

Coastal Currents

• Issues and Information from the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council •

Coastal Currents
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The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council — Our Purpose and Function

Neighborhood councils provide a way for people to get together and discuss their mutual concerns, and then have those concerns communicated directly to our city government.

Representatives of Councilmember Janice Hahn, Mayor Villaraigosa, and the Port of Los Angeles attend our monthly meetings. We also welcome the LAPD senior lead officers, who report on crime trends and confer with us regarding issues such as parking, graffiti, and violent crime.

The governing board hears public comments at the beginning of every meeting and also receives public input on each agenda item. The public comment period often results in the creation of a resolution or action item to be taken up at a later board meeting.

The city funds each neighborhood council at the rate of \$50,000 a year. This is used to publish this newsletter and publicize the council in other ways. Money is also allocated in a number of ways, including support of local cultural activities, youth programs, crime prevention, and education. The city has rules which limit the acceptable uses and which provide for audits and oversight by city departments. This newsletter reports on expenditures.

Monthly Meetings

We meet every month on the third Monday, except in January and February, when we meet on the fourth Monday because of federal holidays. Our next meetings are scheduled for October 20, November 17, and December 15. The meetings are held at the Cabrillo Marina Community Center, Berth 28, near the Marina Hotel at the southern end of Via Cabrillo Marina. For more information, please visit us online at coastalsanpedro.org.

Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Election Set for Saturday, October 25 at Point Fermin Park

The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council will hold its last annual election in October. All 17 board members, who previously were chosen annually by the voters, will now serve two-year terms.

This is because the city council passed new rules forbidding annual elections for neighborhood councils. Board members chosen at this election will

serve through June 30, 2010.

The election is set for Saturday, October 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Cetacean Society building in Point Fermin Park. All stakeholders at least 18 years of age are eligible to vote.

Stakeholders are defined as those who live, work, or own property in the Coastal San Pedro area or who “declare a stake in the neighborhood and affirm

the factual basis for it.”

Only 15 candidates signed up to run, so there will be two vacancies that will be filled once the new board takes office. Write-in candidates are not permitted in the election.

The candidates, whose election is assured as long as each receives at least one vote, are incumbents Doug Epperhart, Soledad Garcia, Bob Gelfand, Lydia Gutierrez, Chuck Hawley, Bruce Horton, Linda Marinkovich, Dean Pentcheff, June Burlingame Smith, John Stinson, and Peter Warren.

Also running are newcomers Rosalie Machi-Perazzola, Pam Meisel, Erin Strelch, and Van Alexis Ulrich.

Board members Bob Farrell, Richard Havenick, Melanie Jones, William Roberts, Daniel Schrader, and Kim Stevens are not running for re-election.

For more information about the election, please visit the council’s website at www.coastalsanpedro.org or contact the independent election administrator, Stephen Box, at (323) 962-1379.

Governing Board Openings

Welcome to the annual election issue of the Coastal Currents. This is your introduction to the people who will serve you as the governing board of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council. We have also tried to include a brief description of how the council operates and what the governing board and other volunteers actually do.

As of the moment, we only have 15 announced candidates for seats on the governing board, which means that we will have at least two openings to fill on the board when the new term commences in November. This means that as early as the November 17 monthly meeting, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council will be able to appoint people to fill those seats.

Those who may have some interest in applying to fill the vacancies can communicate their interest to our secretary, Bruce Horton, at sbhorton@cox.net.

NOISE Explains Opposition to Angels Gate School

In the last issue of Coastal Currents, an article provided by the Los Angeles Unified School District explained why a new school should be built at Angels Gate. Following is a article offering the point of view of the group organized by residents in the area who are opposed to a school at Angels Gate.

NOISE (Neighborhoods Organized and Involved to Support Education) does not support South Region High School #15 proposed to be located on the Upper Reservation of Fort MacArthur.

We have evidence that the perceived overcrowding is due to San Pedro High School being a receiver school in LAUSD, which means San Pedro High School receives students from overcrowded campuses in neighboring communities.

Past bond money has been to reduce multitrack schools, which we do not have, and will not have, especially after removing the students we receive from other local high schools.

Two new high schools, other than SRHS15, are currently under construction in the local area. The shift to these two new campuses immediately reduces the need to bus neighboring students into our community.

SRHS15 is currently proposed to be an annex of San Pedro High School, intended to house only the Marine Science

Magnet. Currently the Marine Science Magnet is comprised of approximately 10 percent of San Pedro High School’s total enrollment.

LAUSD is proposing \$102.5 million taxpayer dollars (up from \$89 million in May ’08) to grant only 10 percent of San Pedro High School’s students the ability to enjoy a brand new campus.

What will an annex do to San Pedro High School proper? How do you explain to the 90 percent left at a school that is not ADA compliant – that they have to continue to spend their days in 30 year old temporary buildings? On which campus do you hold pep rallies? Which campus will hold graduation?

LAUSD has mentioned the use of busses to transport students from one

campus to another during school hours. If the stress of crowded hallways is affecting students already, what will be the affects of having to hop on a bus to get to third period?...Safety of our students?... Extra pollution to our port town?

LAUSD has a study that shows their enrollment is sharply and unexpectedly decreasing even though Los Angeles population is increasing. It seems they have chosen to ignore this study when planning for this new high school.

LAUSD tells us that the construction will minimally impact the community, but in comparison to what? LAUSD fails to mention all of the contaminants at this old military site that need to be remove and trucked out of the city. This will

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**Coastal San Pedro
Neighborhood Council**

ELECTION

**Saturday, October 25
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Point Fermin Park
Cetacean Society Building**

Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council
1536 West 25th Street #223
San Pedro CA 90732

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