

PORTER RANCH  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting #1

December 17, 2015  
Porter Ranch Community School

NOTES

1. Meeting called to order at 6.08pm by *Paula Cracium, Chair*

2. Self Introductions of Members

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Chun	Christine	Principal's Designee	Castlebay Lane Charter Elementary
Cracium (CHAIR)	Paula	President	Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council
DeGonia	Jarrold	Representative	Supervisor Mike Antonovich
Ekchian	Vivian	Northwest District Superintendent	LAUSD
Forry	Craig	President	Porter Ranch Estates
Ghadban	Rana	Executive Director	Chatsworth/Porter Ranch Chamber
Johnson	Tom	President	Northridge West Neighborhood Council
Lee	John	Representative	Councilmember Mitchell Englander
Melvin	Mary	Principal	Porter Ranch Community School
Najm	Issam	President	Northridge Park HOA
Pakucko	Matt	President	Save Porter Ranch
Stanton	Jane	Executive Director	North Valley YMCA
Van der Valk	Andre	President	Chatsworth Neighborhood Council
<i>Bwarie</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Executive Director</i>	<i>PRCAC</i>

3. PRCAC Charge & Member Oath: *Councilmember Mitchell Englander*

Mitch Englander thanked everyone for being there and committing to serve. He reiterated that the idea of forming this is that we have a regular conduit of information. He acknowledged that all members of the PRCAC have their organization's agenda, but that gets checked at the door. "This is the time when we all step up in our respective roles to work together." He acknowledged that members were seated based on their titles and organizations they represent. The Councilman then administered an oath for all members.

He then introduced John Bwarie as Executive Director for the CAC and asked for any concern with him serving in that role. None was offered. He indicated that the Executive Director is paid

for by SoCalGas but works for and reports to the Committee to support their work. He gave examples of other situations where this kind of arrangement is made, like the LA Police Commission and their Executive Director.

John Bwarie then introduced himself to the Committee.

#### 4. Roles and Responsibilities:

Paula asked John to review Roles and Responsibilities prepared for the Committee. Paula then asked for comments, concerns, etc. Matt asked if the member had to be the same person at each meeting or could there be alternates. Paula indicated that it did need to be the same person for the consistency and effectiveness of the committee and alternates were only available for the two school principals, for obvious reasons. The Committee accepted the document as presented.

#### 5. Review Mission & Vision Statement

Paula indicated that a mission and vision was put together as basic guidelines so the Committee makes sure to stay on target and not sidetracked from what we felt was initially most important.

John Bwarie reviewed the document, and Paula asked for questions. Craig asked if all materials are public. Paula indicated yes, and John said he would email out the updated version of documents passed out. Issam asked if any of this info confidential. Paula responded that most information would be public, but there may be rare occasions where personal information would need to be respected and kept private. John reiterated that anything they hand out hard copy will also be provided digitally. There were no other comments on the Mission/Vision Statement.

#### 4. Establish Goals and Objectives

Paula offered some goals for future meetings and for the Committee. She asked if there was a need for a website, and the committee agreed there was. Issam said it would be a good place where people can go where they can get trustworthy information all in one place. Paula asked for a list of contacts from all governmental agencies, gas companies, AQMD, etc. The Committee asked for a roster of members but no link to personal contact information. Each Member would be linked to their organizations site. Paula asked that responses be dealt with in a timely manner. Paula also suggested an FAQ page. John indicated he would scope out a site in the next 48 hours and start working on getting it set up.

Paula then brought up a live webcast as something that would be great to show transparency and allow others to view without having to have them in the room. The Committee generally agreed the liked the idea and asked John to pursue it.

Paula then talked about open meetings, indicated she didn't want an open meeting to prevent the committee from being the working committee it needs to be. Jarrod indicated he saw this committee as a conduit to pass information on to public. Open meetings may be a challenge to meet that goal. Issam said that if someone wants to sit and listen, should be able to if they

want to. Craig asked if we'll always have officers here to deal with people. Paula indicated they would not. Concern was raised that if people were there and there was no public comment, they may become disruptive with such an emotional issue. The consensus was to keep meetings focused on the committee and provide alternatives to a full public hearing-style meeting. There would be no public comment, and the issue would be revisited if the meeting became unproductive. Also, the webcast

Paula then asked how often we should meeting. Matt suggested that in the beginning, meetings should be weekly; when things under control, then biweekly. Paula – think we were talking about 6 months conclusion committee. The committee agreed with this approach and would review meeting schedule as time goes on. Paula asked if daytime was an option, but Issam indicated it was not possible for him to arrive before 5:30pm. Discussion of what day of the week might work at 6pm and Tuesday for the next two weeks (during the holidays) and then Thursdays starting in January. When asked when notes might be sent out since it would be an evening meeting, John reported that by 12noon the next day should be reasonable, if not earlier.

#### 5. Review CAC Policies and Procedures

John shared the Policies and Procedures. Considering the previous discussions and decisions, the document was updated from “meeting are not open” to “meetings are not open to public comment.” The document was accepted as amended.

Paula then asked members for questions for the next meeting. Craig wanted to know if people could first try air filtration and then still have the option of relocating? Ideally, people would like to try filtration first and stay in their home. Gillian Wright of SoCalGas answered that, “Yes, you can try filtration and if it doesn't relieve your symptoms, you can relocate.” Residents can call claims dept. for this. The Relocation number is 404-497-6808. She indicated when residents call for relocation, they're following up with a contact asking if they would like to try the air filtration and ask to give it some time before making decision to relocate. They have plugin units and carbon filters. And they are seeking approval from the California Air Resources Board to try an air scrubber. The goal is to use systems that don't produce ozone, which could make symptoms worse. They have 2000 filters arriving next week, and currently, a 1000 requests. Installation by one contractor is approximately 8-10 per day, and more contractors are being brought on. People can hire their own contractor or install yourself, and they'll reimburse them. The best resource for determining which filter/system works is provided by the Air Resources Board. Activated carbon is the key, though. SoCalGas will provide information to the committee on these filters at the next meeting.

Andre asked who is complaining – what is the reach of the impacts. Gillian indicated they can't measure the concentrations of gas that we smell and that they're not the only cause of odors. They map and cross reference with AQMD based on their complaints, as well. They will bring a map of the outlined area next meeting. John Lee asked about the daily average output since October? Gillian said they could provide that. Gillian – looking at relocation requests or odor complaints. We're considering all requests. Craig brought up security concerns with empty homes, and Gillian indicated they are sharing information only with LAPD and working with

Capt. Marino from Devonshire Division. Relocated residents are alerted that such information would be shared with LAPD. Rana asked about help for businesses? Claims would handle such requests (213-244-5151) for business losses. Gillian said they could talk about what can be done to encourage people to still frequent those businesses.

Matt asked that since he has a home business but has moved out, can he still get a cleaner? Gillian will get answer. Tom asked the status of leak, and Gillian reviewed the information since it was leak discovered on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Matt asked about the status of the ODEX – biodegradable solution to breakdown the odor causing molecules; it could be sprayed in vicinity of odor. It breaks down the components. AQMD is evaluating, even though approved by the EPA. SoCalGas wants to make sure that AQMD, County Health and community are comfortable with it. They will bring the information to the Committee once the other two agency weigh in.

Issam asked if they were sure leak is coming from casing. Gillian responded that they are fairly certain, but that they have had multiple plans to resolve the issue, including reducing pressure, sinking a second relief well, and continued fluid pumping.. Reservoir engineers have used information based on sound readings, temperature, etc, and they're confident the leak is in the outer pipe. Gillian indicated she couldn't speculate, for market reasons, what they'd do in future as it relates to injection or not. But, they are reducing the pressure. She can affirm they will continue reducing the pressure but have to be prudent with regard to the commodity market in terms of what they say they're planning to do. It was asked how much gas do we need in storage to meet demand, and Gillian indicated it's not a precise calculation and a lot of different strategies are needed to address situation. She indicated that SoCalGas is confident they can reduce pressure without depleting the available gas to do what they need to do.

Issam asked about the increase in injection capacity recently. Gillian indicated there were approvals and the replacement turbines are under construction now and expected to be completed next October. They will bring someone to talk about turbines at a future meeting.

#### 6. Action Item Review

- a. LAPD would be invited to provide a security update.
- b. SoCalGas will provide information at the next meeting about the Turbine Replacement Construction, Air Filtration, a report on the daily average output since October, and a boundary/concentration map of the impacted areas.
- c. John would start working on the Website and securing locations for future meetings, though maybe not for the next one.

#### 7. Paula adjourned meeting at 8.09pm