



# Pacific Beach Planning Group

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**Pacific Beach Taylor Library  
4275 Cass Street, San Diego, CA 92109  
Wednesday, August 26, 2015: 6:30-8:30 pm  
MINUTES**

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Item 1 - 6:35

## **Call to Order, Quorum**

Absent: Brian Curry, Deborah Conca, Eve Anderson, Karen Sumek

Item 2

## **Current Agenda - Modifications and Approval**

Consent Item: Sprint Wesley Palms PTS 417284

Only a formality. Approved by consent.

Item 3

## **July 22, 2015 Minutes - Modifications and Approval**

Approved 12-4. No: Wilding, Ferraco, Gordon.

Item 4 – 6:40

## **Chair's Report**

Presenter: Henish Pulickal, Vice Chair

Presentation on driverless cars and need to consider new technology and innovation.

1. Public transit: Please consider new technology and innovation before voting for and approving more train tracks. We've had trains for hundreds of years, and they've served their purpose. But to have plans to build new train tracks over the next 10, 20, 50 years is like planning to put typewriters in all schools. Driverless cars are the most exciting transportation tech coming out in the next few years.
  - Car-sharing users have already reduced car ownership by nearly 50% across 20 metro areas in the US and Canada per UC Berkley study.
  - These same car-sharing companies (Uber) and car companies (Tesla and all the major manufacturers) are investing billions in driverless technology. Currently, many higher end models being sold currently have the ability for driverless highway driving and parallel parking.
  - We use our cars only 4% of the time. The rest of the time they are idle/parked.
  - Both Google and Tesla predict that "true autonomous driving" will be available by 2020.
  - Uber CEO has already stated that he plans to have a fleet of self-driving cars in the near future.
  - Price Waterhouse Coopers and the NHTSA predicts that the number of vehicles on the road will decrease by 99%, from 245m currently to 2.4 million.
  - With reduced traffic and vehicles, does installing railroad tracks make sense? Would it be a better use of funds to update infrastructure to accommodate driverless cars? Wouldn't this be many times cheaper?
  - Toyota has driverless busses in operation since 2001 at a Japanese Theme Park
  - London has been testing a 10 passenger driverless shuttle since February.
  - Minneapolis has already installed lane assist systems to help with snowplows currently and driverless buses in the near future.
  - 4 states already allow public testing of driverless cars: CA, MI, FL, and NV
  - Action item: Read and keep up to date on current public transportation options, especially driverless cars and Elon Musk's Hyperloop. Press the issue with our government officials and SANDAG.
  - Worth thinking about: What will reduced car ownership and reduced traffic do to our current traffic and parking concerns? What will happen to parking lots, car dealerships, auto factories and other space dedicated to servicing the 245m vehicles on the road now. You might never have to go to the DMV again. So please think twice about railroad propositions for our city, state and country.

We need to think of modern solutions. NHTSA predicts 245 million cars will drop to 2.4 million cars.

Item 5 – 6:50                    **Non-Agenda Public Comments** (Note: 2 minutes maximum per speaker)

Issues *not* on Agenda and within the jurisdiction of Pacific Beach Planning Group.

Scott Chipman: Continuing concerns over pot shops and the public process. A current pot shop at 1737 Garnet Avenue (in the alley) is making \$15,000 to \$20,000 a week and using very large ads to promote their non-approved business.

Baylor Triplett: Mark your trash cans! Recycle bins are being stolen. It now costs \$70 for a replacement. Mark your cans with spray paint.

Chris Olson: Self-driving cars will improve safety. An App can be used to get a car from a driverless pod, driverless taxis, etc. will reduce traffic 30% in the future, and will reduce the need for more roadways and parking.

Shaun Wample: LJCPA Ad Hoc Committee on Residential Single Family Zoning: in favor of thoughtful, proactive development. There is a citizen petition on [change.org](http://change.org) regarding changing neighborhoods. Developers gutting buildings is a major problem. “Mansion-ization,” bulk, and scale is out of character with the neighborhood. The developer is doing 10 projects in North PB, also.

Sara Berns: Heart of PB Walk on 9/9 and PB Fest on 10/3.

Jim Morrison: In favor of a rail line that would be used between La Jolla and PB. A street car would be more romantic than a trolley. Also, very disappointed with the new shopping center.

Item 6 – 6:54                    **City Sewer Replacement Projects (Information Item)**

Presenters: Clint Carney &/or Paula Roberts (Humanability for City of San Diego)

Clint Carney and Dan Tittle: 9 areas in the community are going to have sewer line updating. Concern about wasting water during this severe drought. When new water lines are installed, the pipes must be flushed for 3 days (federal guidelines). It looks bad, so in order to not send the wrong message, the water is being dumped into the sewer system. However, it must be treated. Yost Street is a really small project. Should take 2-3 weeks. Irrigation water is labeled non-potable, but you can drink it.

Item 7 – 7:02                    **Spectrum Act / Cell Phone Towers (Information Item)**

Presenter: David N. Haney, research scientist

There is a major, and growing, problem with cell phone towers. Types of pollution: visual, noise, and microwave. Crown Castle, Inc. is installing these towers all over PB. Based on the current FCC Order and the Spectrum Amendment from Development Services, these devices can be installed pretty much wherever the wireless industry wants. If a permit application from a wireless company identifies the effort as Spectrum on City Form DS-420, then it is automatically approved with NO REVIEW and NO NOTIFICATION. San Diego seems to not be concerned. The city has allowed new cell towers in the “public right of way” and has sold spots in public parks. Suggestion: do not allow towers in residential neighborhoods or near schools.

According to a FCC order, anything in the public domain can be a spot for cell towers. These emit 3,000 micro watts per square meter. The federal government has blocked cities from using health concerns as a reason to stop installation of these cell towers. There are 10 cell phone towers between Nautilus and La Jolla Blvd.

Scott: let’s kick this to a subcommittee and make it an action item for our next meeting.

Item 8 – 7:24                    **Government Offices Report**

Presenter: Liezl Mangonon (Not in attendance.)

Item 9 – 7:25                    **Development Subcommittee (Action Items)**

Presenter: Chris Olson

1. 1314 PB Drive. Project Name Raybon Duplex , #396445, Description – CDP (process 2) to demolish two residences and construct a 4,172 sq ft duplex on a 2,870 lot zoned RM-2-5. *Subcommittee recommends motion to approve.*

\*Postponed vote & discussion because architect not in attendance.

2. 1270 Emerald St. Project Name –Emerald Street Residence # 420989, Description – Process 2 CDP to demolish existing residence and construct a 3,263 sq ft residence with 357 sq ft detached garage on a 6,250 sq ft site zoned RS-1-7. *Subcommittee recommends motion to approve.*

\*Scored very high on the PBPG Checklist. Main entrance off the street, 3 bedrooms & an office, bonus room, stone siding/stucco/cedar. Chris motioned to approve, Jim seconded. Yes - 12; No - 2. Mike vetoed for not enough parking.

3. 1641-1643 Hornblend. Hornblend Townhomes, 425967 Description – CDP and tentative map to demolish 2 existing residences and construct a 7,146 sq ft 4 unit residential condominium building on a 6243 sq ft lot zoned RM-2-5. *Subcommittee recommends motion to deny the project as presented.*

\*All 4 entrances are on the side; Chris asked the City for more guidance. There are only places for 2 trash bins. Agreement to expand to 4. Will meet drainage requirements. Driveway too narrow? Overall meets regulations (need 28 feet turning radius).

Scott: there seem to be a lot of “open site issues.” City requirements should be cleared first. Paula: projects are designed to “the letter of the law.” Projects should embrace eco district’s goals/standards.

Jim: with den + office + bedrooms - should equal more PARKING.

Chris: it’s a problem to have the entries on the side, not the front. Never see neighbors. (For a condo, 3 bedrooms requires 2.5 parking spaces.)

Motion to approve - Jim 1st, Scott 2nd. 7 yes, 7 no, Vice Chair breaks the tie with a yes. No - Amy, Baylor, Chris, Harry, Joe, Pat, Paula.

4. 1116, 1118, 1122 Oliver. d. Project Name Oliver Ave Residence #347782 –, Description –CDP Build 3 – 2331 sq ft homes on 2 legal lots zoned RM 1-1. *Subcommittee recommends motion to approve.*

\*Wants to build on the 3 original lots, (width: 25 feet each). (If the project isn’t approved for the 3 lots, then PBPG doesn’t approve.) Garage - 2 walls and 75% open. IF enclosed, will exceed the limits of the code. Parking quantity should not be a problem. All 3 units are different colors. The Middle house is different. The doors face the street. The trash/recycle areas are enclosed for each house.

Chris: not in favor of them all looking the same.

Paula: roofs slope to the west.

Jim: likes the open garages.

Motion to approve the project WITH the city’s OK of 3 lots. Amy 1st, Jim 2nd. 7-5  
No - Amy, Baylor, Chris, Joe, Michael.

#### Item 10 – 8:20 **Other Subcommittees and Reports**

Traffic & Parking: informational meeting re deco bikes.

Mike Beltran: get rid of Deco Bikes on the boardwalk! The city is asking for alternative locations. BID is offering 3 alternative locations.

1. at the end of Reed
2. at the end of Diamond & Ocean
3. at the end of Grand in front of the Shore Club.

Scott: there is a petition with 3,000 names who are against the Deco Bike placement on the boardwalk. This was never approved by the coastal commission.

Joe: motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Yes - 10, no - 1, abstain 1.

Joe: Deco bike stands will become an eyesore as the metal deteriorates.

Sara: The above alternative locations were based on meetings at Beautiful PB.

Tony: People ARE using these bikes on the boardwalk. (FYI - Freedom Bikes sells bikes.)

Mike: is mad because there have been NUMEROUS meetings talking to Deco Bikes, who went against the community’s wishes. Deco Bikes is not the right company.

Code Compliance: Thanks to Lisa Johnson; PROW all of the information. We should do this again.

8:35 North PB Lifeguard Station: Scott Chipman - voted to accept.

8:39 Mission Gateway: Scott Chipman - Think globally on the \$400,000 grant. The Mission Bay Park Committee is weak & ineffective. An outside consultant has been selected.

Special Events: Debbie Conca

Communications Subcommittee: Baylor Triplett

Item 11 – 8:46 **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 23, 2015, 6:30-8:30 pm (General Meeting)