

NIVA MEETING RECORD

June 6, 2007

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-10 JAMBOREE MEDICAL/SCIENCE CENTER COMMITTEE [LaPorte] - NIVA received a May 23 letter from Tim Gehrich, Mgr. of Planning & Dev Services for the City, basically assuring NIVA that the City is addressing the landscaping issues with KIA and has had several meetings with KIA reps to date. They are in the process of finalizing the plans. Additionally, there was discussion at the meeting about the need for more tree screening along the I-5 frontage and on the adequacy of the screening of the mechanical equipment from visibility from the I-5. No specific action was taken on the matter. KIA has been contacting neighbors about a proposal for a new color scheme and palette for the facility. No details provided as yet nor any meetings scheduled as yet.

2. NORTHERN SPHERE COMMITTEE [] - TIC has filed an appeal with the City Council against a Planning Commission imposed Condition on the Mirasol Apartment project in Stonegate [PA-9B] prohibiting vehicular control gates. The site is located at the NE corner of Irvine Blvd. and Groveland. The hearing before the City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Though there is no known possible consequences on the general North Irvine community, it is interesting to see how this plays out.

NIVA received a copy of a staff report for the 1.76-acre public trailhead also located in Orchard Hills (PA-1). The matter was to be considered that evening by the Community Services Commission. The major concern is the intent to reduce the previously-approved PC-required 19 parking spaces to only 14 with only an explanation that the 19 are excessive and would result in aesthetic and environmental impacts. No details are provided on the impacts nor any discussion on why the PC had required the number. Realize, that the Trailhead is the entrance to the open space in hills north of the City and the the parking must accommodate all expected users (equestrians, pedestrians, or bicyclists) of the trail who arrive by vehicle. This might be why the PC increased the number above the code. An e-mail inquiry was sent June 2 to City staff for an explanation. A subsequent e-mail was sent to Councilmember Shea expressing concern about the reduction in the number of parking spaces (copies distributed at the meeting.). After discussing the issue at the meeting, it was agreed that NIVA should object to any reduction in parking at the Trailhead and even support additional parking.

OLD BUSINESS

1. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY - At yesterday's Irvine Library Services Advisory Committee meeting, there was much discussion about the possible financial sources for the Metropolitan Library leaving relatively little time for discussion about the draft Library Alternatives Study which was supposed to be the agenda item for the evening. Consequently, the draft Study report will be discussed at the next meeting in early July with hopefully a Committee resolution in support of the final revised report to the Council. The City Council is expected to hear the matter at its July 24 meeting. If approved by the Council, it will be the City's guiding plan for the future.

2. COMPLETION OF PETERS CANYON WASH AND WALNUT TRAIL "GAPS" - NIVA received a May 8 letter from Assist. City Mgr. Landers transmitting a map indicating where signs were supposedly installed along the Hicks Canyon and Peters Canyon Trails in North Irvine. There were two types of signs installed: Type 1 which are brown signs on the trails indicating direction to street and Type 2 which are like the normal street intersection signs indicating the name of the street and of the trail. Both were to be installed at each trail/major street intersection. A field inspection was subsequently made of the trails to check the installations. However, the inspection revealed that several signs were still missing and that signs relating to the Peters Canyon/Hicks Canyon Trail intersection were confusing & inadequate. A letter was sent May 17 to Landers apprising her of the results of the inspection (copies distributed at the meeting).

3. HICKS CANYON COMMUNITY PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING - Copies of NIVA's May 15, 2007 letter to City Mgr. Joyce as directed at last month's meeting were distributed at the meeting. John McAllister, Dir. of Com. Services, informed Melvold that he - not City Mgr. Joyce - will be responding in writing to the letter. No response to date.

4. BOWERMAN LANDFILL EXPANSION - The Board of Supervisors are expected to approve the County's 2007-08 budget on June 26 which contains an item for \$44 Million to increase the capacity at 2 landfills -- one of which is Bowerman. If approved, Irvine should expect to receive the \$5.5 Million "signing bonus" expected to be paid soon after July 1 for agreeing to the expansion. The City has yet to earmark the use of the future funds to be derived from the County for the expansion. Recall, NIVA has suggested the North Irvine Senior Center and the community center for Hicks Canyon Com. Park.

5. NORTHWOOD MILITARY MEMORIAL MONUMENT [Zelinko] - The City held a public meeting on the proposed monument at Northwood Community Park on May 30. The meeting was led by John McAllister, Dir. of Com. Services Dept., with the assistance of staff member Debbie Mears. In attendance were the parents of one soldier and the sister of another killed in Iraq. A total of 26 members of the public attended -- most in favor of the proposed monument. 2 designs have been proposed. The former of RJM design, estimated by City staff to cost \$386k, was the one the Council saw and was willing to support with \$150k with the balance coming from private sources. So far \$12k has been contributed by private individuals. If labor or some materials are contributed, and it is possible for such contributions, the cost would be reduced considerably. The second design by JB3D/Griffen/LDA is a taller design and slightly higher and longer (8'10" x 66.5'). Though some greater detail was available and provided at the meeting, the intent was actually to capture the pros and cons of the community members for addressing in the staff report expected to go to the City Council on the proposal. As McAllister has determined that the proposed project is only a "minor" modification to the park, no environmental analysis will be prepared. Discussion at the meeting evolved around the comments from attendees at the workshop. The next step is the Community Services Commission hearing though not as yet scheduled. Though no specific action was proposed at the NIVA meeting, all were made aware of the need to attend the Commission hearing.

6. "SMART" PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OF YALE & GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING FOR VENTA SPUR TRAILS - NIVA received a May 10 letter from City Project Dev. Administrator Jon Toolson acknowledging receipt of NIVA's April 13 letter commenting on the bridge study and suggesting a meeting to address NIVA's concerns. Melvold sent an e-mail to Toolson on May 18 requesting that the City staff provide the requested data/answers on those items for which they have the answers/data and thereby determine the remaining items or issues prior to scheduling a meeting. Per a May 31 e-mail received by Melvold from Asst. City Mgr. Landers, the City is looking into NIVA's questions regarding the Feasibility Study on the Venta Spur overcrossing of Jeffrey Bridge and would get back to NIVA .

7. NORTH IRVINE SENIOR CENTER - The City held a public workshop on the "Senior Facilities Study Project for the 50+ Generation - Northern Irvine" on May 23rd at Northwood Community Park. Though a flyer was sent out on the workshop, its distribution was very limited. There was also a very small announcement in the OC Register though it was on the very morning of the 10 AM workshop! The City lead on the effort is Pam Chana. There was considerable discussion at the NIVA meeting about the inadequacy of the City's notice for the workshop and how NIVA might supplement the notice in the future.

The City's consultant RJM Design Group led the workshop. The goal of the City effort is to provide senior services and facilities in Northern area of Irvine (i.e., the area north of the I-5). No materials or handouts were distributed at the meeting on the study project. After an overview of the purpose of the study, trends in senior population, and a brief description of the difference between a stand-alone vs. a multi-generation/multi-use center, the attendees (numbered at 31 residents) were divided into 4 groups to address two issues. The output of the group sessions will be summarized and provided to the participants at the next session. The attendees were essentially split evenly for stand alone and multi-

generation. In total, there are planned to have 3 workshops though the second is primarily a tour of various senior centers and multi-generation centers in the Orange County area. This tour is scheduled for June 14 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. A 3rd workshop is scheduled for late July/early August with the ultimate expectation of submitting the study results to the Council in Sept./Oct. timeframe. Staff was directed to look at 6 identified sites for placement of the center. Who directed staff is not clear since there was no such direction given by Council at the meeting that this matter was addressed last Oct 24. Included in the 6 are the 3 community park sites in the Northern Sphere east of Jeffrey, Northwood Community Park, Hicks Canyon Community Park, and the LDS site at Bryan/Jeffrey.

Regarding the proposed June 14th tour, the 5 possible senior centers considered for the tour are the following. Data on the sites was gathered w/o the assistance of the City. In all cases, the identified center is the only center in each of the cities and it is centrally located. Only the San Juan Capistrano center was predated by an older center.

<u>Center/City</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Opened</u>	<u>Estimated SF</u>
San Juan Capistrano	36,000	1997	Senior component in community center
Carlsbad	92,000	1980's	15,400 SF currently. To be expanded 8900 SF in Dec.
Encinitas	62,000	2002	40,000 SF combined com./ senior center.
Rancho Cucamonga	137,000	2005	28,000 SF
Cerritos	55,000	1994	27,500 SF

Aharonian, Garcia, and Ravenscroft indicated that they plan to go on the tour. Any and all attendees and members of NIVA are encouraged to participate.

8. CELLULAR FACILITY IN JEFFREY CORPORATE PARK - This item to be closed as screened roof-top facility approved by PC. [ITEM CLOSED]

9. WB BRYAN BUS-STOP AT YALE - Per May 31 e-mail from Asst. City Mgr. Landers, PWs Dir. Gomez or his staff member Cindy Krebs is to contact Melvold regarding an update.

10. NOISE IMPACT OF TRAIN HORN BLOWING AT HARVARD CROSSING - Title of this item will be changed in the future to "Harvard Railcrossing Quiet Zone". The OCTA Board is expected to discuss the OCTA staff-proposed 5-Year Plan which uses Measure M funds and which includes funding for Quiet-Zone plans sometime in August.

11. CULVER DRIVE/WALNUT AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - Per phone conversation with Farideh Lyons [5/23], staff is preparing to recommend to the City Council 2 recommended actions in response to NIVA's expressed concerns. These are the previously disclosed and discussed noise mitigation/compensation program for the residential along Culver Drive and a recommendation to the City Council that the City immediately commence on Phase I -- design effort -- on the missing Culver widening segment, i.e., Scottsdale to the I-5 SB off-ramp/Culver intersection and allocate \$100,000 to this effort so that this segment can be improved at the same time as the construction of this project.

12. WIDENING OF JAMBOREE UNDERPASS OF I-5 FREEWAY - An e-mail was sent May 31 to PWs Dir. Gomez seeking to find out if this project is included in the OCTA's current 5-Year Transit Plan which is expected to be considered by the OCTA Board in August. No response received as yet.

13. NON-RESPONSE FROM CITY ON CORRESPONDENCE - Brief letter dated May 8 received from Asst. City Mgr. Landers on a couple of items (covered under those specific items on the agenda) and informing that her secretary would be contacting NIVA officers about scheduling the next meeting.

On May 17, Melvold sent an e-mail to Landers regarding the agenda for the next meeting suggesting the inclusion of the feasibility study scope for the Venta Spur Overcrossing of Jeffrey and continued discussion on the Bryan Ave. Bus Turnout since no news having been received as to progress. He also suggested that initially meeting(s) be limited to intimately-involved staff and NIVA reps to go over the Jeffrey Open-space Spine development calcs for Segment 2 and not included in our on-going outstanding issues meetings.

On May 31, Melvold received an e-mail from Landers that, even though it still indicates the setting of the next meeting, seems to eliminate all of the agenda items by simply notifying NIVA of her assigning of responsibility for action by certain members of City staff -- a situation no different from that which triggered the series of meetings, i.e., non-action by these same staff persons when they were previously assigned the responsibility for these items. So far, these meetings have had very limited success and have not proven to be productive -- at least not in terms of getting satisfactory responses or action from the City. In fact, in the case of the Bryan Ave. Bus Turnout, the progress has been retrocede.

On May 30, City Mgr. Joyce announced that Landers will be taking over as Interim Great Park Corp CEO due to the sudden retirement of Marty Bryant. Regardless of the necessity, it does put a glitch in the on-going effort to resolve NIVA's list of outstanding issues with the City. This effort is taking on an air of "musical chairs" as the assistant city managers are rotated through this effort. First was actually City Manager Allison Hart, than Asst. City Mgr. Judy Vonada, and now Sharon Landers. In each case, progress is set back as the newly-assigned City administrator starts on the bottom of the learning curve to understand the issues and activities to date. This may explain why contact has been delayed to set up the next meeting date with NIVA reps. on outstanding issues. At present, it is not clear who will be the City's administrative rep. at the next meeting. Will it fall back to City Mgr. Joyce? If assigned to any City director, the purpose and value of the meetings is lost and the expectation of progress is also lost.

14. INTERSECTION SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION CABINETS - After sending a followup e-mail to City traffic Engineer Ken Louie on June 4 inquiring as to why no response to NIVA's May 10 e-mail and about the recently noticed holes being dug along the north side of Irvine Blvd. near Culver, a response was received the next day along with an attachment of a supposedly previously sent e-mail. It was agreed that a letter should go to Louie indicating the disagreement with his understanding of the Feb 27 field meeting and that the matter should be taken back up with the Council. (*Letter e-mailed on June 7*)

15. ROYAL STREET COMMUNICATIONS APPLICATION FOR WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES - NIVA received a copy of the staff report for the PC hearing on May 12 on the Master CUP. As the PC hearing was May 17, a quick review was made by Melvold and comment concerning the still to be determined locations faxed to the PC on May 14. The PC approved [5/0] the Master CUP. However, in discussions today with Kelly Koldus of the City, Melvold was told that staff was working with the applicant on other conceptual designs and locations at The Groves site to aid in stealthiness the tower.

16. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY IN LOWER PETERS CANYON COMMUNITY PARK - The Planning Consortium for T-Mobile has submitted an application to place a wireless telecommunications facility on a replacement softball field light standard of the same height as the existing light standard. The facility would consist of 6 new panel antennas and 6 tower-mounted amplifiers. The equipment cabinets are proposed for placement underground. The location is on the far side adjacent to the Beckman HS between the softball field and tennis courts. No PC hearing has been set as yet. An e-mail was received May 24 by Melvold depicting the proposed standard. It was available for review at the meeting. It was agreed at the meeting that a letter be sent to the City insisting on the under-grounding of the equipment as currently proposed. (*E-mail letter sent June 7*)

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting would be Wed., July 11 at The Groves.