

NOPNA General Meeting Minutes

Jan 15, 2019

Attendance: Approximately 30+ neighbors at the meeting plus board members: Charles, Leela, Tim, Meg, Julian, Jennifer, Jeff

Assemblyman David Chui

- “I always love coming to neighborhood associations because I got my start as a neighborhood activist. I was asked to spend a few minutes talking about what’s happening in the legislature. I will touch on a few topics, the first being housing. I am the chair of the assembly housing committee – a few weeks ago Scott Weiner was appointed chair of the senate housing committee. Two of us are pushing a housing agenda. I have been thinking about new ways to finance affordable housing. It’s been over 10 years of not spending close to 2 billion dollars we used to spend on affordable housing.”
- Two bills: Statewide tax credit that is responsible for little affordable housing we’ve been able to build. This year Newsom decided to put in the amount I proposed - \$500M.
- Second bill is one that tries to bring financing tools we used to have as a state. CA lost a billion dollars of the \$1.7B we used to have when Brown eliminated funding. We should bring back for housing and critical infrastructure. This year we are going to have another conversation about tenants rights, and not to forget the topic of homelessness.
- We spend as a state and as a city billions of dollars helping people who are homeless after the fact, rather than spending money before someone becomes homeless. We spend hundreds of millions of dollars after someone has been exposed to weather, exasperating health issues. The program that I just mentioned essentially is a pilot program that says it's more humane to put someone in public housing than forcing them to -- \$60M program.
- Transportation: Last year we tried to bring automated speed enforcement; i.e. speed cameras in the most dangerous intersections. Last year this was opposed – even though they have been proven to reduce deaths and injuries, they’re worried about job impacts. We are conversing with labor unions.
- Also working on three lawsuits – one was a fight around pro choice about the right for women to receive info about the right to choose in CA, a few weeks later I was in a lawsuit by Sessions to sue an immigration bill that allows protection to workers to not suffer unannounced raids by ICE. Then sued about citizenship question proposed about 2020 census – could result in billions of dollars being cut to the state of CA. This year I expect to be working with colleagues to put pro gun control agenda, moving for more protections for gun safety – and I’m also working looking at a number of ways where we can protect California students being affected by bad decisions by Betsy DeVos.

Q/A With Assemblyman Chui

- Question: One of the things I want to hear about – first, what’s your stance on the bill that Weiner introduced about changing the way neighborhoods exist today in order to increase density? Secondly, is there a way to fix some of the problems with Prop 13? If people have inherited properties where they’re charging market rate but property tax doesn’t change, what is being looked at to help improve inventory?

Answer: I am a big proponent that prop 13 needs to be reformed, among a minority of legislators. I would guess there's 15 out of 120 legislators that think it needs to be repealed or reformed. Property taxes have been major basis of funding in CA – when I was in school CA was

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top 10 funded and performing school systems in country, now we are on the bottom on both fronts. Because prop 13 legislatively have failed, there has been a statewide movement to place a prop 13 on the 2020 ballot – to not impact property rates for residential. We'll see whether corporations ought to see their property tax change over time – split X discussion.

On Senator Weiner's SB50, as some of you know he proposed this last year, he has amended the bill. I know there are concerns that this would radically change the face of SF, I support his objective. We have to build three and a half million units over the next 8 years to keep up with population growth. I agree that we should build housing around major transit corridors. It needs to go through the senate where it'll go through three committees and a floor vote because it goes to my committee – by the time I get to look at it, it'll be in a place that should work for SF. That is my hope. I'm sure neighborhood associations in SF will help.

Governor Newsom said he would support it.

- Question: Would you and your colleagues support medicare for all?
- Answer: The quick answer for me is yes I have been a supporter of universal healthcare for decades. The problem is I was 1 of 8 to support, there were 80 of us, way off to be able to support. While there may not be support at this moment for single payer healthcare, there is support for universal health care, providing it for everyone in CA. this administration for Donald Trump – they love this issue. There are many of us who are progressive democrats. The more you push into that, the more you feed into it. I am a supporter of single payer health care. If in the next couple of years if he's still in office, we should do that – hopefully if all goes well in 2020 and we elect a democratic president, that's when we ought to move forward and do it. I'm hopeful we can take steps to get us closer to that.
- Question: Why Repeal article 34? What would that do and how would it make it easier to build affordable housing?
Answer: Article 34 involves more hoops you have to jump through. A number of rules on the books that provide needless, costly from a revenue standpoint and time standpoint hurdles. Happy to support it, something we need to get down.

D5 Supervisor Vallie Brown

- Recently passed “minimum parking requirements” for new developments. Which means any time we have a development, we don't have to have parking requirement if a community wants to see that happen.
- Also passed Free City College.
- Passed Prop C - going through the planning process as to how to spend this money (despite law suite)
- Vallie is also coming up with legislation with people that are living in their cars to provide services to these people. There are a lot of college students living in RV's so they reached out to find space to provide navigation centers for these people.
- Flexible Retail legislation - sometimes it takes so long to open a retail business; cutting the time it takes to get your business open. With Flexible Retail 2 or 3 businesses can go into a larger

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space; makes it easier to do pop-up stores - landlords can rent to you without having to go through all the paperwork. Making art "legal"

- Looking for an indoor navigation center in D5; looking for an emergency family center at Steiner and Fell Street without showers
- Resting Places - looking at churches to open up during the day to rest
- Homeless people - within one month of being on the street - have at least one health problem costing the City a lot.
- Mayor Breed reached out to Chariot - they were going to close the business - to hire their drivers on MUNI.
- in December 2018 - we had a Muni Meltdown because there were not enough drivers. Bus operators in SF don't even make enough money to qualify for affordable housing => they need to make a living wage to qualify for affordable housing.
- Q: Core Yoga - it seems like the community did not want Core Yoga; the owners of the building wanted to sell (this sale was their retirement) and the space was too big. It went through planning and planning did not want to punish the owners => large spaces like this
- Q: Teachers are one of the hardest working professions - Prop G for teachers has been but the City is being sued again. Supervisor Brown want feels this money should go to
- School board: look at the school land and build teacher housing.
- Bike route on Hayes (in addition)
- Divisadero Merchants - are hiring power washes once per month- more people on sweeping Divisadero. Sensor trash cans in March.
- Q: Rents in SF are too high. What is your vision for affordable housing to accommodate everyone?
- A: We need all kinds of housing => looking at underutilized sites; the city has one story community centers - building on top. We have to get creative and modular should be pushed. It costs \$900K to build one affordable. She is pushing for money to buy small site program - half the cost
- Tim: Funding for homeowners to and ADU's under promoted => looking at how to streamline
- To get more information: SFGov Board of Supervisors, get on her newsletter.
- Food stamps - the people that are getting food stamps may not be getting them in Feb. Shakira is working with grocery stores to make sure that our most vulnerable have food.

Fire Safety /SFFD

- They have a one hour powerpoint presentation where you learn how to use a fire hydrant
- Topics: home escape planning, smoke and carbon monoxide in homes;
- what to do if you get trapped in a fire
- Make a home escape plan with the members of - map out two ways out of every room in your residence. Make sure you have a safe gathering place to meet and take a headcount. Practice the plan as if you had very low visibility. How to shelter in place as a last resort. Find a room that has a window facing the street - put a towel under the door and buy yourself some time. Do not break the window because that will create a vacuum and brings the smoke into the room.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms - look for factory approvals; they should be in every sleeping area and at every level of your home. Any fuel burning appliances and or forced air

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heating - you must have a carbon monoxide alarm in that room.

- The top cause of fire - #1 electrical fires. Do not overload outlets. #2 portable heaters. Any heat generating devices should be plugged directly into the wall outlet (do not plug into extension cords), keep a clearance around the heater and do not put them near combustible items. #3 cooking fires - the safest way is to put the lid on the pot. If you have a fire in your oven fire, do not open your oven.
- Q: Live in an apartment; how do we alert the fire department that we have a pet in the house.
- A: there are decals that you can place on your windows or doors to show the fire department but planning is the best choice of survival. Have the cat carrier

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm.