



**Uptown Whittier Improvement Association  
Sidewalk Operations Committee  
GM Properties, 13305 Penn Street, Suite 200, Whittier, CA 90602  
Friday, November 22, 2019, 1:00 p.m. Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Stephen Ortiz (Committee Chair), Conal McNamara, Steven Rodriguez and Milt Pate

**Absent:** Michael Contreras and Mark St. Julien

**Guests:** Chris Cervantez and Jose Dominguez

**Consultant:** Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp – GM Properties

**MINUTES:**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken?</i>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Stephen Ortiz called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.	<b>1. No Action Taken</b>
<b>2. Introduction of guests and announcements</b>		<b>2. No Action Taken</b>
<b>3. Public Comment</b>	Milt Pate noticed the holiday lights are up on Bailey Street. Stephen Ortiz asked if UWIA is paying a portion. Brent replied yes \$6,000.00 and there are currently invoice issues.	<b>3. No Action Taken</b>
<b>4. Approval of November 1, 2019 minutes</b>		<b>4. Stephen Ortiz motioned to approve the November 1, 2019 minutes. Conal McNamara 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in</b>

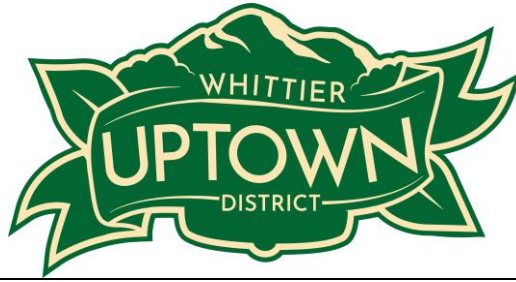
UPTOWN WHITTIER IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



		<p>favor. None opposed. Motion approved.</p>
<p><b>5. Approve the 2020 calendar year schedule of Sidewalk Operations meetings</b></p>	<p>Stephen Ortiz asked if there were any date oppositions. Brent replied November and December moved and the remaining meetings are mostly the last Friday of the month.</p>	<p><b>5. Stephen Ortiz motioned to approve the 2020 calendar year meeting schedule for Sidewalk Operations. Conal McNamara 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. None opposed. Motion approved.</b></p>
<p><b>6. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Mike Contreras</b></p>	<p>Michael Contreras absent</p> <p>Proposal to remove CPTED from the Agenda &amp; Move to Future Discussion.</p> <p>Concentration of Sidewalk Operation 2019 – 2020 Commitments</p>	<p><b>6. Stephen Ortiz would like to drop this item from the Agenda. No movement at this time.</b></p>
<p><b>7. Review &amp; Comments on Coastal Landscape Services – Stephen Ortiz</b></p>	<p>Tyson Smith absent.</p> <p>Stephen Ortiz opened the floor for questions.</p> <p>Brent Haskell stated graffiti on a few areas and removed within less than 24-hours.</p> <p>Stephen stated he has not received the quote for power washing Philadelphia Street. Stephen will follow up with Tyson on this and he would like the committee to be aware of the costs before recommending to the Board. Stephen understands it is not an action item.</p> <p>Jose Dominguez works for the City of Whittier. Supervisor in the Public Works</p>	<p><b>7. No Action Taken</b></p>



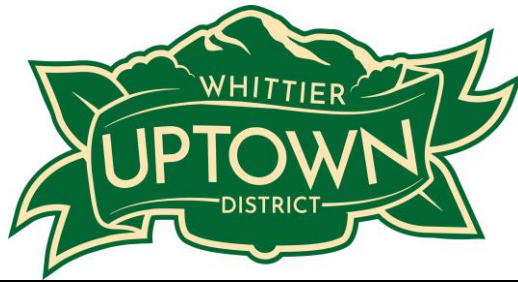
	<p>department. Jose went over the holiday parade path and the cleaning that will be performed. Starting December 2<sup>nd</sup> and completed December 14<sup>th</sup>. Stephen Ortiz stated he would inform Tyson to hold back until after the parade and work elsewhere until then. Stephen asked for any additional information that might be helpful. Jose replied December 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; 13<sup>th</sup> the barricades will be out and provided the path of barricades. Conal McNamara stated Jose is a good person to know. Jose explained he is responsible for the barricades. Overseas graffiti, asphalt, homeless encampments, and Conal added Jose does public right of way. Stephen asked Jose if there were any concerns. Jose replied one, off Bailey Street and Greenleaf Avenue. He left his business card because there is graffiti on a mural. Jose is waiting on a response from the owner because they do not want to touch the mural. Stephen asked if the owner has been contacted. Jose stated he brought in a release to paint or requested to contact the owner. Conal stated it is best for the store operator to contact the owner. It's a delicate matter. Discussion moved on to the encampments and graffiti removal. Stephen thanked the city for that. Stephen Ortiz will connect with Jose Dominguez. Steven Rodriguez asked if there is anything the school can do or assist. Jose replied no.</p>	
<p><b>8. Ambassador Program by Aleco Security – Carlos Lopez</b></p>	<p>Carlos Lopez absent.</p> <p>Stephen Ortiz asked Brent Haskell if the attorney Ajit Singh Thind had the rules of</p>	<p><b>8. Discuss and develop documentation for Ambassadors rules of engagement tabled to</b></p>



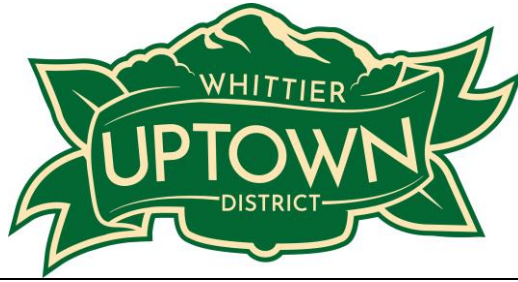
	<p>engagement and followed up with Brent. Brent stated UWIA is to receive a response December 7<sup>th</sup>. Stephen asked what is the goal. Brent stated review Aleco’s contract and UWIA’s liability.</p> <p>Discussion moved onto UWIA paying for Whittier police officers. Milt believes it is expensive. Stephen stated roughly \$140,000.00 per year. Milt asked what are the benefits. Stephen replied the officers present within the community. Collaboration within the city Board approval best to get a contract. Conal McNamara stated he can’t discuss on city funds and recommends talking with the police chief. Stephen agrees and the city needs to agree and vote. Conal stated it is a process. The budget begins in February, study session in May, and vote in June. Stephen asked if it is good to discuss with the police chief in January/February. Conal replied, correct. Steven Rodriguez stated the difference with actual is paid, visual adds value, and also understands the officers when needed are pulled. Conal wanted the committee to keep in mind the time it takes to hire a new officer. Officer time at the schools is different from Uptown. Stephen stated there is interest to move forward. Steven would like to consider overtime of existing officer base as well. Conal recommends talking with the police department on need. Chris Cervantez stated if Uptown work is offered on an overtime basis guys will jump on it. Bad guys up to no good</p>	<p><b>the next meeting. Brent Haskell to add to the Agenda Packet, to send an email for previous review, and to be ready for discussion at the next meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Brent Haskell to get direction from the Board of Directors on obtaining a Grant Writer and what is in the contract.</b></p> <p><b>Stephen Ortiz to talk with Mark St. Julien for GM Properties to get a Grant Writer and put on the Board Agenda.</b></p>
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	<p>like dark places with low activity and will know if there are officers regularly patrolling the area, keep in mind people talk. Cheaper with overtime???? Brent asked Conal if the City Council approved placing the increase in sales tax measure on the ballot next year. Conal replied yes, in March. Brent asked if the measure includes funds for the police department. Conal replied he does not know what is programmed out. Stephen stated possibility for a Grant Writer and not just for police either. Grant writers only get paid on what they bring in so they can be very successful and if not there is no cost and they move on. Stephen does not know if GM Properties can check into grant riders or not.</p> <p>Stephen Ortiz and Carlos Lopez walked the Uptown areas. Good to see and have that kind of event. Sidewalk agrees and supports the walk and the community on Greenleaf Avenue &amp; Philadelphia Street. Future would like to partner with the city, WUA, and business owner through an organized walk, have a mission, and rules of engagement. Conal stated do not engage the public during any organized walk (especially homeless). Further discussion on homeless. There are sworn officers who are qualified to engage. Chris recommends leave the homeless up to the security though understanding engagement at normal shift. Conal added council knows homeless etc. They do not need to be informed of problems. It should be more of a social and greeting</p>	
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	<p>one another. A natural deterrent as a group. Milt talked about the bikes and tarps being up. Conal replied the city just took down Hadley Street and Bailey Street abatement removal. Steven Rodriguez stated the homeless are removing the roof skylight to shower at schools. Further discussion on homeless issues. Conal stated have a letter on file to remove, install cameras and lighting. Steven stated it is important to have a clear idea and be respectful. Steven would not feel comfortable on an organized walk if no protocol of engagement and debrief.</p>	
<p><b>9. 2019 Sidewalk Initiatives</b></p>	<p>Stephen Ortiz opened the floor for discussion. Conal stated the city is open for proposals UWIA &amp; WUA provided and open for discussion. Mark St. Julien to take the reins. Will step back in detail. Item in December's Agenda to hire three additional officers. Stephen asked if there is a specific person working on it. Conal replied the police chief. Stephen stated he will work with Mark. Stephen moved onto the beautification award/recognition. Not necessarily money, but a plaque. All in agreement.</p>	<p><b>9. Stephen Ortiz &amp; Steven Rodriguez to process the beautification project together via email.</b></p>
<p><b>10. Other Sidewalk Operations Projects – Stephen Ortiz / Frank Medina</b></p>		<p><b>10. No Action Taken</b></p>
<p><b>11. Next SOBO Meeting</b></p>	<p>The next Sidewalk Operations Committee meeting will be on Friday, December 20, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>11. No Action Taken</b></p>



<b>12. Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.	<b>12. No Action Taken</b>
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Minutes taken by Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp with GM Properties.