

		San Pedro Neighborhood Councils Committee on Port Security & Safety Meeting MINUTES Date: Tuesday, 11/22/05 Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm PORT COMPLEX (Boys & Girls Club) 100 W. 5th Street, San Pedro, CA 90731	
Chair:	Lonna Calhoun		
Committee Members:	CSPNC: Sue Castillo, Dan Pasley, Sal Pardo, Tom Villager, Joe Gatlin, David Beeman NWSPNC: Esther Ek, Carlos Garcia, Chris Wickers COASTAL NC: Chuck Hawley, David Kooper HARBOR NC: Mike Feyder, OFFICIALS: Sergeant Bob Teramura, Captain Patrick Gannon, Peter Gravette, Jeffery Goodwin, George Cummings, John Sullivan, Bob Spaulding, Captain Peter Neffenger, Captain Martin Renteria, Stakeholders: Wendy Keener, Linda Grimes, Ed Vincent, Ken Keene, Ray Burch		

The Committee on Port Safety & Security (C.O.P.S.S) has unified four Harbor area Neighborhood Councils and concerned community organizations with a single mission to ensure the safety of those who live and work in or near the Ports of Los Angeles. The Committee's goals are to: Research what has been done, what is being done, and what needs to be done to secure the Ports and safeguard the community; assist in the dissemination of this information to Harbor Area Stakeholders; promote accountability for safety and security among Port Management, City, County, State and Federal governmental bodies; create a sense of urgency by all concerned that this issue is a high priority to all Harbor Area Stakeholders

The meeting was attended by Chair, Lonna Calhoun, George Cummings, Director of Port Homeland Security, Robert Simpson of Betty Karnettes Office, Sergeant Bob Teramura, LAPD, Chris Wickers, NWNC, Ray Burch, CSPNC, Richard Smith, Stakeholder & Doctoral Student

The Minutes of 9/27/05 were reviewed and approved

Review reports from community forums and meetings:

The committee discussed the October 12th, Area Maritime Security Committee, Port Evacuation, Recovery & Reconstitution Workshop and reviewed the resulting White Paper. Sergeant Bob Teramura felt it went well in his section; it was good to get all parties involved. It's a major accomplishment to get the longshoremen actively involved as they are a huge force in the community. There was a lot of information received and we have a lot of work ahead of us. Bob who has been actively involved in evacuation plans for the LAPD for quite some time emphasized that the white paper identified problem areas but in some cases solutions to those problems have either already been solved or are being worked on. 95% of the success of any evacuation plan or emergency preparedness is dependent of community involvement. COPSS needs to play a vital role in community communication. We also need to resource other community organizations such as the neighborhood watch and homeowner associations.

Richard Smith suggested working through the school systems, PTA's. Schools are mandated by law to be prepared to shelter in place and every principal is aware of criteria.

The committee discussed the viability of any evacuation plan and the actuality that mass evacuation would be called for in this area. The concomitant risk of evacuation was also discussed. The importance of public education was agreed upon by all committee members.

Lonna discussed her analysis of the White Paper and the workshop. She mentioned that many of the thoughts communicated in previous committee meetings were acknowledged in the paper. A written list of COPSS suggestions was forwarded to Commander Peter Neffenger. One important point was the stakeholder wish for a civil alarm siren system and educational drills to accompany training. This system is being analyzed as the Director of Homeland Security, George Cummings explained.

Lonna mentioned to George that she was struck at the workshop by his questioning of the communication and chain of command. This is still a major issue that has to be resolved. While independent agencies may feel well prepared and there are many independent evacuation plans established in the community and they need to be integrated. George felt that we were on the right track in researching the varied plans and involving the businesses, public and first responders in coordinating plans. He stated that it may not result in one coordinated plan but rather several plans that work together based on the nature of the event. Both George and Bob felt confident that while there is still much to be done we have many good systems and people in place. All first responder organizations have been working together and feel a level of confidence in each other and initial plans of action.

Discussion followed whereby George stated that COPSS should play an active role in community education. George explained that there is funding available for flyers and presentations to the community and both Homeland Security and LAPD are willing to give emergency preparedness presentations when requested.

Discussion followed about what groups to use in community outreach. It is vitally important that all NC's play an active part. Lonna will connect with the NC Presidents to encourage more participation. We need to increase the number of committee members, achieve more in depth participation and develop a community outreach plan of action.

Lonna discussed that COPSS is getting some public recognition in various newspaper articles; a recent KCET Interview for "Life & Times", the web site is getting exposure and is well developed with excellent links. A new link was suggested by Bob T. www.72hours.org.

It was decided that Lonna was free to send a copy of the White Paper to the COPSS distribution list but it should be emphasized that it was the result of the first community *inclusive* workshop which is a very positive step forward.

The committee discussed the October 20, LAPD, Surviving the First 48 Hours program that was held at Peck Park. It was a very informative program and exactly what we need to encourage increased awareness of the importance for the public to be prepared to take care of themselves for the first hours/days after a major emergency. However, as the White Paper indicated and other studies the public really needs to plan on 72 hours.

The November 9, 2005 AMSC monthly meeting was attended by Carter Calhoun on behalf of COPSS. Minutes should be online.

Robert Simpson discussed the Letter from Betty Karnette's office. Her office is committed to continuing the push for more port security and a bigger piece of federal funding. George C stated that his organization was more in favor of a national cargo fee if any cargo fee was imposed so as not to unevenly affect commerce. Rob agreed that the advised modification was being considered. Karnette's office will continue

to push for better method of fair funding. Lonna asked George C. about Federal funding and he stated they did just receive a large sum. The new Proposed Federal Bill for new standards for cargo containers was briefly discussed. How can COPSS be supportive? Let's stay on top of the progress.

Robert Smith informed the committee that on December, 7, 2005 @ 7:00 PM @
EVENT LOCATION › Council Chambers - PVE City Hall - 340 Palos Verdes Drive West Palos Verdes Estates there will be a Emergency Preparedness Seminar,
ADDITIONAL INFO › Representatives from the City, Police Dept., County Fire Dept., and So. Bay Area Emergency Coordinator will provide presentations, discussion and will answer your questions at this informative event.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

The next meeting will be on January 24, 2006. NO December meeting will be held due to the holidays.