

November 15, 2010

EASTERN NEIGHBORHOODS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Planning Department - Room 528
1650 Mission St.

Monday, November 15, 2010

6:00 PM

Regular Meeting 2010-10

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Goldstein, Ho, Huie, Martí, Mormino, Murphy, Scully, Shen, Sofis
Non-Voting: Karnilowitz, Levy, Reis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: Eslick, Lopez, Quezada
Non-Voting:

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR AT 6:00 P.M.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Wertheim, Erin Miller (SF MTA)

1. Review agenda and announcements

ACTION: Cancel the December 2010 meeting. Move the February meeting to February 7th.

MOTION: SECOND:

AYES: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Ho, Huie, Martí, Murphy, Scully, Shen,

ABSENT: Eslick, Goldstein, Lopez, Mormino, Quezada, Sofis

MOTION: 2010-10-1

2. Review and Approve Minutes from the September 20th and October 18th CAC meetings.

ACTION: Approve the minutes from the September 20th and October 18th CAC meetings.

MOTION: Murphy SECOND: Scully

AYES: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Ho, Huie, Martí, Murphy, Scully, Shen,

ABSENT: Eslick, Goldstein, Lopez, Mormino, Quezada, Sofis

MOTION: 2010-10-2

3. Officer Elections: Annual election of CAC officers, including Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Vice-Secretary, and/or other positions as identified by the CAC, including action.

ACTION: Elect Chris Block as Chair, Kate Sofis as Vice-Chair, Fernando Martí as Secretary, and Alisa Shen as Vice-Secretary.

MOTION: Gillett SECOND: Murphy

AYES: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Goldstein, Ho, Huie, Martí, Murphy, Scully, Shen, Sofis

ABSENT: Eslick, Lopez, Quezada

ABSTAIN: Mormino

MOTION: 2010-10-3

4. EN TRIPS: Informational presentation by MTA staff regarding the EN TRIPS project, followed by discussion, comment, and potential action.

Item heard. No Action taken. MTA staff will return to the CAC in January.

5. Historic Preservation Study: Discussion led by CAC members regarding the process involved in identifying, presenting, and adopting Historic Preservation Studies, followed by comment and potential action.

ACTION: Adopted the following resolution directed to Charles Chase, President of the Historic Preservation Commission, and ccing other parties that have been involved:

Dear President Chase,

In 2009, the City and County of San Francisco adopted the Eastern Neighborhood Plan, after almost a decade of community-based planning. The primary goal of this Plan was to develop new zoning controls and comprehensive neighborhoods plans to achieve economic and social priorities. This legislation established the Eastern Neighborhood Citizen Advisory Committee (EN CAC). The EN CAC is a 19-member central community advisory body, appointed by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors, and charged with providing input to City agencies and decision makers with regard to all activities related to implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans.

As the keepers of the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan, we understand that comprehensive surveys of historic resources in the Eastern Neighborhoods are being undertaken to inform the adopted Plan. While these surveys are purely informational at this time, we recognize the potential for the surveys to lead to the initiation and designation of formal historic districts.

We are concerned that the current process does not take into account the Key Principles of the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan, nor is there currently any clear process outlined to do so. These Key Principles include:

People and Neighborhoods:

- 1) Encourage new housing at appropriate locations and make it as affordable as possible to a range of city residents

2) Plan for transportation, open space, community facilities and other critical elements of complete neighborhoods

The Economy and Jobs:

3) Reserve sufficient space for production, distribution and repair activities, in order to support the city's economy and provide good jobs for residents

4) Take steps to provide space for new industries that bring innovation and flexibility to the city's economy

Further, we are concerned that the community involvement required to have representative from property owners, tenants and business owners has been profoundly inadequate to date. And that no clear plan or process has been developed and communicated going forward to elicit deeper engagement.

Therefore, the Eastern Neighborhoods Citizen's Advisory Committee hereby resolves:

Increased and Specific Community Engagement

That before any Historic District designation is formally initiated, a petitioning of affected community members (including property owners, residents, and business owners) in the proposed area should proceed such that 30% of the affected community vote for the initiation. Further, no Historic District should be designated against the protest of more than 50% of the affected community in the area under consideration. Further, we resolve that notification of proposed Historic District initiation include property owners, tenants and business owners in the area under consideration.

Specific Eastern Neighborhoods Plan Review and Reconciliation

That any area proposed for formal initial of historic district designation 1) should be specifically evaluated against the Key Principles of the Eastern Neighborhoods and 2) should be brought to the EN CAC for review and comment before the designation can be initiated.

cc: Board of Supervisors
Historic Preservation Commission
Planning Commission
John Rahaim, Planning Department
Kelley Amdur, Planning Department
Tim Frye, Planning Department

MOTION: Sofis SECOND: Doumani

AYES: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Goldstein, Ho, Huie, Martí, Murphy, Scully, Shen, Sofis

ABSENT: Eslick, Lopez, Quezada

MOTION: 2010-10-4

6. Impact Fee Update and Preliminary Project Prioritization: Informational presentation by staff analysis of expected impact fee revenue, and the preliminary project prioritization process occurring at the City's Inter-agency Plan Implementation Committee (IPIC), followed by discussion, comment, and potential action.

Item not heard. Continued to the next meeting.

7. High Speed Rail: Discussion led by CAC members regarding the proposed High Speed Rail project and its potential ramifications on the Eastern Neighborhoods, followed by comment and potential action.

ACTION: Adopted the following resolution directed to Robert Doty, Manager – Peninsula Rail Program, California High Speed Rail Authority, and ccing other parties that have been involved :

Re: HSRA AA/EIR - Alternatives for Grade Separation at 16th Street and Mission Bay

Dear Mr. Doty,

In 2009, the City and County of San Francisco adopted the Eastern Neighborhood Plan, after almost a decade of community-based planning. The primary goal of this Plan was to develop new zoning controls and comprehensive neighborhoods plans to achieve economic and social priorities. This legislation established the Eastern Neighborhood Citizen Advisory Committee (EN CAC). The EN CAC is a 19-member central community advisory body, appointed by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors, and charged with providing input to City agencies and decision makers with regard to all activities related to implementation of the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans.

At the EN CAC's October 2010 meeting, the High Speed Rail project was discussed. The EN CAC focused on the multiple options of grade separating both the 16th Street and Mission Bay Drive connections between Showplace Square and Mission Bay and, based on that discussion, voted unanimously in November 2010 to forward this letter expressing our collective concern about the detrimental impacts that will result from keeping the High Speed Rail at grade and depressing 16th Street and Mission Bay Drive. The ENCAC is extremely concerned that compromising the existing connections to Mission Bay and the waterfront will have devastating impacts on the implementation of the EN Area Plans. Specifically by dividing the urban landscape into two separate zones it would:

Undermine policies designed to thread the fabric of Showplace Square with Mission Bay and the balance of the San Francisco waterfront,
Limit growth and tax revenue that benefits the people of San Francisco, and
Create unsafe and uncomfortable conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders, undermining the City's environmental- and health-based goals of reducing automobile traffic.

In September 2010, the City and County of San Francisco submitted a letter to the HSRA to investigate other design alternatives that mitigate the concerns described above. We also want to urge you to fully investigate the design options included in the aforementioned letter. Your analysis should include both quantitative and qualitative analyses that result from bifurcating large areas zoned for growth (Showplace Square / Potrero Hill) from the adjacent Mission Bay neighborhood and waterfront. We are hopeful that such an analysis will conclude that alternatives which either preserve or enhance neighborhood connectivity, support growth, community health and local sustainable transportation represents the best design solution for the HSR.

Sincerely,

Chris Block,
Chair of EN CAC

cc: Nicole Franklin, CHSRA
Leroy Saage, SFCTA
Fred Blackwell, SFRA
John Rahaim, Planning
Nathaniel Ford, SFMTA
Claude Gratianna, Caltrain
Supervisor Sophie Maxwell
Supervisor-Elect Malia Cohen
San Francisco Planning Commission
Dominic Spaethling

John Litzinger
Tim Cobb

MOTION: Doumani SECOND: Huie

AYES: Block, Doumani, Gillett, Goldstein, Ho, Huie, Martí, Murphy, Scully, Shen, Sofis

ABSENT: Eslick, Gillett, Ho, Lopez, Quezada

MOTION: 2010-10-5

8. Development Project Working Group: Monthly report back by this working group, followed by discussion, comment, and potential action.

Item heard. No action taken.

9. Neighborhood Meetings Schedule: Discussion by CAC members regarding amending the By-Laws with regards to timing and logistics of the CAC's neighborhood meetings, followed by comment, and potential action.

Item heard. No action taken. Item will be heard again at the January meeting.

10. Committee members' questions and comments.

Item heard. No Action taken.

11. Public Comment:

Item heard. No Action taken.

Adjournment: 8:05 PM.