

**North Embarcadero Visionary Plan Public Meetings of  
August 18 & August 24-25, 2010**

**Public Meeting Comments**

**Amenities/Open Space Design**

Are we considering doing anything for children?

In the presentation, you showed kiosks with people looking out to the water. I thought that they would be placed where there already are buildings. I'd like to see them (the kiosks) across the street.

Great design, but would like to see it more usable for public events. Possibly a stage, café, place where you could buy alcohol. Give it a city square feel.

As a downtown resident on Pac. Hwy, there's been an influx of residents and pets. The green space may be used for pets and people. Don't eliminate it.

Form needs to follow function. Animate what the uses will be and then design around those uses. Develop animation plans. Develop spaces for people to be able to gather in small groups and in larger crowds. Dance floors/space on the waterfront w/space for musicians; and seating to watch them.

Add WiFi with comfortable places for people to sit and text.

Second story bathroom w/view of bay.

Gastrotram – trolley or tram that does a dedicated loop; on it you can order bistro food and wine and look around and enjoy the sites and scenes.

The 150-foot setback seems like a good idea to get more green space. Is there a way to do that without going all the way down Harbor Drive?

I'm another long-term resident, we want to see it happen. If all you're going to do is have a bunch of grass, we might go there but other people won't be coming down for that. We need mixed use. We need things to do.

Keep in mind the Holiday Bowl parade and the other festivals. I'm a family man, I'd like to see mixed use, things for kids, like they have down by the Convention Center with the park and the water features.

I'm not sure it's a good idea to close the last block of Broadway.

You should do something like they did up by Interstate 15. They built a park over the freeway. You could do something like that down by the County Building.

The best thing the port can do is do a road trip to Chicago. Let them give you a guided tour of their parks. You'll see so many people down at the lake front. Dukie Valderrama has to see Millenium Park and see how great it is.

PBS will air a Daniel Burnham (architect of Chicago's Millennium Park) event. Don't miss it.

I'm not sure it's a good idea to close the last block of Broadway.

Do not change the jacaranda plans for Harbor Drive.

The 150-foot setback is useless.

Park space doesn't have to be green. Give people outdoor seating on wide sidewalks and benches for people watching. That's more useful space. Less palm trees!

The more trees, the better. West Ash Street is lined with jacarandas and it adds, not detracts, from the view of the Harbor.

Broadway Pier needs food carts/lunch-dinner dining.

Limit the use of grass. This is an urban/civic plaza type space at the gateway to downtown. The use of trees and planters to soften the hardscape is more appropriate. Open grassy space is more appropriate as you move further north along the embarcadero, or leave it to the County Administration park as the "grassy green space."

There is no need for the 150-foot setback from the East side of Harbor Drive. By setting the hotels, office, retail further from the embarcadero, it will de-activate the waterfront. By keeping the current development setback where it is, it seems to bring the city to the waterfront. Just do the project already the way it is and get it built!

It doesn't matter if the park is circular, linear, grass or beautiful landscaped hardscape. Tourists will appreciate the opportunity to spend time at the waterfront. Let's not delay any further.

The two large pavilions on the esplanade look huge.

I think the pavilions should be reduced. More open space is needed.

The best thing the port can do is do a road trip to Chicago. Let them give you a guided tour of their parks. You'll see so many people down at the lake front. Dukie Valderrama has to see Millennium Park and see how great it is.

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We've never thought about building over the road. You could create a park that would be built on top and have cars travel underneath.

### **Broadway & B Street Piers**

Trying to wedge in 2 ½ acres here and there is not an adequate substitute for Broadway Landing Park.

The building being constructed on Broadway Pier is ugly.

It saddens me to see what is really a pedestrian view resulting from the removal of the (Broadway Landing) park. I see it as a concrete driveway to an unattractive building.

Move the Broadway Pier and B Street cruise ship terminals down south. This will be an opportunity to create more open space.

These are not three concepts. These are three variations of a concept. The designers need to come back with one showing a park at the foot of Broadway

Move the Cruise Ship Terminal to Tenth Avenue and tie it to the expansion center expansion

There needs to be better outdoor seating for people waiting at the B Street Cruise Ship Terminal.

The reason why we're going through this exercise today is because the Port decided to change Broadway Pier and take away what the original NEVP plan had. We are working to get the public space back.

I'm looking at the big picture. The cruise ship terminals should be moved. There would be so many more opportunities if they moved to the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Marine Terminal.

I'm concerned about Broadway Pier. The only reason the oval park struck such a cord was that it was a memorable way to terminate the boulevard. The studies you've brought up address replacing the parks.

To treat the Broadway Pier Cruise Ship Terminal separate from this is design suicide. How do you make a "beautiful" 8-foot high fence around the Broadway Pier Cruise Ship Terminal? How will that say this is public property?

Back when this project was under the North Embarcadero Visionary Plan Alliance, I advocated strongly for a cruise ship terminal at the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Marine Terminal.

I agree with Rob Quigley's comment about the foot of Broadway. The cruise ship terminal needs to be mitigated. It should not be there. When you look down Broadway, that's all that you see.

The Coastal Commission refused to sign off on the plan. That's why we're here. By putting a cruise ship terminal on Broadway Pier, we've made it patchwork. You took away our centerpiece. Now you're doing mitigation for the loss of the oval park. It must be done as a cohesive plan for the entire area. Not just this part. Piecemeal is not a plan. In Oregon, they tore up a four-lane boulevard and put in a park. It is being used for events and festivals. Waterfront parks provide the type of front porch that the embarcadero needs. Restaurants, maritime facilities, pleasure craft, these are all things to include. Move the cruise ships away.

Design the foot of Broadway at the eastern section of Broadway Pier.

The additional public space should be on B Street, Broadway and Navy. The cruise ships should be moved to Tenth Avenue.

### **Construction & Constructability**

Construction for the North Embarcadero should be built using fair and open competition, not under a Project Labor Agreement. (PLA). PLAs deny over 85% of San Diego's construction workforce who choose to be union-free, the ability to work on public work projects reduces competition and significantly drives up costs. PLAs put special interests ahead of the public interests by restricting the bidding process to only contractors backed by big labor unions – denying others the opportunity to do a better job at a better price. In the San Diego Unified School District, PLA was placed on all Proposition S construction projects in July of 2009. The results of the first project covered by the PLA were devastating. There were only five bidders on the project where similar projects have 15-20. Worse, the winning bid was 35% over the engineer's estimate. The icing on the cake is that the winning bidder was from Los Angeles! The PLA resulted in fewer bidders, increased costs and fewer local jobs.

The Navy Broadway Complex will never get built.

### **Lane Field**

I think it's a mistake not to talk about the possibility of green space across the street at Lane Field. I'd like to see a reasonable replacement to what we're losing on Harbor Drive.

Lane Field was a field before, you might want to turn it into a park now.

It used to be a ball field, could it return to green space?

As a resident, I think everything I've seen is great. With all the negativity, I'm concerned nothing will ever get done.

I'm a member of the Cruise Ship Advisory Committee. Four times a year we get together to see how we can attract additional cruise business. We're looking forward to Lane Field being developed. Businesses are what drive the ability to fund parks.

If you propose a setback on Lane Field, you'll have very high towers with the hotels.

I'm also against moving anything to Lane Field. Let them do what they planned. Their project is entitled and approved. Don't make them start over again. I don't want to open up a can of worms with the Coastal Commission.

Lane Field is a beautiful project, it's gone through so much, it's entitled.

You have some challenges with the Navy leasehold.

I would urge the Port to work the Lane Field developers to give up the land to add public space. We need to minimize the vehicles and make it as pedestrian friendly as possible.

### **Planning & Stakeholder Outreach Process**

I think it's fine that you widened Harbor Drive, however, this is being fed to us piecemeal. I may change my mind on it.

As a more than 20-year resident, I think it's important to look at both the short term and long term plans. There is enough parking. Just do it!

I think it's a waste of money to keep going through these workshops. Don't have cutesy cartoons. Nothing has happened for years. I think the modifications you've made to the original NEVP plan are an insult to the designer. I think it's disgusting where we are today.

I'm on the "Would it happen in my lifetime club". I want to see it done.

We all want to get this done. Through a variety of reasons, the other participating agencies have dropped off and now just the Port is planning it. Get some of these agencies back in here.

I'm agreeing with everyone that this needs to happen.

The pavilions and jacaranda trees are wonderful. These are possible good tune-ups to the alternative. I'm concerned you need to give your design team new boundaries.

Let's get on with it! You've done a beautiful job. We have lots of money that you could lose. Any one of the plans you came up with would work. We're behind you. Let's get on with it.

This has been going on a long time. The cruise ships are here, folks, we need to move on. We need to get this done.

As a more than 20-year resident, I think it's important to look at both the short term and long term plans. There is enough parking. Just do it!

Please construct the current plan (all jacarandas).

You can't design everything. Leave room for serendipity! A good traffic/parking/shuttle strategy is the key.

We are in support of the NEVP moving forward quickly. Our hostels bring in thousands of visitors each year and we look forward to having a waterfront that we can be proud of.

It would have been more helpful to have an overlay on your aerial image of the North Embarcadero and also a physical model because it's hard for the public to understand.

The star of this whole thing is Lane Field and the star should be Broadway

This (public presentation of August 25, 2010) is a very difficult presentation to understand.

I sat on the other side of the table and I want to thank the Port staff for this. You need a programming and maintenance district for both the short term and long term plan. You should take a program manager and maintenance manager to make sure the space is kept in tip top shape.

Commercialization is more dangerous than any atomic bomb. You need to take the best asset on San Diego Bay. We're looking at how a few people can make more money by taking our asset. It's no longer the age of materialism. Other cities like Portland and New York are making their waterfronts more public. We have to be a more global base because of our proximity to the border. Our bays should be the reason people thrive here. It's a dirty deal, the public is promised something and then it gets taken away.

From Commissioner Lee Burdick: I was a little concerned that one of the earlier questions wasn't flushed out. One is that process is very important. I'm grateful to everyone for giving us your time and input. There is one more meeting tomorrow night before we go before the BPC. Then later meetings will be scheduled for later in September and October. Additional public process will occur. The Board will take action on the first phase in November. In addition, there will be additional public meetings for the full project. There will be lots of opportunity for a much better understanding of the the traffic, the parking and the many, many components. Much additional process will be granted as part of the consideration. After the traffic study, we will have additional study and additional opportunities for public input.

The aerial view you have is about 10 to 12 years old. There are other buildings located there. You can get a better map off of Google.

### **Public Safety**

We need to consider a lane for bikes and pedicabs to keep them away from pedestrians.

### **Sustainability**

For a water feature, you should think of using salt water from the bay or recycled water.

With the City and County trying to get people to reduce their water use, I think a water feature would send the wrong message. You could do native landscaping with soft and hardscape.

Having traveled the world and seen many parks – this doesn't need to be grass. With the water shortage, it isn't right.

Make this a model for sustainable design. Plus, with all the paving along the harbor, shade trees are a must! Limit grass! Go to Seaport Village and you'll see how many people use it – zero! The only thing it does is attract bums and dog poop and requires too much water.

### **Traffic Circulation, Parking & Harbor Drive**

I think you're creating a traffic nightmare with development on the North Embarcadero, both on Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway.

I think it's an excellent idea to narrow Harbor Drive to three lanes.

I love these concepts, to reduce Harbor makes it more pedestrian and allows people to hang out.

People need places to park. I would really like to hear a parking plan so that businesses can thrive.

No one wants to sit in traffic.

I'd like to complement the Port on some of these ideas. The idea of narrowing Harbor Drive and bringing the County Administration Building plaza to the water are great.

I live four blocks away and I'm embarrassed to say that I drove here tonight. Harbor Drive just isn't safe to walk on. I am for narrowing Harbor Drive. It will give me incentive to walk down here. I think a lot of people drive down here. More residents would walk if Harbor Drive was narrowed.

It is already an improved plan. I would like to see something done with the traffic.

I'd like to complement the Port on some of these ideas. The idea of narrowing Harbor Drive and bringing the County Administration Building plaza to the water are great.

Narrow Harbor Drive.

Narrow Harbor Drive – Yes! Walk down from Broadway to the pier and it's a vehicular nightmare. I don't see there being any real traffic problems since all airport/commuter traffic exists on Harbor and Grape.

The shrinking of Harbor Drive is a great idea. It allows for the Embarcadero to become a truly pedestrian realm by removing vehicles.

Thank you for listening. This is our front porch. Maybe you should make a one way street on Harbor, go down on Ash and make room for cruise ships.

I'm very disappointed because we haven't discussed the elephant in the room – traffic and cars. We need to keep cars off Harbor Drive. In Seattle, the Olympic sculpture park is one of the most magnificent developments. They have a park that goes over the road but you don't realize you are over a road. We need to get rid of the traffic.

The Chicago road trip is worth every penny. I was overwhelmed by it. I'm from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and their downtown is very elegant, very people oriented. They've taken down homes and put in a country club and a beach. Let's take some of that Midwest goodness and live it.