

OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 21, 2021

Via ZOOM

Otay Mesa Planning Group Chair, Mr. Rob Hixson, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Introductions are made via the zoom meeting screen.

Members present:	Members absent:
Rob Hixson - Chair	Tony Blas
Ted Shaw - Vice-Chair	Rodolfo Jr. Lopez
Chris Holder	Diane Kirma
Clarissa Falcon	Ronnie Taylor
Tom Ricotta	James Street
Mark Freed	
Felipe Nuno	
Jimmy Ayala	
Rita Mahoney	
Scott Merry	
Alejandra Mier y Teran	

Approval of minutes:

April 2021

- **Vote:** A motion was made by R. Mahoney and seconded by T. Shaw. Motion passed (11-0-0) **Yes:** J. Ayala, R. Hixson, S. Merry, F. Nuno, T. Ricotta, C. Falcon, C. Holder, M. Freed, & A. Mier y Teran. **Abstained:** None. **Vote No:** None.

Public Input/Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda:

None.

Chairman's Report:

Items received:

1. A MEDIA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - Site Development Permit, EIR Addendum, Process Two

Since the beginning of COVID I haven't received many documents from the City.

Government Liaison Report

A. COUNCILMEMBER MORENO'S OFFICE: Gerardo Ramirez:

1. On April 15, 2021, Mayor Gloria released the City of San Diego's Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Budget.
 - The operating budget for each of the City of San Diego's Departments will be heard during the Budget Review Committee meetings.
 - These meetings will be held virtually from Wednesday, May 5 to Tuesday, May 11, 2021.
2. The City Council is scheduled to adopt the budget on Monday, June 14, 2021.
3. Please note a few important Council meeting dates for the public to provide input:
 - **On Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 6:00 pm** the City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget.
 - **On Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm** the City Council will hold a meeting for public input on the proposed budget.
 - **On Monday, June 14, 2021 at 9:00 am** the City Council will make a decision on the final budget.
4. To review the Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Budget visit: www.sandiego.gov/finance/proposed.
5. The public may view the meetings on public television (within the City of San Diego only) on City TV Channel 24 for Cox Communications and Time Warner Cable or Channel 99 for AT&T, or by visiting: www.sandiego.gov/communications/citytv.

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B. **MAYOR'S OFFICE:** *Stephanie Estrada:*

1. **Mayor Homeless Encampments Changes**

- Mayor Gloria is committed to a taking a compassionate and transparent approach to addressing homelessness.
- Last month, Mayor Gloria announced significant policy changes of how the City handles homeless encampments and unsheltered people's belongings.
- The changes, most of which are already in effect, include:
 - Suspension of cleanups and enforcement during inclement weather
 - Suspension of cleanups at night
 - Easier means to retrieve personal items removed during cleanups
 - Clearer and more consistent noticing of cleanup schedules
 - Reduction of law enforcement visibility
 - Coordination of cleanup activities with outreach activities to ensure that unsheltered residents are offered shelter and services ahead of the cleanups.
- While we know we have to continue cleanups to make sure we don't have another communicable disease outbreak like Hepatitis A, the Mayor believes we can do so while compassionately and while respecting human dignity.

2. **Extension of Franchise Agreement**

- Mayor Gloria and City Council completed a rigorous community outreach process on the City's franchise, the results have shown that residents value environmental protection above all else. Over 1,378 surveys were responses completed, according to the survey respondents have a high degree of satisfaction with the current state of gas and electricity services in San Diego and value reducing pollution above anything else. Environmental protections were among chief importance, making the advancement of climate equity one of several key terms and commitments within these new ITBs.
- The City is granting initial 10-year agreements with automatic 10-year renewals if the franchisee continues to be a compliant partner to the terms and conditions.
- These franchise agreements allow a single entity exclusive rights to provide San Diego residents and businesses with gas and electricity services. All bids on gas and electric franchises will open **April 16**. The City will then finalize the franchises with the highest bidder. A vote by the City Council on the new franchises is expected to take place in May.
- Along with the cooperative agreement that includes using more clean-energy resources, this franchise agreement contains worker protections, provides transparency, and requires a Citizen Oversight Committee (to interface with rate payers and provide oversight).
- FAQ: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/energy-franchise-agreements-qanda.pdf>

3. **Mayor Launches San Diego Community Choice Energy**

- As part of a pledge to create a more sustainable San Diego, Mayor Todd Gloria began San Diego Community Power—a community choice energy service responsible for purchasing wholesale clean electricity on behalf of customers in San Diego, Chula Vista, Encinitas, La Mesa and Imperial Beach.
- SDCP is a community choice aggregator intended to provide clean, renewable energy at competitive rates and investing in innovative programs to benefit the environment and the economy. SDCP will source cleaner electricity for approximately 770,000 customer accounts.

4. **Updates to the City's Get-It-Done App**

- New updates to the mobile GID app, this mobile apps helps report non-emergency issues to the City in order to keep our communities clean and safe.
- New updates include:
 - Spanish language support

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- A new home screen
- Enhanced category selection for reports
- Ability to upload multiple photos
- View submitted reports

5. **Update at Convention Center**

- As Operation Shelter to Home began to wind down the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) called on San Diego to provide a safe-haven for unaccompanied children seeking asylum.
- Mayor Gloria answered the call from HHS and leads the City of San Diego to step up and do the right thing by offering temporary shelter to unaccompanied female minors seeking asylum in the United States.
- South Bay Community Services is the lead provider coordinating donations and volunteers for the temporary shelter. Please visit <https://sbcssandiego.org/> to learn more about South Bay Community Services and what you can do.

C. SUPERVISOR VARGAS' OFFICE: *Andrew Harvey:*

- The County is preparing an additional round of stimulus grants.
- We don't have a specific date just yet, however our Small Business Stimulus Grant page has been updated to include a link for e-mail updates. The County will notify and send updates a couple days prior to the opening of the application period with information and deadlines. The only downside is that small business owners who had previously applied with the County will need to submit a new application.
- Small Business Stimulus Grant: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/stimulusgrant/>
- Also, the Small Business Administration sent out a press release earlier this week announcing a \$28.6 Billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund. There are some phenomenal restaurants, many of them mom-and-pop owned, within the Promise Zone that may qualify and benefit if you want to share this as well.
- Small Business Administration Restaurant Revitalization Fund: <https://www.sba.gov/article/2021/apr/27/sba-administrator-guzman-announces-application-opening-286-billion-restaurant-revitalization-fund>

D. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LORENA GONZALEZ OFFICE: No report was provided.

E. SENATOR HUESOS' OFFICE: *Claudia Lopez:*

- Senator Hueso's SB 604, the Nature and Parks Career Pathway and Community Resiliency and Equity Act of 2021, would create grant programs at state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board to support critical climate-beneficial and climate-resiliency projects.
- These projects would include those that help prevent natural disasters such as wildfires or mitigate climate impacts such as the heat-island effect, among other climate change phenomena.
- The grant programs would establish and facilitate workforce development criteria for climate resilience programs.
- This bill would require the administering entities to seek input from state and local workforce partners to develop career pathway strategies that align with their program goals. SB 604 would facilitate hands-on training, certification, and job placement services for individuals with barriers to employment.
- Two weeks ago, the Senate Democrats released budget priorities 2021-22 and beyond. The goal of the Build Back Boldly budget is to take a strong first step in building a post-pandemic economy that extends prosperity for Californians Details here: <https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sbud.senate.ca.gov/files/Build%20Back%20Boldly%20Senate%20Democrat%20Budget%20Priorities.pdf>

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F. POLICE DEPARTMENT: *Officer Carlos LaCarra:*

- In regards to the issues in Otay Mesa, the quality of life issues have definitely increased throughout the city. Be assured that, San Diego PD, specifically speaking for Southern division but also the rest of the department that we are doing our best to address the issues as a Just realize that they are in priority, so emergency calls do take priority, but we know there's a lot of petty theft issues going on.
- Also, regarding the verdict that came down yesterday (George Floyd). Our departments are in a little bit of an alert this week just to make sure that everything goes smooth for the rest of the week. It appears that a couple of demonstrations happened downtown yesterday. It kind of went off without a hitch. Nothing major happened that week. But we definitely are prepared in case anything of concern happens.
- Regarding code compliance, we finally made contact last week. And they are definitely updating all the cases I asked for, hopefully, I will have a meeting with them next week and all the updates will be done by next week and our next meeting.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT: No report was provided.

H. IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT: No report was provided.

I. CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: No report was provided.

Monthly Report:

J. CPC- (*Mark Freed, Business Representative*)

March 23 Meeting Agenda: https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/cpc-agenda-210323_1.pdf

The meeting Minutes for the March 23, 2021 meeting have not been posted yet. Please see below and attached for information on items discussed/presented.

ITEM #4–COUNCIL POLICY 600-24. (Information Item) – Councilmember La Cava discussed updates to Council Policy 600-24 governing CPGs. **See attached City Atty. Legal Analysis Regarding 600-24; cpd 600-24 - City Council Temporary Amendment to 600-24 in response to Corona Virus; and A Seat at the Table - a message forwarded from former State Assemblyman current County Democrat Party Vice-Chair Howard Wayne.**

ITEM #5–DSD ELECTRONIC SERVICES--(Information Item) - DSD provided an update on new electronic services related to project planning and permitting.

ITEM #6–LIBRARY MASTER PLAN --(Information Item) **See attached Community Outreach Presentation.**

ITEM #7- CPC Chairs Report - CPG Roster Forms and CPC data form.

Additional documents distributed:

This is a link to Livable California's updates on legislation: <https://www.livablecalifornia.org/california-state-legislation-bills-2021-livable-california/>

Article on housing policy in California: https://calmatters.org/housing/2021/03/california-affordable-housing-bills/?mc_cid=41cddee047&mc_eid=139add7ef5

The next CPC meeting is on 4/27.

K. Southwest Village Committee - (*Felipe Nuno, Resident*)

- We are waiting on comments back from the City.

L. Border Transportation – (*Alejandra Mier y Teran, Business Representative*)

- The travel restrictions along the US Mexico and Canadian borders were extended another month.
- Regarding the Proposed Maintenance Assessment we made on proposed change to maintain the race median in Otay Mesa, if we set up the district and set up that service, the City of San Diego will allocate gas tax funding to the district that would be enough to maintain the medians. At this time the item is being reviewed. We are waiting to hear from them. After that we would engage the community to sign a petition to move it forward.

M. La Media Truck Route- *David Wick*

- The city staff provided a very thorough update of Britannia Road and Otay truck route phase four. On February 24 if anyone would like a copy of the handout, we can email it to you. They are making a lot of progress.

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- The city is on the CIT project Otay truck route phase four is that portion of the truck route from La Media Road east to drug her lane, and they're out there constructing it in that portion should be done by the end of this year. So that's a \$15 million \$15.7 million project that's going to be completed by December, on La Media Road is \$42.7 million is fully funded. The city is out. Currently acquiring the right-a-ways for the road improvements. They hope to have it fully designed and permitted by the end of this year, and then go out the first part of next year, with the bidding process, they hope to start construction in July of 2022.
- N. San Diego Airport Advisory Committee - Tom Ricotta**
- It has been quiet; no update.
- O. Code Enforcement – Carlos LaCarra**
- Meeting with them next week, and hopefully, I will have an update by the next Planning Group meeting.
- P. Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce – Alejandra Mier y Teran**
- Last week, to be able to provide vaccinations community, this was in partnership with UCSD. Thank you to the County of San Diego and supervisor.
- Q. East Otay Mesa Property Owner's Association Update – David Wick**
- Our last meeting on February 24th. The city this has gone out in the last week or so with offers to purchase the right of ways. There are a few property owners that are waiting. I would encourage all of us to talk to the owners who are receiving these offers to convince them to take the offer. All we can do to encourage those property owners to accept those offers. Dedications would be greatly appreciated.
 - For those of who you may not know, truck.net has been starting to sell duty free diesel to trucks going into Mexico is the only duty-free diesel truck stop the United States. We started selling duty free diesel as of January 1. And we have several customers lined up that are doing trucking activity in Mexico, and it's in essence to sell diesel without tax, which is about 84 cents a gallon for those gallons consumed on Mexican. So, it's a wonderful program so let everybody know who is buying diesel to go and drive in Mexico.
- R. La Media West Wetlands - No report was provided.**
- S. Informational Items: No report was provided.**
- T. Action Items:**
- A. **Motion: Lumina III Tentative Map - Project No. 651806**
Presented by: Emilie Colwell from T&B Planning
Vote: A motion was made by J. Ayala and seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed (10-1-0) **Yes:** R. Hixson, S. Merry, T. Ricotta, C. Falcon, C. Holder, M. Freed, T. Shaw, & A. Mier y Teran. **Abstained:** R. Mahoney **Vote No:** None.
 - B. **Motion: Appoint Mr. Tom Simmons – Otay Mesa Planning Group vacant seat**
Vote: A motion was made by T. Ricotta and seconded by J. Ayala Motion passed (11-0-0) **Yes:** R. Mahoney, R. Hixson, S. Merry, F. Nuno, T. Ricotta, C. Falcon, C. Holder, M. Freed, T. Shaw & A. Mier y Teran.
Abstained: None. **Vote No:** None.
 - C. **Motion Plaza La Media - Project No. 334235**
Presented by: Ted Shaw, Atlantis Group
Vote: A motion was made by R. Mahoney and seconded by J. Ayala Motion passed (09-2-0) **Yes:** S. Merry, F. Nuno, T. Ricotta, C. Falcon, C. Holder, M. Freed, & A. Mier y Teran. **Abstained:** T. Shaw & R. Hixson. **Vote No:** None.
- U. Closing remarks:**
Thank you.
- V. Old Business:**
No old business.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m. by Rob Hixson, Planning Group Chair.**