# LA JOLLA TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD Regular Meeting: Thursday July 23, 2015

**Members Present:** Dave Abrams LJCPA, Tom Brady LJCPA, Earl van Ingewan LJTC, Donna Aprea LJTC, Michelle Fulks BRCC, Patrick Ryan BRCC, Nancy Warwick LJVMA Corey Bailey LJVMA, Brian Early LJSA, John Kasser LJSA.

Members Absent: None

**Approve Minutes** of July 23 2015. Donna Aprea requests change in time of adjournment to 6:05pm. Patrick Ryan is Chair of ad hoc subcommittee studying parking time limit changes. Motion to Approve Amended Minutes: Van Ingewan, Second Brady passed 9-0-1 (Kasser)

**Public Comments- Non Agenda Items:** Ed Ward appeared before T&T in April requesting traffic calming measures for La Jolla Scenic Drive South. Traffic Lights on La Jolla Scenic Drive So, Soledad Mt Rd, and Nautilus Streets are not coordinated to maximize traffic flow; resulting in very few cars progressing forward, backing up traffic and causing hazardous conditions among impatient drivers. Mr. Ward spoke to Sherri Lightner's Office and received feedback but he wants to know what effort T&T made on his request in April. He expected a response from the Board. Dave explained that there was another Chairman of the Board in April and he does not know what the former Chair did, but contacting Sherri Lightner's Office is something that he would have done. Dave will follow up on Mr. Ward's request for traffic calming measures on La Jolla Scenic Dr. So.

**Agenda Item 1:** La Jolla Community and Holiday Parade. SDCDIG Continued from June 25, July 23, and now Applicant is requesting a 3<sup>rd</sup> Continuance. Mr. Howard Singer of SDCDIG received an email and several new Community Outreach Petitions from Nancy Warwick less than 24 hours before this Meeting and his Attorney advised him to request a Continuance so they can review the new information. At issue is the new Petitions from Monarch and Orange Theory that Mr. Singer had not received at his post office box. Mr. Singer was surprised by the new Community Outreach Petitions stating that there was a July 23 2015 Petition Deadline but T&T was still receiving them. The email and new Petitions resulted from some follow up work by Nancy with Business Owners on Girard.

Nancy explained that the Board was not able to vote on SDCDIG's request for street closures at the July 23 Meeting until T&T had more information about the Parade as well as verify the Petitions. As a Board it is T&T's responsibility to follow up on Complaints that were received. Several Business Owners felt intimidated by Mr. Singer threatening to call them out on his Website or the La Jolla Light would call them out, when they voted No on the Petition, although Mr. Singer denied saying that to the La Jolla light. Nancy's responsibility, as a Member of T&T, was to verify that there was no confusion with the Petitions. Some people were confused and they changed their votes on the Petitions, other people understood the situation and absolutely wanted to have it and she was not interested in making them change their vote. She received the new Petitions from Monarch and Orange Theory at that time and said that there is no deadline on the Petitions. All she wanted was to verify that there was no confusion with the Petitions and the process so that, knowing we had correct Petitions, we would be able to Vote on the street closures. The results of her follow up work were that 32 Businesses were in favor of the street closures and 52 businesses were opposed to the street closures.

Dave went back to Mr. Singer's earlier remark about the Petition deadline. There is no deadline on receiving the Petitions. We were trying to ascertain community input and in a number of cases, for whatever reasons, Mr. Singer was not able to get more responses, and through further effort and the continuance, T&T was able to get additional responses and there is no reason why they cannot be considered as part of our evaluation.

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Mr. Singer spoke about emails he sent saying it didn't matter to us (SDCDIG) what the Vote was they would be happy to take a yes or no vote, and he asked Nancy whatever made her want to walk around when he stated several times that he did not care what the Vote was, it didn't matter to them. Dave responded that T&T does care about doing their job diligently and appropriately and that he (Mr. Singer) wants a Continuance but is now saying that he does not care what the Vote is. Mr. Singer repeated his request for a Continuance. Mr. Singer explained he did not care what the Vote was but now he wants to examine "how this was taken care of by Ms. Warwick."

Michelle advised Mr. Singer that we have spent a lot of time (a lot of time), discussing the same thing. If we are going to discuss it, let's discuss it, if he is asking to wait until next month let's stop talking about it now because other people are waiting to discuss other things. If he wants to wait another 6 months let's talk about it in another 6 months otherwise we are just spinning our wheels and she is ready to make her decision now and move on. Mr. Singer stated he wanted a one month Continuance and Michelle asked him what was going to change in one month. Mr. Singer stated he did not know if Ms. Warwick was going to "go out and get more No Votes". Michelle asked Mr. Singer if he was going to be able to put on an Event of this caliber if we give a yes vote and he gets the permit in late September. Mr. Singer replied that they have spoken to the City and the City knows what is going on out here. Dave asked him what he was going to achieve with the Continuance. Mr. Singer received new information less than 24 hours ago and his Attorney told him to request a Continuance so they could review it and decide where to go from there. Nancy explained to Mr. Singer she understood he received the information late but we received the Agenda over the weekend and did not know he was on it.

Tom spoke of the email all Board Members received in addition to News Organizations from Mr. Singer asking Mr. Abrams and Ms. Warwick to arrange a meeting between the La Jolla Christmas Parade and SDCDIG Board members. "Voila, two parades on two consecutive Sundays in December would be avoided and eliminated." Tom asked Mr. Singer why his Parade would be eliminated if there was a Meeting. Mr. Singer responded why wouldn't it be eliminated. Tom advised Mr. Singer that we are not in the business of naming parades. That is not the function of T&T. Dave remarked that this was all about the name change and Mr. Singer denied it was about the name change. Mr. Singer stated that we all know why he is here, because this Community does not have a Community Parade. He held up a Banner, with the help of Ms. Linda Wenger that said La Jolla does not have a Community Parade. He started on:

"What Constitutes a Community Parade: How can any Community Event be described as a Community Event when the Event Chair of the Community Event refuses to have a discussion with a decision maker, official organization, or the daily or weekly newspaper. We do not have a Community Event here in La Jolla".

Dave felt the issues were apparent and that we could move forward with some action. He was looking for a Motion when there was a Question from the Floor.

Darcy Ashley spoke to being really concerned in our discussion about another Continuance for Mr. Singer. The Merchants were already very uncomfortable with the Petition process and before sending Mr. Singer back out to the Community at large for even more information about the Petitions she requested that there is some direction given to him on how he conducts himself in interacting with the Merchants involved because to have him go back to the Community and stir up Businesses and Business Owners is really not appropriate. Dave responded that was our concern the last time

Michelle spoke of Mr. Singer's hostility towards the Board. We have never had an applicant announce they were recording us, we never had an applicant sending emails to news organizations, we never had an applicant send us direct emails that could be perceived as threatening. Mr. Singer stated it was a public meeting and he had every Right to record it and he did not perceive his emails as threatening.

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John wanted to make a Motion but Nancy acknowledged Erika Torri of La Jolla Athenaeum. Ms. Torri spoke about being a bit offended by the Petition that was slipped under the Door of the Athenaeum at a time when it was closed. She was unaware of a Community Parade and was concerned about the date of the Parade. The La Jolla Athenaeum has always celebrated their Holiday Party the second Sunday in December for the past 27 years. It is a rather large Event for them with a lot of going on. The Athenaeum is coordinating this event with UCSD and the local Bakers. They expect a lot of Members to attend with their Guests but Members will not come if their Street is closed for the Parade. Mr. Singers Community Parade is conflicting with their Holiday Event. Mr. Singer offered to change the Date of his Parade from the 13<sup>th</sup> of December to the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Ms. Torri was asked by a Member of the Audience if she would object to the Parade if it was on a different day and not the day of her Gala. Ms. Torri answered yes because there is always something going on every day.

Ed Ward spoke about the present day La Jolla Community being diverse and inclusive and that we are all better and stronger for it. We have Businesses from anywhere in the World of any kind. Our Schools are filled with students from all over the World with diverse race, religion, ethnic heritage. One word should not define our Community as exclusive.

Bob Meanley of Meanley & Sons; he is a Business Owner that found the Petition misleading. The Petition reads that "The Community Parade will be taking place on Sunday December 13 2015 from 2p to 4p" The only Parade he knows of is the traditional parade and he thought the Petition was referring to the traditional parade. Mr. Johnson spoke of the major disruption of traffic a second weekend in a row during the busiest time of the season and as a business man it makes no sense. John responded that it was fairly well established at last month's Meeting by Members of the Board that there was confusion with the Petitions and how it was carried out with many people commenting on the thing (petition) that they thought it was referring to the Christmas Parade before they signed it.

Dave closed public comments and was looking for a Motion from the Board either to continue or deny. John said he would make a Motion but he would rather have a Merchant make the Motion. Nancy offered to make the Motion and explained it was long because it was an important issue and she wanted a lot of information to give to the City. John saw the length of the Motion and asked why he could not make a Motion to Deny the Street Closure and attach her document to it. He questioned the format. Nancy asked if she could read it and let the Board decide. She started to read the Motion and John interrupted her to ask again, why he could not make the Motion to Deny the Street Closure and attach her document to it. The format bothered him.

Nancy explained if we vote no to the street closure the City may decide to disregard our vote and go ahead as Howard has pointed out and this was our chance to clearly tell the City what our thought process was.

#### Howard Singer DBA San Diego County Diversity and Inclusiveness Group

Howard Singer DBA San Diego County Diversity and Inclusiveness Group has applied for a permit as an individual to conduct a parade on December 13, 2015.

The La Jolla Traffic and Transportation Board recommends that the City deny Howard Singer's application for this date and location for the following reasons:

1. Mr. Singer has not demonstrated support from the affected businesses and organizations to hold an event in this retail dense location at a high volume time of year. It is an impact that can be mitigated by a change in date and location. The chosen time and route will have a catastrophic negative economic impact on the merchants since it would be occurring during the holiday shopping season. In addition, a major street closure is already approved, one week before the proposed event, affecting the same businesses. A second major street closure in December is an unfair and unnecessary burden to impose on the same group of businesses.

- 2. Mr. Singer's chosen date conflicts with the La Jolla Athenaeum annual holiday party that has occurred on this date for over 27 years. His event would effectively shut down the Athenaeum's event. Existing protocol for selecting a date for a new event provides that the host organizer avoid a date that conflicts with other events that have a long standing tradition in the area impacted.
- 3. In taking on such a large and complex event, it is of concern that there are no professional planners or experienced volunteers identified that make the likelihood that this event would be able to address the health, welfare and safety of participants and spectators.
- 4. Mr. Singer has not shown any evidence of any organizations willing to support or participate in his parade. As of this date there is no online presence to inform either potential participants or spectators of the necessary details of the event. There are no identified sources of funds- either by individuals or organizations- that would pay for the vendors needed to provide for the health, welfare and safety of the event.
- 5. Mr. Singer has stated his intent, in his own words via a recent August 24 email (cc'd to the City of San Diego.) The evidence is clear that Mr. Singer is using the City's Special Event procedures as a means to inflict intentional harm in order to attempt to force a change to the name of the La Jolla Christmas Parade. His application is not a proper use of the City's Special Event procedures, nor does it appear to be a sincere application to host his own special event. These email statements provide explanation as to why none of the needed infrastructure for such a complicated event has occurred to date. (Copy of August 24 email in separate attachment)

In the event the City decides to still grant this permit. The La Jolla Traffic and Transportation board respectfully requests the following conditions be put on his permit:

- 1. That the parade route be relocated to another area of the Village, without retail density.
- 2. Since Mr. Singer lacks experience putting on an event of this magnitude and he has previously agreed to retain the services of an event planner that has the expertise and prior experience of putting on an event of this size, that this be added as a condition on his permit.
- 3. That all service vendors be confirmed 30 days in advance of the date of the event.
- 4. That the mechanism for the payment for the Police Department and Traffic control officers be in place so that there is certainty that the City of San Diego will be paid for services.

Tom spoke of supporting the Motion that Nancy made. He thinks it is very important to clarify with the City the action and time we spent in the last 3 Months on this issue and that the Aug 24 email clearly explains the intent of the Petitioner.

A question was asked about the name of the Parade and Mr. Singer responded that the name was changed from the La Jolla Community Parade to the La Jolla Community and Holiday Parade.

Motion to deny SDCDIG request for Street Closures on Sunday December 13 2015. Warwick, Second Ryan 10-0-0

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At this time Darcy Ashley called a Point of Order. Darcy said with Roberts Rules the Applicant (SDCDIG) has asked for a Continuance and as a Board we need to make a Motion to Approve or Deny the Continuance. He (Mr. Singer) is the Applicant and he has asked for it. Dave questioned a second Motion but Darcy said that for our records we need to Vote on this, we could not leave it hanging out there. Dave asked for a Motion, so another Motion was made on SDCDIG's request for a Continuance. No Board Discussion on the Motion. Motion to Deny the Request for a Continuance: Bailey, Second Warwick 10-0-0

Gale Forbes was not sure we gave our Applicant time to record the Comments on the Motion, just a point she is making. There was not sufficient time for him to record our Comments on the discussion directly affecting his Petition. John commented that he did not think he (Mr. Singer) was interested because he walked out the door but Gale said he had started to record them again but she guesses he decided not to.

## Agenda 2: Village Parking Time Limit Review continued from July 23.

Patrick was identified as Chair and they held a Meeting last night (Aug. 26). Committee Members Present: Patrick Ryan, Deborah Marengo, Tom Brady, Nancy Warwick. Also Present Sheila Fortune, Brian O'Donnell.

Goal of the sub Committee was to try to strike a balance between enough time for visitors to experience the Village but short enough time to allow maximum access to the Village.

Parking Stay Times in the Village: strike a balance between giving people enough time to experience the Village and short enough time to allow maximum access or turnover, optimize parking times that would suit Visitors to Businesses and minimize any confusion for Visitors. Many Patrons benefit from longer parking stays to visit Restaurants while other Business would benefit from shorter parking stays. Absent greater parking supply at peak times, space turnover is the primary tool that the Village has at its disposal to maximize access to the Village for the greatest number of Visitors. There were several Blocks identified where the Group believed most Businesses would prefer their parking times changed to what was existing. It would be preferable, if possible, to look at Parking Times holistically instead of just one block at a time as it is currently done.

Some unresolved or issues of contention were the question of whether a majority of Businesses or Visitors needed a longest parking stay in other parts (of the village) were not agreed with the Group or that a significant proportion of people find varying parking times not any different from other similar Cities. There were two sides to this as well.

Another Meeting will be scheduled to get a real understanding or survey from Business Owners as to what length of stay would best suit their Customers. Absent the ability to collect the data they would review whether the subcommittee has enough additional information to make any changes that are not based on anecdotal conjecture or whether they should hold up existing needs for changes and simply recommend that anything that needs to be changed be changed how it currently is.(?). If they are trying to change it looking at it holistically they need some real data, if they do not have that data they are probably in the same place they are in now. The Subcommittee will try to schedule another Meeting to try to collect the data. If they cannot, then they are looking at something best suited not to be changed and be left the way it is. Another Meeting was not scheduled but Patrick will follow up with Dave for future Agenda issues.

Corey described the Village as a microcosm in the shape of a teardrop and if the subcommittee looked on it that way it might help pinpoint area's that where the parking stays could increase or decrease based on its volume.

Gale Forbes pointed out the Committee is seriously lacking Representation from certain Institutions within the Village including 3 Churches also 3 Schools are affected by changes in Parking. These are vital parts

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of our Village that feed into the community character and they really should have a Voice in things that are being changed.

A Resident of the Village pointed out that Residents are important as well and should be able to park by their Homes. Perhaps a Residential Parking Sticker for Residents could be looked into. Patrick responded that the subcommittee discussed that as well. Someone asked Patrick what his qualifications were and Patrick replied that he has been a Certified Parking Professional working with Municipalities for 23 years.

Agenda 3 Proposal to Change Regular Meeting day to Third Wednesday of the Month. Chartering Organizations that use our Recommendations requested a change in Traffic and Transportation Meeting Time to accommodate their Agenda's. The Third Wednesday of the Month at 4pm was suggested. Dave checked the availability of this Room at the Rec Center and it is available on the third Wednesday of the Month at 4pm. Motion to Change our Monthly Meetings to the Third Wednesday at 4pm. Ingewan, Second Tom 9-1-0 Kasser

Gale asked Dave to read T&T By- Laws. He did and the By Laws say that the Chair has the discretion to change the Meeting Time.

5.1 Meetings of the La Jolla Traffic and Transportation Board shall be open to the public and held at a regular time each month at a location accessible to the public. Choice of the time and place of meetings shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson and the Executive Board.

Next Meeting is Wednesday September 16 2015

**Agenda 4 Increase Speed Limit on Prestwick Dr.** City Staff proposal to increase speed limit on Prestwick Dr. between Calle de Oro and Dunaway Drive from 30mph to

35 mph. The California Speed Trap Law requires that the City survey the prevailing speeds on classified Streets every 7 years in order to remain radar enforceable under the provisions of the Law. The results of the survey for Prestwick Dr. indicate that the speed limit must be raised to 35 mph in order for the Street to remain radar enforceable.

Several Residents wrote Letters to the Board strongly opposing the speed limit increase and there are several Members in the Audience who also oppose the change. Police do not enforce the speed limit now, as a result, drivers are going 65-70. Residents of the Street are very concerned that the Speed Limit will be increased to 35 mph, Drivers will drive even faster than they are driving now, and the Police will still not enforce it. Patrick asked the Members of the Audience for the Prestwick Dr. speed limit increase if they would like the Speed Limit to remain at 30 mph when no radar traffic enforcement can be done, or, given the fact drivers are going 35 mph now would they like it to increase to 35 mph and have the radar traffic enforcement. Residents are concerned that that 35 mph could be increased at a later date to 40 mph. Gale Forbes suggested

that the City investigate accidents due to high rate of speed perhaps they will change their minds about increasing it. Four cars ended up in her front driveway. Audience Members from Prestwick Dr appeared to be in agreement that they did not want the speed limit to increase and understood it could not be radar enforced.

Dave read 2 Letters from Prestwick Dr. Residents who also oppose the speed limit increase.

Traffic and Transportation usually requests Petitions from area residents who are requesting changes to their Street. This change in the Speed Limit is coming from the City but Residents are opposing it, therefore, a Petition among area Residents opposing a speed limit decrease is being requested. Dave asked them if they can get Names on a Petition and they agreed that they could.

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Motion to oppose increase to Speed Limit on Prestwick Dr. pending receipt of Petition from area residents Ryan, Second Fulks 10-0-0

Adjourn at 5:25p

Respectfully Submitted Donna Aprea