8/11/10 HHPNC Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes

Present were: David Baird, Chair, Lisa Brewer, Rick Marquez, Chris Smith, Terry and Paul Bonsell, Janet Dodson, Steve Crouch, Linda and Roger Phelps, Nicole Possert, Nancy Campeau, Mitch Steele, Jessica Ramos, Luis Antezana. Alexander Soto, Erik Duarte, and from Councilmember Huizar’s office: Liberty Mesa, Trish, George Esparza

The meeting started with a welcoming cheer for David Baird. Liberty from Councilmember Huizar’s office announced a community clean-up Sept 25.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Outreach Chair Terry Bonsell requested the Committee share meetings with the Land Use Committee. Land Use Chair David agreed. She described outreach as the highest priority of the NC, so as to win back our community’s confidence. She will expect help from the entire Board creating a presence at community events, groups, and businesses. Lisa suggested small teams of Board members target 3-4 groups each, attend their meetings, meet with them, listen, and report back to the Board. Terry will need an informational flyer about the NC, and data collection sheets.

2. Janet Dodson presented a short history of the proposed Gold Line Village development on the Department of Transportation lots adjacent to the Ave 57 Gold Line station, including past Land Use and NC objections to the scale and mass of the proposal, resulting in a letter and Community Impact Statement 2 years ago. She described the unusual 3-year history of extensions of the Exclusive Right to Negotiate granted to the developer MBS, and a gap in those extensions. Chris pointed out the developers have not yet made an Environmental Impact Report. Land Use will ask for a Board letter and CIS asking for the project to return to bid at the end of Sept. 2010 when the current ERN expires.

3. Nancy Campeau, sitting in for Trish Gossett, presented a short history and report on the 710 tunnel. She described the fallacies in the reasoning for the 5 mile tunnel: increased congestion, and pollution, cost of more than $15 billion, an estimated toll of $20, the best jobs taken by foreign workers, earthquake, and flood. She fielded questions about the route through HP being the most politically expedient for MTA and CalTrans, and declared her coalition to be uncompromisingly opposed the tunnel regardless of route. HP can expect full coalition support if threatened. She requested an NC letter and a CIS opposing the tunnel.

4. Nicole Possert joined Steve Crouch presenting the current state of alterations to the 110 freeway, describing past community meetings to suggest aesthetic safety upgrades, which CalTrans has now ignored. They described what has been built so far: walls and fencing, and a scalloped median barrier which could be mitigated and re-done with better-looking median barriers more in keeping with the character of the freeway. She requested a NC letter and a CIS requesting the changes.

5. A future Land Use suggestion was made to explore the possibility of changing the 10% rule on renovations. This can be a loophole allowing massive re-building. There was also a suggestion to explore a Youth Center in HP.

6. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm