



NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

4649 Hawley Boulevard San Diego, CA. 92116 (Conducted via Zoom)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86163627338?pwd=N21ma25HRWN3bHAwckZiZkE2MFBjQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 6362 7338

Passcode: 913640

Minutes for Tuesday, September 1st, 2020, 6:00pm until about 8:00pm

NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Board Attendance (X means "present"):

X	Gary Weber	X	Linda Case	X	Mark Lawler
X	Gautam Dey	X	Richard Valentine	X	Scott Kessler
X	Jim Baross (VC)	X	Alison Flynn (C)	X	John Hartley
X	Eric Tamayo	X	Nancy Lawler		Vacancy
X	Dan Soderberg	X	Alberto Foglia (T)	X	Adam Deutsch (S)

C=Chair; VC= Vice Chair; T= Treasurer; S=Secretary

6:00 Call to Order - Start of regular NHCPG Meeting

1. Introduction of planning group members and audience
2. Agenda Setting/modifications (*Note: items may be addressed out of listed order*). At around 7pm, Councilmember Ward will join us around 7pm.
3. Approval of August meeting minutes – Adam Deutsch: M/S: Jim/Alberto. All approved, except Scott, Richard, Nancy, and Mark who abstained because they missed the meeting last month.
4. Treasurer’s Report including use of City’s annual allocation – Alberto Foglia: Our current balance is \$2085.99, and we plan on use city funds to reimburse Jim for Zoom expenses.

6:10 Public Comment

5. Non-agenda public comment may be limited to two minutes per person:
 - a. Adam mentioned that he’d like to see more public clocks. Scott mentioned that the one at Adams and Ohio is maintained by AABA, but they are currently looking for a new maintenance person for that clock.
 - b. Cory Briggs spoke about his candidacy, and said he plans to have city attorney office staff present at our meetings. He’s running for City Attorney.
 - c. Sandra, a resident: noticed that there are a lot of government reps, and expressed concerns about the conditions of the streets in Normal Heights.
 - d. One resident emailed prior to the meeting, and supported the removal of parking on Adams Ave. over the 805.
 - e. Another resident supported the lighting around traffic circles on Meade.
6. Social Media & other communications – Adam, Alison, & Alberto: Alison has noticed an uptick in businesses operating under various conditions. Scott says they’re continuing to adapt to various health guidelines as mandated by the city and state. Most business owners on Adams are

expressing concerns about their ability operate under the pandemic conditions.

6:20 Reports

7. Government Representatives

- a. Brett Weise from CM Chris Ward's office: He wants to address road conditions: we have a lot of public works projects happening, so the city is juggling utility undergrounding projects, water main replacements, and road work, which can add to a difficult scheduling situation. Much will be done in NH in 3-5 years because of the other projects being done at the moment.

One big issue that's come up in the city's Franchise Agreements, like the 50 year contract with SDG&E. This is up for renewal, and bids will be open soon, and the city can bid themselves for Community Choice Agreement power. The city has entered into a joint agreement about where energy is sourced from. If the city wins the bid, it would mostly dissolve the CCA.

- b. Makana Rowan for Supervisor Fletcher's office: the supervisor got \$50m approved in budget amendments, including money for various programs. He also shared some COVID guidelines updates.

Jim mentioned that he met the supervisor yesterday, at a community bike event, and he appreciates Fletcher coming out for that.

- c. Randy Wilde from Assemblymember Gloria's office: One big thing that didn't get passed was tenant protections, but another bill was passed (AB 3088) was passed with some protection measures. He gave other updates on bills that were passed, and new state COVID guidelines.

8. Community Groups

- a. Adams Avenue Business Association: Scott reported that the AABA has had to cancel Adams Unplugged and Taste of Adams Ave. for the season. They're thinking about some kind of commemoration for the 39th Annual Street Fair. They have merch to sell, and they'll set up on the Ave. soon to move some, just to promote local businesses, so t-shirts, hats, shirts, etc. will be on sale for 50% off.

They've been struggling through the pandemic, and it's been difficult. They grant permits for sidewalk use, and they've been keeping up with those, and have granted about 24 permits so far.

They're signing a partnership with Pedal Ahead with the County, to purchase 200 ebikes to get people on bikes to use for commuting, and they get to keep the bikes after a period of time of regular use.

- b. El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association: Nobody present.
- c. NH Community Association and NH Urban Arts: Nobody present.
- d. Adams Rec. Advisory Group: Nancy spoke for them: they're going to start having Zoom meetings in October, so look forward to those.

6:35 Chair Report

9. Preferred Email: NHCPGchair@gmail.com. Again. Use that to contact Alison, our Chair.
10. Also, anyone in Normal Heights is invited to participate and join this board when there is an opening.

6:40 Working Group Reports

11. Transportation Group: various plans were discussed about making traveling around the neighborhood

more pleasant. Notes are below. We looked at some ideas about the intersection of 35th and Arthur and Mountainview.

12. Parks: They had a meeting last week. They've contacted someone to plan the trails. Eric said that there was a lot of communications between those on this group (Eric, Linda, and John), and some meetings. Adam raised concerns about violations of the bylaws by Eric, Linda, and John, and he hopes those will be addressed, and that the work groups will not continue to have meetings and communications without board knowledge or approval.

7:00 **Chris Ward**

13. Ward gave updates on various things like parks and undergrounding, and he addressed changes to dangerous intersections in the neighborhood. Regarding homelessness, amid COVID, and there are resources being devoted to properties to temporarily house people beyond the convention center details.

He also discussed the temporary parking removal on Adams, and how the "slow street" program is being ended on that. People expressed concern with the way the sidewalk is designed.

Adam also asked about the Caltrans land north of Adams we're interested in for a potential park. Brett followed up that he has a meeting with the Caltrans contact soon.

Scott recently spoke to Lee from the district, and wants to establish a group to revisit joint use.

14. Undergrounding (to potentially be established): Gary mentioned that the city requires public representation for projects like this, and he suggest we look into those details soon.

7:00 **Action Items**

15. 805 Bridge Parking: Scott: would like to make a motion: Propose we remove the cones and no-parking on the bridge over 805. **M/S: Scott/John**. Scott gave some background on why the conditions are as they are.

Adam suggested we edit the motion to call for a redesign of that bridge. Scott agrees, and would like to include maps and concepts. Jim mentions that he would like more bike parking all along the avenue, and reminds us that the pandemic is still happening, and he wants safe space for people to pass each other. He also would like to see meters on Adams to help with a fluid turn-over of parking spaces; he is in favor of a motion that says to reconfigure that space. Alberto says that the math seems to allow for wider sidewalks, parking, and driving space. John says he supports changes to include a redesign, but also says that the lose of parking has impacted the neighborhood. Paul Jamason mentioned installing meters would be helpful to address parking issues, have more turn-over, and is concerned about businesses taking over the parking, so it doesn't seem to help other members of the community; he would not like to see it the way it was. Scott says the AABA has supported parking meters, but it seems to be up to businesses and residents in a given area. They're not in control of those, nor stripping for bikes on the streets.

Edited Motion: The NHCPG supports removing the cones/no-parking on the Adams Ave. Bridge over the 805, and call on the city to redesign that bridge to accommodate pedestrians, bikes, as well as parking. All voted in favor, except Jim opposed, Gary abstained because he's tired of talking about this.

16. Barriers on 40th at Monroe and Madison. Adam does not think that we should take action on this; they were installed to stop traffic, and the redesign of Ward Canyon Park includes and assumes those are there. Jim requests a motion: **M/S:Adam/Alberto**. Modify Barricades to allow bicycles to pass through, but not motor vehicles. There are no people present to advocate for removing the barricades at 40th. All voted in favor.
17. Feedback on Meade Bikeway lighting. We had public comment in support of the lights. Brett says the office has heard about this, and those lights are going to get shields to mitigate light getting into residents' homes, so it seems a solution is in the work. No action was taken.
18. Vacant Seat Election: Nobody present was eligible to join.

7:15 **Discussion Items**

19. Transit Corridor Density – 40th and ECB

7:45 Information Items

20. None Scheduled

8:00 Adjournment. M/S: Jim/Gautam.