

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Yvette A <yvette04a@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** Penalzoza, David; eComment; Lopez, Jessie; Hernandez, Johnathan; Mendoza, Nelida; Bacerra, Phil; Phan, Thai; Sarmiento, Vicente  
**Subject:** SAPAAL Is Needed

Dear City Council,

It has come to my attention that not everyone agrees that having the Santa Ana PAAL program open is beneficial to both the students and the community that it is serving here in Santa Ana. This could not be any more wrong from the truth and I consider myself an example of how great of a change it can create to a child's life.

I started attending the PAAL program in 2007 when I was in second grade and since then it became my second home. The Police Officer and staff motivated me to become the best version of myself, challenging me to have the best grades, and participate in all types of activities from outdoors camping trips to indoors musicals at the Segerstrom Center of the Arts. Exposing me to another world, without the exposure I wouldn't know it was there. I would look forward to meeting outside the program hours dressed up and taken to these musical performances. Lining up on a Saturday and waiting for us to go to the LA Galaxy soccer game. I was able to attend the SAPAAL program while Officer Tom was still the director and it was then when I created the best relationships not only with the staff but also with Officer Tom. To this day even though he is now retired he has been able and more than willing to help me out when I needed help the most while attending college as a first-generation student. He created such an amazing environment for all students to participate in and because of it I had the best memories growing up being able to do things that without the program I would have probably never done. An example would be when we would go to Sequoia National park for a week and camp in the cabins, this really took us all out of our comfort zone and demonstrated how beautiful nature is. It is because of experiences like this that I was able to dream big and decided that for college I would move out, which I was able to do when I began my journey at UC San Diego. This would have not been possible without the support and help from all the staff at SAPAAL who helped tremendously on all my journey through college applications because as a first generation college student they were my source of help that I needed when my school wasn't there too. Even though many might not believe that kids and cops should associate, I believe otherwise because they truly changed my life and now they are doing the same to my younger siblings who are now also a part of the Police Athletic & Activity League here in Santa Ana.

Respectfully,

Yvette Acosta  
Santa Ana Alumni.  
University of California, San Diego, Public Health Major

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Victor Payan <vpayan@alumni.stanford.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:56 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Cc:** !City Clerk; Ridge, Kristine; Soto, Daniel  
**Subject:** Request to Table Agenda Item #22: Cypress FS staff recommendation does NOT reflect community input

Hello, City Council Members,

As a resident of Pacific Park, I am writing to strongly urge the City Council to table Agenda Item #22 to prevent a travesty in relation to the use of the Cypress Fire Station, because the staff recommendation DOES NOT reflect community input or requested use for the space. Say NO to the use of the Cypress Fire Station as a PAAL location by the Santa Ana Police Department.

I participated in the community effort to save the Cypress Fire Station for community use and also attended community input sessions regarding desired use of the space.

A large portion of the community input focused on using the Cypress Fire Station for the following purposes:

- A Digital Library
- A Community Technology Center
- Bridging the digital divide with computer and internet resources
- Educational programs for youth and adults
- Career development programs for youth and adults
- Arts and culture events
- Community meeting and event space

This was the prevailing view of the community input, and is alignment with recommended use of the building by former Parks & Rec and Library Director Gerardo Mouet that goes back to 2006.

This was expressed more recently at the Pacific Park Neighborhood Association's June 2022 meeting where community input on the Cypress Fire Station was on the agenda. As you know, the Cypress Fire Station is located in the Pacific Park Neighborhood.

I left that meeting feeling sure that the input of the community was recorded by the staff and would be included in the recommendation to City Council.

You can understand my surprise when I saw that the staff recommendation for the Cypress Fire Station included NONE of these recommendations from the community and instead prioritized use for the Santa Ana Police Department's PAAL program.

While a small but forceful number of individuals has been pushing for PAAL use of the building, I have noted in a previous communication to the City and staff that these individuals engaged in concerted efforts to silence and stifle community input that was not in favor of the Cypress Fire Station as a PAAL location. Individuals who DO NOT RESIDE in the Pacific Park Neighborhood were among the strongest advocates for SAPD use of the Cypress Fire Station at the Pacific Park Neighborhood Association meeting.

I have also demonstrated how this seems to be coordinated and in cahoots with the SAPD themselves. The SAPD's involvement in disenfranchising community members from use of a public building in their community would be highly unscrupulous and unethical behavior, and should be investigated.

Additionally, at the August 2022 Pacific Park Neighborhood Association meeting, the SAPD announced that they would be launching the PAAL program in the Roosevelt Walker Community Center. While this announcement also caused concern, it makes no sense that the SAPD needs TWO PAAL locations in Pacific Park. Therefore, staff should NOT have recommended SAPD use of the Cypress Fire Station.

Because of these alarming issues and irregularities, I strongly urge you to table Agenda Item #22 and explore other uses for the Cypress Fire Station that are more in line with what the majority of the community input requested and needs.

I also urge you to direct City staff to engage the Santa Ana Unified School District, Santa Ana College and the Santa Ana Public Library on possible partnerships to deliver critical educational, technology and career development training at the space.

Given the aforementioned facts, I am sure you will agree that Agenda Item #22 as recommended should not be approved. Please vote to table the item as written in order to create a recommendation for use of the Cypress Fire Station that is not a sham and a waste of a valuable opportunity to provide critical digital resources to Santa Ana residents of all ages.

Do not hesitate to contact me at 619-701-0073 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Victor Payan

Pacific Park Resident  
Santa Ana Arts Leader

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Tim Johnson <tjohnson@jlkrlp.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:43 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Cc:** Sarmiento, Vicente; Lopez, Jessie; Hernandez, Johnathan; Bacerra, Phil; Phan, Thai; Penaloza, David; Mendoza, Nelida  
**Subject:** Item 22 (8.16.22 council agenda)

Mayor, MPT, and Council...with regards to Item 22 tonight on the Cypress Fire Station, I would encourage you to not limit the discussion to just either a 1) PAAL center or 2) leased out to a non-profit. I think we should speak with the community to determine what they are truly needing in the area. This may include a PAAL center, a new library, a new digital library and e-services space, etc...Further, I do not think we should only be looking at PAAL or leasing to an outside group. We have a great Library and P&R department that may be able to speak into this space if provided the time, space, and money.

It is my understanding that there is a PAAL not too far away at Newhope that is not yet really fully functioning for very long. Do we need another in this area? Are they serving a new population of youth? Perhaps they are expanding the age that they are seeking to provide activities for beyond ages 8 to 11. With the main library in Civic Center closing for renovations, does the city have a plan for providing library services for our youth and residents? Perhaps this Cypress space would be a good thing to consider. These are questions that I have and I believe others may also have which would be helpful to know the answers too.

Or, maybe there is room for multiple uses at Cypress. Perhaps a digital library, community meeting space, senior services/craft hours, youth craft hours, office hours for PAAL, tutoring time, STEM projects, etc...we should not limit our thinking but instead expand it for the best use of the community. Multit-use space that can be dynamically changed based on the needs of the community may not be what has been done in the past but may be what is needed in the future. At a minimum, I believe we should at least consider the ability to expand library services into this unique space for the benefit of our community.

I pray that we make a good educated decision that is best for the community and not one that is made quickly without consideration of alternatives. The Cypress Firehouse is a unique historic space that deserves respect and consideration.



Proudly part of the **PKF** global family



**Tim Johnson, CPA**  
*Partner*

☎ (949) 860-9892

📠 (714) 743-1065

✉ tjohnson@jlkrlp.com

2601 Main Street, Suite 580, Irvine, CA 92614

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## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Thomas Anthony Gordon <thomas.anthony.gordon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:30 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 22

City Council & Staff,

Please consider this email in support of Agenda Item 22.

Please rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station so as to provide much needed programing for our communities Youth and Seniors.

Your support is appreciated.

Respectfully,  
Thomas Anthony Gordon

Respectfully,

Thomas Anthony Gordon

**Wojaczynski, Brittany**

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**From:** Thomas.A.Gordon <thomas.a.gordon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:27 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 22

Please consider this email as my support for Agenda Item 22. Please rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station and use it for programs that support our youth, seniors and community at large.

Your support for this item is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Thomas Anthony Gordon

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Dora Lopez <lopez4080@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:07 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #22

### PAAL PROGRAM & SENIOR PROGRAM FOR THE CYPRESS STREET FIRE STATION

Dear City Council,

I am emailing you today in support of Agenda item 22.1 which would direct the city council to rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station into a new PAAL center and provide programs for our Seniors too. I believe this center would greatly benefit the youth and seniors in the city and provide them with a safe environment to engage in sports, mentoring, homework, senior assistance along with many other recreational activities that would no doubt provide an overall positive outlet in our community. This would also aid in developing community trust between it and the Santa Ana Police Department as children and residents will interact with SAPD personal. As a resident in this city and your constituent, I direct you to vote in favor of item 22.1 and make this much needed PAAL center a reality at the Cypress Street Fire Station.

Thank You

Dora Lopez  
(Madison Park Neighborhood)

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Javier Mendoza <kimpaul04@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1:51 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Ítem # 22

Dear City Council,

I am emailing you today in support of Agenda item 22 which would direct the city council to rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station into a new PAAL center and provide programs for our Seniors too. I believe this center would greatly benefit the youth and seniors in the city and provide them with a safe environment to engage in sports, mentoring, homework, senior programs along with many other recreational activities that would no doubt provide an overall positive outlet in our community. This would also aid in developing community trust between it and the Santa Ana Police Department as children and residents will interact with SAPD personal. As a resident in this city and your constituent, I direct you to vote in favor of item 22 and make this much needed PAAL center a reality at the Cypress Street Fire Station.

Thank You

Guillermina Cedeño  
Madison Park Neighborhood



## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** tango1mikemike@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 2:06 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Old Fire Station Proposed Usage

Good afternoon. I am writing on behalf of Pacific Park Neighborhood Association: Formerly Eastside. First of all, I want to be critical of those individuals making important and life changing decisions for the residents of Pacific Park. And at times, those deciding policy in our neighborhood do live in our community or even in Santa Ana. I do include present community members who live in Santa Ana, for they tend to be the catalyst of most problems here in Santa Ana: They have a moral directive to unite us: Not to divide us. And the old firehouse; what to do question? Is a perfect example of this. I do suggest actions are being implemented based on: What is good for my political career; or what special interest that supports me want. Decisions should be on real intellectual, and analytical thinking.

Decision based on personal interest, and emotion is a discredit on local government operations.

Here in Pacific Park, we have had serious discussion on what is the best use of the old fire station on Cypress St. is not a SAPD PALL location. We suggest a more viable solution would be Digital Library. The Digital Library would be a tremendous asset to our area based on how close we are to downtown 4th St. The downtown is now transitioning to an artist area, and a digital library would complement the downtown area, and afford new opportunities for all residents of Santa Ana. We to empower our residents to become involved in what happens where they live. To have a direct voice in decision making.

Thank You Mark I Lopez

EMPOWER not DISENFRANCHISE

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Ceci Iglesias <iglesias4saud@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1:59 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** PAAL PROGRAM & SENIOR PROGRAM FOR THE CYPRESS STREET FIRE STATION

Dear City Council,

I am emailing you today in support of Agenda item 22.1 which would direct the city council to rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station into a new PAAL center and provide programs for our Seniors too. I believe this center would greatly benefit the youth and seniors in the city and provide them with a safe environment to engage in sports, mentoring, homework, senior assistance along with many other recreational activities that would no doubt provide an overall positive outlet in our community. This would also aid in developing community trust between it and the Santa Ana Police Department as children and residents will interact with SAPD personnel. As a resident in this city and your constituent, I direct you to vote in favor of item 22.1 and make this much needed PAAL center a reality at the Cypress Street Fire Station.

Thank You

Cecilia Iglesias  
(Windsor Village NA)


6You, Gabriella Lemus, Mike Tardif and 3 others

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Cecilia "Ceci" Iglesias

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*and as such may therefore be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the Act.*

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**Wojaczynski, Brittany**

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**From:** Carl Benninger <benninger72@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1:55 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Support Item 22

I would like to add a few words of support for item 1 of item 22 on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Paal programs have been a great addition to the city and have helped many of our youth to develop into excellent citizens. The program is well developed and ready to go. Plus it will help to bring our city together which is something badly needed. It lets the youth see the good side of police not all negativeness put out by groups whose self interest is funding.

I also remember the mis-opportunity with the old downtown YMCA. It was repeatedly put out for bid and a number of nonprofits were awarded the bid. But year after year nothing ever developed. As stated, the PAAL program is a proven success ready to go. So please select item 1 of item 22

Carl Benninger  
President of Com-Link  
1829 W; Garry Ave  
Santa Ana, CA 92704

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Ginelle Hardy <ginelleann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:34 AM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Please VOTE YES on Agenda Item #22

Mayor Sarmiento, Mayor Pro Tem Bacerra, Councilmembers Mendoza, Penaloza, Phan, Lopez, and Hernandez,

Please VOTE YES on Agenda Item #22 to support a Digital Library & History Room and rehabilitation of the historic Cypress Fire Station facade.

A YES Vote on Item #22 will begin the process of providing additional educational, recreational & historical resources Citywide, and to the cultural resource needy and requesting this project South Main Street Community & neighborhoods.

Historic preservation of the historic Cypress Fire facade and location will provide a source of pride, respect and interest to the City, Community, Neighborhoods, South Main Street residents & visitors, tourists, historic preservation and Fire & Police community.

Please know there are neighbors, residents and communities that will undoubtedly eagerly pitch in to help to support and make this multifaceted project happen successfully!

Please VOTE YES on tonight's City Council Agenda Item #22.

Thank you,

Ginelle Hardy  
South Main Street Resident  
Historical Heninger Park Neighborhood, President Historic Resource Commissioner

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Ginelle Hardy <ginelleann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 11:23 AM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Yes! On Agenda Item #22

Mayor Sarmiento, Mayor Pro Tem Bacerra, Councilmembers Mendoza, Penaloza, Phan, Lopez, and Hernandez,

Please VOTE YES on Agenda Item #22 to support a Digital Library & History Room and rehabilitation of the historic Cypress Fire Station facade.

A YES Vote on Item #22 will begin the process of providing additional educational, recreational & historical resources Citywide, and to the cultural resource needy and requesting this project South Main Street Community & neighborhoods.

Historic preservation of the historic Cypress Fire facade and location will provide a source of pride, respect and interest to the City, Community, Neighborhoods, South Main Street residents & visitors, tourists, historic preservation and Fire & Police community.

Please know there are neighbors, residents and communities that will undoubtedly eagerly pitch in to help to support and make this multifaceted project happen successfully!

Please VOTE YES on tonight's City Council Agenda Item #22.

Thank you,

Ginelle Hardy  
South Main Street Resident  
Historical Heninger Park Neighborhood, President Historic Resource Commissioner

**Wojaczynski, Brittany**

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**From:** selicadiaz@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #22

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

As a resident and Neighborhood Leader of the Pacific Park neighborhood, I 100% support renovating the Cypress St Fire Station which I have personally witnessed fall into disrepair.

I also support using the location for the PAAL program and a Senior community center to provide much needed services to the residents in our neighborhood.

I ask all of you to support this agenda item and invest in the Pacific Park Neighborhood.

Thank you,

Selica Díaz

Pacific Park Neighborhood Leader

Ward 2

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Ruben Alvarez <stayconnected2004@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1:37 PM  
**To:** eComment; Sarmiento, Vicente; Bacerra, Phil; Phan, Thai; Penaloza, David; Lopez, Jessie; Hernandez, Johnathan; Mendoza, Nelida  
**Subject:** Support of Cypress Station Digital Library and History Room

**Dear City Council,**

**As a resident of Santa Ana for 57 years, I support as well as many others in the community, the Cypress Station being converted into a much needed Digital Library and History Room in Santa Ana would benefit residents of ALL AGES. It would help our community access the internet, connect with local resources, learn about our history, It would also help students in the area much needed rebound and catch up from the pandemic in a safe and friendly environment. Our city needs to expand opportunities instead of limit them.**

**Sincerely yours,**

Ruben Alvarez, On-line Publisher  
Stay Connected OC  
~Orange County's Influential Marketer  
~Connect Relate Motivate  
*How May I Connect You?*

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** MARTY URIBE <martymd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 12:55 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #22

Dear City Council,

I am emailing you today in support of Agenda item 22.1 which would direct the city council to rehabilitate the Cypress Fire Station into a new PAAL center. I believe this center would greatly benefit the youth in the city and provide them with a safe environment to engage in sports, mentoring and homework assistance along with many other recreational activities that would no doubt provide an overall positive outlet for them for years to come. This would also aid in developing community trust between it and the Santa Ana Police Department as children in this program will interact with SAPD personal. As a resident in this city and your constituent, I direct you to vote in favor of item 22.1 and make this much needed PAAL center a reality at the Cypress Fire Station.

Thank You

Martina Moreno  
Ward 2

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**Wojaczynski, Brittany**

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**From:** John Ramirez <jpramirez714@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 12:49 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 22.1

Dear City Council,

I am emailing you today in support of Agenda item 22.1 which would direct the city council to rehabilitate the Cypress Street Fire Station into a new PAAL center and provide programs for our Seniors too. I believe this center would greatly benefit the youth and seniors in the city and provide them with a safe environment to engage in sports, mentoring, homework, senior assistance along with many other recreational activities that would no doubt provide an overall positive outlet in our community. This would also aid in developing community trust between it and the Santa Ana Police Department as children and residents will interact with SAPD personal. As a resident in this city and your constituent, I direct you to vote in favor of item 22.1 and make this much needed PAAL center a reality at the Cypress Street Fire Station.

Thank You,

John Ramirez  
Ward 2  
Resident in Santa Ana for 42 years.

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Danny Vega <vegadanny@live.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:20 AM  
**To:** eComment  
**Cc:** Lopez, Jessie  
**Subject:** Support for Agenda Item 22- Option 1: Santa Ana Council Meeting

Dear Santa Ana Council and Mayor,

I am sending this email in support of using the vacant Cypress Fire Station at 625 S Cypress Avenue as a new Police Athletic and Activities League (PAAL) Center (Item 22 of the agenda, option 1).

Besides all the great things that PAAL does with our youth, I believe that building a strong bond between our law enforcement and our community (especially the youth) is essential to having a safe community for generations to come.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Danny Vega

Resident of Ward 3

Lifelong Santa Ana Resident

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Sandra Pocha Peña <pocha@pocharte.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2022 8:25 AM  
**To:** Soto, Daniel; eComment  
**Cc:** !City Clerk; Perez, Daisy; Mendoza, Nelida; Ridge, Kristine; Macedonio, Margarita; Sarmiento, Vicente  
**Subject:** REVISED ECOMMENT: COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM 22: CYPRESS CENTER  
**Attachments:** Cypress Fire Station Presentation.pdf  
  
**Importance:** High

Good Morning Daniel,

Attached is my revised Cypress Fire Station presentation in PDF form.

Please ensure this new attached presentation is placed into the public record for today's City Council Agenda Item 22.

Also ensure this presentation is distributed to our Councilmembers.

To facilitate understanding, I have included links to my BiblioTECH case study below.

Kind Regards,

-- Sandra  
Sandra "Pocha" Peña Sarmiento  
Pacific Park / Eastside Neighborhood Leader  
\*\*\* Links to BiblioTECH case study \*\*\*

BiblioTECH Website:

<https://bexarbibliotech.org/>

BiblioTECH Architects:

<https://alta-architects.com/portfolio/bibliotech/>

BiblioTech News Stories:

<https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Guide-to-first-all-digital-public-library-Bexar-4792918.php>

BiblioTech Videos:

<https://youtu.be/L4F9d-X6l4U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtvtyxreYlc>

On Mon, 15 Aug 2022 18:48:12 -0400, "Sandra Pocha Peña" <pocha@pocharte.com> wrote:

Hi Daniel,

Thank you for reviewing the upcoming 8/16 City Council Agenda Item 22, the Cypress Fire Station. Please ensure that City Council receives this email and PPT in their Council Packet and that my comments and presentation are included in the public record.

As one of the Neighborhood Leaders for Pacific Park / Eastside, and the former chair of our Arts and Culture Commission, I have seen this Digital Library/History Room project garner much broad-based support from Santa Ana residents since 2006, when it was first formerly presented at a public Arts Commission meeting by the Parks, Rec and Library director.

A Digital Library and History Room would fit neatly into the Cypress Fire Station footprint, helping our underserved Pacific Park residents bridge the "Digital Divide," while also cultivating a love for Literacy and our City's rich history in our Young, Senior Citizens and Adults throughout the Eastside.

The historic Cypress Fire Station presents a rare opportunity to fulfill a critical community need that aligns with current City priorities.

Attached please find my CYPRESS CENTER PRESENTATION on powerpoint. It details the potential this historic building has to support and activate much needed services in our long-suffering neighborhood.

I'll send the presentation as a PDF in a separate email.

Kind Regards,

-- SPS

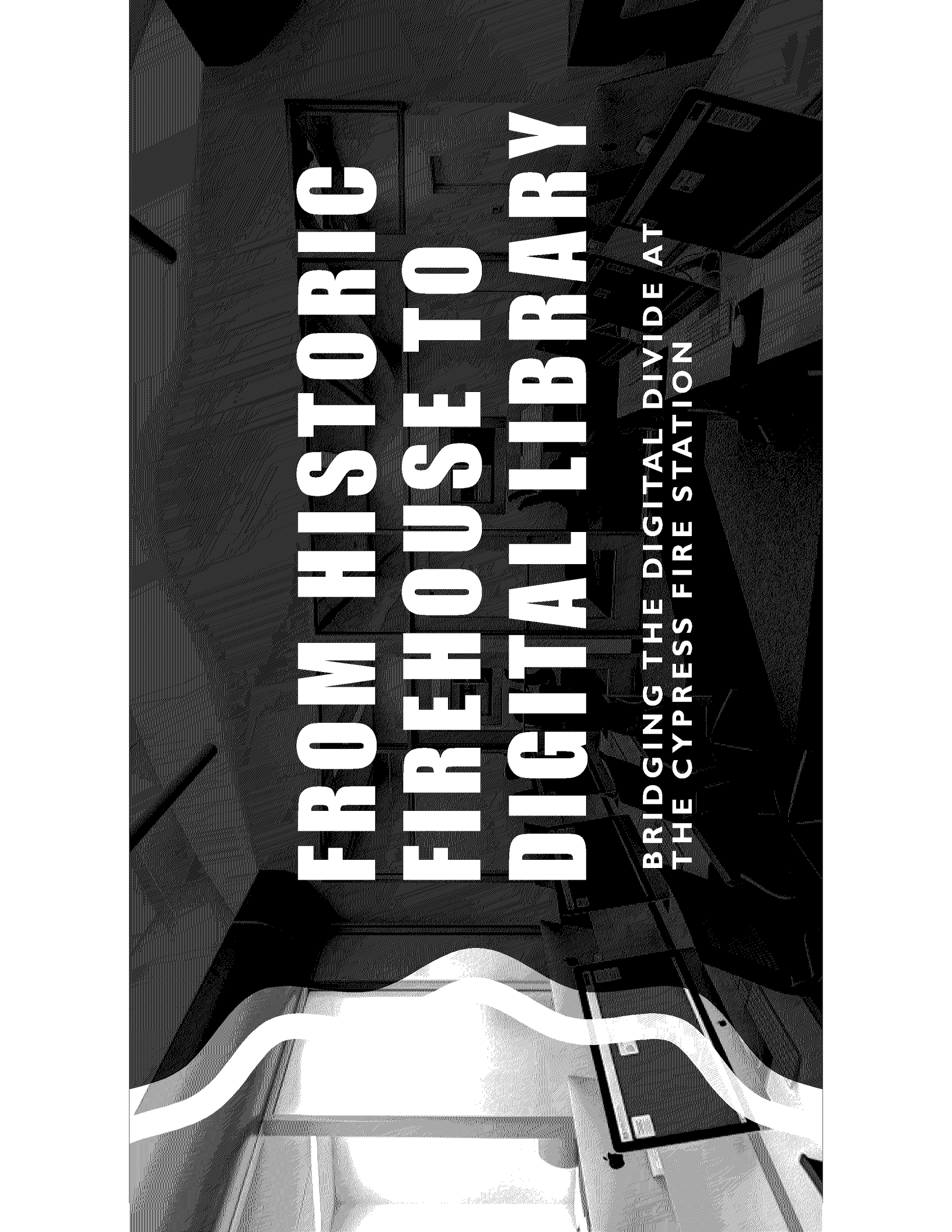
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Sandra "Pocha" Peña Sarmiento  
"Frontier Arts & Hybrid Culture"

[www.pocharte.com](http://www.pocharte.com)

[www.ocfilmfiesta.org](http://www.ocfilmfiesta.org)

714.417.0073



# FROM HISTORIC FIREHOUSE TO DIGITAL LIBRARY

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AT  
THE CYPRESS FIRE STATION

# **CYPRESS FIRE STATION 625 S. CYPRESS, SANTA ANA**



- Since 2006, members of Pacific Park / Eastside have asked Staff for guidance in transforming the Cypress Fire Station into a Digital Library with a History Room and Community Meeting Spaces.
- As recently as the June 14, 2022, Pacific Park Neighborhood Association Meeting, City Staff made a presentation on the Cypress Station and took suggestions on future uses. A majority of the residents asked for a Digital Library, Technology or Cultural Center.
- Staff's current recommendations on the Cypress Station do not reflect the desires of our South Main Residents for a Digital Library and Historical Archive administered by Santa Ana's Public Library as its first satellite branch in decades.
- On August 9, 2022, the SAPD announced the launch of a Police Athletic and Activities League (PAAL) program a few blocks away from the Cypress Station, at the Roosevelt/Walker Community Center, making another PAAL in the neighborhood redundant.
- Leasing the Cypress Station to a non-profit is how the building was damaged in the first place. When DC based Rebuilding Together left, Staff was unable to bring in another tenant which resulted in the Cypress Station declining to its present state in only 3 years.
- This City-owned building presents a rare opportunity to fulfill a critical community need that aligns with current City priorities.

# **SANTA ANA NEEDS A DIGITAL LIBRARY & HISTORY ROOM**

Since 2006, the Parks, Rec & Library Director and Local Residents from Pacific Park / Eastside requested a Digital Library and History Room at the Cypress Fire Station.

This facility should be administered by the Santa Ana Public Library.

This facility would include:

- All Ages access to digital books
- 30+ Apple Desktops & WiFi
- Printer, Photocopier & 3D Printer
- Podcast Studio & Zine Production Space
- Public Meeting Rooms
- History Room Archives



# A LIBRARY SERVES ALL AGES AND HAS BROAD-BASED SUPPORT

## **BENEFITS**

- Brings much needed amenities, web access, and technology to one of Santa Ana's most underserved neighborhoods
- Promotes Youth Education, Career Development, Access to Technology and City History
- Helps Senior Citizens Access Online Resources, Health Appointments and Connect with Family
- Assists Adults & Parents with connecting to Online Resources, Workforce Development, Family Programs and Streaming Entertainment

## **POSSIBLE PARTNERS**

- Santa Ana Public Library
- Santa Ana Unified School District
- Santa Ana Youth Commission
- Federal & State Library Funds
- Federal & State Technology Initiatives
- Public / Private Partnerships for Digital Equipment, Operational Funds, & Programs



# STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS PROMOTE REDUNDANCY & PAST FAILURES

## BUILD A NEW POLICE ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES LEAGUE (PAAL)

- Redundant service. There is a new PAAL program a few blocks away from the Cypress Station, at Roosevelt / Walker Community Center, along with a new SAPD Sub-Station.
- Limited population served. Only ages 8-11 may apply to enter program.
- More expensive and serves an extremely limited population compared to other option.
- PAAL proposal already rejected. This option was previously presented to City Council and voted down.

## SEEK PROPOSALS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS AS TENANTS

- Previous lease by DC based non-profit “Rebuilding Together” ended with the Cypress Station left vacant. Staff was unable to find a suitable tenant. This Public Asset was nearly destroyed in only three years of Staff stewardship.
- Cypress Station has been challenged in providing benefit to Eastside Community.
- Vetting process for public assets are often subverted by inside players. It's important for a trusted City department manage the space to ensure equity, transparency and local benefit.



**GIVE PACIFIC  
PARK RESIDENTS  
AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO PROSPER**

# **CASE STUDY: BIBLIOTECH SAN ANTONIO, TX**

## **BiblioTECH Website:**

<https://bexarbibliotech.org/>

## **BiblioTECH Architects:**

<https://alta-architects.com/portfolio/bibliotech/>

## **BiblioTech News Stories:**

<https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Guide-to-first-all-digital-public-library-Bexar-4792918.php>

## **BiblioTech Videos:**

<https://youtu.be/L4F9d-X6I4U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvtytxreYlc>





# **Pacific Park**

## **Neighborhood Association Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

**Roosevelt Walker Community Center  
816 E. Chestnut Avenue, Santa Ana**

### **Agenda**

- 1) **New Funding and Community Ideas for Historic Cypress Fire Station Property** by Suzi Furjanic, City Public Works Agency
- 2) **Standard Avenue Project** Update by Gilbert Castillo, City Public Works Agency
- 3) **Santa Ana Police Department** Update
- 4) **Neighborhood Projects** Updates:
  - **Saturday, June 25th** 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. **Concert at the Pacific & Resource Fair** near 401 E. McFadden Ave. (event is free)
  - **Street Topper Signs, Entryway Monuments**, other updates

## **PRESENTATION BY SANDRA PEÑA SARMIENTO**

Pacific Park Neighborhood  
Leader

Historic Resources  
Commissioner

Multidisciplinary Artist

Pacific Park Resident 40+ years

[pocha@pocharte.com](mailto:pocha@pocharte.com)

\*\* Please see the following  
Addendums for info on Parking,  
Construction Notes, and  
Residency Program \*\*

# ADDENDUM 1 – PARKING OPTIONS

- The City owns approx 26 parking spaces near Cypress Station on South Main, near Cubbon, behind Northgate Market which can be made available for library use.
- South Main parking spaces can be traded to Dollar Tree property owner in exchange for 12 Dollar Tree parking spaces directly across from Cypress Station.
- Dollar Tree owner can lease or donate use of 12 parking spaces to Cypress Center.
- Property located at 617 S. Cypress can be purchased which would provide approx 8 parking spaces.



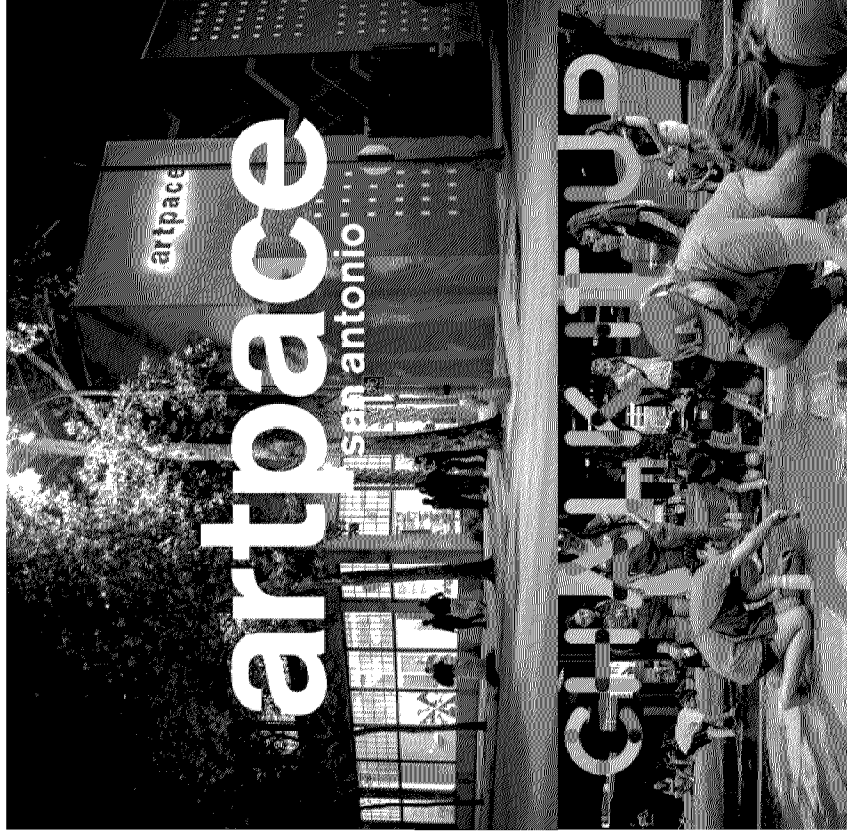
# ADDENDUM 2 – CONSTRUCTION NOTES

- North Wall of the Cypress Fire Station may need to be demolished and moved one foot South in order to comply with current property line easements.
- If the property next door at 617 S. Cypress is purchased by the City, the North Wall would not have to be demolished. Plus the City would gain approx. 8 new parking spaces and a 2 bedroom residency space.
- The current owners of 617 S. Cypress have expressed an interest in selling their property to the City of Santa Ana.



# ADDENDUM 3 – RESIDENCY PROGRAM

- Staff has raised concern that a residential program may need to be a part of Cypress Station's future, due to security concerns.
- A creative Arts Residency can be set up for Civic Arts Engagement.
- ArtPace in San Antonio, Texas, has a residency composed of one Local Artist and one Guest Artist from outside of the City to live and collaborate throughout the course of a season, culminating in a public art show that invites the community in.
- An Arts Residency is similar to the program in place at Grand Central Art Center.
- OCMA may be a great partner for a new Art Residency Program in Santa Ana.



## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Jaylene Anaya <anaya.jaylene@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 11:54 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Agenda item #22

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers

As a residents of Pacific Park Neighborhood, we are in full support of having The PAAL Program and Senior Program at The Cypress Street Fire Station. The Program will greatly benefit our community's seniors and youth. We are look forward to having these programs to benefit our community.

Thank you,

Jaylene A.



**Wojaczynski, Brittany**

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**From:** Daisy Solis <daisysolis1990@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 11:15 AM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** PAAL PROGRAM

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers

We residents of Pacific Park Neighborhood are in full support of having The PAAL Program and The Senior Program at The Cypress Street Fire Station. The Programs will greatly benefit our community's seniors and youth. We look forward to working together and having these programs in our community.

Thank you,

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** marco anaya <marcoacr7@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:52 AM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** Pacific Park neighborhood

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers

As a residents of Pacific Park Neighborhood, we are in full support of having The PAAL Program and Senior Program at The Cypress Street Fire Station. The Program will greatly benefit our community's seniors and youth. We are look forward to having these programs to benefit our community.

Thank you

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Ryan Jim <jimryan8113@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Subject:** #22 Agenda Item

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers

We residents of Pacific Park Neighborhood are in full support of having The PAAL Program and The Senior Program at The Cypress Street Fire Station. The Programs will greatly benefit our community's seniors and youth. We look forward to working together and having these programs in our community.

Thank you,

Ryan Jimenez

## Wojaczynski, Brittany

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**From:** Victor Payan <vpayan@alumni.stanford.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 2:21 PM  
**To:** Macedonio, Margarita  
**Cc:** Soto, Daniel; Ridge, Kristine; eComment; Gomez, Daisy  
**Subject:** Complaint: Stifling of Community Input re: Cypress Fire Station

Hello, Margarita,

I am writing you to register a formal complaint and bring to your attention a new instance at this week's Pacific Park Neighborhood Association meeting regarding attempts to stifle discussion and input about an important matter on the agenda relating to the Santa Ana Police Department. I brought this to your colleague's attention at Tuesday's meeting and requested that he communicate my concerns to you.

During the public discussion of the SAPD's plans to commence operations at the Roosevelt Walker Center, I was asking several questions about the project when a member of the audience aggressively insisted I stop talking, under the premise that I was preventing others from speaking. There were no hands raised or indications that anyone else was trying to speak on the issue at the time. To the contrary, everyone in the room was listening intently.

This occurred prior to the SAPD representative having the opportunity to answer my questions. As no one was waiting to speak, I finished my questions, and the officer was allowed to answer.

The community input followed for several additional questions, as people were interested in learning more about this proposal. Selica, who was running the meeting, rushed discussion to a close and moved on to the other agenda items. The discussion was not inordinately long, and the entire meeting was less than an hour in duration, so there was no need to close discussion before community input and questions were over.

As you recall, I brought to your attention the incident at the June 14 Pacific Park Neighborhood Association meeting, which you witnessed, of Selica Diaz trying to stifle discussion and input regarding plans for the SAPD to bring the PAAL program to the Cypress Fire Station. She aggressively interrupted me and tried to stop me from talking in the same manner as the individual at this week's meeting. In both cases, I asserted my right to provide input and for the community to be allowed to provide input and ask questions without coercion or intimidation to stop, from Selica or anyone else.

At that time, I indicated to you that such egregious and inappropriate stifling of community discussion undermined the basic function of the Neighborhood Associations. I also indicated it was especially inappropriate for the co-leader of the Park Neighborhood Association to railroad the community into a situation that they do not want.

This is now two times that I bring to your attention attempts to stifle community discussion around SAPD issues relating to our neighborhood. Additionally, after each incident I have also witnessed Selica approach community members in private discussions that appear to be "explaining" the issue to lobby support for the SAPD. This is also unacceptable from a Neighborhood Association leader.

The entire meeting lasted approximately an hour, and so there was no urgent need to cut the discussion short. This clearly appears to be a tactic to end discussion regarding questions to the police. As the SAPD officers themselves indicated, there are issues with trust of the police in the community.

It does not serve to repair relations with the community when public discussion is stifled and SAPD priorities are inappropriately lobbied or rushed through by the Pacific Park Neighborhood Association co-leader. Rather, this activity appears to point to Selica acting in cahoots with the SAPD to interfere with the open public discourse at the meetings and promote the appearance of widespread support for the police appropriation of our critical, and scarce, community spaces.

Additionally, some of the people at the meeting most vocally in favor of the police utilizing both the Cypress Fire Station and the Roosevelt Walker facility for the PAAL program DO NOT RESIDE IN THE PACIFIC PARK NEIGHBORHOOD, and do not represent our residents or their views on this matter.

Finally, I want to include the fact that Pacific Park Neighborhood Association leader Selica Diaz's husband spoke out against using the Cypress Fire Station as a digital library for community use, because, in his words, it would increase criminal activity in the area due to criminals using library computers to commit crimes.

This deplorable and desperate fear-mongering is another indication that honest and important community discussion on this matter are being thwarted by an organized, coordinated effort to railroad a perception of community support for the SAPD use of the Cypress Fire Station. It is hard to believe that the SAPD would not also be involved in stifling and steering discussion, given that the SAPD officer at the June 14 meeting took the opportunity at that time to lobby for the SAPD use of the Cypress Fire Station, while there to present on a different agenda item.

To recap the community input regarding use of the Cypress Fire Station, these are ideas the community presented:

- Digital library and technology resources
- Programming accessible to all ages, from children to seniors
- Technology to access social service, job and civic resources and opportunities
- Technology training and bridging the digital divide
- Public meeting spaces for community events, classes and gatherings
- Arts and culture events and programs

As you were at the June 14 meeting, I am sure you can confirm this community input for the use of the Cypress Fire Station.

In regards to the "police substation" use promulgated by Selica, many residents felt that a substation would be better suited for one of the currently vacant storefronts in the Dollar Tree lot, which would give police **direct eyes** on the section of Chestnut where illegal activity is a constant presence.

Placing a substation inside the Cypress Fire Station would do very little to stop crime on the street compared to a substation literally looking right at the crime taking place 24 hours a day.

I am writing to you to communicate my gross disappointment in the lack of integrity of the discussion regarding the SAPD matters at the Pacific Park Neighborhood Association meetings and the complicity of Selica Diaz to stifle public input.

As such, I am writing to lodge a formal complaint against Selica and look forward to this activity ceasing to be a problem so that we can protect honest and full community input for our diverse Pacific Park residents.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 714-417-0073 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Victor Payan  
Pacific Park Resident  
Community Arts Leader