

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT MEETING, 12/17/2013

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Mon, Dec 16, 2013 at 5:37 PM

Sharon/Etta - (please make these comments part of the file at the meeting)

Re: Item #4 on the Agenda, 13-1646, Council District 15

The following comments were testified to at the November 14th City Planning Commission Meeting by several people, including myself (Chuck Hart) and our consultant Bruce Bornemann, a retired L.A. County engineer. The Commissions do not seem to take our comments very seriously.

I am the President of the San Pedro Peninsula Homeowners United. My neighborhood will be impacted directly by these concerns.

1. The Ponte Vista EIR does not adequately address the concerns of run-off initiating from their property and drains through a flood control channel into our neighborhood. I have lived in this neighborhood for more than 50 years and I have observed flooding from storm water overflowing the flood control channel and over the bridge at Taper Avenue. Statler Street is flooded curb to curb, over sidewalks and partially up my driveway during very severe storms. Cooper High School, on Taper Avenue, which is adjacent to the channel, has also experienced flooding.

The current site consisting of duplexes with front and back yards and acres of open space has much greater absorption properties for storm water than does the Ponte Vista plan which consists of mainly rooftops and pavement. It is unreasonable to believe that there will only be a 'very slight' increase in run-off from Ponte Vista's new plan as stated in the EIR. Therefore it would be irresponsible for the City to approve the current plan without further investigation of how the Ponte Vistas conclusions were formulated. Failure to do so could end up having serious consequences to our neighborhood and the City of L.A.

2. Much has been commented on about the increase of traffic resulting from the Ponte Vista Plan. I believe the impact of the Mary Star High School traffic is not properly addressed.

As stated in the Los Angeles City Planning Commission Report dated August 17, 2001 (Conditional Use Conditions (#2000-4712-CU-SPR), and reaffirmed in the amended report of December 17, 2007 (CPC 2000-4712-CUPA1), all primary traffic should be kept away from residential uses to the south (my neighborhood). Faculty and non-event visitor traffic may enter from Taper Avenue, preventing adverse affects to local residents. Student and event traffic, etc., shall have access from Western Avenue. Webster defines access as permission, liberty, and ability to enter, approach, communicate with or pass to and from.

It does not appear that the traffic on Western Avenue to and from Mary Star High School is adequately considered In the EIR.

3. Regarding the Rancho LPG Facility, it appears that the EIR only considered information given to them by Rancho LPG. Independent experts were not consulted. If they had then it would have proven that a 'worst case release' of LPG would impact residents for miles. Several schools are located within that impact area, as well as the Port of Los Angeles and other refineries which could result in a chain reaction event. The resulting catastrophe would be devastating in lives lost and to our economy. The Ponte Vista Plan should NOT go forward until the TRUTH is known. No more lives should be put in jeopardy because of poor planning on the part of the City.

Chuck Hart, President, San Pedro Peninsula Homeowners Association, Inc.

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