



**Uptown Whittier Improvement Association
Land Use Committee**

Tuesday, Oct 8, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

at GM Properties, 13305 Penn Street, Suite 200, Whittier, CA 90602

Current List of UWIA Land Use Committee Members:

Ben Greer, Stephen Ortiz, Melinda Pina, Frank Rinaldi (Committee Chair)

Land Use Committee Mission

To have The Uptown District function as the City of Whittier's vibrant urban center, providing a diversity of economic, residential, and cultural opportunities. Uptown should be a place to work, shop, live, and play, with convenient access by foot, bicycle, and transit, as well as by car. Physical and economic growth will support this role and respect the numerous resources of historical and cultural significance that contribute to Uptown's unique identity.

AGENDA Items

- 1. Call to Order:** **Frank Rinaldi, Land Use chair**

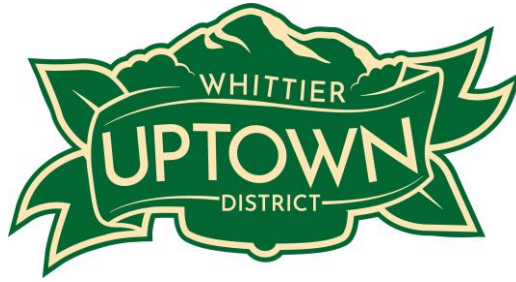
- 2. Introductions of guests:** **Frank Rinaldi**

- 3. Public Comment (REITERATION OF NEW BOARD POLICY WHEREBY PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEM ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES)** **Frank Rinaldi**
The public is invited to address the Land Use Committee regarding any item of business. Speakers must limit their comments to two minutes. Pursuant to State law, the Committee cannot take action or express a consensus of approval or disapproval on any oral communications which do not appear on the printed agenda.
Announced policy and informed guests that exception will be made for important and complicated items

- 4. Approval of the March 26, 2019, Land Use Committee Minutes** **Action Item**

UPTOWN WHITTIER IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

c/o GM Properties ■ 13305 Penn Street, Suite 200 ■ Whittier, CA 90602
P (562) 697-5000 ■ F (562) 693-2126
info@uwia.org ■ www.uwia.org



5. Additional Land Use Committee members request

Frank Rinaldi

Called for new Committee members assistance and service

Re-Established Current List of Land Use Committee Members:

Ben Greer	ben@gmpropertiesinc.com
Stephen Ortiz	stephen_ortiz23@yahoo.com
Melinda Pina	pinareadingacademy@gmail.com
Frank Rinaldi (Committee Chair)	f.rinaldi@live.com

6. Approve the Land Use Committee progress report to be presented to the UWIA Board for their approval

Action Item

7. Valet parking task force

Frank Rinaldi

Action: Formally transfer the “Valet parking task force” to the Sidewalk Operation Committee as approved by the UWIA Board.

Action Item

To be effective, the Valet Parking plan is to be included into and implemented under the broader City of Whittier Parking Management plan. In an attempt to streamline and carry out an acceptable time frame for the creation of the Parking Management Plan allow UWIA Valet Task Force to offer to the City this Board assistance or lead in developing such a plan working with the City consultants, our consultants or in an all-encompassing team approach.”

Action by: Land Use Committee

8. Streetscape plan

Action: Request an official vote by the UWIA Board in support of the present City Council approved Streetscape plan

Action Item: Advocate the City to start ASAP

Action by: UWIA Board

9. Also advocate City for wider sidewalks throughout the District including Bright Ave and Philadelphia



10. Advocate City for new Park on Greenleaf in front of Parking Structure

Action by: UWIA Board

11. Committee to discuss and recommend to the UWIA that the City coordinates the minimal trees removal with the street lighting poles location to maximize existing lighting

Action Item

The Ficus trees to remain under the Uptown Whittier street scape plan, approved by City Council, still present a safety problem for the improvement of lighting on the sidewalk and street.

Action by: UWIA Board

12. Establish a full partnership and sharing of responsibilities between the three groups

The City of Whittier, Uptown Whittier Improvement Association (UWIA) and Whittier Uptown Association (WUA)

Action by: Land Use Committee or UWIA Board

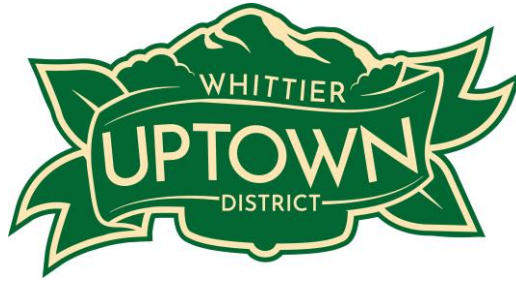
13. Other Committee items

14. Next Land Use Committee meeting date: November 12, 2019, at 8:30 a.m., at GM Properties, 13305 Penn Street, Suite 200, Whittier, CA 90602 (Land Use Committee meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month)

15. Adjournment: _____

BROWN ACT:

Government Code 54950 (The Brown Act) requires that a brief description of each item to be transacted or discussed be posted at least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting. The Corporation posts all Board and Committee agendas at the Whittier Train Depot, at the meeting location designated for the Board or Committee meeting and on their website www.uwia.org. Action may not be taken on items not identified as such and posted on the agenda. Meeting facilities may be accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance to participate in the meeting, notify Brent Haskell brent@gmpropertiesinc.com or Stephanie Shamp stephanie@gmpropertiesinc.com of GM Properties at (562) 697-5000.



**Uptown Whittier Improvement Association
Land Use Committee
GM Properties
13305 Penn Street, Suite 200, Whittier, CA 90602
Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 11:30 a.m. Meeting Minutes**

Present: Frank Rinaldi (Committee Chair), Stephen Ortiz, Ronald Jeffery, Ben Greer, Melinda Pina, Don Lomont

Absent: Mina De La Cerda/Gabriella De La Cerda-Lim, Kristin Wiberg, Conal McNamara, Monica Oviedo/Steven Rodriguez, Paul White

Guests: Milt Pate, Jim Dunkelman

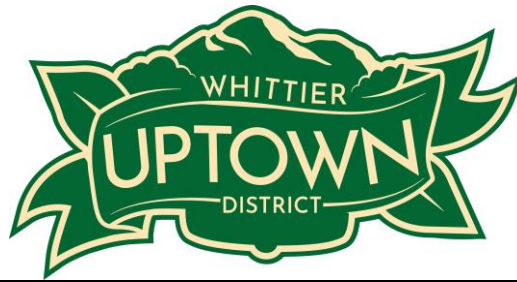
Consultant: Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp – GM Properties

MINUTES:

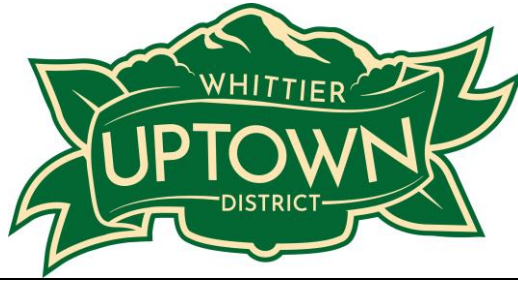
<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken?</i>
1. Introductions	Frank Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.	No Action Taken
2. Introduction of guests, announcements		No Action Taken
3. Public Comment		No Action Taken
4. Establish Land Use Committee members	New Members were established. Discussion on difference between guest, executive committee, task force, and communication.	Frank Rinaldi Committee Chair, Melinda Pina, Stephen Ortiz, Ron Jeffery, Don Lomont, and Ben Greer are the Land Use Committee members.

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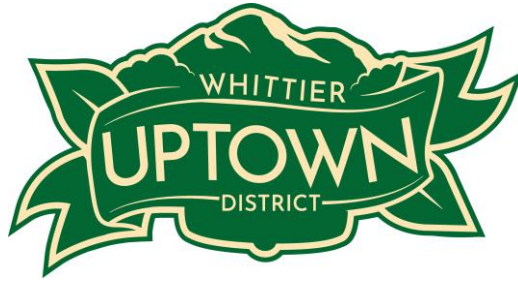


<p>5. Valet Parking Task Force to present a proposal regarding valet parking in Uptown Whittier in order for the Land Use Committee to make a recommendation to the UWIA Board on April 11, 2019</p>	<p>Frank Rinaldi stated the task force has reached a conclusion and a successful plan. A brief was provided. One tile of many to fit into the plan. Our task force is willing to work with the outside consultant. Frank opened the floor for discussion. Frank asked to support the city on filling in the voids. Stephen Ortiz asked Frank to define support. Frank stated accelerate the program. In long range the city is not ready and if you want, it here it is. Melinda Pina stated the valet plan is done. Allow UWIA to bring in a consultant with parking management. UWIA is not telling the city what UWIA is going to do.</p>	<p>Ron Jeffery motioned to approve for the Committee to make a presentation to the Board. The Task Force has come up with a plan for valet parking in uptown and if it pleases the city the consultant can work with UWIA or the city if they so choose. Ben Greer 2nd. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.</p>
<p>6. Pros and Cons for UWIA from the approved City Council Streetscape plan</p> <p>7. Needs and desires of the UWIA to be proposed as possible additions / alterations to the City Council Streetscape plan</p> <p>8. Committee to discuss and recommend a position the UWIA should take, if any, regarding the ficus trees in Uptown Whittier</p>	<p>Frank Rinaldi discussed option 3A chosen by the city and stated the city went with the cheap plan with 31% of trees removed. Lighting, street shadows and uneven sidewalks issues. The \$750,000.00 the city put aside doesn't include construction. Don Lomont understood the plan implemented with the scope of construction – study and design. The city doesn't have the funds. It's forecasted out 4 -5 years to get done. He personally feels the city is waiting on UWIA to up front the funds. The issue remains is the lighting. Frank continued to state no police department services. The city is using UWIA efforts in place of city services. Jim Dunkelman asked if UWIA can call the city on that. Stephen stated not sure it's accurate. Frank stated it was approved in the city minutes to reduce. Stephen asked when. Frank stated 1 ½ years ago and it was never put back. Discussion moved onto the parklets and as an ex-city</p>	<p>The Land Use Committee's recommendation, in a prepared report to the Board, on a position UWIA should take regarding the ficus trees in Uptown Whittier is tabled for the next meeting.</p>



	<p>employee he doesn't see the benefits and why – stolen, homeless use, maintenance and repair costs to the owner and how there is a stake with property owners and the city. Frank stated the city made so many mistakes in the past there is a makeup need somehow. The Uptown projects needs are to change hand-in-hand or get people to spend more. Discussion came back around to the tree removal in phases, lighting, sidewalk cleaning, and pressure washing. Frank opened the floor for questions.</p>	
9. Other Committee Items		No Action Taken
11. Next Land Use Committee Meeting	<p>The next regularly scheduled meeting date and time TBD at GM Properties, 13305 Penn Street, Suite 200, Whittier, CA 90602</p>	Frank Rinaldi will email Brent Haskell on the next meeting date and time.
8. Adjournment	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 a.m.</p>	No Action Taken

Minutes taken by Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp with GM Properties.



UWIA – Land Use Committee Progress Report - 2019

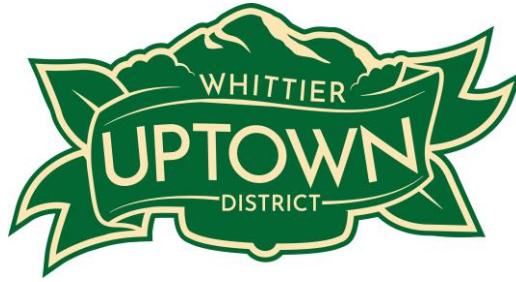
Mission

To have The Uptown District function as the City of Whittier’s vibrant urban center, providing a diversity of economic, residential, and cultural opportunities. Uptown should be a place to work, shop, live, and play, with convenient access by foot, bicycle, and transit, as well as by car. Physical and economic growth will support this role and respect the numerous resources of historical and cultural significance that contribute to Uptown’s unique identity.

The Uptown Whittier Improvement Association Guiding Principles:

The Guiding Principles embody the goals and values of the community and it is critical that the Specific Plan support these ideals:

1. Growth will be targeted to serve community needs and enhance the quality of life.
2. Change will be harmonized to preserve Whittier’s historic character and environment.
3. Economic vitality will be promoted to provide jobs, services, revenues, and opportunities.
4. Uptown Whittier will be promoted as a healthy family community.
5. Uptown should be a District where people can circulate without cars.
6. Uptown should be promoted as a cultural, scientific corporate, entertainment, and educational center for the City.



**UWIA – Land Use Committee
Progress Report - 2019**

Accomplishments

1. Support the present City Council approved Streetscape plan and Advocate that City to start ASAP

2. City coordinates the minimal trees removal with the street lighting poles location to maximize existing lighting. The Ficus trees to remain under the Uptown Whittier street scape plan, approved by City Council, still present a safety problem for the improvement of lighting on the sidewalk and street.

Goals

Project	Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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1. Advocate City for wider sidewalks throughout the District including Bright Ave and Philadelphia

Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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2. Advocate City for new Park on Greenleaf in front of existing Parking Structure

Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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3. Establish a full partnership and sharing of responsibilities between the three groups. The City of Whittier, Uptown Whittier Improvement Association (UWIA) and Whittier Uptown Association (WUA)

Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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4. Advocate City to implement parking control plan for the Uptown District

Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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5. Advocate the City of Whittier to focus on updating Whittier’s Zoning Code, establishing neighborhood-specific designs, and land-use goals for the City’s Specific Plans.

Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
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Uptown Whittier Improvement Association

Vision

Putting the Plan in Motion

The Uptown District should function as the City of Whittier's vibrant urban center, providing a diversity of economic, residential, and cultural opportunities. Uptown should be a place to work, shop, live, and play, with convenient access by foot, bicycle, and transit, as well as by car. Physical and economic growth will support this role and respect the numerous resources of historical and cultural significance that contribute to Uptown's unique identity.

A Specific Plan is a tool used by Cities to guide development in a defined geographic area. It provides a bridge between the goals and policies of the General Plan and individual development projects within a specific area.

The Uptown District has a specific plan to implement these goals, and should be based on concepts of higher density, mixed-use environments that support transit- and pedestrian-oriented mobility strategies.

The Land Use Element should establish an overall pattern of development that directs growth "into specific areas in order to protect residential neighborhoods and create mixed-use urban environments."

Land Use in the Uptown District should not form an identifiable pattern dominated by specific use, rather it should create an all-inclusive environment with mix uses of commercial retail and office, light industrial, medical office space, and housing, including many public, educational and service institutions.

The Uptown District is especially unique – it is Whittier's urban core. "Uptown includes a diverse mix of land uses designed to create the primary business, financial, retailing, and government center of the City," according to the Specific Plan.

The Uptown District Specific Plan explores the relationship between land use policy, design standards and guidelines, and implementation strategies to accomplish this goal of a vibrant Uptown. Building upon the area's existing strengths, it establishes the direction to create the place that is envisioned by the community.

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The City of Whittier should focus on implementation—updating Whittier’s Zoning Code, establishing neighborhood-specific designs, and land-use goals for the City’s Specific Plans.

Uptown requires strong leadership in business planning, recruitment, and retention from property owners, Uptown merchants, and City of Whittier. The leadership should yield concrete actions in the short term (e.g. cleaning of sidewalks and storefronts, improved signage and lighting, longer and more consistent store hours) and more effective merchandising and long term outcomes (e.g. new anchor retail, and attracting national retail anchor, especially food store, book and music store, or a clothing store , prosperous business improvement district-with revenues from parking fees). The leadership requires a full partnership and sharing of responsibilities between the three groups.

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