

NIVA MEETING RECORD

October 11, 2006

V.P. LaPorte chaired the meeting in the absence of the President.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-10 JAMBOREE MEDICAL/SCIENCE CENTER COMMITTEE [Nancy LaPorte] - Per Steve Schultz of Ability First, "Ability First Apartments Irvine" is having a Ground-Breaking Ceremony on Oct 24, 2006. This is a 24-unit project exclusively for handicapped tenants who can live independently. It is to be located at Walnut and Harvard.

OLD BUSINESS

1. EL TORO MCAS REUSE - The City estimates it will take 12 to 18 months to perform the environmental analysis, negotiate and finalize the revision to the Development Agreement between the City and Heritage Field, LLC, and prepare the ordinance for the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change for the proposed change to the non-park development of the El Toro Reuse. NIVA must be watchful of the traffic studies. They must be complete and contain any and all necessary mitigation measures. The concern is that the City may see beyond any impacts and choosing to ignore these veying only for the additional park development funds.
2. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY - As a Irvine Library Task Force member, Melvold received a draft copy of the City's consultant, Arroyo Associates, Report on Library Needs Assessment Study On Sept 15. It was forwarded after Melvold completed his review to Kiser who was to give a summary of the pertinent conclusions and recommendations at the meeting. However, the summary will be presented by Melvold at the next meeting.
3. NB CULVER I-5 UNDERCROSSING - Per Zelinko, the landscaping of the center divider for the underpass will not be camphor trees like that north or south of the site on Culver as they are not "breakaway trees" -- supposedly a requirement of Caltrans who owns the property. The recommendation is now Strawberry trees of a 36" box size. The proposed Landscaped Concept Plan was distributed at the meeting.
4. BUILDING FACILITIES MASTER PLAN - [Awaiting receipt of Draft Plan from the City promised no later than end of Summer (See June 14, 2006 Meeting Record)].
5. BOWERMAN LANDFILL EXPANSION - Surveys to be returned by Nov 3 for consideration at next month's meeting.
6. MASTER COMMUNITY PARK PLAN REVISION - [No complete City-wide revision has been done since the 1988 version though piecemeal approvals of master plans (addendums) have occurred on an individual development project basis. Consequently, established North Irvine continues to be left out of City planning and shortfalls continue with no future plan to correct.]
7. NORTH IRVINE TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION PROGRAM - A NIVA response was faxed to the City Council on Sept 15 as agreed at the last meeting [Attachment] primarily addressing the concern about the extensive loss of landscaped setbacks inherent in the roadway "improvements" in the established and older residential area of North Irvine proposed in this Program due to traffic primarily generated in new development outside this area. The particular project, the first of several underway or planned, is that of the Jeffrey Rd/Walnut Intersection Improvement Project. It was scheduled for hearing before the City Council on Sept 26.

8. NORTHWOOD MILITARY MEMORIAL MONUMENT [Zelinko] - The Northwood Community Park "community and Honor" Monument was scheduled for a hearing before the Community Services Commission on Oct 4. The "Gratitude & Honor" project would consist of replacing the existing park monument sign with a new 60 sq ft sign with a commemorative mural an bronze plaque, a new flagpole, and 2000 sq ft patio seating area for staging ceremonies and reflection. It is estimated to cost approx. \$350 thousand and take 15 months to complete. Four members of the public spoke at the hearing in favor of the project including Kiser, Ravenscroft, and Zelinko from NIVA. However, the Commission voted unanimously instead to continue the matter until a dec meeting. Subsequently, Zelinko discussed the situation with Councilmember Shea who interceded to get the continuance reduced to at least a meeting in Nov.

9. JEFFREY OPEN-SPACE SPINE - [Awaiting a response from the City to NIVA's Nov 29, 2005 letter regarding the acreage credit calculation for Segment 2 of the Spine.]

10. "SMART" PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OF YALE & GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING FOR VENTA SPUR TRAILS - [Awaiting response from NIVA letter of Nov 10, 2005 to Gomez, Deputy Dir. of PW, on the Yale Ave. crossing. Second copy of letter faxed May 4 due to City staff unable to locate original.] As there were new attendees from The Groves at the meeting, discussion on this issue centered on the reasoning for consideration of a proposed grade-separated Venta Spur Trail crossing at Jeffrey. Also, it was suggested that a portion of the Bowerman Landfill compensation funds be used to pay for the overpass.

11. NORTH IRVINE SENIOR CENTER - Zelinko attended the Sept 21 meeting of the Senior Citizens Council [SCC] at which a presentation was made by Pamela Chana, Community Services Mgr, on the Northern Sphere Park Amenity Program. Zelinko gave a summary of the events of SCC's meeting. Though staff's presentation started as an overview of the entire Northern Sphere amenity program including all parks, it concluded by focusing on the issue of the senior center activities and staff's proposal to place them in 3 multi-use centers, ie., a combination of community and senior centers, located throughout the Northern Sphere -- all east of Jeffrey. In the end, the SCC passed a motion [5/1 with Chair Brandt opposed; Nedom absent] that the SCC "recommend City Council approve the Northern Sphere Park Amenity program with the condition that the Senior Citizen Council be involved in the planning of those facilities to insure that senior services are provided and with the condition that there be a stand-alone senior center created in North Irvine". There was no detail on the stand-alone senior center regarding content, location, or in-service date compiled by the SCC or provided by staff. [NOTE: The invite NIVA received from the City indicated that a presentation and only a presentation was to be given on the "Northern Sphere Facility Plan" to the SSC and not that any action could or would be take.]

NIVA members present at the meeting indicated that they would like to have a review if possible with Melvold to gather facts about the senior center issue prior to the Oct 24 City Council meeting. Zelinko passed out a flyer at the meeting for NIVA members to distribute and encourage people to attend the Council meeting. Members are encouraged to send letters and e-mails to Councilmembers in advance of the meeting stating their position. Zelinko reported that Councilmember Shea supports having one senior center serving North Irvine, but needs help getting the word out. A mailing can cost upwards of \$2,000 -- no trivial sum at this time in the midst of campaigning expenditures. Zelinko had received an e-mail from Councilmember Shea indicating that she was in a pinch at the moment and could not afford to expenditure though promised at the meeting with the NIVA reps last Aug 31 for a mailer.

12. LOWER PETERS CANYON COMMUNITY PARK ANNUAL JOINT-USE EVALUATION - Kiser reported that he will have the draft of the letter to be sent to the City prepared for the December meeting.

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