

NIVA MEETING RECORD

Sept 14, 2005

ANNOUNCEMENTS On Aug 22, the OCTA officially approved the reduction of the alternatives for possible solutions to the 91 Freeway congestion to only three -- one of which is the tunnel between Riverside County (near I-5/Cajalco Road juncture) to the SR241/SR133 interchange in the foothills above North Irvine.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-10 JAMBOREE MEDICAL/SCIENCE CENTER COMMITTEE [Nancy LaPorte] - LaPorte stated that the rezoning application is expected to be going forward for hearings commencing in Oct.

2. NORTHERN SPHERE (PA-3, 5B, 6, 8A, & 9) (_____) - TIC has submitted a Master Plan 00380724-PMP application for the 450,000 sq ft subregional shopping center on the 44-acre site at the SW corner of Sand Canyon and Irvine Blvd in PA-9C. Besides the tentative major stores such as Ralph's, Walgreen's pharmacy, Home Depot, there will be 2 fast-food drive-thrus, a health club, and a Chevron service station/convenience store/car wash in stand along buildings on the site. The PC is scheduled to hear the matter on Sept 15. [Master Plan was approved by PC.]

OLD BUSINESS

1. EL TORO MCAS REUSE - Park plans were due from 7 design-competition finalists on Sept 1 and will not be made public from Sept 12 thru Sept 21 at City Hall. An online poll via the internet is being implemented <www.ocgp.org> in which the public can express their view on the various proposals.

At the Sept 8 Great Park Corp. Board meeting, John Sullivan, Director of the Great Park Conservancy, gave a slide presentation on 3 European parks all built on reused land. The basis was the "recovering nature" to land on which nature has been removed as in the case of El Toro. The 3 were Parc Des Buttes-Chaumont (Paris) which was built on a depleted gypsum quarry mine, Par de la Villette on a meat packing center in which the buildings were incorporated, and Landschaftpark Duisburg - Nord (Germany) built on the remains of old steel mills which were incorporated into the design. A second presentation was given by USC Prof. Diane Ghirardo on the subject of master planning design evaluation.

2. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY [Dave Melvold] - Per County Librarian John Adams, the financing shortfall was somewhat solved by adopting a strategy to postpone awarding the contract for construction until after Jan 2, 2006 so that a savings can be made by no longer being under the mandate to require contractors to have to pay union wages. That County requirement will expire after the 1st of the year. A savings of as much as 20% is anticipated by removal of that mandate and in so doing less of the stripping of the initially furnished amenities would be necessary. In any case, the cuts in A/C and landscaping will still be necessary. For a contract execution in Jan, the RFP would be postponed to have receipt of bids in Dec. 2005.

Councilmember Choh's aid, Carl Berman, informed Melvold that the Council will be considering the establishment of a library committee to review the library situation, funding, and even whether the City should pull out of the County's system. It is tentatively scheduled for the Council meeting of Sept. 27. As currently being proposed, the committee would consist of 2 councilmembers and 5 appointees -- one for each councilmember.

Berman mentioned that the City's residents contribute almost \$4 Million annually to the County Library System for maintenance and operations yet the cost of O&M for the 2 branches within the City limits cost a little over \$2 Million. Again the City is being shorted and essentially subsidizing the older sections of the County (basically north Orange County). Capital construction funding does not come from the annual

property taxes for libraries but with such a disparity, there may be need to consider some sort of compensation to the City in form other than simply O&M.

3. COMPLETION OF PETERS CANYON WASH AND WALNUT TRAIL "GAPS" - Mike Loving of the City briefly summarized the results of the City's Bike Trails Committee meeting of Aug 18:

(1) Per City traffic engineer Ken Louie, the current situation at the Irvine Blvd. overpass of the Peters Canyon Wash Trail is in compliance with Caltrans Design Manual and that "there is nothing out of the ordinary at this site". No bridge fencing (or railing) is required or warranted. Therefore, the City does not plan to do anything except to remove the chain link fencing upon approval of the trail by the County. There is no requirement for a railing if the runoff is greater than 10 feet and the distance is almost 15 feet. There is no distinction as to whether the under pass is for pedestrians, waterway, road, or rail. The assumption in the requirement is that any vehicle losing control at this point and going over the curb would be expected to recover within the distance of 10 or more feet. Pictures of the site were available for review at the meeting. Field measurements disclosed that the setback is 9 ft for sidewalk plus 18 ft of landscaped area on the north side of Irvine Blvd. The south side appeared to be similar in setback distances. It was agreed that NIVA notify the City of acceptance of the City's position but suggesting that maybe consideration be given for placement of some strategically located boulders.

(2) Per Pat Fiero, the City is now in the process of revising the City's trails policy. A revision will be brought to the Committee in Nov. and if acceptable will go to the CSC for approval. Therefore, any decision on the naming and placement of trail signs will have to await this revision. Also, since there is a distinction between the name of a trail and the name of the ROW in which the trail is located. Each trail needs to be named! Consequently, the trail in the Peters Canyon Wash "trail ROW" must be named and that would be the responsibility of the County. Therefore, the City would have to go to the County for the name or approval of a name the City might suggest. The equestrian trail is a County trail while the pedestrian/bicycle trail a City trail. Most likely the revision Fiero is referring to is that being derived as a result of the recent public survey conducted by the City on trails, their useage, needs, etc. over the past couple of months. Unfortunately, this is a lengthy time-consuming process which should have been started months if not years ago. City staff dragged their feet on this one. Per Loving, Scott Roseberry would be the City employee responsible for eventual placement of any trail signs. It was suggested at the meeting that NIVA press the issue of trail users being able to identify where they are in the event of an emergency and that signage would aid in this need.

(3) Regarding the installation of additional benches along trail segments currently missing any benches, the Committee discussed the matter and determined (or at least concluded) that "there is not enough space available to provide for adequately designed bench areas". Supposedly, the areas that appear to have sufficient space are used for maintenance activities.

Mike Loving followed up the phone discussion with a letter dated Aug 30 summarizing the meeting results. Copies were distributed at the meeting. It was agreed that a response will be sent to the City relaying the above comments and requesting a further explanation on the "obstacle" to placement of benches. [Letter sent Sept. 26.]

4. PROPOSED NORTHWOOD U.S. POST OFFICE - A contract was awarded to Berry Contractors Inc. in June. After dealing with some unexpected issues related to on-site soil conditions, work started on construction of the post office a couple of weeks ago. The building is expected to be completed in June 2006 and possible opening in July 2006.

Via an email from Martin Petrey of the USPS, he has sent notices about the color rendering to the responsible parties in house. He also sent an inquiry again about the service boundary map. He stated that he has placed "these items on (his) calendar and that should keep the issue on the front burner until it is resolved".

5. HEAVY VEHICLE ROADWAY RESTRICTIONS [Jerry Kirchgessner] - [Awaiting a response from

the City to NIVA's letter of Mar 28.] A follow up reminder of no response received from the City to the outstanding letter was sent to Acting City Mgr. Sean Joyce on Sept 7.

6. HICKS CANYON COMMUNITY PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING - Melvold met with Councilmember Kang on Sept 8 to discuss this issue. Kang made no indication of his leaning but did question whether Heritage Park could furnish the need, how far was Gateway from Hicks Canyon C.P., and lastly whether the community center could be built any sooner at Hicks Canyon than at Gateway. Concluding, he stated that he would request a memo from John McAllister, Dir. of Com. Services, addressing this issue and answering how he sees the needed services being furnished to PA-4 and PA-5. Then maybe another meeting would held between Melvold and Kang to discuss the issue. However, it is key that not only can the services be provided but that they are provided in a fair and equitable manner to that provided throughout the rest of the City. Longer travel distances being required to utilize a center should not be required of the residents of our North Irvine community. This arrangement, however, was changed with a meeting to be held earlier today between Melvold, Kang, and McAllister. At the meeting attended also by Acting City Mgr. Joyce, the City position was stated that when the annual Strategic Plan is submitted to the Council in Jan., it will include the Building Facilities Plan which will include Hicks Canyon CP community center and the Gateway CP facilities. At this time, the Council can consider the issue. [See Item 9]

7. CENTERLINE LIGHT-RAIL PROJECT & CALIF. HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT- It was agreed to close this issue until such time that either is again actively discussed. [ITEM TO BE CLOSED]

8. NB CULVER I-5 UNDERCROSSING - E-mail correspondence has been ongoing between Zelinko and Caltrans addressing design issues on the project and attempting to set up a meeting with both Caltrans and City resp in attendance. Since the last meeting, Caltrans has replaced several of the signal standards at the Culver/I-5 SB offramp intersection apparently in anticipation of its project to add another SB offramp lane. Per Katie Berg, Supv. Transportation Analyst with the City, the placement of the poles was coordinated with the City so as to accommodate the City's plan for yet another SB offramp lane. However, the placement of the signal standard on the east side of NB Culver is an obstacle to the extension of any 4th NB Culver lane south beyond Scottsdale.

The City Council approved the plans, specifications and contract documents for a program for the Culver Drive signal coordination between Portola Pkwy and Campus Drive (CIP 334100) at the meeting last night. The program would update the existing equipment over the next 5 years and could assist to some extent on the traffic congestion between Walnut and Trabuco. Per Dave Mori of the City, the equipment will have the ability to accommodate the Caltrans-controlled intersections of Culver and the I-5 SB offramp and Trabuco. It is intended to be coordinated with Caltrans.

9. BUILDING FACILITIES MASTER PLAN - [Awaiting receipt of copy of Phase 1 document requested of the City by letter of Feb 19.] A followup e-mail was sent to the Community Services Dept. Director, John McAllister, on Sept 12 again requesting a copy of the Phase I document. [See Item 6]

10. JEFFREY OPEN-SPACE SPINE - [Draft of NIVA reply to the City response of June 27 to be prepared for review and approval at NIVA meeting.] Analysis of response and drafting of reply to be done by Melvold, Zelinko, and Kiser for review and approval at a future meeting.

11. "SMART" PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OF YALE & GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING OF JEFFREY FOR VENTA SPUR TRAIL - Zelinko and Melvold gave a presentation to the PC on Sept. 1 requesting that the PC place the Venta Spur Trail grade-separated crossing of Jeffrey on the next meeting agenda so that they may consider the merits of and possibly support a recommendation to the Council for a detailed study of such an option. The study would investigate the feasibility and cost, identify impacts, and determine the measures needed to mitigate the impacts. Com. Mavity proposed the

inclusion of the item in the joint PC/CSC study session planned for Sept. 7. No decision was made regarding agendaizing the item. Staff was to look into the matter. Since it was not included on the agenda for the study session, staff must have found it to not be possible.

Per Mavity, Melvold was to be informed by Com. Dev. Dir. Tina Christiansen within a day or 2 regarding the final decision on the matter. Having not received a call by Sept 12, Melvold called Mavity to verify the understanding. Mavity agreed to e-mail Christiansen reminding her of her outstanding call.

12. NEW WIRELESS SERVICE TOWERS IN NORTHWOOD SHOPPING CENTER - At the Aug. 10 hearing, the City's Zoning Administrator approved an CUP application by Cingular Wireless to install a wireless facility consisting of antennas located on an existing office building rooftop concealed behind a parapet and associated equipment located within a ground-level enclosure behind the complex at the southeast corner of the shopping center. [ITEM CLOSED]

13. LIQUOR SALES APPLICATION FOR WALNUT MOBIL STATION - [ITEM TO BE CLOSED] It was agreed that this item should be closed.

14. WB BRYAN BUS-STOP AT YALE - Melvold met with Councilmember Kang and Traffic Manager Manuel Gomez on Sept 8 to discuss the situation and the previous communications between NIVA and the City and the OCTA. The meeting ended with Gomez agreeing to check with the OCTA operations manager about either moving the waiting location and/or parking in the Northwood C.P. parking lot on Yale. The later depends on the arrival direction of the bus and if no objections from Community Services Dept. It would only be an interim solution until a bus turn out is built if one has to be as the location cannot be switched. Gomez was to get back to Melvold by the end of this week.

15. FUTURE NORTH IRVINE POLICE SUBSTATION - Per Deputy Chief Dave Mihalik [9/12], the possibility is far into the future. The only reason the subject came up was that the Dept. wanted it to be recognized that within the number of acres within the City's ownership at El Toro consideration is to be given to a police substation. No further investigation is underway at this time.

16. FIRE SAFETY [Jerry Kirchgessner] - Captain Miller of the OCFA informed that there is an OSHA regulation called "2 in/2 out" which restricts firemen from entering a burning premise without 2 men being left outside. However, there is an exception practiced by OCFA that a 2-man rescue crew will enter even if only 3 firemen on site when there is known possibility of person(s) trapped within the building even if only 1 fireman remains outside. Therefore, in the case of a 3-man unit, such as from Station 55 in North Irvine, rescues will be attempted if it is known that person(s) are trapped rather than waiting for arrival of another fire unit. It was agreed at the meeting that this item can be closed. [ITEM CLOSED]

17. CITY BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE - Over the past month or so the City has posted a 17-question survey about biking on its Web site that was used as input in updating the existing Plan. A workshop was also held Aug 18 at City Hall on the Plan. Per Bryan Fisk of the City, the Plan is scheduled to go the PC on Oct 20. Katie Berg of the City is preparing the staff report for the hearing. NIVA will be getting a copy of the staff report prior to the meeting. However, it might not contain the entire proposed update of the Plan itself. Also, there may be ramifications of this Plan that could impact or have a major influence on our efforts regarding the Venta Spur crossing of Jeffrey and the bike/pedestrian trail bridge crossing of the 133 Tollway for a connection to the Great Park. This is a critical document which warrants careful review and scrutiny by NIVA. Adequate time must be allowed for public review.

18. NIVA FINANCES - Chris Elliott confirmed that all member associations are fully paid for the Year 2005 dues.

NEXT MEETING - Next meeting is scheduled for Wed., Oct. 12, 2005.