

NIVA MEETING RECORD

November 8, 2006

ANNOUNCEMENTS The City has a \$13 Million surplus this year in its budget and the City Council will consider where to spend or place in reserve these funds at its Nov 28 meeting.

The OC Marathon will be held Sunday, Jan 7. During various times, Jeffrey Road from Portola Pkwy to Irvine Blvd. (6 am - 12:30 pm), Irvine Blvd. between Jeffrey and east to the Bake Pkwy (6 am - 1 pm), and the SR-261 Tollway from north of Portola Pkwy to south of Walnut (6 am - 12 noon) will be closed to traffic. For more information, visit the website at <www.OCMarathon.com> or call (949) 222-9888.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-40 R & D DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE () - The Irvine Company has invited the members of the Northern Sphere Community Task Force to an update on the current plans and anticipated schedule for approval and implementation on PA-40 on Nov 17. Melvoid will be attending as a member of the Task Force and will report back at the next NIVA meeting.

2. NORTHERN SPHERE (PA-3, 5B, 8A, 9, 9C) COMMITTEE - Baab & Associates, TIC's consultant, has submitted a sign program for the Village of Stonegate (PA-6) for its village monument signs. Stonegate is located in the area bounded by Yale, Irvine Blvd., Portola and Sand Canyon. The Site Plan and sign design illustrations were included in a distributed drawing. The matter is expected to go to the Planning Commission on Nov 16. The walls upon which the 3-1/2 ft lettering is to be installed sign are to be 12 ft high and 150 ft long. Per City Planner Christina Ciampa, the previous largest village monument sign lettering in the City is only 3 ft high. TIC has been ever increasing the size of the lettering on signs through repeated administrative relief requests. The Planning Commission approved administrative relief for the 12 ft. walls last May. It was agreed at the meeting that NIVA should express concern about the size of the signs and their lettering size mentioning how they relate in comparison to the City entry sign along the I-5. It was also agreed that NIVA should especially object to the 2 signs proposed on either side of the unnamed entrance road which would cross the Jeffrey Open-space Spine. They are oriented to face the Spine and will be lite at night. The City should be requested to have these two signs modified so as not to be so impacting in visibility from the Spine. [An e-mail letter was sent to the City on Nov 12.]

OLD BUSINESS

1. EL TORO MCAS REUSE - Great Park airport flyaway station is being planned which would provide bus/luggage handling service while providing transportation service to LAX, JWA and even Ontario from the Irvine Transportation Center [ITC]. This of course would necessitate more parking space at the ITC.

On Oct 14, the Ken Smith's Design Team shared its park plan for the Great Park with "A Walk Through The Park" in the City Hall quad which provided the public with the first opportunity to review the proposed detailed layout plan. On Oct 26, the OC Great Park Corp. Board gave unanimous approval of the draft park plan as prepared by Ken Smith's Design Team. During the Board's meeting, there was concern expressed that the operation and maintenance planning needs to be integrated into the design before final approval. The Design Team will continue to refine the draft plan over the next few months and will submit the master plan for approval in early 2007. Upon approval of the final master plan, it will be forwarded to the City for processing including adoption of specific zoning. Hearings by the various City commissions would follow and eventual consideration for approval by the Council. This is currently expected no sooner than mid-2007.

The City has initiated a project Definition Study for the Great Park-Spectrum Guideway Demonstration Project which is an advanced transit guideway system to serve the future Great Park and Spectrum area.

A Community Advisory Team [CAT] has been established, made up of members of primarily stakeholders within the study area, which will hold a series of focus meetings. Melvold has been asked to join the Team. Though the study area is bound by the SR-133 Tollway on the west, Irvine Blvd. on the north, Bake Pkwy on the east, and the 405 Freeway on the south, the final decision can affect the north Irvine community in terms of traffic and access to the Great Park for community members. The first meeting was held Oct 3. The focus of the meeting centered around describing and soliciting input on the project, process, schedule, and alternative technologies. A copy of the power-point charts used at the meeting were available for review at the meeting.

2. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY - The County now has the full \$6.2 Million to build the Wheeler Library and to furnish it completely. Construction is expected to start in Dec. and take about 12 months to complete.

As reported at the last meeting, Arroyo Associates provided a draft of their report on the Library Needs Assessment Study for review and comment by the various members of the Ad Hoc Library Task Force [TF]. The major concerns as detected by Melvold consisted of: (1) lack of consideration or addressing of impact of proximity and location of libraries on access and frequency of use; (2) the need for inclusion within the report of the calculation/derivation of the underserved population thresholds mentioned in the report; (3) need for inclusion of the rationale, source, or significance to the mentioned 3-mile service radius; (4) more discussion on the significance or adequacy of the number of seats and their respective location within the various library sections rather than simply the total number of seats; and (5) again the mis-allocation of the total library square footage associated with the Wheeler Library assigned to the City of Irvine. At the Oct 3 meeting of the TF, the study results as reported by Arroyo were discussed, suggestions made for changes, with eventual approval of the report. Melvold was unable to attend the meeting.

At the Oct 24 Council hearing, Arroyo Associates gave a presentation on the results of their Library needs Assessment Study. Some of the more demonstrative illustrations and charts in the Report are provided in the attachment. Melvold gave a presentation at the hearing which included the chart also included in the attachment which indicated how far below standard and below service levels provided in other cities Irvine has fallen. City staff has failed in its oversight responsibility. This was combined with the lack of attention by City Council and City Commissions though repeatedly brought to their attention by NIVA over the last 10 years or more. The critical findings highlighted by Arroyo included:

- (1) The adopted OC Public Library standards for library service are low;
- (2) Most performance measures are not favorable for Irvine when compared to comparable communities;
- (3) Service at the 2 existing Irvine branches are at maximum capacity;
- (4) Possibility of expanding the square footage of the existing branch facilities is limited;
- (5) Limited opportunity to improve deficient services, unless library facility space is increased;
- (6) New facilities are needed, especially, given recent and anticipated population growth; and
- (7) New facilities will require significant City resources to construct and operate.

The TF recommended the establishment of a standing Library Services Advisory Committee [Committee], constituted essentially the same as the TF, whose more significant objectives would be to:

- (1) Prepare a Library Service Master Plan for the City;
- (2) Include in the Master Plan a building plan that includes 1 to 2 additional branch libraries along with a large metropolitan library; and
- (3) Explore potential development areas with the Western and Northern Spheres of the City for siting new branch libraries.

The City Council approved the recommendations including the initiation of discussions with the County to seek immediate improvement in the current services rendered, expediting of the Wheeler Library construction, and inclusion of a metropolitan library in the Great Park. The first meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Monday, Nov 27.

3. BOWERMAN LANDFILL EXPANSION - Survey responses were due back by Nov. 3. Discussion will centered around the survey results. The suggested items were considered and ranked in priority for to the City for consideration in development of the City's Strategic Business Plan. It was agreed that only the following 2 items be submitted and ranked 1 and 2:

#1 - A stand-alone senior center for North Irvine

#2 - A community center for Hicks Canyon Community Park

[An e-mail was ent to the City relaying this decision on Nov 9.]

4. NORTH IRVINE TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION PROGRAM - NIVA had sent a fax to the City Council on Sept 15 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 City Council hearing on Sept 26. Though the fax was addressed to the Council and received at City Hall on Sept 15, the lead staff member was not sure Councilmembers received the fax any earlier than just prior to the hearing on Sept 26 accompanying a response drafted and to be sent from staff. NIVA received a Sept 26 response to the fax from the City -- not from the Council or Mayor though NIVA's letter was addressed to the Council -- but from Marty Bryant, Dir. of Public Works (Copies distributed at the meeting). When inquiring why the City response was not signed by the mayor since NIVA's letter was addressed to the Council and not City staff, the response was that City staff typically responds to correspondence addressing a specific project regardless of whether sent to staff or the Council. The Council unanimously adopted the resolution approving the project report and certifying the mitigated negative declaration for the project at the hearing. There was no mention of NIVA's fax or the presented concern at the hearing and, in fact, the item was approved under the Consent Calendar. City staff's response letter provides nothing new as it is simply a reiteration of the staff position already expressed in the previous documents leading up to the recommendation to the Council. So, in essence, staff "buried" NIVA's fax until the "11th hour" and the Council was previously unaware of, and consequently ignored, the issue of the comprehensive loss of landscaping due to proposed NITM roadway improvements in North Irvine. It was agreed at the meeting that e-mails should be sent to the individual councilmembers and mayor with a cc copy to the City Mgr. objecting to the handling of NIVA's letter to the Council and expressing dissatisfaction with a response from staff rather than the Council or mayor.

5. NORTHWOOD MILITARY MEMORIAL MONUMENT [Zelinko] - After a brief discussion on the subject and a review of the currently proposed plans which were made available at the meeting, it was moved and approved that NIVA should go officially on record in support of the proposed memorial monument.

6. "SMART" PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OF YALE & GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING FOR VENTA SPUR TRAILS - Per City Transportation Analyst Sun-Sun Murillo, the City had a meeting with the consultant, IBI Group of Irvine, last week. IBI has taken vehicle and pedestrian counts in the area and are now doing the traffic analysis portion of the study. IBI intends on providing alternative designs for the crossing. The restrictions on designs are influenced by the need to avoid disturbing the Irvine Valencia Growers packing house historical marker and portions of the remaining foundation on the Jeffrey Spine (arequired mitigation measure) and not to harm the eucalyptus windrow on the west side of Jeffrey. The current schedule anticipates holding an initial community meeting in Jan.

7. NORTH IRVINE SENIOR CENTER - At the request of Councilmember Shea, in response to NIVA's expressed concern, the item of the senior center was agendized for the Oct 24 Council meeting. Unfortunately, due to repeated misuse and interchanging by staff, which contributed to confusion by Councilmembers, the item was agendized specifically as "Discussion and Direction regarding a Northwood Senior Center" rather than the desired and more regional North Irvine senior center. NIVA is

actually seeking a stand-alone senior center for all of North Irvine -- either separate for Northwood, Northpark, Northpark Square, West Irvine, Northwood Point and Orchard Hills, or in conjunction with the Northern Sphere villages of Woodbury, Stonegate, and Portola Springs. NIVA had included a notice in the mailing for the NIVA October meeting notice to notify membership of the Council hearing and what was at stake.

At the City Council meeting, John McAllister, Dir. of Community Services Dept., gave a presentation on the Northern Sphere Park Amenity Program - a very much abbreviated form of that presented to the Senior Citizen Council [SSC] in Sept. Also mentioned for the first time was an effort underway by staff to process this proposed Program through City commissions and Council for approval. Previously staff had indicated it was going ahead with this Program having supposedly already received the blessing of the SCC and approval by the Council when it had approved the Northern Sphere Conceptual Park Plan. Apparently, staff has changed their strategy as a result of NIVA's bringing the matter to the attention of Councilmember Shea and the Mayor. Though brought to the attention of the Mayor as far back as May, she apparently was unmoved to take any action. At the hearing, 8 members of the public spoke in favor of a stand-alone senior center for North Irvine and its long-overdue status. Essentially, the Council was repeatedly asked by the public speakers when and where will it be built. NIVA received a copy of a faxed letter sent to the City Council in support of the senior center from the president of the Northwood Park HOA. There has been no other indications of communications by NIVA member associations to the City on the issue.

At the conclusion of the discussion on the agenda item, the Council begged off taking any position regarding the distributed or multi-use center concept until the matter comes back before the Council. The Council did not take a position on a stand-alone senior center for North Irvine. Though some of the speakers objected to the concept of the multi-center community/senior center as activities of seniors and normal community activities are incompatible, the Mayor saw no problem. Councilmember Shea supported the notion that the uses are mutually and fundamentally incompatible. Councilmember Agran questioned the wisdom of the potential large expenditure for a stand-alone senior center and objected as unfounded the repeated statements implying that North Irvine is being short-changed in the amount of City-facilities furnished in comparison with the middle and southern sections of the City. Councilmember Kang requested financial operating data to accompany the matter when it comes back before the Council including comparison in operating costs between the stand-alone separate facilities (community center and senior center) versus the combined. Obviously from the various statements of the council majority, the community has its work cut out for it if the community desires to have a senior center.

As provided by McAllister, the schedule for the matter is as follows:

Dec 2006	Facilities Plan and Park Amenity Program for Community Services Commission
Jan 2007	Facilities Plan for Finance Commission
Feb 2007	Facilities Plan and Park Amenity Program for Council

It was agreed that NIVA should send a letter of appreciation to Councilmember Shea for her effort in the North Irvine community's behalf for agendaing and supporting the matter. [Letter e-mailed on Nov 12.]

It was suggested that all interested parties should visit one, if not both, senior centers along with one or more community park community centers to see firsthand the facilities and the differences between the two as to whether they can realistically be combined. This will be of value in informatively addressing the issue when it comes before the Commissions and Council starting later this year. The firsthand assessments will be discussed and compiled at the Dec NIVA meeting for preparation for the CSC hearing on the subject.

It has also been suggested that NIVA prepare a flyer to be handed out to (1) those North Irvine neighborhoods which are predominantly senior residents and (2) to those North Irvine residents known to

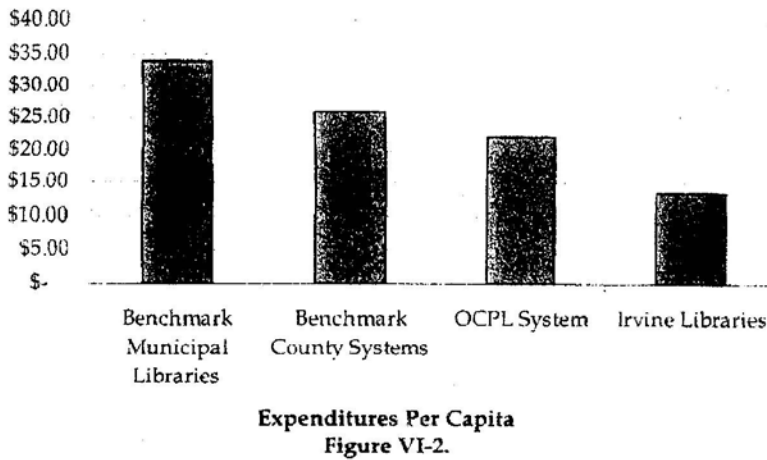
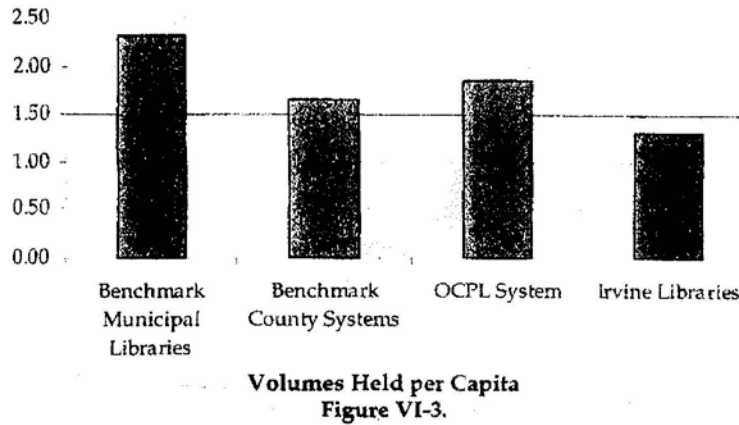
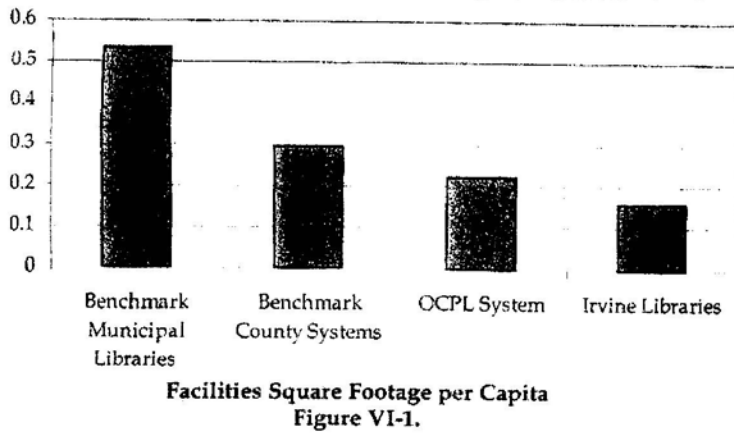
be interested in the subject or are senior residents in hopes of getting increased attendance at the upcoming hearings. It was agreed that NIVA would fund this expenditure. It was estimated that 400 flyers would be needed. Several members in attendance volunteered to distribute flyers in their respective communities. Meivold agreed to prepare a flyer which would include directions and suggested content for interested residents to contact (Phone, fax, e-mail or regular U.S. mail) the City prior to the CSC hearing. Attendance would not be sought at the CSC hearing but not solicit attendance until the City Council hearing.

8. WB BRYAN BUS-STOP AT YALE - Per Rick Sandzimier of the City, the City's design engineer indicated a need for a legal discription of the ROW property being proposed for use. There has been some disagreement over the description between the various parties within the City which has held up progress on the matter.

9. NOISE IMPACT OF TRAIN HORN BLOWING AT HARVARD CROSSING [_____] - The OCTA has made some money available for railroad crossing upgrades. The City has been actively trying to include the proposal for the quiet zone in the OCTA program for funding. City staff members Jon Toolson and Katie Berg are working on this.

10. PUBLIC STORAGE FACILITY EXPANSION - Per City Planner Marika Modugno, a scoping session has been scheduled on the proposed project for the City Council on Nov 14. The session is needed since the project approval involves a General Plan Amendment and Zone Change. At the session, Councilmember can state issues they wish addressed in staff's processing and review. NIVA has been promised a copy of the staff report for the session prior to the session. As currently planned, the matter is anticipated to go before the PC in mid-Jan and the Council in mid-Feb. For the environmental analysis, staff is preparing a mitigated negative declaration.

NEXT MEETING - Next meeting is scheduled for Wed., Dec. 13, 2006.



Library	Sq. ft. Per Capita
Cerritos Public Library	1.598
Chula Vista Public Library	0.501
Glendale Public Library	0.763
Huntington Beach Library	0.635
Mission Viejo City Library	0.423
Moreno Valley Public Library	0.097
Newport Beach Public Library	0.852
Oceanside Public Library	0.277
Ontario City Library	0.211
Oxnard Public Library	0.404
Pasadena Public Library	1.227
Pomona Public Library	0.354
Rancho Cucamonga Public Library	0.139
Riverside Public Library	0.317
San Bernardino Public Library	0.403
Santa Barbara Public Library	0.337
Benchmark Municipal Libraries Avg.	0.534
Irvine Branch Libraries	0.158
OCPL System Avg.	0.220
Benchmark County Systems Avg.	0.295

Square Foot per Capita Comparisons
Table VI-1.

CITY	AVERAGE AREA SERVED PER LIBRARY (square miles/library)
LOS ANGELES	6.5
SAN DIEGO	9.8
SAN JOSE	10.5
SAN FRANCISCO	1.7
LONG BEACH	4.2
OAKLAND	3.3
SANTA ANA	13.6
ANAHEIM	10
RIVERSIDE	13.1
CHULA VISTA	17.3
GLENDALE	4.3
SAN BERNARDINO	14.5
HUNTINGTON BEACH	5.6
OXNARD	8.3
IRVINE (existing)	32.5
IRVINE (with Wheeler)	21.6