

Notes

Fair West N.A. State Fair Traffic/Parking Concerns Facilitated Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Sundowner Apts. 6101 Central Ave NE, 87108

Goals of this meeting:

- ♦ Debrief the impact of the agreed-upon parking and traffic relief measures during the 2019 State Fair. What did & did not work well?
- ♦ Begin discussing what needs to happen prior to the 2020 State Fair

Facilitated by: CABQ Contract Facilitator: Kathleen Oweegon; Co-facilitator: Leslie R. Kryder

Important information:

- ♦ For direct communication with Parking Enforcement (part of DMD) regarding:
 - parking permits,
 - resolution of erroneous citations,
 - notification of one-time events which will bring more vehicles to your home, (service providers, gatherings, etc.), please call: (505) 924-3950.
- ♦ **Next meeting:** The FWNA Board requests a meeting in Spring of 2020, to be held shortly after April 23rd (Gathering of Nations), to plan for State Fair 2020. The facilitator will inform everyone on her distribution list of the date, time and location of that meeting.

Action Items from this Meeting:

By When	What	Who
Right away	DMD is looking for volunteers to test the new permitted parking system. To sign up, call DMD at (505) 924-3950.	Fair West Residents who want to volunteer.
Right away	Please email Kathleen Oweegon (CABQ facilitator) at: oweegon@bridgesofpeace.com with the names & email addresses of other neighbors who want to be added to her email distribution list for either the FWNA traffic meetings or the San Pedro Revitalization Project (which is in the very early stages).	FWNA Residents
October 1, 2019	Contact Expo NM to get attendance numbers for 2018 & 2019. Follow-up: Official attendance numbers for 2019 won't be available until late October. <i>See 10/28 follow-up action item below.</i>	Kathleen Oweegon
October 15, 2019	Follow-up with DMD to find the number of tickets paid at \$20, \$30, \$60, or not paid.	Kathy Turner
October 28, 2019	Contact Expo NM to get attendance numbers for 2018 and 2019 and send them to distribution list.	Kathleen Oweegon

Summary of Important Outcomes

1. What worked well with parking & traffic during the 2019 Fair?
 - a. Residents commented that they liked:
 - i. The absence of the “No thoroughfare” signs
 - ii. Less litter and congestion
 - iii. “No Parking” along Copper
 - iv. “Parking permit only” signs
 - v. Advertising by NM Expo about parking restrictions in the neighborhood. It seemed to help reduce traffic in the neighborhood.
 2. Areas for improvement:
 - a. **APD Staffing/Coverage:** Lt Evans would like to have staffing capacity so he can have 2 or more PSAs on duty at all times.
 - b. **242-COPS response time - absent/excessively long**
 - i. Proposed remedy: APD have a specific response time window, e.g. 45 minutes, and if they can't get there in that time, they call the neighbor who reported the problem to let them know of the delay.
 - c. **Placement of “Parking permit only” signs**
 - i. Proposed remedy #1: A more even distribution is needed on Cagua and elsewhere.
 - ii. Proposed remedy #2: Ensure that all permit only signs are visible, tall enough, not obscured by trees or bushes.
 - iii. Proposed remedy #3: Several business owners request an exception allowing the commercial zone adjacent to their business to also be restricted as permit only parking. This is how it worked in past years. Specific areas mentioned: Cagua north of Copper and Nambe between San Pedro and Cagua.
 - iv. Proposed remedy #4: A neighbor requested that the 300-700 blocks of Alvarado not be zoned for permit only parking; this year the signs weren't put up in time for the state fair and there wasn't a problem.
 - d. **Number of permits allotted per tenants in rental residences**
 - i. Proposed remedy: That the number of passes be correlated to the number of vehicles associated with the property. In this case, the resident has 3 vehicles.
 - e. **Parking enforcement year-round**
 - i. Proposed remedy: Neighborhood should request NO enforcement of permit parking by Parking Enforcement, except during State Fair and other NM Expo events.
 - ♦ And Parking Enforcement should notify the FWNA in advance of all dates it will be enforcing.
 - f. **Neighborhood communication:**
 - i. Proposed remedy #1: The FWNA needs to do a better job advertising its meetings. Many didn't know about them. Use Facebook, the FWNA website, flyers in the park, and create an extensive email list.
 - ii. Proposed remedy #2: The FWNA needs to use multiple sources to receive input on important issues, not just meetings, but phone calls and online methods such as surveys.
 - iii. Proposed remedy #3: FWNA meetings need to be held at other times besides weekday evenings; not everyone can make it then.
3. Next meeting
 - a. Facilitator will contact FWNA about a planning meeting for the State Fair 2020.
 - i. It should be held in the spring, preferably after the April 23rd Gathering of Nations.

Meeting Overview

1. Summary of email received from Jeremy Kaiser, Interim Parking Manager of Department of Municipal Development (DMD)

- a. Kathy Turner, President of Fair West Neighborhood Association (FWNA), read the DMD email.
- b. Summary of the DMD email:
 - i. During State Fair
 - (a) 428 citations issued in Fair West Neighborhood.
 - (i) 367 of those from parking enforcement.
 - (ii) An average 37 citations per day.
 - (b) 61 citations were issued by APD.
 - ii. Only a few vehicles were towed.
 - iii. During the entire event, there was at least one enforcement officer assigned to the area
 - (a) 2 to 3 enforcement officers were on duty during peak hours.
 - iv. DMD did not tally conversations with citizens looking for parking.
 - v. Every call to Parking Enforcement and 311 resulted in an officer dispatched.
 - vi. Post State Fair, ongoing random patrols of the neighborhood will continue; residents may also call 311 if there's an issue.
 - vii. Additional information from DMD email, not presented at meeting: *"We are still working on finishing the installation of signs within the area. If you see a [mistake], please let us know so we can correct the issue."*
 - viii. Within 90 days Parking Enforcement is expecting to roll out a new permitting system that will connect each permit to its assigned license plate—no placard or car tag will be needed at that point.
 - (a) FWNA Pres. said she thinks it will be a benefit and volunteered to be a guinea pig for testing the new system; DMD is looking for other volunteers.
 - ix. FWNA Pres. asked DMD for the number of tickets paid at \$20, \$30, or \$60; or not paid;
 - (a) Jeremy replied that the majority of the citations were for \$20, and that he will obtain the data about how many were paid, not paid, forgiven, etc. when it is available at a later date..
 - x. The total cost of enforcement during the State Fair was approximately \$2,800.
- c. The FWNA President extended her thanks to all of the neighborhood and the City.

2. What worked well with parking & traffic during the 2019 Fair?

- a. **PSAs**
 - i. Lt Evans: He was able to have some Police Service Aides (PSAs) on duty in the area on most nights of the fair. One night they got sent away to tackle other issues.
 - (a) Officers towed 3 or 4 vehicles blocking driveways.
 - (b) He thought the PSAs worked well and expects improvement in future years as staffing increases. Right now, APD is short-staffed.
 - ii. N: We developed a relationship with the PSAs, and they were really lovely.
- b. **Signage**
 - i. Neighbor (N): Thought the permitted parking helped keep the situation under control.
 - (a) She thinks that next year, there could be an issue with people parking on Valencia and Palomas.
 - ii. N: Unlike past years, there were no "No Thoroughfare" signs this year. That was fine with her. In past years people just move them out of the way, anyway.
 - iii. N: Lives on 900 block of Valencia.
 - (a) Been here since 1962—had no parking or other problems the last few years and no problems this year.
 - (b) Did have problems 10-12 years ago when parade went down Lomas.
 - (c) The new system had no effect one way or another, even with the one sign posted on the block.
 - (d) Will there be signs put up in the rest of the areas [which were supposed to get signs, but didn't]?
 - iv. N: Lives in the 700 block of Lagunayra.

- (a) This year there was much less traffic compared to last year.
- (b) He did see vehicles being ticketed without his having to call them in.
- (c) There was less litter and congestion.
- (d) Much easier to get in and out of the driveway and neighborhood.
- v. N: Lives in the 200-300 block of Cagua.
 - (a) There were no permit parking signs during first week of the fair. She talked with Lt. Sena and learned it was a mistake that signs weren't posted.
 - (i) It took her 15 minutes to get down those two blocks before the signs went up.
 - i. When they put up 1 sign in the middle of the 200-300 block of Cagua, she was able to get down the block in 5 minutes.
- vi. N: It was very beneficial not allowing cars to park on Copper.
 - (a) As a business owner, both the staff and customer vehicles could get in and out of the driveway.

c. Public notification of restricted parking

- i. N: Advertising in newspaper, etc., that there was no State Fair parking (permit only) in the surrounding neighborhoods really helped. There was so much less traffic driving around the neighborhood looking for parking.

d. Calls to Parking Enforcement regarding erroneous tickets

- i. N: It is working with the phone calls to Parking Enforcement.
 - (a) My neighbor is having home renovations. The repair people got a ticket, but Parking Enforcement rescinded it.

3. What didn't work well with parking & traffic during the 2019 Fair?

a. APD coverage

- i. Lt Evans: We could always have more staffing.
 - (a) Lesser priority things tend to take a back seat with lower manpower. He worked in the Southeast Heights back in 2002. Compared to back then, he notices the lack of staffing. However, they are staffing up again.
 - (b) He really wanted to be able to assign 2 PSAs at all times to the neighborhood, but had to pull staff on several occasions, due to other calls.
 - (c) N: Is the shortage due to lack of budget or difficulty recruiting new people?
 - (i) Lt Evans: I don't know.
 - (d) N: I heard they're going to high schools all over the state to recruit PSAs. That's what we need.
 - (i) Lt Evans: That's the entry program in law enforcement. I would also have liked to have an officer plus 2 PSAs. I had to monitor the radio carefully to assure they were sent where most needed.
 - (e) N: Is there anything we can do to help you or APD get the additional staff needed?
 - (i) Lt Evans: We lost a lot of the force a couple years ago, but I expect as things improve, we will staff up again.
 - i. I've been with APD for 17 years. People are going to have to want to be in the profession again. It has lost the respect of the public. You'd be surprised how we are treated on patrol.

b. Thoroughfare issues

- i. N: Had a thoroughfare issue—people driving around the neighborhood, and they still had 18 wheelers on the street.
 - (a) Proposed remedy: The City should post permanent "No thoroughfare" signs around the neighborhood.

c. "Permitted parking only" Signage

- i. N: Lives by Alvarado & Nambe.
 - (a) Never had parking problems in that area.
 - (b) In past years there were always a few cars parked on Nambe. It was the same this year—even with signs indicating "permitted parking only."
 - (c) Proposed remedy: She would like to avoid having signs in this area.

- ii. N: I think it would go a long way in calming people down to let Parking Enforcement know that we don't want enforcement most of the year; have Parking Enforcement tell the neighborhood what weeks they will be enforcing (because of events at the State Fairgrounds).
- iii. N: At a previous meeting, DMD invited communication informing them when/where not to enforce, e.g. during a party.
- iv. FWNA Pres.: I was told that if you call in advance of an event and tell them there will be parking, then they will not enforce that area on that date. You can email me anything.
 - (a) Also, there's a suggestion box in the park by the sign on SW corner. I check it every Monday.
- v. Facilitator: Jeremy and Kevin with DMD let us know in previous meetings that if someone gets cited erroneously, Parking Enforcement can cancel the citation.
- vi. Lt. Evans: Someone alluded to towing. Please tell me about that. Illegal parking is not a towable offense.
 - (a) N: We were told when we got the permits that cars could get towed if illegally parked in the permit zone.
 - (b) Facilitator: What DMD told us is that it's citable, but not towable, unless the car parks to block a driveway or something like that. Parking enforcement has no authority to tow, according to what DMD has told us in past meetings.

d. Compliance with signage

- i. N: Saw the most problems on Cagua, because during the first week, there were no signs posted there.
- ii. N: It seemed like the major places the signs were being ignored were the East-West streets, except Copper.
 - (a) Nambe and Marquette had illegal parking in the first 3 blocks West of San Pedro.
 - (b) On Cardenas, opposite Gate 3, we didn't see parking happening there.
 - (c) In the 200 block of Laguayra, there were people parking there.
 - (d) Most of the parkers were using the East-West streets.
 - (e) When the [200-300] block of Cagua got its one sign, the sign was only about 6 ft high. Cars avoided parking right in front of it, but did park at either end of the block.
 - (f) Proposed remedy: more even distribution of signs on Cagua.
- iii. N: In some cases the signs are placed where obscured by tree limbs.
 - (a) Proposed remedy: Better sign placement
- iv. N: I own Auto Glass Services at Copper and Cagua.
 - (a) I tried, but could not convince Parking Enforcement to give me employees' parking passes to park on Cagua, even though there was a permit-only sign right near our business.
 - (b) My staff had to park in my parking lot, which resulted in a parking shuffle game with my customers.
 - (c) On Cagua, from Copper to the apartments, it's a free-for-all because of the zoning.
 - (i) There were State cars parked there—wouldn't they have parking places on the fairgrounds?
 - (ii) All those drivers saw an opportunity since there was no sign there.
 - (d) Proposed remedy: A sign for permitted parking on Cagua from Copper to midway up that block on East side of the street.
 - (i) N: After the last meeting, I spoke with DMD folks about my issue. Jeremy said he would look up zoning. I called and Jeremy said, No, he couldn't put up signs there.
- v. N: I have business at 341 San Pedro near the intersection with Nambe. We had to shuffle cars, too.
 - (a) As soon as we would remove a car, someone would come park to visit the fair.
 - (i) We put a cone on the street to reserve a place to park our car.
 - (b) Proposed remedy: I need a permitted zone and permits for my business on Nambe between San Pedro and Cagua.
 - (i) This was what we had for 30 years (under the old system).
 - i. We got the permits and used them appropriately for employees and customers. This is important because it affects my livelihood.
 - (ii) Facilitator: Sounds like you're requesting an exception since the area is zoned commercial. You want a permitted zone and permits.
 - i. N: Correct

- (c) N: Point of clarification—please mention that these two businesses are unique because they deal specifically with autos—the extra space is needed to park all the automobiles.
 - (i) These would be the only two businesses with this problem.
- (d) N: Actually, I received a call from 2 other businesses with the same problem.
- vi. N: Regarding the stretch from 300-700 Alvarado, the signs didn't go up on Alvarado in time for the fair—we were thrilled and hope the neighborhood and City can rethink the plan to put signs there.
 - (a) FWNA Pres.: In the email from Jeremy, he said the signs will go up. Some were put up today.
 - (i) Jeremy addressed the observation that there wasn't a problem on Valencia and Alvarado because of all the parkers in the other streets.
 - i. He expects that next year folks wanting to park will move further west.
 - (ii) My experience, based on people asking me, "Where can I park?" is that folks were already moving to Alvarado.
 - (b) Proposed remedy: I request that if a lot of people on those blocks say they don't want it, we can revisit the decision. But it's got to be like 51% of the residents on those blocks.
- vii. N: Wednesday was the only day I saw a parking problem.
- viii. N: Cagua didn't have the volume of traffic it usually has, though it still had speeders
 - (a) Proposed remedy: I think the only way to deal with that would be speed humps in the middle of the block. I want the wide ones that aren't so hard on the cars.

e. 242-COPS Response

- i. N: I called in twice to 242-COPS about illegal parking near my home.
 - (a) Both times that I called, I kept an eye on the vehicle to see if it got ticketed.
 - (i) On the first call, I was surprised that I had to explain the situation to the operator: that we have permit-only parking in our neighborhood.
 - i. On that first call, I wasn't prepared with all the information they needed, for example, the plate number.
 - ii. I made the first call about 7:30pm. By 8:40pm the car still did not have a ticket.
 - iii. At 10:50pm I saw that the vehicle was gone. I'm wondering why the vehicle was still not ticketed after 11/2 hours?
 - (ii) The second day I called about 4:30pm. As of 6:50pm, still no ticket on the car;
 - i. By 7:05pm the vehicle was gone.
 - (iii) I wonder if there's any way to find out what was the result of the call—did those vehicles get ticketed or not?
 - i. Lt Evans: Sometimes we can track that. If you send me the exact time you called, I can a) verify that a call was generated and b) see how/when it was followed up on.
 - (iv) N: And, even if it wasn't ticketed, maybe there was a reasonable explanation such as "super busy" right then.
 - (v) Lt Evans: Often there are comments on the call.
- ii. N: I'll also mention a similar incident – a neighbor called 242-COPS and gave them the information needed.
 - (a) The neighbor told me that the 242-COPS person said, "We don't even have to go out there, but can just ticket the car, sight unseen. That's not real is it?"
 - (i) Lt Evans: No.
 - (b) Proposed remedy: To have an expected response time, e.g. 30 or 45 minutes.
 - (i) Then, if they can't make it within that window, the citizen should receive a callback or robo callback to say there's a delay. I just would like to know whether a response took place.
- iii. N: Alvarado does not have a single sign posted.
 - (a) Cars parked there without permits.
 - (b) If it's not signed you can't ticket; so they need to put signs in the whole area and enforce it.
 - (c) FWNA Pres.: I agree.
 - (i) Two days before the fair I made notes of places that did not have signs. I never really got a very clear answer from Parking Enforcement as to why.

- (ii) First they told me they ran out of signs.
- (iii) Later, I was told that the company that makes the signs couldn't produce them in sufficient quantity in the time necessary.
- (iv) I'm not thrilled the signs are going up now on North-South and East-West streets, too.
- (v) During the permit handout event I saw they gave tenants only 2 permits—and I agree it's a problem. I will take it up with DMD.
- (vi) Right now, the City is rewriting the zoning codes.
 - i. For instance, right now Code reads that only two cars may be parked in front of a residence, whether it's a permit parking only zone or not.
- (vii) Give me your email address and I will talk with Jeremy about the situation at 900 Valencia.

f. Number of permits allotted per residence

- i. N: I live in the 800 Alvarado block and own another house in the 900 Valencia block. My son lives at the other house.
 - (a) When I got the permits, they gave me this form which lists the streets that were permitted.
 - (b) My son has 3 vehicles, but since he's my tenant, we were told that for a tenant location you can only get a licensed permit on 1 vehicle and 1 guest permit.
 - (i) They won't issue a third permit like they did for me as a homeowner.
 - (ii) This is a problem since he has three vehicles, including one he must use for his work.
 - (c) Proposed remedy: Provide enough permits for the vehicles associated with the property, plus a visitor permit.
 - (d) We were allowed two licensed and one guest permit as homeowners.

g. NA communications

- i. N: I appreciate all the meetings that took place in past months.
 - (a) And I think people need other ways to give input—ability to call in, go online, etc.
 - (b) None of the people I know on Alvarado and Valencia were concerned, but many people haven't been able to make it to meetings at this time of the evening; and others don't hear about them.
 - (c) It's important to vary the meeting times.
- ii. Facilitator: So we could look at possibility of a Saturday meeting.
- iii. N: How about an online survey asking, "Are you concerned about parking during the State Fair?"
- iv. N: The information needs to go out on Facebook, the FWNA website, to an email list, and also put up flyers in the park.
- v. N: I don't think I get all the emails—I get some things.
 - (a) FWNA Pres.: Did you participate in the survey? Did you put your email address on that survey?
 - (b) N: I signed the survey, but did not receive email notice of this meeting.
- vi. N: Did the results of the petition get published by street?
 - (a) FWNA Pres.: No, because that's not the way the vote was tallied. You can get raw survey data by filling out an IPRA form with the City.
- vii. N: There is a problem with letting people know about these meetings.
 - (a) I didn't hear about them until the last couple meetings—and I do try to pay attention to this stuff.
 - (i) Once I came, I learned about the year-round permanent restrictions proposed, which I didn't know about before.
 - (ii) One thing that bothered me was the survey: we had two days to respond to the petition. There wasn't enough time to get questions answered. With more time people would have asked. That really bothered me.
 - i. FWNA Pres.: We had a month to complete the petition effort.
 - ii. Some of us went out the first week.
 - iii. I had lots of people ask me questions, in person, by phone, by email.
 - iv. I only went to 75 houses. Another volunteer went to about 100 houses.
 - (b) Proposed remedy #1: Give neighbors a month's notice before having to make decisions.

- (c) Proposed remedy #2: I'm on the board of a water association in the Jemez. We obtained email addresses of every member of the association, and I established a bulk emailing, which we use regularly. Since then, we haven't had a single member that doesn't like that process.
- (d) Proposed remedy #3: What about creating a free app notifying everyone about every meeting and what happened at those meetings?

4. What (if anything) needs to happen prior to State Fair 2020?

- a. Facilitator: Do you need any more facilitated meetings between now and the next fair? What else do you need in terms of follow-up?
 - i. FWNA Pres.: I wouldn't mind having one more meeting closer to next year's fair, in case there are issues. We still have to get through the rest of the year with the new permit-only zones.
- b. N: Next year's fair will be September 10-20, so it's a week later than this year.
- c. N: Did we get a report from the State Fair organizers on this year's attendance?
 - i. I suspect this year it was way down.
 - ii. We need that State Fair 2018 & 2019 attendance report before a follow-up meeting, so we can compare attendance volume to the level of problems.
 - iii. Facilitator: I will contact Expo NM to get attendance numbers for 2018 and 2019.

Next steps:

- 1. Facilitator will be follow up in Spring 2020 to see if a meeting is needed to prepare for State Fair 2020.
 - a. N: Will the Spring meeting be before or after The Gathering of Nations, which is April 23, 2020?
 - i. Several neighbors say they prefer before, and several prefer after.
 - ii. FWNA Pres.: I'd prefer right after that event so we know how parking went for neighbors during that event.
 - b. N: It took a tremendous amount of planning to make the neighborhood safer during State Fair this year. Let's all say thank you to Kat and Kathy. It means a lot to us. And, let's especially remember that the neighborhood association board member jobs are all volunteer jobs.
- 2. Facilitator will get the report out by Monday Sept. 30.
- 3. **Facilitator's invitation to participate in the San Pedro Corridor Revitalization Project:**
 - a. There will be a series of community meetings to plan for economic revitalization of the area.
 - b. We really need businesses involved as well as neighbors.
 - c. It's a multi-year project involving lots of City departments.
 - d. Please let everyone know to contact me to get on my distribution list for this project if they would like to participate. I will be adding my FWNA distribution list to the San Pedro Corridor Project distribution list. Of course, people can also opt out of my distribution list, simply by making that request to me. I can be reached at: oweegon@bridgesofpeace.com; (505) 501-7000 cell; (505) 242-6141 office.

Meeting Attendees

<p>FWNA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Anna Woltman ◆ Kathy Turner ◆ Georgia Newlin ◆ Ron Newlin ◆ Colton R. Dean ◆ Joslyn Hidalgo ◆ Liz Bennett ◆ Richard Wood ◆ Jim Farmin ◆ Mary Ryland ◆ Rick Huff ◆ Patty Keane ◆ Patricia Stauber 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sharon Lawson ◆ Andrew Davis ◆ Ken Price ◆ Nancy Feight ◆ Laura Feight ◆ Hal Kissinger ◆ Phyllis Kissinger ◆ Reneé Gruet ◆ Julie Kirkpatrick ◆ Paul Sanchez <p>CABQ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lt. Rich Evans, APD
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