

PORT OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WILMINGTON WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

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

Minutes
October 14, 2008

ATTENDEES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/PCAC

Ken Melendez, Chair
Olivia Cueva Fernandez, Voting Member
Arthur Hernandez, Alternate Member
Frank Herrera, Voting Member
Eleanor R. Montano, Voting Member
Charlie Rico, Alternate Member
Gordon Teuber, Ex Officio

PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS

Jesse Marquez
Chuck Taylor

PORT STAFF

Chris Brown
Guillermo Martinez
David Mathewson
Jan Green Rebstock
Teresa Scognamillo

CONSULTANTS

Jenna Didier - Infranatural
Oliver Hess - Infranatural
Walter Hood - Artist
Jody Russell – Fine Arts Services

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

- A. Call to Order: 5:40PM
- B. Agenda Approved
- C. Draft Minutes Approved for the August 12, 2008 Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee Meeting
- D. Update:
 - Wilmington Mitigation Projects
Teresa Scognamillo, the POLA Environmental Mitigation Coordinator (EMC), gave a status report on the China Shipping Mitigation projects that had been previously approved by the PCAC in early 2008.
 - Wilmington Youth Sailing Center/\$3.1 Million allocated
Staff is working with the Real Estate and the Planning Divisions of the Port to identify a location for the Center.
 - Alameda / Harry Bridges Landscaping. PCAC approved \$1.8 Million
This project has not yet been taken to the BHC because Ms. Scognamillo has been working out the details of the agreement with the CRA, who will

be the lead agency. She anticipates that this project should go to the BHC on November 20, 2008.

- Banning Museum Transportation Exhibit/\$900,000 allocated
The Board of Harbor Commissioners has approved the agreement with the museum. The applicant is moving forward on this project.
 - YMCA Aquatic Center. The BHC allocated \$2.7 Million – however, staff will go back to the Board when the agreement has been finalized between the YMCA and the Port. The YMCA is presently working on the details with their LA Metro office.
 - Wilmington Boathouse. The PCAC approved the project without any funding associated with it because the recommendation was to combine it with the Sailing Program. Ms. Scognamillo has not been able to reach the applicant at this time. The Sailing Center will not be held up because of the Wilmington Boathouse.
 - Ocean Water Resource Center. The PCAC recommended \$3.7 Million
Ms. Scognamillo needs to meet with Donna Ethington to go over certain details, i.e. who will be the operator, and where will the Center be located.
- Wilmington Waterfront Development EIR
Jan Green Rebstock, from the POLA Environmental Division gave an update on the status of the Draft EIR, which they anticipate should be released in mid November. They are working to highlight some of the sustainable design elements that will be incorporated into the project. The goal of the Port is to try to offset some of the energy demand within the project area, by 20%, with the use of solar and other technologies.

There is no Health Risk Assessment for this project as it does not generate any significant health impacts on the residents of the area. However, within the document there will be a discussion of the Harbor Generating Station and surrounding industrial uses and the health risks posed by the proximity of these uses to recreational visitors of the project site.

We think we have done a pretty good job of mitigating all the potential environmental impacts. There will still be some unavoidable significant impacts related to air quality. Over the last year, the Port has improved construction guidelines, applying mitigation measures to construction equipment to reduce diesel particulate matter (DPM). We have also implemented a new Green Port Building Policy where all new buildings will be Lead Certified.

The Wilmington Waterfront Project EIR will have a 45 day comment period. A public scoping meeting will be scheduled in the middle of the comment period; which will give the community some time to absorb the document before the meeting. The goal is to have the document approved by the end of the year.

- South Wilmington Grade Separation
Guillermo Martinez, from the POLA Engineering Division, provided an update on the construction of the grade separation of Fries Avenue at the railroad line in South Wilmington. The Port of Los Angeles is the lead agency.

The project timeline:

- Design phase commenced July 2008/should be completed by September 2009
- Construction is slated to begin April 2010/should be completed around April 2012

The project is fully funded. There are no right-of-way issues, and it is environmentally tiered.

- Public Artists - Walter Hood
A selection panel was established to come up with conceptual plans for providing public art as part of the buffer project. The panel looked at lighting for the three pedestrian bridges designed within the project, as well as something for the trails within the project area.

Funding for the art projects will be about \$460,000 which is consistent with the Cultural Affairs 1% for the Arts Program. Cultural Affairs has approved the buffer project. They are interested in taking an active roll in future projects at the Port.

Walter Hood, a local artist, was chosen to do the Wilmington Urban Trail for the buffer project. He presented a conceptual plan for creating a significant art piece that would not only provide an ever changing experience, but also bring attention to the trail and to Wilmington. His concept was that all roads of LA lead to Wilmington, and that there needed to be a significant trail marker that would establish where this trail was in space and time. The question was how to make such a marker, and how to integrate it into the culture of Wilmington. What would be the size and the scale of the marker, and what materials would be used? The marker should be prominently placed at the beginning and at the end of a trail.

Subcommittee comments:

- They like the art piece, but find it to be too structured. Would like to see some sort of water activity integrated into the space and perhaps some kind of sail (flowing) element relating to the marine theme
- They raised questions regarding the lighting of the object
- Enhance the marker with some eye catching element
- Incorporate aquatic etchings
- Incorporate some kind of animation perhaps with porpoises
- Public Artists / Infranatural / Conceptual Plans for Art Piece

Jenna Didier and Oliver Hess, the founders of Infranatural, specialize in Emotive Environments, and use the natural environment to create public spaces that elicit emotional responses / emotional connections to that place. They presented a conceptual plan for creating lighting effects for the pedestrian and bicycle bridges in the buffer zone. Elements of the lighting project would re-establish a connection of the sky to the sea. It is important to provide a real strong visual impact.

The first concept creates a very strong visual impact with the use of vertical lasers, which are responsive to the people as they travel through the park. This concept is still being researched, as there are certain restrictive rules (pertaining to air traffic safety) set by the FAA and the FDA. In this concept, the lasers would give the illusion of waves traveling through the sky.

In a second concept, the lasers all point to the top of the iconic bridge. The light would end on the bridge and would not shine up into the sky interfering with air traffic safety. The idea would be to capture the natural elements of the site and to accentuate its influence on our emotions through the use of lighting technology/ to create some sort of soft curtain between the complexity of the harbor lighting and something simple and tranquil that would have a soothing effect on the people.

A third idea is to use linear LED lighting, a horizontal band of lights running along the side of the bridges, illuminating the animation of a dancing man. The speed at which the LEDs are set would regulate the speed of the animation.

The Subcommittee liked the concepts that were presented. They agreed that the Aroraborialis look was something to strive for. They suggested the use of marine colors to play up the marine/coastal image. Jesse Marquez suggested the animation of dolphins or porpoises rather than the dancing man.

- Triangle Park
Chris Brown, from the POLA Engineering Division, reported that the State had not signed off on it yet, but, that this was hopefully going to happen in December. Once the State finishes their environmental document, we can move forward with ours, which is basically done. It just needs to be signed. The drawings are almost ready to go, and we have submitted the plan check for the permits. We are getting very close.
- TraPac Buffer Area
Mr. Brown reported that bids would be opened the week of October 20th. Once the contractor is chosen, the Board will need to authorize the contract and then we are set to go. We are looking to break ground by January/February 2009. Everyone will be notified of the ground breaking ceremony.

The Port is still working on the street vacations process, to get rid of the streets that are within the project. We are working on getting all the permits. We

presently have permission from the Board of Public Works to close the streets to build the project. This has been a major hurdle that we have been working on for a long time.

E. Public Comment:

Jesse Marquez updated the Subcommittee on the status of the TraPac MOU and the action of the appellants. The appellants recommended that an attorney be hired to help establish a non-profit organization for the dispersion of funds. The State Lands Commission has scheduled their regularly scheduled meeting in San Diego, on Thursday, October 16, 2008. The appellant group met with Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi to express their concerns about mitigating the TraPac project and others, and that they want to have access to the money for what they felt was proper mitigation. A presentation will be given at this meeting that will focus on off Port impacts.

Arthur Hernandez commented on ideas for the use of Anchorage Road once the dredge material has been removed (perhaps a golf course, driving range with a clubhouse, a park, or a boatyard).

F. Non-Agenda Items: None

G. Next Meeting, December 9, 2008.

H. Adjournment: 7:25PM

Signature on File

Ken Melendez, Chair
Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee

Signature on File

Debra Babcock-Doherty, PCAC Executive Assistant