



RANCHO PALOS VERDES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING DIVISION

GREEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary Report of the December 6, 2023 Meeting - 4:30 PM

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Members Present

Brandy Forbes, Director of Community Development, RPV

Amy Seeraty, Senior Planner, RPV

Nick Resich, Green Hills Director of Buildings and Park Maintenance

Steven Espolt, Green Hills Manager of Strategic Planning and Compliance

Chris Martin, Rolling Riviera HOA

Summary of Discussion

I. Introductions and Opening Remarks

II. Project & Construction Update/Questions and Comments

Green Hills (GH) Staff mentioned that they recently held the annual Harvest Festival, and the Let it Snow event at the site. The crematorium building that was approved by the City Council in February of this year (to house the crematorium that is currently existing in the Administration building) is currently in the Building & Safety plan check process. They also stated that they have approximately 2-3 months left to finish the Arroyo Vista project, which is located within Area 5 of the Memorial Park (which, along with Area 6, is used for spoils from burials, as well as the storage of burial vaults), close to the southern property line. They also stated that they did some cleanup of Areas 5 and 6 also adjacent to the south property line, in order to use the area for overflow parking for their events, and also to prepare the areas for the forecasted El Nino rains. They finally stated that they did some trimming of the top of hedge that was installed along the area between the Memorial Park and the adjacent properties to the south, in order to help it grow thicker horizontally. Mr. Martin stated that after they resolved an issue with watering the plants a few years ago, the hedge seems to be growing satisfactorily at this time, at least in the portion adjacent to his property.

Mr. Martin stated that he and at least another one of his neighbors were concerned about what seemed to be increased activity in this area, due to what they perceived as excessive and extensive backup beeping from the equipment on the site. Mr. Resich restated that

noise was from the completed preparing of that site for overflow parking and the expected winter rains, but that Mr. Martin and any other concerned neighbors should contact him in the future if they hear any noise that bothers them, especially during the busy time preparing the site October through December.

Mr. Martin also mentioned that the other item that his neighbors are still concerned about is any potential impacts from the proposed new crematorium building, which will house an existing crematorium that will be relocated from the existing Administration building. Mr. Martin said he had explained to the neighbors that the Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) governed the permits and air quality inspections for the crematorium, as they had in the past. Senior Planner Seeraty also mentioned that she had recently spoken with staff at SCAQMD, who stated that they had approved a permit in April 2023 for new replacement crematorium equipment which will be relocated into the new crematorium building once permits are obtained from Building & Safety. Mr. Martin inquired if they will be increasing their levels of cremation once the new building is constructed, and Mr. Resich stated that it will not be changing, as the SCAQMD sets a maximum limit to the number of cremations, which will remain the same.

Senior Planner Seeraty then asked if the additional work from October through December is completed annually at the site. Mr. Resich stated that the additional site preparation in Areas 5 and 6 typically occurs during this time, to compact the loose soils dumped here from burials. Mr. Martin stated that another one of his and his neighbors' concerns were that the future development in Areas 5 and 6 adjacent to their properties does not exceed the grade level set by the Master Plan and Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Resich said they will comply with the required conditions.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:58 PM.



GREEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary Report of the February 16, 2023 Meeting - 4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Members Present

Amy Seeraty, Senior Planner

Nick Resich, Green Hills Director of Buildings and Park Maintenance

Robin Macmorran, Rolling Hills Riviera Resident

Summary of Discussion

- I. Introductions and Opening Remarks**
- II. Project & Construction Update/Questions and Comments**

Discussion ensued about the proposed relocated crematory equipment. Robin Macmorran, a resident of the Rolling Hills Riviera asked if the equipment was a one stage or two stage. Mr. Resich of Green Hills stated that they have an afterburner to burn off more particulates, and this newer equipment was installed this year. Ms. Macmorran mentioned concerns about mercury and air pollutants and asked if Green Hills considered alkaline hydrolysis as an alternative to standard cremation. Mr. Resich stated that this has a different cost, as it is essentially liquid cremation, where the body is broken down by acid, and that Green Hills has looked into it, but don't foresee putting in that type of equipment at this time. He also stated that it is more expensive, and the remaining water goes down the drain into the sewer. A question was raised about the height of the chimney, but Mr. Resich said that is regulated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). He guessed that the current chimney could be approximately 40 feet in height.

No other issues were raised for discussion at this time.



GREEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary Report of the February 9, 2023 Meeting - 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Members Present

Amy Seeraty, Senior Planner
Nick Resich, Green Hills Director of Buildings and Park Maintenance
Dave Turner, Peninsula Verde HOA
Chris Martin, Rolling Hills Riviera HOA

Summary of Discussion

- I. Introductions and Opening Remarks**
- II. Project & Construction Update/Questions and Comments**

The conversation started with a discussion of the existing proposed crematory equipment which is proposed to be relocated into the proposed building that is going before the City Council on February 21, 2023. Mr. Resich of Green Hills stated that they are restricted on how much fuel they can use and are inspected by the Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

Mr. Martin asked how much the new equipment (recently installed to replace the old equipment in the Administration Building) will improve emissions and Mr. Resich said he would forward over that information to Mr. Martin. Ms. Seeraty also stated that she would send the available new equipment information to Mr. Turner also with a copy to Mr. Resich. Mr. Resich stated that there is a specific oxygen to gas mixture, which maximizes the combustion, which minimizes emissions. Mr. Turner asked if there is a sensor on the stack that records what is coming out. Mr. Resich stated that there is smart technology that opens and closes ducts, reduces smoke output, and reduces particulate matter. Mr. Resich also stated that Green Hills has an output machine which gathers reports and ties them to each cremation. Mr. Martin asked why they needed to move the existing crematorium to a new building and Mr. Resich stated that it was a better facility for family to observe. Mr. Martin asked if there was any sound associated with the cremations and Mr. Resich stated that the equipment itself makes no noise. It was also noted that the new building will be located further away from the south property line than the existing crematorium location.

Mr. Turner then mentioned that the trees that were trimmed along the north property line were trimmed quite a bit and asked if the Green Hills' staff could leave them a bit higher? Mr. Resich stated that they didn't intend to trim them down that far, but they were leaning on the fence and had to be cut back.

No other issues were raised for discussion at this time.