

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS



"To Let the Neighborhoods Know What's Coming Down Before It Lands on Them"

Newsletter No. 4

March, 1976

Berkeley, Calif.

ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION

A revised Zoning Ordinance is due shortly before the City Council. Who does what when is presently complicated by differing deadline requests by the Planning Commission as well as the Master Plan Revision Committee.

The MPRC is, nevertheless, trying to get something down on paper. Here is a general sketch of what they are considering as they work to come up with recommendations.

- Zoning classifications be divided into three categories: intended use, allowable use, and exceptions.

Specific procedures for each of these categories: "intended use" would not require a hearing but would be subject to appeal, "allowable use" would require some sort of administrative hearing, and "exceptions" would require a hearing before the Board of Adjustments.

- Zoning classifications be combined or eliminated: no R-5, combine R-1 and R-1A, have only three residential classifications, R-1, R-2, and R-3.

- There could be three commercial zones: a central business district, an arterial strip zone, and neighborhood shopping zone. There could be a "Special Industrial" zone which would specifically allow housing.

The Committee had intended to do the mapping — applying classifications to specific areas — but there is doubt on the part of some members whether there is enough time.

The MPRC meets every Mondays, 7:30
2020 Milvia Street, Rm 203 (2nd Floor)

John Hart

BARKER HOUSE DEMOLITION LANDMARKS COMMISSION ACTION

Angry petitioners urged the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) condemn the demolition of the Barker House, call for the firing of the responsible city officials, and take steps to insure that demolition permits are not issued in the future once procedures have been initiated to designate buildings landmarks.

Following thorough debate the LPC passed a number of motions dealing with the issues raised by the Barker House demolition. The main motion stated that: "The LPC condemns the act of granting a demolition permit for the Barker House to Herrick Hospital by the City of Berkeley on January 27, 1976 as the landmark designation process for the Barker House had been initiated by a citizens petition accepted by our committee on January 19, 1976, this clearly violates Section 15 of our governing ordinance which

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**DIVERTERS AND CLOSURES INSTALLED
PRIOR TO JULY 8, 1975**

I. "Old Diverters" to be removed if Fink-Alfert Initiative Passes.

1. WEST BERKELEY date installed

Channing & Ninth (Guard Rail) Aug. 26, 1969
Bancroft & Seventh (.. ..) Aug. 27, 1969
Delaware & Ninth (.. ..) Aug. 27, 1969
Eighth & Allston (Fence) Sept., 1973.

2. EMERSON AREA

Russell & Claremont (Guard Rail) Aug. 26, 1969
College & Forrest (.. ..) Aug. 26, 1969
Piedmont & Dwight (.. ..) Aug. 26, 1969
Claremont Blvd-Monkey Island (Post) Summer 1969
Garber, west of Oak Knoll (Post) Aug. , 1969

3. North Berkeley Neighborhood & NOBBS Area

California & Hearst (Fence & Post) Aug., 1970
Delaware & Sacramento (.. ..) Aug., 1970
Virginia & McGee (Guard Rail) Sept., 1971
Virginia & Acton (.. ..) Sept., 1971

4. South Campus

Dana & Dwight (Post) Sept., 1968

5. Le Conte

Deakin & Ashby (Bollard) Feb., 1974

6. Flatlands

Channing & Roosevelt (Bollard) Nov., 1967

7. McGee

California & Oregon (Guard Rail) Aug., 1972

8. Bateman

Colby & South Hospital Drive (Post) May, 1972

9. Claremont-Elmwood

Webster East of College (Bollard) Feb., 1974
Webster & Claremont (Bollard) Feb., 1974

10. San Pablo Neighborhood

Parker & Mathews (Landscaped) June, 1965
(May have to be removed since it appears to be more than 1/4 mile from San Pablo Park and thus is not exempted from provisions of the initiative).

**LANDSCAPED
EXEMPTED DIVERTERS**

These will remain even if initiative passes.

San Pablo Neighborhood

Russell & Park Aug., 1964
Acton & Ward May., 1965
Mabel & Derby 1964

NOBBS Neighborhood

Short & Delaware June, 1971
Francisco & Acton
Short & Virginia

Barker House, continued

states that: 'No application for a permit to construct, alter or demolish any structure or other feature on a landmark site or in an historic district filed subsequent to the day that an application has been filed or a resolution adopted to initiate designation of said landmark site or historic district shall be approved...while proceedings are pending on such designation.' This act by the City of Berkeley and Herrick Hospital is a violation of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance. We urge the City Council to investigate the matter and to take action to prevent further disregard of its ordinance."

This LPC motion should be on the March 9th City Council Agenda as an action item.

Henry Pancoast

CHIEF POMEROY

This month's well done goes to Police Chief Wesley Pomeroy for his series of meetings with neighborhood groups to establish closer rapport between neighborhoods and their beat patrol officers. We may at times be critical but we do appreciate this willingness to come out into the flak to talk to the public. We take it as the sign of a department actively seeking to innovate and improve its service to the community. Well done.

H. P.

GAZETTE NEIGHBORHOOD PAGE

The Berkeley Gazette is contemplating the inclusion of a "neighborhood page," which would appear regularly every week or two. It would carry stories on neighborhood issues and happenings. Some Gazette people will be at our meeting this month to explain further and also to get our ideas about how it can work. This is a fantastic opportunity to get coverage of events and ideas which have had too little city-wide attention in the past.

NRIP/CODE ENFORCEMENT

On February 17, the City Council approved implementation of the Neighborhood Residential Inspection Program in the NOBBS area. There were no significant changes in the program, in spite of the fact that many NOBBS residents spoke knowledgeably in favor of changes that would improve the program and lessen its detrimental impact on the area. Only two NOBBS residents spoke in favor of the program as is.

The vote was as follows: yes - Ramsey, Davis, Hone, Widener, Rumford; abstain--Dean; no - Kelly; absent - Hancock, Denton.

The public hearing was not at all the "squeaky wheel session" that Councilmember Ramsey predicted. Most NOBBS residents speaking on the program had never spoken in Council chambers before and almost all of them came with genuine concerns and specific requests for change. Nevertheless, the result seemed foregone. Janet Roche, of the Housing Department, even

mentioned at one point that the explanatory brochure material on the NRIP was already written--hardly indicating an openness to modification of the program.

As we understand it, the next official step on the City's part will be to meet with the residents and property owners of NOBBS to explain the program and procedures for election of the Neighborhood Improvement Council, which will represent NOBBS to the City and (we hope) watchdog the program very carefully. According to a letter to me from Janet Roche, dated February 25, the first such meeting will take place "during the first part of April."

We do not at this time have any information about what sort of election procedures the City will propose or what assurances concerning the election's fairness they will offer. I do have the opinion of Housing Advisory and Appeals Board chairman Pat Devaney that it will be HAAB's position that they must approve all procedures prior to the NIC election.

We are dismayed that the Council was unwilling to improve the program or meet our objections in any way. Our fears concerning the impact on the neighborhood continues. But we are not discouraged and will do our best to see to it that the program brings benefit rather than harm to the NOBBS neighborhood, in spite of the City's blind inflexibility.

--Glenn Harris, NOBBS

YOUR GUIDE TO CITYHALLESE

The Phrase:
A program

Translation:
Any assignment that can't be completed by one phone call.

THE SAN PABLO PIONEERING EFFORT

OPINION: NEIGHBORHOOD TO BE GORED REVISITED

An article in the January CNA newsletter raised the concern that the proposed anti-diverter initiative would remove the highly successful and popular landscaped diverters in the San Pablo Park area. Dr. Max Alfert, one of the sponsors of this initiative, reported at the February 9 CNA meeting that the initiative exempted the diverters within the San Pablo Neighborhood.

It is certainly good that these diverters are exempted, but one might ask why such a proven success cannot be expanded to include other neighborhoods? The city, in response to the San Pablo Neighborhood Plan, (the pioneering neighborhood plan) protected the neighborhood from through traffic by installing the diverters. Since the diverters were installed, the crime rate in San Pablo Neighborhood has gone from the second highest in the city to the second lowest, traffic accidents in the neighborhood have decreased, neighborhood streets are no longer used as drag strips and property values have increased. The diverters contributed very much to this, as revealed for instance by the HUD report, Neighborhood Preservation. The report states that the street pattern defines the neighborhood well and protects it.

Traffic diverters have been quite beneficial to the San Pablo Neighborhood and to the city. But since they have been so successful and beneficial, why should we ban similar devices forever in all other parts of the city. Why reject a proven success? The anti-diverter initiative is a backward step for Berkeley, a recipe for urban disaster that will undermine property values and contribute to the decline of residential neighborhoods. It goes against residents' efforts to make Berkeley a better place to live. It tells families that if they want a quiet, safe neighborhood to raise their children that they better get out of Berkeley and move to the suburbs, because Berkeley's policy is to favor cars and traffic over people and their homes.

Henry Pancoast

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BREAD AND BUTTER LETTER

Berkeley, February 10, '76

I want to thank the Council of Neighborhood Associations for the opportunity to explain the intent and the provisions of the "Free Access" Initiative sponsored by CAB.

I don't think that this is the place to discuss the merit of that Initiative any further, but I would like to record my impression that a considerable majority of those present at that meeting were opposed to the Initiative. Yet, during the two and a half preceding weeks, CAB collected about 11,000 signatures for the Initiative from citizens residing in all of Berkeley's neighborhoods. Do the neighborhood councils really represent their neighborhoods?

Max Alfert

Max Alfert

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY

-Memorandum Number 1-

DATE: February 24, 1976

SUBJECT: GOALS AND TASKS OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY

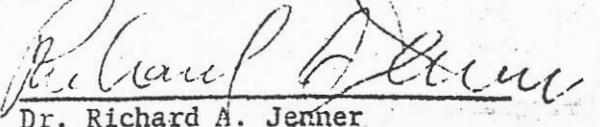
The Technical Advisory Committee for the Economic Development Study has been formed to provide specific technical assistance for a report that the Comprehensive Planning Department's economics staff is preparing for City Council. This report, which will be finished in June, will provide a preliminary, factual look at Berkeley's economy and its prospects. The City Council, the Economic Development Commission (which may be formed after June this year) and all organizations that are interested in the City's economic future will use this report as background information to prepare an economic development plan for Berkeley.

The study will contain two related components. The first will consist of a factual economic profile of the City -- its past and present economic situation. This data will then be evaluated, patterns identified, and probable future trends extrapolated for several years ahead. Finally, the impact these trends will have on Berkeley's fiscal position -- particularly its revenue prospects -- will be estimated.

The second component of the study will outline policy options that are open to the City to improve its fiscal position -- either by stimulating business, finding new sources of governmental funds or changing the tax structure -- and to increase employment opportunities particularly for Berkeley's minorities. Only those proposals that are realistic technically and stand a reasonable chance of accomplishing these objectives will be included in the study. Since its function is to provide background information only, the study will not recommend what options the City should choose, if any.

Most of the members of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Economic Development study have been chosen because they have special knowledge in urban economic development or practical experience in Berkeley's business, industrial, or governmental affairs.

Technical Advisory Committee members will evaluate the technical quality of the economic analysis and forecasts prepared by Comprehensive Planning Department's economics staff, and recommend ways to improve them. In addition, they will examine the technical feasibility of policy alternatives that are presented to it by the economics staff. Finally, along with any other interested individual or group, they can propose alternative policies for staff consideration.


Dr. Richard A. Jenner
Economic Planning Specialist

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC PLAN

Alternates

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Prof. Edwin M. Epstein,
UC, Business Administration | 1. Anthony Brown
UC, Vice Chancellor |
| 2. Prof. George F. Break
UC, Economics | 2. Prof. William Alonso
UC, City & Regional Planning |
| 3. Robert Hink, Pres.
Hink's Dept. Store | 3. Charles Bonno, Vice Pres
Briggs & Co. Great Western Bldg. |
| 4. David Cutter, Pres.
Cutter Laboratories | 4. Maxwell Taplin, Treasurer
Pacific Steel Casting |
| 5. Thomas Shaw, Vice Pres &
Mgr. Bank of California | 5. Fred Rowley, Mgr.
Central Bank |
| 6. Gordon Henderson, Owner
Gordon's Interiors | 6. Serge Chaumette, Owner
S&S Bookkeeping Service |
| 7. Frank Wong
Cresca Associates | 7. William Reid, Owner
Reid's Records |
| 8. Ken Hughes
Master Plan Revision Committee | 8. Lela Herbert, Co-owner
Surall Grocery |
| 9. Joan Fenske
Human Relations & Welfare Commission | 9. Ove Wittstock
Human Relations & Welfare |
| 10. Paul Maier
Planning Commission | 10. Arnold Cohn
Planning Commission. |
| 11. Jane Mundaeen
Consumer CO-OP | |
| 12. Central Labor Council, Alameda Co. | |
| 13. Harold Fabian
Ecology Center. | |

YOUR GUIDE TO CITYHALLESE

The Phrase:
Expedite

Translation:
Confound confusion with commotion.

YOUR GUIDE TO CITYHALLESE

The Phrase:
Channels

Translation:
The trail left by inter-office
memos

YOUR GUIDE TO CITYHALLESE

The Phrase:
"It is in the process of ..."

Translation:
"It is so wrapped up in red tape
that the situation is almost
hopeless."

YOUR GUIDE TO CITYHALLESE

The Phrase:
"We will look into it."

Translation:
"By the time the wheel makes a full
turn, we assume that you will have
forgotten about it, too."

Call Terry Sellards
me, Henry, Mildred

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Monday, March 8, 1976

TIME: 7:30 pm (Meeting starts promptly)

PLACE: Jefferson School Cafetorium, corner of Rose and Acton

April - candidates

AGENDA

April

1. Economic Planning in Berkeley (Richard Jenner, city economic planner)
(20 minute presentation followed by Q and A session.)

April

2. Coverage of Neighborhoods- Berkeley Gazette (Cathy Schutz, City Editor & Mark Trautwein).

3. Savo Island Housing Project- (Joel Rubenzahl)

April

4. Neighborhood Rental Inspection Program- City Council Public Hearing (Glenn Harris, NOBBS).

April

5. Master Plan- public hearings and status report (John Hart, Cow Hollow).

6. BRA follow-up- (Elton Davies, Daley Scenic Park).

7. GTU- EIR follow-up status report.

8. Status of NPO Controls.

9. Dan Fisher - Live Oak

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1715 Channing Way
Berkeley, Ca 94703