



COASTAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Doug Epperhart
President

Dean Pentcheff
Vice President

Sheryl Akerblom
Treasurer

1840 S Gaffey St., Box 34 • San Pedro, CA 90731 • (310) 918-8650
cspnclive@gmail.com

December 5, 2023

To: Board of Harbor Commissioners

The following resolution was approved by the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board at the Board and Stakeholder meeting held November 20, 2023.

Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council comments on San Pedro's Waterfront Connectivity Plan.

Whereas, the Port of Los Angeles has commissioned consultants to develop a plan for recommending ways and means to improve visitor transportation in and around the waterfront; and

Whereas, a report titled San Pedro's Waterfront Connectivity Plan has now been issued; *Therefore, be it resolved* the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council adopts the following comments to be submitted to the Board of Harbor Commissioners:

The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council commends the Port of Los Angeles and SWA Group and its associates for their work in developing San Pedro's Waterfront Connectivity Plan. The plan demonstrates an understanding of issues involved with moving significant numbers of visitors to and from waterfront locations while presenting an attractive and welcoming environment.

It is the duty of the neighborhood council to represent the interests of its constituents. To that end, these comments deal mostly with those things affecting San Pedro residents. Changes to the landscape (built and natural) proposed in this plan should be pleasing and useful to those who experience them every day as well as to those whose experience is limited to occasional visits.

The plan rightly focuses on a need to facilitate movement by visitors beyond the immediate community (five-mile radius), but also recognizes the need to connect to San Pedro and its neighbors. Even though the plan contemplates that "stay all day" visitors will be arriving from more distant destinations and patronizing commercial enterprises, waterfront businesses will need local residents to sustain their economic viability.

We are especially concerned that this plan also provide benefits to those who do not have the financial means to fully utilize the commercial opportunities provided by West Harbor. For many "stay all day" means Cabrillo Beach, 22nd Street Park, the Cabrillo Aquarium, Maritime Museum, and other attractions not requiring significant spending.

For many residents in San Pedro, the gateway to the commercial and recreational areas of the waterfront is 22nd Street. This is also the transitional space between two distinctly different waterfront zones.

The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council recommends the following be priorities:

Motorized Connectivity Projects:

- Harbor Blvd Improvements (Southern Pacific Slip to 22nd Street)
- 22nd Street Complete Street Improvements

Non-Motorized Connectivity Projects:

- Promenade at S.P. Slip
- Downslope Trail near Bloch Field
- Pedestrian Bridge over Harbor Blvd. at 1st St. and Harbor Blvd.
- 22nd Street Gateway Pedestrian Amenities
- Cabrillo Beach Pedestrian Improvements
- Proposed Coastal Trail Improvements
- Gulch Road Sidewalk and Improved Crossing
- Crescent Avenue ADA-compliant Sidewalk and Connection to 22nd Street Park
- 22nd Street Park to Crafted/Brouwerji West Connections
- White Point Regional Connector Trail

Open Space Connectivity Projects:

- 22nd Street Open Space at the East Channel/ AltaSea
- S.P. Slip Enhancements
- Micromobility Hub at 22nd Street & Miner Street
- Bloch Field (South)
- San Pedro Salt Marsh Improvements
- Cabrillo Beach Improvements
- Timm's Point Enhancements
- Micromobility Hub at Cabrillo Beach

Public Art Projects:

- 22nd Street Park Sculpture Park (Phase 1)

We note that many of these projects are less costly, do not involve significant structural work, and could be achieved sooner rather than later.

We also note that many of these projects on our list are not prioritized. We understand that development of the waterfront is intended to monetize as much of it as possible. However, we believe that not all of this public property should be “gentrified” and that there is an obligation to serve all of the community regardless of economic status.

Furthermore:

Whereas all 3 Neighborhood Councils, LA City District 15 office, the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, and hundreds of individual stakeholders collaborated in 2013-2017 to create the San Pedro Urban Greening Implementation Plan (SPUGIP), and

Whereas Opportunity 26 of the SPUGIP requests that the Port of Los Angeles create natural habitat in the open space on 22nd St, east of Miner and adjacent to the Red Trolley (rail) maintenance depot, and

Whereas the Port of Los Angeles Connectivity Plan (POLA-CP) designates that same parcel for over-flow parking, in addition to several other areas designated for overflow parking,

Therefore the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests that the Port of Los Angeles Connectivity Plan (POLA-CP) be updated to permanently designate no less than 1% (or 4.6 acres of the land area within scope of the POLA-CP, whichever is greater) for new natural wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas Epperhart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 't'.

Doug Epperhart, President
On behalf of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board

CC:
Councilmember McOsker; Councilmember.McOsker@lacity.org;
Augie Bezmalinovich abezmalinovich@portla.org
Pamela Thornton, Planning Director, CD-15 Pamela.Thornton@lacity.org;
Richard Watson RichardSilverHeart@gmail.com