBCOMMITTEE.

David Moty – has been talking with the chairs of the Project Review and Transportation & Neighborhood Facilities. We might try to split their work among three subcommittees next year to ease the workload on those two subcommittees.

Sean Harrison – I think we should have a subcommittee that is all focused on capital improvement projects within the City.

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

ACTION ITEM: REDIRECTION OF PARK PLACE FROM WESTBOUND TO EASTBOUND

Sean Harrison – We are seeking approval of subcommittee recommendation to solicit signatures of support for the redirection of Park Place from westbound to eastbound from property owners within 300 feet of the street. Signature solicitation would take place before an official planning group recommendation on redirecting the street as a means of gauging support from nearby residents and property owners.

We believe re-routing this will eliminate some traffic headaches caused in this area. The problem seems to be that northbound traffic approaching Adams tries to turn left on a way one street to avoid the light at Marlborough by going to Kensington.

Sherry Hopwood – We have talked about putting in a stop light at Kensington and the traffic engineers tell us that 3 lights in such a short distance is not a good idea. Maybe we should put in a 4-way stop.

John M. Garrison – Proposed an amendment that the Transportation & Neighborhood Facilities subcommittee work with the Communications subcommittee to also post signs (using the A-frames owned by KTPG) on the section of the street in question so that others who use the street can also know we are considering a change. He said getting feedback from neighbors was certainly important, but that other users of the street deserved to some notice if possible, and that this seemed like an easy way to reach a lot of people. The motion died for lack of a second.

A vote was called on the original motion.

In favor – Guy Hanford, John M. Garrison, Sean Harrison, Sherry Hopwood, Ken Horsley, Daniele Laman, David Moty, Ann Pease, Keith Roudebush, Elvia Sandoval

Opposed – Fred Lindahl

The motion passed.

INFORMATION ITEM: PARKING TASK FORCE



Discussion of parking task force to be formed by Mr. Allard Jansen and the *Heart of Kensington* organization to address parking issues along Adams Avenue and surrounding blocks in Kensington.

BY-LAWS

Subcommittee chair Frank Doft was not present.

ADJOURNMENT

Dave Moty adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.