

# NIVA MEETING RECORD

Jan 11, 2006

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-10 JAMBOREE MEDICAL/SCIENCE CENTER COMMITTEE [Nancy LaPorte] - LaPorte reported that she, Gless, and Chris Elliott met with Kia's architect and City staff last Dec 21. Kia is still looking into alternatives for the complying with the approved color palette for the exterior walls including staining concrete to meet the requirement. Rather than phasing the project with the later installation of the design center, Kia is now planning to go forward this year with the entire project initially, i.e., both the North American headquarters office building and the design center.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. EL TORO MCAS REUSE - After considering the selection of an architect at meetings on Dec 12 and 15, the OC Great Park Board was unable to come to a decision especially since it was seeking a unanimous decision. Currently the Board is toying with an attempt to hire all 3 firms through some sort of collaborative arrangement.

After a scheduled Feb 15 celebration, ETRPA will disband. The group spent \$24 Million in fighting the airport. A total of 15 lawsuits were filed by ETRPA in federal and state courts.

2. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY - At the Jan 3 meeting, the City's Library Task Force [TF] was given a presentation by staff on the 1996 Feasibility Study on the City separating from the County for library service. In 1996, the City was then only contributing \$176,000 more than it received in library services, whereas today the City contributes in excess of \$4.5 Million more to the County than it receives. However, even at that point in 1996 the recommendation made to the Council was that the City actively pursue withdrawal from the County Library System. After consideration by the Council, the City notified that it was suspending its intention to withdraw from the County's System placing its hope in successful renegotiation of the long-term funding allocations. Though the negotiations did lead to improvement in the terms, the latest financial figures indicate that the settlement was far from favorable for the City and that as a result of the development and increased property values that the disparity only got worse. There followed discussion on Article 6 of the adopted Orange County Public Library [OCPL] System Agreement, of which the City is a party, which states the terms and conditions under which a city can withdraw from the OCPL System. Basically it would be "negotiated on an individual basis with the objective of ensuring that the action shall not have a negative impact on the existing/remaining member cities." Obviously, the loss of revenues provided by Irvine would certainly have an impact of the "receiver cities". This may present a significant obstacle to any consideration of withdrawing from the County system. There followed considerable discussion on the specific goals and objectives of the TF and on what part consultant services may be needed to support the TF effort. The next meeting is set for Feb 7.

3. HEAVY VEHICLE ROADWAY RESTRICTIONS [Jerry Kirchgessner] - A meeting was held on Dec 15 between NIVA reps (Ciulik, Kirchgessner, & Melvold) and City staff (PW Deputy Dir. Manuel Gomez, Traffic Engineer Ken Louie, Police Dept. Lt. Robert Richardson, and Officer Scott Crones). During the discussion, Gomez stated that if the City uses State funds to improve a road, it is restricted against putting any truck restriction on the road. However, this issue would not currently affect any roads in Irvine. Louie stated that most roadway weight restriction are due to the strength limit of the road. Richardson stated that the Dept. has only one officer assigned to road limit enforcement and he primarily sites for overload violations. The meeting concluded with Gomez committing to investigating the history, current situation, and possible actions regarding such restrictions. He would then get back to NIVA with his recommendation regarding any action to be taken and possibly a followup meeting.

4. HICKS CANYON COMMUNITY PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING - NIVA has been awaiting receipt of

City's proposed 2006 Strategic Plan but has neither received or heard anything about this item or the inclusion of the center in the City's 2006 Strategic Plan though it is now 2006. It would seem that at least a draft of the Plan would be available at this time since budgeting must either have or about to occur for funding. NIVA has not received a word since previously told to await this Plan. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Councilmember Kang, who resides in North Irvine, requesting the item be agendaized with the Council with cc copy to all councilmembers along with the City Manager and Dir. of Com. Services.

5. NB CULVER I-5 UNDERCROSSING - Melvold inquired of PW Deputy Dir. Gomez about scheduling a meeting including representatives from Caltrans. He agreed and would get back about the time. It would be after the 1st of the new year. An e-mail reminder was sent to Gomez on Jan 10 regarding his commitment to arrange a joint City-OCTA-NIVA meeting on this project.

6. BUILDING FACILITIES MASTER PLAN -NIVA has been awaiting receipt of copy of Phase 1 of the document requested of the City by letter of Feb 19, 2005. It has been some time since any communication whatsoever from the City and no response to either the Feb 19 letter or Sept 12, 2005 e-mail reminder. In the City's last communication dated Jan 14 the schedule of City actions was detailed indicating that not only would Phase 1 be completed in 2005 but also Phase 2. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the City's Dir. of Com. Services along with a copy of the Jan 14, 2005 letter again requesting a copy of Phase 1 of the Plan with a cc copy to the City Manager.

7. STORM DRAIN INSPECTIONS - The City effort to reconcile the City's plan with the Water Quality Management Program of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board approved last Sept 26, 2003 is expected to take on importance this Summer since the City's current Regional Board permit expires at the end of the year. Per Mike Loving, the City will most likely have to negotiate new terms for renewal of the permit. Loving expects the Regional Board to mandate involvement of HOAs into the program. This expectation was highlighted at the meeting for the heads up benefit of NIVA member-associations which have private streets. The San Diego Board has already mandated HOA participation. HOAs in the City of Santa Marguerita, which is in the San Diego Region, have consequently had to meet the mandatory standards. Irvine is planning to develop an outreach program for HOAs to provide practical ways and means to comply. The draft order from the Regional Board is expected to be issued this Summer with an opportunity for public comment to the proposed provisions. Though the City will be providing comments with the HOAs in mind, Loving recommends that HOAs provide their own comments also. For information, Loving will provide NIVA with a copy of the mandatory provisions of the San Diego Regional Board and the details of the methods and means being used by the HOAs in Santa Marguerita. Loving also mentioned that the lead on this effort was being transferred to the City Engineer, Mark Carroll, as he was changing roles with a change in responsible duties.

7. FUTURE NORTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL - The IUSD Board is expected to hear the matter of the relocation of the middle school in Feb. A Facilities Workshop is scheduled for the Board on Jan 24 at which time the siting of the middle school is expected to be included. However, no action would be taken at that time.

8. BOWERMAN LANDFILL EXPANSION - The draft EIR on the Expansion Project is expected to be issued for public review by the end of this month.

9. MASTER COMMUNITY PARK PLAN REVISION - NIVA has been awaiting a response from the City to NIVA's June 26, 2002 letter which stressed the need for the update as the "planning" document is needed due to the shortcomings in North Irvine and the rapid development taking place in North Irvine. As a response is long overdue, it was agreed that NIVA send a followup letter to the Dir. of Com. Services with a cc copy to Councilmember Kang who lives in North Irvine.

10. NORTH IRVINE TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION PROGRAM - The I-5/Sand Canyon Interchange

Improvement Project and accompanying environmental Negative Declaration were previously scheduled to go before the City Council on Jan 24 but due to issues, which were presented during public comment period, is now expected to go to Council at the end of March. There will be no PC hearing on the matter.

11. "SMART" PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OF YALE & GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING FOR VENTA SPUR TRAILS - Zelinko agreed to investigate into when the City Council is expected to again consider the allocation of the Year 2004-05 General Fund Carryover and whether Councilmember Shea is planning to introduce the funding for the Venta Spur Trail overcrossing of Jeffrey Road study.

12. NORTH IRVINE SENIOR CENTER - The next meeting of the Irvine Senior Citizens Council is Thursday, Jan 19. Melvold and Kiser are planning to attend and give the followup presentation requesting that the Senior Citizen Council agendized the siting of the senior center. In a Dec 20, 2004 letter, the than City Manager Allison Hart stated that Community Services staff has been devolping preliminary concepts working with the Senior Citizens Council. It goes on further to state that at the appropriate public meetings, including that of the Senior Citizens Council, these plans will be presented. However, siting of the Center must take place in the near future regardless of the timing of the detailed plans so as to assure an optimum location.

13. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY FOR HICKS CANYON COM. PARK - The PC process is held up due to lease negotiations between the applicant and the City. Another service provider has contacted the City for an installation at the park but as a co-located installation. No details as yet.

14. WB BRYAN BUS-STOP AT YALE - The City contracted with PBS&J in late Dec. to perform the engineering study. The study period is Jan-Mar. PW has held an initial meeting with Com. Services staff on the proposal with no immediate reaction. Further meetings are planned as the results of the engineering study become available.

15. CITY BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE - The Plan is being held up awaiting the results of recommendations from the City's Trails Committee. This Committee is made up of Planning Commissioners Cosgrove & Mavity, Community Services Commissioners Cheng & Luong. The Committee has held one meeting so far but until it has completed its assignment, the Plan can not be progressed any further by staff. Cosgrove wanted to buy off on the Plan as currently presented by staff while Cheng and Mavity wanted several changes and more details included. Their next meeting is scheduled for Jan 19.

16. CULVER DRIVE/WALNUT AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - At the Dec 15 public scoping meeting, the City's Transportation Analyst for the project, Farideh Lyons, led off the meeting with some background data and project overview. A drawing with an overlaid overhead photo of the area was circulated at the meeting. From the picture, it is apparent that 23 homes in the Colony backing up to Culver Drive and 9 homes in College Park backing up to Walnut will be seriously impacted from both a noise and lighting perspective. The Walnut/Culver intersection is projected to be deficient by 2006 and by City calculations Scottsdale/Culver is currently at Performance Level D. \$1.1 Million is currently available for the project but it is not enough. The current lane widths on Culver between Walnut and Scottsdale are from the median: 13', 12', 14', and an 8' bike lane. Current City standard is 13', 12', 12', and 14' plus any bike lane. The project proposal is for 12', 11', 11', and 14' and elimination of any bike lane.

The current schedule is for the final draft EIR by April 2006 with the start of design by June 2006 -- a very tight, ambitious schedule with little time for public input and consideration of same.

Rock Miller of the City's consultant [Norris-Repke Engineers & Land Surveyors] stated that there will be a loss of approximately 25,000 sq ft along the roadways due to the project. For the Walnut bus turnout, the

loss would be 12' of landscaped setback and for the additional Walnut EB lane a loss of 14' of landscaped setback along the southside of Walnut. There also would be a loss of landscape along Culver on both sides. On the Heritage Retail Center side, most likely half of the mature liquid-amber trees would be lost; while on the west side of Culver many of the pine trees will have to be removed. The photos of the existing landscaping and turning traffic on Walnut, reviewed at the Dec NIVA meeting, were provided by NIVA for discussion. In response, Lyons said "it is a priority of the City to improve the landscaping through "creative means" though no explanation was provided as to what that means. Melvold requested a copy of the environmental assessment study. Lyons said she would check if such was possible.

There was discussion about various details of the proposal including the loss of the exit from the Walnut Village Center and consequent increase in U-turn traffic at the Lime/Walnut intersection, the amount of traffic turning north on Culver from EB Walnut, and the amount of traffic turning into the Heritage Plaza Center from SB Culver (especially that coming from the SB I-5 off-ramp). Obviously, the closing of the access and egress of the Walnut Village Center will have serious impact on the customers who live to the east or north of the Center. Neither the City or consultant could provide any traffic details on these two maneuvers. The City was requested to look into the elimination of the extreme bumps on Scottsdale on both sides of Culver to improve traffic flow and possibly a dedicated right turn-out of the Center onto NB Culver. Lyons indicated the possibility of another public meeting in a couple of months.

It should be noted that in attendance was Gregg LaCagnina, VP of Facilities Management for TIC. However, he offered no public comments during the meeting. In discussion with Melvold, he did indicate a concern about the loss of access to their center. He also stated that all leasees in the center were notified of the project and Trader Joe's management, specifically, had no concern. It is not clear how much detail the leasees were provided, however, prior to drawing their individual conclusion. There may be merit in having NIVA contact the management of the various stores about the potential impact on sales due to impact on customer access. It was agreed that NIVA would do such. Melvold agreed to take on this effort and would contact the managers where possible.

17. YEAR 2005 SUMMARY - A summary of the significant accomplishments and undertakings of NIVA for the year 2005 was distributed at the meeting. Due to a lack of time, there was no opportunity for review or comment on the listing. A reduced version will be distributed with the next meeting announcement.

NEXT MEETING - Next meeting is scheduled for Wed., Feb 8, 2006.