

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Piers Fairclough (Treasurer), Keith Pitts (District 1), Julia Esqueda-Arteaga, (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Jodette Spann (District 5), William Yates (District 8), Jackie Jackson (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Advocate), Angela Springs (Outreach/Communications Representative), and Craig Kusunoki (At Large Representative)

1) Welcome/introductions/roll call of Board members: In the absence of Chair David Matthews, Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. This was followed by the roll call of Board members which established that a quorum was present.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Board's jurisdiction: Judah Johnston, Los Angeles County resident in the Westmont area, commented that the lot at 11500 S. Vermont Avenue should have housing developed there but the property was given to a developer for other purposes. The homeless encampment on the property keeps being moved around. There is also another property at Vermont Avenue and Redondo Beach Blvd. that could be used for housing. Can the HGNNC address both lots and advocate for housing on them?

Barbara Tyson-Frazier, District 7 stakeholder, said that there is also a homeless encampment along 116th Place west of San Pedro Street. More housing is needed for those who are homeless.

Cecelia Owens, who works at U-Haul, 11020 S. Vermont Avenue, said that the homeless are living all around their building and it is difficult to remove them. They are discouraging customers from using their business.

Luisa Gratz, District 4 stakeholder, said that she lives on 129th Street and there is trash in the alley to the north of her home and in the nearby streets. There is not adequate parking for those living in the apartments along El Segundo Blvd., which is dangerous for the women who have to park on the residential streets to the south and walk home in the dark.

3) Reports

a) Council District 8: There was no representative present.

b) Council District 15: Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon said that rental assistance is still available for Los Angeles City residents. There are new outreach teams to reach out to the homeless. Special clean ups of illegal dumping and homeless encampments are available again—CARE and CARE Plus. CD 15 will be focusing these clean ups in one community each week in rotation, with the team in Harbor Gateway North at the end of September. The new redistricting maps based on the 2020 Census will now not be finalized until October 29. The traffic calming bollards for 126th and Ainsworth have been installed and the configuration is still being tweaked. Taste of the Harbor has been postponed until May 14, 2022

(Richard Lee entered the meeting at 7:00 p.m.)

Use 311 for all requests, except for abandoned vehicles call 1-800-ABANDON. For human waste on City streets call 1-800-974-9794. District 3 Representative Rey Paduani said that his blue recycling bin had not been emptied for three weeks and also there are weeds growing in the median along the south side of Rosecrans Avenue. Caitlin said that Sanitation is short-staffed. She will look into having the Los Angeles Conservation Corps clear the median. District 7 stakeholder Barbara Tyson Frasier said that the homeless along 116th Place are leaving food out

and this is bringing a lot of rats to the street. She also said that the homeless are cooking and selling meth. Caitlin said that the latter should be reported to LAPD. Her email is caitlin.muldoon@lacity.org and her telephone is 323-568-2083.

c) Los Angeles County Supervisor, 2nd District: There was no representative present.

Mayor's Office: Johanna Rodriguez, representative for the Harbor Area and Watts, said that there is \$5.2 billion available for emergency rental assistance, with a new agreement between the State and City to cover rent and unpaid utilities. In October, renters will be receiving eviction notices for unpaid rent.

(William Yates entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.)

The State website is housingiskey.com and the telephone number is 833-430-2122. Her email is hohanna.rodriguez@lacity.org. She sends a weekly update to Chair David Matthews and Vice Chair Joan Jacobs. The Mayor is seeking high schoolers for his Youth Council and is looking for five from the Harbor Gateway area by September 24.

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Freddy Cupen-Ames said that the Department is seeking comment on the July 19 draft amendment to the Code of Conduct. There will be three more sessions for comment: September 22, October 18, and November 6. The draft will be sent to all Board members. The annual Congress of Neighborhoods will be held on Sat. September 25 via Zoom, from 8 am to 3:45 pm. Cornerstone training log ins need to be updated. This will not impact the record of trainings Board members have already taken. The Department is also conducting CORE trainings, with module 2 on October 28. This will cover Bylaws, hosting virtual meetings, public comment, and handling meeting disruptions. Module 3 will be held in November. Neighborhood Councils can now amend their Bylaws. The new Digital Media Policy is still being considered by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. It would incorporate the language from AB992 which was passed July 1 and covers Board members use of social media.

e) Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils: There was no report.

f) District Representatives: District Representatives 1,2,3,4,5, and 8 gave brief updates on their activities and issues in their Districts.

District 1: A stakeholder meeting was held on August 27 and will be held every fourth Friday. Discussed problem streets for illegal dumping and other issues, such as Estrella and Denver. Need for increased parking enforcement. Are working with Caltrans. Organized a clean up party. Tires were dumped on 168th Street under the 110 freeway. Would like to have a pop up vaccination site in the area.

District 2: The large boat parked at 15812 S. Vermont Avenue was removed by Parking Enforcement. A notice of demolition has been received for the abandoned building at 16000 S. Vermont Avenue. Lots of residential streets have been slurry sealed. Construction for the small-lot homes at 15812 S. Vermont Avenue is supposed to start soon. Residents of Ainsworth north of 155th want to have speed humps installed and waiting for the application period to open again. A lot of sidewalks need repair from tree roots. The Redondo Alondra Neighborhood is planning to meet via Zoom in October.

District 3: The stakeholder at 14302 S. Orchard Avenue has requested a blue curb.

District 4: There have been some vehicle thefts. Need more traffic calming measures along Hoover Street and 135th Street due to speeding. There is an issue with the left-turn lanes at the intersection of 135th Street and Vermont Avenue. The Shell gas station of Vermont and El Segundo was closed for demolition, but work has stopped on it. Building and Safety has been contacted about this. The curbs along 13th east of the 110 freeway were painted red so there are fewer RVs parking there.

District 5: The RVs parking along 120th Street on either side just east of Vermont Avenue have been removed. There are still some RVs parked on the vacant lot on Figueroa Street at 127th.

(Angela Springs entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

District 8: RVs are parking along Central Avenue north of 120th. William has met with Parking Enforcement about this issue. District 8 stakeholders concerns are the RVs, keeping Stanford cleaned up under the 105 freeway, and street racing on Central Avenue. This past Sunday the LAPD came out to stop it.

g) Draft EIR comment period for the Prologis warehouse, 15116-1521 S. Vermont Avenue and 747 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. ENV-2017-10155-EIR -key meeting dates: Comments are due on Mon. October 4 at 4 p.m. There will be a Planning and Land Use Committee meeting on Thurs. September 16 where Dennis Crable will present his report on the Prologis warehouse DEIR and a Town Hall held via Zoom on Tues. September 21 at 6:30 p.m. where Dennis Crable will discuss his report on the DEIR and answer questions.

4) Appointment of Liaisons to City Departments and Representatives – Aging/Senior Services, Animal Services, Budget Representatives, CIS filers, Data Liaisons, DWP Advocacy, Emergency Preparedness, Film LA, Grievance Panel, Harbor Alliance, Homeless Alliance; Legal/City Attorney, LGBTA+, Public Works, Sustainability: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the following as the liaisons and representatives Aging/Senior Advocacy-Keith Pitts, Jodette Spann, Rena Fountain; Animal Services-Elizabeth Jacobs; Budget Representatives- Piers Fairclough; CIS filers-Rosalie Preston; Data Liaisons-Rosalie Preston, Miguel Vasquez; DWP Advocacy-Richard Lee, Miguel Vasquez; Emergency Preparedness-Piers Fairclough; FilmLA-Keith Pitts, Jackie Jackson; Grievance Panel—David Matthews, Julia Esqueda-Arteaga; Harbor Alliance-Keith Pitts; Homeless Alliance-Piers Fairclough; Legal/City Attorney-David Matthews; LGBTA+-Keith Pitts; LAANC-William Yates, Keith Pitts Public Works-Richard Lee, Miguel Vasquez; and Sustainability Alliance-Joan Jacobs, Nanci Torres

(Rey Paduani left the meeting at 8:12 p.m.)

5) Appointment of an Ad Hoc Board Retreat Committee to plan the virtual Board Retreat on Sat. October 16 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Joan Jacobs, Jodette Spann, and Angela Springs as the Ad Hoc Board Retreat Committee.

6) Appointment of a Board representative to pick up 2021 Election documents from the City Clerk’s office: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Richard Lee.

7) Administrative motions

a) August 10, 2021, Board minutes: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Angela Springs, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes as submitted.

b) August 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the August 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report.

(Jodette Spann recused herself at 8:25 p.m. as she is a neighbor of the applicant Kim Moore)

c) Approval of a Neighborhood Purposes Grant of \$1,000 for the 25 Dream Campaign Vermont Avenue parkway in District 6: The median to be beautified is just north of 120th

Street. It would include signage referring to the HGNNC, succulents, and other drought-tolerant plants. The HGNNC grant would be part of a matching grant from KeepLA Beautiful. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 10-0-0, with one recused (Spann) to approve this grant if all other approvals are received.

(Rosalie Preston recused herself at 8:38 p.m. as she was one of two stakeholders who appealed the Prologis warehouse approval by the City Planning Commission in May 2018 with only a Mitigated Negative Declaration as the environmental review; David Matthews was absent but recused because of his Chamber of Commerce involvement)

d) Approval of spending up to \$1,060 for a flyer and delivery for the Prologis warehouse September 21 Town Hall: It was moved by Arvie Powell, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 10-0-0, with one recused (Preston).

(Rosalie Preston returned to the meeting at 9:08 p.m.)

e) Adoption of a revised fiscal year 2021-2022 budget of \$42,000: Treasurer Piers Fairclough explained that this includes \$10,000 in rollover funds from the previous fiscal year. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 11-0-0.

f) Approval of supporting a vaccination clinic in District 7 as an HGNNC outreach event in October: It was moved by Angela Springs, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 11-0-1 (Powell) to approve the event.

8) Announcements: Vice Chair Joan Jacobs encouraged attendance at the Congress of Neighborhoods on Sat. September 25.

Freddy Cupen-Ames reminded everyone to update their Zoom apps to the 5.7.7 version for smooth functioning during meetings.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary