

Historic French Park Association
Board of Directors Meeting - January 5, 2011 at 7 p.m.

Minutes

1. Called to order at 7:09pm; Quorum accomplished.

2. Guest Speaker – David Biondolillo, City of S.A. Transportation (dbiondolillo@santa-ana.org, 714-647-5603)

Presentation and handout (22 pgs) on the Santa Ana-Garden Grove fixed guideway project. Mr. B. describes overall development plan that has been developed to provide streetcar transit along Santa Ana Blvd. extending from the train station to Flower St.

The project is part of larger redevelopment, merging transit planning with the Station District project and a larger rezoning along Santa Ana Blvd.

In progress already: (1) defining the overall scope of project; (2) rezoning throughout area; (3) a grade change for Santa Ana Blvd. to take it under the train tracks (like on 1st St.). Streetcar system is planned to be up and running by 2015.

Question was raised about real citizen participation and the political motivations behind the project. Question raised about sources of funding, and Santa Ana's decision-making process. HFPA Presidents ask Mr. B. whether any neighborhood association is in favor of this project, and ask him to acknowledge little enthusiasm from Santa Ana residents. Overall, comments were skeptical and overwhelmingly negative.

In response, Mr. B. argues that the proposed system is overall simple, low cost, and immediately possible using existing streets. He makes a case that this minimizes upheaval and economic risk.

At the end, people were encouraged to volunteer to attend meetings, primarily to join the "Stakeholders Group." Volunteer to Jeff Dickman in order to participate.

3. Board agreed to postpone all other business to February meeting.

4. Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.