

## MEMORANDUM

DATE August 31, 2017

TO Peter Vierheilig, Glendale Community Services and Parks Department

FROM Robyn Chaconas, PlaceWorks

SUBJECT Thursday August 17, 2017 Scoping Meeting Minutes - Wilson Middle School

PROJECT NUMBER GLN-02

### MEETING PARTICIPANTS

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## MEETING OVERVIEW

Onnig Bulanikian initiated the meeting and then introduced Julian Capata who presented the agenda for the Initial Study/NOP Scoping Meeting for the Wilson Middle School Multi-Purpose Field Project. The agenda encompassed the following:

- I. Purpose of Scoping Meeting
- II. Project Background and Objectives
- III. Project Overview
- IV. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process
- V. Opportunities for Public Participation
- VI. Solicit Public Comments

Mr. Bulanikian presented the project background and objectives, citing the partnership project with GUSD as a response to the lack of park spaces and fields in Glendale in order to meet the demands and needs of Glendale residents to provide more field time. Mr. Capata then presented about the project's features, proposed use, the requirements for eliminating and reducing potential impacts through the CEQA process, studies to be prepared to assess potential significant impacts, and future opportunities to participate.

Mr. Capata and Mr. Bulanikian provided information and answers to questions raised by the community. Additionally, comment cards were also distributed for those who wished to provide written comments. A summary of Mr. Bulanikian's and Mr. Capata's responses is provided below:

The goal of the project is to provide service to the community and make the multi-purpose field available as a public use facility. There will be drop in permit times, and permit reservations would be balanced to allow the multi-purpose field to remain open to every user group. Unpermitted uses will be further assessed. Currently, the field is closed unless there is a rental event. City staff would be on site full time. Park closing time of 10:00 PM is not firm and earlier times will be considered. There will be no amplification as part of the project. The project would not change parking lot access. There would be no stands or bleachers as part of

the proposed project. No change in zoning will occur as part of the project. The scope of the parking study will be revisited to address community concerns. A lighting study will be conducted that will evaluate glare and light spillover. The number of light poles was chosen in order to focus light better whereas less poles create wider gaps that would lead to higher light poles. Lighting will be based on programming and permitted activities. A lower lighting level can be used to only light the track on non-permitted days. Synthetic turf is being proposed as it will have lower maintenance needs, will use less water, and will cost less. Different synthetic turf alternatives and options are being considered.

The public identified traffic and parking, lighting, and noise as the major community concerns. A detailed overview of the comments received are as follows:

### **Commenters**

#### **Danette**

- Requested that the presentation be available online
- Member of the Colonial Cottages HOA)
- Concerned with traffic and at what times entrances and exits would be opened and closed
- When there is no permitted event, will a representative still be onsite, lights be off, restrooms accessible?
- Concerned about lighting effects
- Concerned about noise until 10:00 PM
- Who will be held financially responsible for damages to windows and garages from soccer balls?
- Concerned about certain user groups monopolizing field time. Cited Glendale CC, private facility usage leased full time

#### **Cara**

- Concerned about parking and changes in access to parking lot
- Recommends conducting parking survey during AYSO events
- Concerned about unpermitted uses
- Will people have access to the field without a permitted event?
- Concerned about the park attracting crime
- Concerned about litter
- Why not Glendale CC, as it is underutilized?

#### **Debra**

- Concerned about parking –parents blocking cars, street issues
- Concerned about security, what type of security will be provided?
- Concerned about higher violence at sporting events
- Trash is an issue after current events
- How will it benefit the residents who don't have children?

#### **Zulay**

- Concerned with Colonial Cottages alley parking, spectators standing in the alley and watching the games

#### **Ann Marie**

- There is a need for field space
- Opposed to the project
- An expanded parking study is needed
- Concerned about the lack of existing parking and need for additional site parking

- Requesting a review for parking permits?
- Concerned about nearby houses exposed to noise, proximity to field
- Concerned about amplification
- 10:00 PM is too late for kids to get enough sleep, inquired about earlier closing hour
- What adult groups would be using the field

**Beverly**

- Has questions about details of coordination between City and Wilson MS
- Auditorium currently used by school for evening programs
- Parking for graduation runs 4-5 streets up the hillside
- People park in the alley
- Don't mind Saturday soccer but night after night usage will allow no parking for residents' guests
- Recommends expanding the parking study
- Where will the revenue from the rental of the field go?
- Interested in child vs. adult field use

**Vic**

- Supports more athletic fields for youth sports, but not this location
- Against project
- Invested in current property because it was a quiet residential neighborhood
- Concerned about the large impact on property and rental values now with more traffic
- Concerned about parking
- Concerned about noise
- Will there be stands?

**Maureen**

- Live here, raised two boys
- Wish it would work and hope that it does
- States that the current fields are never used on weekends
- Concerned about parking
- Recommends opening front gate at Wilson so people can walk through school
- About 100 spots in parking lot that nobody uses
- Would dogs be allowed on new field?

**Susan**

- Member of Parks and Open Space Foundation and excited about the program
- Parks and Open Space Foundation works to get kids outside

**Carol**

- Suggested alternatives using existing City owned open space that is more appropriate or using college
- Zoning is R1 and the project is trying to turn the field into a business
- Concerned about noise
- When will the trash be cleaned up in the evenings
- Concerned about a lack of police presence and the presence of gangs and crime with night time activities
- Concerned about parking

- Concerned about traffic safety and pedestrian deaths. People park on Verdugo and run across street
- Concerned about high vehicle speeds on Verdugo Rd. Verdugo and La Canada is a very dangerous area
- Concerned about the use of megaphones
- Project will destroy the neighborhood and property values

**Trena**

- Concerned about lighting and voltage, and effect on neighborhood lighting with six lights at 60' tall
- Six lights are an overabundance
- Concerned about glare and light spillover
- Concerned about project leading to zoning changes regarding school or surrounding community
- Concerned that changes in property structure would force homeowners to sell to land developers
- Effects of electromagnetic frequency on people and pets needs to be considered

**Louis**

- Lives on Verdugo Circle
- Will the basketball courts be open for the public?
- Initially concerned with the use of crumb rubber in artificial surfaces, for carcinogen potential and getting hot, now satisfied knowing that crumb rubber will not be used
- Why not use grass?

**(Commenter name Inadible)**

- Has lived on Galer Street since before freeway. Across from parking lot
- Parking is bad, 13-15 spots and at night every spot is taken. Three people from block can park and the rest are people from other streets

**Judy**

- Lives on North Adams St.
- Opposed to project
- Inquired about holiday usage
- Concerned about noise
- Concerned about parking. Currently lucky to get one to two spots on Adams between Glenoaks and Monterey
- Inquired about the status of the Cerritos field project
- Inquired about Stengel Field as alternative site
- Concerned about lights, timing and usage from 5-10 PM, 7 days a week?
- Will have tremendous impact on property values

**[Commenter name inaudible]**

- Concerned about traffic
- Questions whether the approval of the project has been predetermined
- Concerned that the City is pushing this through in order to increase revenues

**[Commenter name inaudible]**

- Will groups be held accountable for trash, littering, etc.?
- Can groups be blacklisted?
- Is the 10:00 PM closing time firm?

**Bill**

- Has been a resident for 30 years
- It is already noisy due to the freeway noise. Noise is currently present Saturday and Sunday
- The park is already utilized in the evenings and this would simply be an extension of 3-4 hours in the evening until 10 PM
- Already have advantage of nice playing area and project would extend use

**Karen**

- Has lived across the street on the hill for 20 years
- Can hear everything
- When auditorium is in use, traffic is jammed
- Concerned about parking.
- Concerns about traffic, fast driving at night, public safety will be a concern
- Saturdays families run across street which is a long block and is dangerous
- Will there be room to run on the track while the fields are in use?
- Would like to be able to use track, etc.

**Jack**

- Has lived in neighborhood for 28 years – used to be able to count cars and now there is freeway
- Saturday and Sunday the soccer field is used and nobody complains
- Respects concerns about parking. There is enough parking space for 20-25 people
- Currently practice at Pacific Park and there are no issues with trash, and players are responsible
- There are not enough soccer fields in Glendale and people are asking the city for soccer fields
- Who will support youth generation and bring up kids in sport?

**Aurelia**

- Concerned about parking as biggest issue
- Idea is worthwhile if problems are solved
- Consider lighting that doesn't disturb neighbors
- There needs to be a crosswalk in the middle of the street on Verdugo
- Recommends being open until 9:00 PM on weekdays
- Needs to have security at all times

**Sual**

- Lives on Chevy Chase Dr.
- Valid concerns being presented and all these issues can be resolved
- Why are youth sports associated with crime?
- Positive initiative for community and youth

**Potentially Significant Impacts for Proposed Project**

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic



### **MEETING CONCLUSIONS**

PlaceWorks will address comments in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Additional outreach will occur during the comment period for the draft EIR.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM**