

PORT OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WILMINGTON WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Port of Los Angeles
425 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA

Minutes
February 10, 2009

ATTENDEES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/PCAC

Ken Melendez, Chair
Olivia Cueva Fernandez, Voting Member
Donna Ethington, Voting Member
Andrew Fox, Voting Member
Arthur Hernandez, Alternate Member
Frank Herrera, Voting Member
Gary Kern, Voting Member
Eleanor R. Montano, Voting Member
Donald Norton, Alternate Member
Charlie Rico, Alternate Member

PORT STAFF

Chris Brown
Jan Green Rebstock

PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS

Keith Ball
Christine Bugarin
Danny Johnson
Leticia Melendez
Richard Pawlowski

Meeting Location: Banning's Landing, 100 E. Water Street, Wilmington, CA

- A. Call to Order: 5:40 PM
- B. Agenda Approved
- C. Draft Minutes Approved for the January 13, 2009 Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee Meeting
- D. Staff Update:
 - Wilmington Mitigation Projects
Teresa Scognamillo was unable to attend this meeting. Therefore, there was no staff update.

Donna Ethington raised a concern regarding the Wilmington Youth Sailing Center. She was informed by the Acting Chair of the EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee that there were some concerns on the financial stability of the Youth Sailing Center. This issue has not been discussed with Ms. Ethington. She is out looking for steady revenue sources.

Ken Melendez stated that he would touch base with David Mathewson, the Director of Planning and Research, to get an update on the status of the project.

- Wilmington Waterfront Development Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
Jan Green Rebstock, from the POLA Environmental Management Division, reporter that the comment period for the project was closed. There were 25 comment letters, that will be posted on the website, along with the transcript of the public scoping meeting. There were about 20 individuals who spoke at the meeting. The majority of the comments were positive.

There was however, an issue that was raised by the National Marine Fisheries Service, regarding the design of the waterfront promenade, specifically the over water structures (approximately one acre) that shade the water. The concern is how this shaded area will impact the fish habitat. Staff is working to resolve that issue.

In addition, staff is working with LA DWP to get a water supply assessment for the project.

Staff intends to bring the EIR to the Board in late April / early May.

Ken Melendez readdressed the need to have the Sasaki contract approved so that they can finish the plans for the project. Once the EIR is approved, and the plans are complete, the project construction can begin. Chris Brown reported that, in December, they requested from the Board, an extension on the Sasaki contract and an increase in funding to finish the Avalon Corridor. The Board approved the extension, but asked Port staff to review the analysis on the fee increase. Staff intends to bring the new analysis to the Board on March 5, 2009.

- Triangle Park
Chris Brown reported that staff was still working with the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) to get final approval on the cleanup of the site. DTSC is working on their environmental document process, which just needs to get through Sacramento at this point. DTSC will hold a brief public outreach which will be noticed when it is scheduled.

Chris Brown is looking to advertise the project in April or May 2009. At that point, the Port's plans and permits will be done and ready to go. We just need to be patient while the State completes its process.

- Update on Ground Breaking Ceremony for TraPac Buffer/January 31, 2009
There was a good turnout for the ground breaking ceremony. Public officials showed up. Unfortunately, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was unable to be there because of an officer shooting.

The Notice to Proceed is scheduled for February 23, 2009.

- E. Follow-up on Recommendation Letter Requesting the Appointment of Ken Melendez as the Wilmington At-Large Representative on PCAC
Gary Kern reported that once Ken Melendez resigns from the BID (sometime in June or July) he will no longer be eligible to sit on PCAC or Chair this Subcommittee. So,

on behalf of the Subcommittee a letter was written recommending that Ken Melendez be appointed the Wilmington At-Large PCAC representative, who would replace Cecilia Moreno, who resigned to take a position with the Port of LA. The letter was sent to the Port and to the Council Office.

F. Public Comment:

Andrew Fox, from the Pacific Harbor Line Railroad, explained that the plans in the TraPac project that call for a grade crossing at Broad Avenue in Wilmington would create some serious noise and safety issues. With the relocation of the Pier A Switching Yard to the Berth 200 area, the number of tracks will increase at the Broad Avenue crossing which will require the trains to blow their horns more often, as well as the horn sounding from within the yard. There will also be additional safety issues with regard to the proposed tunnel. PHL is asking the Subcommittee to support the elimination of the crossing at Broad Avenue, to rely on the Lagoon Avenue grade separation. If Avalon and Fries were to be closed off, there would be a quiet zone from Henry Ford to Figueroa

Chris Brown will have the rail engineer come to the next Subcommittee meeting to give a presentation on this issue.

Olivia Cueva Fernandez is real concerned that the Wilmington sign is a mile away from the Police Department. Wilmington starts much closer to the Police Station.

The dedication ceremony for the new Police Headquarters is now scheduled for March.

Christine Bugarin spoke on behalf of her church, Gates of Praise Faith Ministries, and explained that the church wanted to be more involved in the community of Wilmington. Ken Melendez stated that he would be happy to meet with Ms. Bugarin outside of the subcommittee meeting to explain the formation and process of PCAC.

Arthur Hernandez stated that there needed to be additional signs for Wilmington from Sea Side to the Freeway into Wilmington.

Keith Ball asked if the Subcommittee had determined a name for the Buffer once it was completed. Charlie Rico suggested perhaps a contest to come up with a name.

Olivia Cueva Fernandez commented on the carnival that comes three times a year and sets up at the Cal Trans Park and Ride site by the Freeway. It would be nice if Cal Trans could share some of the money that is generated by the carnival, with Wilmington, to help clean up the area by the freeway.

Mr. Melendez suggested that Ms. Cueva Fernandez attend the Wilmington Community Organization meeting on the third Monday of the month at Harbor Christian Church. Mary Gant, or Marcus Perez may be able to help her or provide some contacts.

G. Non-Agenda Items:

- The construction manager that was hired by the Port has a film crew who will be doing a documentary on the Buffer project. Ken Melendez has already been interviewed.
- There was a request to have a bronze plaque displayed somewhere in the project that would recognize the work of the Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee.

H. Next Meeting, March 10, 2009

- Cabrillo Beach Boosters, LA Harbor Lighthouse Restoration Project/Presentation

I. Adjournment: 6:45PM

Signature on File

Ken Melendez, Chair
Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee

Signature on File

Debra Babcock-Doherty, PCAC Executive Assistant