

PORT OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
EIR/AESTHETIC MITIGATION SUBCOMMITTEE

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

Minutes  
May 28, 2009

ATTENDEES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/PCAC

Kathleen Woodfield, Acting Chair  
Chuck Hart, Voting Member  
Jody James, Alternate Member

PORT STAFF

Teresa Scognamillo  
Harry Hunold

PARTICIPANTS

Gwen Butterfield  
Richard Pawlowski

LOCATION OF MEETING: Banning's Landing, 100 E. Water Street, Wilmington, CA

- A. Call to Order: Kathleen Woodfield, Acting Chair, 4:15PM
- B. Sign In / Introductions
- C. Agenda Approved
- D. Approved the Minutes of the April 23, 2009 EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee Meeting
- E. Public Comment:  
Richard Pawlowski, a San Pedro resident and an applicant for a number of China Shipping Aesthetic Mitigation Proposals, referenced the May 19, 2009 PCAC meeting, specifically the statement made by Jon Haveman, from Beacon Economics, that the Nexus Study in and of itself did not provide mitigation. Mr. Pawlowski stated that by moving forward with the Study, precludes better things from happening.
- F. POLA Staff Update:  
China Shipping Aesthetic Mitigation Fund
  - a. Discussion of Fund Term Date  
Kathleen Woodfield sent a letter to Dr. Geraldine Knatz and to City Attorney, Thomas Russell, asking them to expedite Motion #99 through to the Board of Harbor Commissioners (BHC) (The motion was to extend the term deadline).

She also reported that after speaking with Attorney Russell, the Port did not want to extend the term deadline. They were looking to have the BHC allocate funds for the PCAC recommendation prior to PCAC's Action. If, this was not legally appropriate, a special PCAC meeting would be called prior to the June 4<sup>th</sup> BHC meeting/June 14<sup>th</sup> term deadline.

b. Status of Wilmington and San Pedro Aesthetic Mitigation Projects Currently Underway (from Prior RFP's)

Teresa Scognamillo, the POLA Environmental Mitigation Coordinator (EMC) reported:

- North Gaffey Beautification Project is moving along on schedule
- Plaza Park (on Beacon Street) – POLA is working on an agreement with Recreation and Parks. The Subcommittee asked to see the plans for the project. They also asked for a report on the project elements that had changed since PCAC first approved \$1 Million for the project. In addition, if in the future, the cost estimates for any of the selected projects increase significantly, the PCAC requested that they be notified and given the opportunity to re-evaluate the project.
- Wilmington Youth Sailing Center Project  
Operating funds have been reallocated from the \$3.1 Million originally approved by PCAC. The POLA Planning and Research Division, Real Estate Division and the City Attorney will meet to discuss / evaluate options for moving forward with the project. Engineering will now design and construct a plan based on the remaining \$2.6 Million.
- Banning Museum Transportation Exhibit  
The first two phases of the Transportation Exhibit have been completed. The intent is to complete the project by the end of 2009.
- Beautification Project along Alameda Street/Harry Bridges Blvd. in Wilmington  
The agreement is expected to go to the Board on June 4, 2009. Per the CRA, terms of the original agreement had been changed requiring it to go back to the Board. Once approved by the BHC, the project is ready to move forward.
- Wilmington YMCA  
The Port and the YMCA are still working on negotiating an agreement. Once it is fully negotiated, it will go to the BHC for approval.

c. Discussion of Recommended Projects

Kathleen Woodfield and Ken Melendez gave a PowerPoint presentation to the PCAC on May 19, 2009, introducing the various proposed projects for the final round of Aesthetic Mitigation Funds. At the PCAC meeting, the following requests were made:

- that the Port provide a cost estimate for Project #27, the N. Front Street / N. Pacific Avenue Scenic Hwy Improvements. Dr. Appy will work on the cost estimate for the June PCAC meeting
- Copies of the proposal for the Nexus Study. A copy of all the recommended proposals will be sent to the PCAC Voting

membership, who will be asked to share the information with their Alternate member if they cannot participate at the June PCAC meeting.

Another issue at the PCAC meeting was the fact that the value of the recommended projects for San Pedro exceeded the available amount of funding. This has been the modus operandi from the onset for Aesthetic Mitigation Proposals. As requested by Dr. Ralph Appy, it allows for the total amount of funds to be utilized if any of the projects are denied or determined infeasible.

The selection of the Wilmington projects was a different this time because the project applicants guaranteed that their proposed projects would be completed given a certain allotment. If the actual cost of the project exceeded the given allotment, they would have the remainder of the project funded through other sources.

G. EIR Schedule and Status Update of CEQA Projects

- a. San Pedro Waterfront – EIR to go to the Board in July/August
- b. Wilmington Waterfront – EIR to go to the Board in July/August
- c. LA Marine Terminal – No Report
- d. China Shipping – No Report
- e. Other CEQA Projects:

Channel Deepening Project

Gwen Butterfield provided the following update:

Two appeals have been filed on the Channel Deepening SEIR. One is Gambol Industries who would like to build a ship repair / ship building facility at the Southwest Marine Site. The other is the LA Conservancy.

April 29, 2009, the Board of Harbor Commissioners (BHC) approved the Channel Deepening SEIR and the Master Plan Amendment number 24.

May 12, 2009 the City Council voted (12 / 0) to assert jurisdiction on the Master Plan Amendment. However, they are not permitted under Section 245 of the Charter to assert jurisdiction over the SEIR, as it is appealable under another statute. The Council has 21 days to affirm the Port's approval of the Master Plan Amendment or to deny it. They do not have authority to change the language in it, but they can send direction back to the Port.

The Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee heard the issues on May 27, 2009. It is expected to go to the full City Council on June 2, 2009.

The Channel Deepening SEIR as approved permits the slips at the Southwest Marine to be filled with dredge material. The Committee was concerned that if the Master Plan Amendment changes the land use

designation for the slips that it would preclude a ship yard at Southwest Marine in the future.

Councilwoman Hahn requested that the Port of LA meet with Gambol Engineers prior to Tuesday's City Council meeting to see if they could come up with a compromise on encapsulating the dredge material.

The Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee voted (2 to 0) to recommend that the BHC clarify future uses of the site. The recommendation will go back to the full Council, where a minimum of 10 votes is required, to send it back to the BHC. The City Council will meet June 2, 2009. In the meantime, the appeals on the SEIR are still pending.

- H. Discussion of Combining Subcommittees  
The issue is under discussion. There has been no recommendation from the Subcommittee at this time.
- I. Efforts to Provide a Consultant to Assist Subcommittee  
There was no staff available at the meeting to address this issue.
- J. Old Business
  - Status of Operational M.M.R.P.
- K. New Business/Non Agenda Items
  - Voting Privileges of Non-Participating PCAC Members
- L. Agenda Items for Next Meeting: June 25, 2009
- M. Adjournment: 5:35 PM

Signature on File  
Kathleen Woodfield, Acting Chair  
EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee

Signature on File  
Debra Babcock-Doherty, PCAC Executive Assistant