

**EASTERN AREA COMMUNITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2023**

7:01 PM: Meeting Called to Order (by Lynn Edwards, Chair)

Present:

Lynn Edwards (Chair), Rolando Park
Bob Scott (Vice Chair), Rolando Village
Richard Diaz (Secretary), Oak Park
Jennifer Bennett, Redwood Village
Andy Huelskamp, Oak Park
Kristen Hurst, Webster
Daniele Laman, Community Organization Rep
Laura Riebau, Member-at-Large

Absent: Derryl Williams, Webster; Tanner Blackman, Redwood Village; Elida Chavez, Oak Park; Alex Zukas, El Cerrito; Lorna Zukas, El Cerrito

Quorum: Yes

Members of the Public: Becky Rapp, Herlindo Salinas, John Hogan, Kathleen Lippett, James Piel (City of San Diego Engineering), Jaime Ramos (City of San Diego Engineering)

Agenda: No changes

Communication from the Public on Non-Agenda Items:

Becky Rapp discussed the City's Cannabis Ordinance and the City's intent to ease distance barriers from schools and to expand from 36 to 72 "pot shops", as well as setting aside \$5M from the General Fund to offset costs.

Kathleen Lippett raised concerns about the increasing availability of high-potency THC products and possible addictive impacts to youth.

Teen Challenge: Herlindo Salinas updated the board on the progress of the re-issuance of the center's conditional use permit. The center has put in a fire lane and will install a pedestrian ramp on the sidewalk, fencing, and security cameras. Permit compliance looks good so far.

Reports from City, County, and State Representatives (Abridged):

Lucero Maganda (Office of the Mayor): The Civic Center is being re-developed to house all city offices in one location so that the surrounding 5 blocks can be developed, incl. 25% affordable housing; 25 miles of pothole repairs will be done by 2024; private electricians (n = 800) will be hired to help repair street lights — contract expected to go out in April (Lucero to provide more details per questions from EACPC board); Blueprint SD outlines the City’s vision for sustainable growth, incl. “...timely community plan updates and alignment with Climate Action Plan goals.”

Sam Gonzalez (Office of State Rep. Dr. Akilah Weber): Accepting nominations now (April 2023) for Asian American Community Recognition; Cal Kids: Up to \$1500 for qualifying students to pay for college costs—money to be returned if not used by age 26 years (board asked if money could be applied to building trades training—Mr. Gonzalez to get back to the board on that point)

Bruce Williams (Office of Councilmember Montgomery Steppe): Claudia Thompson was recognized as Dist. 4 Woman of Distinction for her long-standing work with the Oak Park Library; on March 15th there will be an in-person presentation on the City’s Organic Waste (a.k.a. “green bin”) program at Skyline Library; Councilmember Montgomery Steppe is now Chair of the Budget Committee—Mayor to release proposed budget on 4-14-23, and public comments will be received on May 3rd and May 9th.

Naveed Haris (Office of Councilmember Elo-Rivera): Ana Gonzalez was recognized as Dist. 9 Woman of Distinction for her work to improve communications in education and health; SANDAG’s Youth Opportunity Pass (<18 yrs. of age) is a success, with 77% of students reporting “feeling safe” when riding public transportation—over 40,000 Pronto cards have been distributed (board asked if the age could be raised to accommodate community college and old students, but SanDag needs to sign off on that change).

Martha Zapata (Office of Councilmember Elo-Rivera): Caltrans is closing I-15 from SR-94 to I-5 (south) from 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM for a community hike, bike, and walk event with booths at Southcrest Community Park.

Informational Items

Item: James Piel, City of San Diego Project Engineer: The Improv 1A Project, which will replace “aging” potable water mains on University Ave. from College Ave. east to Aragon, will occur Summer - Winter 2023—one eastbound lane will be traffic-controlled.

Review, Correction, and Approval of February Minutes

- Andy stated that the increase in additional funding for the new Oak Park Library is \$12M instead of \$11M.
- **Action: Motion** by Daniele to approve with correction; **seconded** by Laura.
- **Vote:** Passed unanimously.

Board Business

- Treasurer report to be given next meeting.
- Election Committee (Kristen): Board officers will be nominated and voted on at the April 2023 meeting—current officers are Lynn (Chair), Bob (Vice Chair), Derryl (Treasurer), and Richard (Secretary). The terms will be for one year.

Community Updates

- Rolando Park (Lynn): The Annual Seed and Plant Exchange will be held at Rolando Park Elem. School; Zena Park clean-up to occur on April 22nd (ILACSD event).
- Oak Park (Richard): Thanked D4 for recognizing the good work and persistence of Claudia Thompson.
- Parks & Rec (Daniele): The proposed “pocket park” on Federal Blvd., which will connect Chollas Creek from Bernardini Fields to the creek under SR-94, will be discussed at the Colina del Sol Rec meeting; the previously approved dog run at Clay Park is going through another community review; little league teams are increasing in membership; Easter egg hunt at Colina de Sol on 4-7-23 (4 - 7 PM).
- CPC (Laura): Although the state and SANDAG have released new population data and predictions, the City continues to use older data (2012) using higher nos. to support its SB10 plans to create or find “The Missing Middle”, e.g., increasing the no. of “livable” units per SFD lot from 10 to 14. The CPC did not take action on these proposed new guidelines because they were presented at the last minute. Laura also reported that the City wants to accelerate approval of the Mid-City

Update in 2025. She suggested that the EACPC follow closely what the College Area PC has been doing to keep on top of this process before the City approaches Mid-City groups next.

8:20 PM: Motion to adjourn by Daniele; seconded by Andy. The meeting was adjourned.