

NIVA MEETING RECORD

June 11, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENT

The City Manager held a Community Meeting on May 29 at the Rancho Senior Center to provide an opportunity for residents to share discussion on several key points of interests to the residents. Included were topics such as (1) summer community services and activities, (2) transportation for residents with disabilities and older adults, (3) parks and recreation programs, (4) open space, (5) senior activities, and (6) voter registration. The notice and invitation circulation appears to have been very limited. In any case, once again such forums are provided only in the southern part of the city!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PA-40 R & D DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE [_____] - The Planning Commission [PC] "conditionally" approved 3/2 (Smith & Probolsky dissenting) recommending City Council approval at the June 5 hearing. The conditions that the PC included were:
 - (A) The shuttle service that TIC was considering between PA-40 and the ITC (Irvine Transportation Center) would have to be in service prior to the issuance of the first occupancy permit (The question of how such a service could be financially feasible prior to any residence in PA-40 seems to have been overlooked.
 - (B) Some sort of requirement dealing with reduction in gas emission generation.
 - (C) Pedestrian and bike trails to the east would have to be improved. (How is not clear nor did the PC elaborate.)
 - (D) Somehow requiring that the library service ratio would have to be implemented at 0.5 sq ft/capita.

Senior City Planner Mike Philbrick could not elaborate and more fully explain any of these. He stated that staff is unclear of the meanings of these conditions and how to present these to the Council. Obviously, when the staff report comes out for the June 24th hearing, staff's interpretation will be in writing.

OLD BUSINESS

1. MUSICK JAIL EXPANSION - [Final decision on the approval of State grant to OC expected on or before Sept. 18.] The only statement made by the newly appointed O.C. Sheriff Sandra Hutchens indicating any position on County jails was that she planned to bring in L.A. County Division Chief John Scott as a consultant to review the County Jail system. This of course may have more to do with the inmate handling than size and expansion of the system.
2. NORTH IRVINE LIBRARY - City Council reopened consideration of Library Services Advisory Committee's [LSAC] recommendations continued from the April 22 meeting on May 24. At the meeting, attention was directed rather than to the previous LSAC overall planning recommendations to the narrow short-term concerns with the existing libraries, or more specifically that of University. The Council has either allowed itself to be distracted or intentionally directed its attention to only short-term fixes while ignoring or postponing any consideration of the long-term City-wide needs. To fix primarily items of a maintenance category, the Council approved 5/0 to direct staff to (1) meet with the OCPLS and report back within 30 days on efforts to get \$250,000 in maintenance work initiated by OCPLS, to (2) have staff investigate the cost to expand the Friends of the Library book store (including the possibility of moving same to the adjacent University Com. Park which is scheduled for expansion in the near term, and (3) to have staff and City attorney delineate the steps and ramifications of the City withdrawing from the OCPLS. As followup to #2, a letter was sent May 29 by City Mgr. Joyce to Supervisor Campbell regarding the deferred maintenance items.

The LSAC met on June 3 to discuss formulate its response to the Council. As part of the discussion and agreed actions, LSAC Chair and Councilmember Choi will be requesting via memo to the City Mgr. that the Council agendaize for consideration in the near future the initiation of the actions leading to the City's

adopting of a Library Impact Development Fee. It is hoped that such a fee could be enacted within 5 to 6 months if approved by the Council and that \$21 Million for library construction is anticipated as possible outcome from future residential development within the City.

3. NORTH IRVINE TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION PROGRAM - The City's April 22 Status Report indicates that the construction for the Jeffrey Road/ Walnut Intersection Widening project is still only 36% funded at this stage.

4. NORTHWOOD MILITARY MEMORIAL MONUMENT [Zelinko] - Zelinko reported that per City Mgr. Joyce, the Group has only 2 options along which to proceed: (1) Appeal the Community Services Commission policy to the Council or (2) build the memorial sign with a plaque indicating gratitude and honor to the community group that has placed the memorial over the past years in the park. Note, the Group finds the latter offensive as it would be honoring the Group/community and not the soldiers who have given their lives. The hang-up is the Group's desire to place the individual names of the fallen soldiers on the monument. Zelinko also reported that he has already placed the order for the marble for the monument. (NIVA will simply continue to monitor the development as it is not a NIVA-sponsored activity.)

5. WB BRYAN BUS-STOP AT YALE - The change in layover location to Culver/Bryan was to have taken place on June 8 per OCTA. Some attendees indicated they have still seen the bus parked at the Bryan/Yale location. The membership was asked to watch the situation and whether the bus stopping has ceased at this location as supposedly committed by the OCTA. The matter will be considered again at the next meeting.

6. HARVARD RAILCROSSING QUIET ZONE - An e-mail inquiry was sent June 9 to Katie Berg-Curtis of the City about an update status on the effort - specifically whether the City Attorney has completed his review of the draft agreement provided by the OCTA. No response to date.

7. CULVER DRIVE/WALNUT AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - Per the City's April 22 Status Report, the construction is still only 78% funded though there is tentatively scheduled a kickoff date of June 9.

8. PUBLIC STORAGE FACILITY EXPANSION - The Planning Commission [PC] voted 4/0 [1 absent] to recommend City Council approval of the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change for the expansion even though Com. Probolsky express a lack of support for the slowdown RT lane which both NIVA and City staff support. The City Council is scheduled to hear the matter on June 24. The slowdown RT lane will not go to the Council for approval as it will be considered later by the PC with the CUP application. However, staff has included a comment in the staff report to the Council. It would be of assistance if councilmembers made comments just the same in favor of the slowdown RT lane. It was agreed that NIVA should express it's support for this feature via letter or in person at the June 24th Council hearing.

9. INTERSECTION SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION CABINETS - Melvold and Zelinko met with PWs members Ken Louie and Tom Roberts on June 4 to once again discuss the color of the Intersection Signal Synchronization Control Cabinets. Apparently during the recent heatwave last April, problems developed in the equipment in cabinets painted dark green due to overheating. As a result, the City must repaint these cabinets to a much lighter color to reflect radiant heat so that the cabinets remain below the maximum operating temperature. (It should be noted that NIVA was not a party to the previous decision to paint any cabinets dark green. The final decision on color was made solely by City staff.) City staff was considering light tan. At the request of NIVA reps, City staff will consider the use of either light tan or light green with the decision to be based on a site by site consideration depending on the background and which color provides the better stealthing effect. Staff will consider this suggestion and get back to NIVA.

In the meanwhile, it was suggested that a first hand inspection be made of the cabinet located at University and Joaquin as the light green sample which the City already has used.

10. TRANSFER OF ACCOUNT AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE - No report was made or filed on the status or progress on this effort since the last meeting.

11. CITY HALL EXPANSION/NEW POLICE STATION - At the May 27 meeting, the City Council approved the proposed Civic Center renovation plans which includes the construction of a new 96,000 sq ft, \$71 Million Public Safety (Police Dept.) Headquarters to be located on the south side of Trabuco at the entrance to the Great Park, i.e., between the 133 Corridor and the future roadway called Oak Canyon Road. The current civic center police facility is 48,000 sq. ft. Somehow, some councilmembers in approving the proposal praised this site for a new station as being more centrally located within the City limits! \$7.1 Million in funding for commencement of detailed design was also approved with design to commence in July though staff is expected to bring a funding plan for the project construction to the Council in August of next year. Although an environmental analysis will have to be done, the City is apparently willing to risk the expenditure for detailed design work without final approval of that analysis in advance. It should be noted that \$5.8 Million of the \$7.1 Million is coming from the upfront payment made to the City from the County on the Bowerman Landfill Expansion Project. *[This is the payment NIVA has been inquiring about for more than a year with no response from the City. NIVA had suggested years ago that a major portion of the expected funds to be derived from the Landfill Expansion should go towards overdue facilities in North Irvine to compensate for their endurance of the 30 more years of trash trucks through the community.]*

12. MEETING LOCATIONS OF IRVINE SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL - The group discussed the practice of the Council to hold its monthly meetings at only the 2 existing senior centers and thusly ignoring or avoiding the holding of any meetings in the northern part of the city. It was contention that if the Council held an occasional meeting in north Irvine that it might become familiar with the deficiencies in senior (or even community) centers in North Irvine -- especially west of Jeffrey Road. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the City Council and the Senior Advisory Council r[SAC] requesting that future meetings be held occasionally in North Irvine in possibly the Northwood Community Center so that the SAC members can experience firsthand the deficiencies and than maybe become more attune and sensitive to the North Irvine community needs.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting would be Wed., July 9th at The Groves.

