



**Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board**  
 12463 Rancho Bernardo Road #523, San Diego, CA 92198  
[www.rbplanningboard.com](http://www.rbplanningboard.com)

**November 18, 2021, 7:00 PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting was held via Zoom**

<b>2021 RB PLANNING BOARD</b>									
<b>P = present</b>			<b>A = absent</b>			<b>ARC = arrived after roll call</b>			
Sonny Googins	P	Owen Nucci	P	Benjamin Wier	P	Gary Long	P		
Thomas Lettington	P	Joni Edelman	P	Robin Kaufman	P	David Wilson	P		
Rebecca Cole	A	Steve Dow	P	Vicki Touchstone		Hugh Rothman	P		
								<b>Total Seated</b>	<b>12</b>
								<b>Total in Attendance</b>	<b>11</b>

**ITEM #1 Call to Order/Roll Call:**

Chair, Robin Kaufman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**ITEM #2 Chair remarks:**

Chair, Robin Kaufman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She commented that the meeting is being recorded for accuracy in the meeting minutes. She also noted that it is being conducted as if it were in in-person and extend all courtesies as such.

**ITEM #3 Non-agenda public comment (3 minutes per speaker):**

N/A

**ITEM #4 Government Staff Reports (Information Item):**

N/A

**ITEM #5 Modification and Adoption of Agenda (Voting Item):**

Motion made by Tom Lettington to adopt the agenda with updated Item enumeration; seconded by Joni Edelman; approved 11-0-0.

**ITEM #6 Administrative Items (Voting Item):**

Approval of November 2021 Meeting Minutes was motioned by Owen Nucci; seconded by Benjamin Wier; approved 10-0-1 (Hugh Rothman abstained due to absence at the subject meeting).

Gary Long presented the Treasurer's Report: the Board has \$432.24 as of Nov 21. Gary Long motioned to approve the Treasurer's report; seconded by Sonny Googins; approved 11-0-0.

**ITEM #7 Project # 667476 AT&T Rancho Bernardo Swim and Tennis (Voting Item)**

The Board discussed a Planned Development Permit/Conditional Use Permit to construct a Wireless Communication Facility (WCF) consisting of a 60-foot tall faux pine tree (monopine) supporting 12 panel antennas, 24 Remote Radio Units (RRUs) and a new equipment enclosure. The project location 16955 Bernardo Oaks Road, San Diego, CA 92128 in the RS-1-4 zone, Rancho Bernardo Community Plan.

Benjamin Wier noted that the Development Review Committee had reviewed the proposal and recommended the Board vote against the proposed location of the cell tower.

The meeting transitioned to a presentation by AT&T and Cell Tress in which representatives reviewed the revised plan for the cell tower. The plan would now include a faux eucalyptus tree instead of faux pine as well as additional landscaping modifications. The briefers also reviewed the other options considered in the local area as well as the significance of high quality cell connectivity for local residents.

Robin Kaufman thanked the briefers, but also noted that the presentation was significantly different from the one presented to the Development Review Committee, a violation from policy that stipulates content must be reviewed prior to a full Planning Board vote. Christine Moore noted that the updated brief is specifically designed to respond to concerns and comments from the committee meeting. Benjamin Wier noted that the changes consist of additional information such as the inclusion of canary pines and new photo simulations.

Lynn Maloney, RB Swim & Tennis Club President, noted that this issue has been a recurring item of discussion at the club's monthly meetings since 2019 and that no objections have been raised. She also noted that the FCC stipulates that new cell tower projects cannot be denied for health considerations.

Several community residents voiced their objections to the proposal and noted that they had only recently heard about it.

A motion to postpone the full Planning Board vote was made by Robin Kaufman, seconded by Benjamin Wier, and approved 9-2-0 (members Joni Edelman and Hugh Rothman voted against the motion).

**ITEM #8 Request Community Members to Identify Themselves to Fill Vacancies (Voting Item):**

A community member, June Smith, presented herself to the board for consideration to fill a current vacant seat in the Seven Oaks community. A motion to vote her onto the board was motioned, seconded, and approved 11-0. However, it was noted post-meeting that this community member had not yet met the minimum requirements for the appointment (i.e., not previously attended a full Planning Board meeting); the vote is therefore nullified. -Since we are now in our election period, the resident has been encouraged to submit a declaration of candidacy form.

Note: Robin Kaufman departed the meeting for unforeseen personal matters. Vice Chair, Benjamin Wier chaired the remaining items.

**ITEM #9 (#14 per agenda) Sub-Committee Reports:**

Development Review .....Benjamin Wier  
Regional Issues.....Vicki Touchstone  
Traffic & Transportation .....Robin Kaufman  
Election Ad Hoc.....Gary Long

**ITEM #10 (#15 per agenda) Liaison Reports:**

Community Council.....Robin Kaufman  
Community Planners Committee (CPC).....Vicki Touchstone  
Recreation Advisory Board.....Robin Kaufman  
SANDAG .....Steve Dow  
San Dieguito River Park.....David Wilson  
San Pasqual/Lake Hodges Planning Group..... David Wilson  
Commercial Representative .....N/A

**ITEM #11 (#16 per agenda) OLD BUSINESS ITEM:**

N/A

**ITEM #12 (#17 per agenda) NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Benjamin Wier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Owen Nucci seconded. Motion passed 11-0-0. Meeting adjourned 8:50pm.  
Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Owen Nucci.

**Standing Committee Meetings:**

*Regular meeting dates & times for committees are set as follows:*

<b><u>Administrative Committee</u></b> The Monday 10 days prior to Regular Meeting, 6 PM Via Zoom meeting.	<b><u>Traffic &amp; Transportation Committee First</u></b> Monday of each month, 6 PM Via Zoom meeting.
<b><u>Development Review Committee</u></b> First Tuesday of each month, 6 PM Via Zoom meeting.	<b><u>Regional Issues Committee</u></b> First Tuesday of each month, 7 PM Via Zoom meeting.

**Community Planners Committee (CPC):**

The CPC addressed the following four topics at the October meeting.

**1) San Diego County Independent Redistricting Commission**

This was an information item regarding the County’s redistricting process. The presenter was County Redistricting Commissioner Ramesses Surban. The County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) is redrawing the boundaries for the County’s five supervisorial districts. Redistricting takes place every 10 years after the federal census. District boundaries for federal, state and local elected offices are redrawn to reflect new population data and shifting populations. The County’s district boundaries will change so the five County supervisors elected to represent those districts each serve about 650,000 residents and reflects the County’s diverse population. Fourteen people were selected for the County’s IRC. The process will act independently from the influence of the Board of Supervisors and reasonably represent the County’s diversity.

District lines can shape a community’s ability to elect the representative of their choice. The Commission is seeking input from residents to better understand their communities and ensure they are fairly represented when drawing district lines.

On Saturday, November 13 at 11 am a virtual public meeting will be held to take comments on the draft map and live map drawing, and on Thursday, December 2 at 5 pm a live public meeting will be held at the San Diego County Office of Education. The IRC will select a draft map for adoption on December 9 and final approval of the report will occur on December 14 at 2 pm at the County Operations Center, Training Room 120. For more information, please see:

<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/redistricting.html>

**2) California Citizens Redistricting Commission**

This was an information item regarding the redistricting process for California’s Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly and State Board of Equalization districts. The presentation was made by Andrew Amorao, Field Team Lead, for the California

Citizens Redistricting Commission. Every 10 years, after the federal government publishes updated census information, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly and State Board of Equalization districts, so that the districts correctly reflect the state's population.

California voters authorized the creation of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission in 2008 when they passed the VOTERS FIRST Act. It authorized the Commission to draw the new district lines. In 2010, the Congressional Voters FIRST Act added the responsibility of drawing Congressional districts to the Commission.

The 14-member Commission is made up of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four not affiliated with either of those two parties. The Commission must draw the district lines in conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules designed to create districts of relatively equal population that will provide fair representation for all Californians. Draft maps can be viewed at [https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/map\\_viewer](https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/map_viewer).

There are three ways to participate and provide input:

- at [www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org/contact](http://www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org/contact);
- by mail to: California Citizens Redistricting Commission, 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, CA 95814; and
- by filling out a form at: [Community Input Form \(airtable.com\)](https://www.airtable.com)

For more information about the mapping process and the public meeting schedule, which will occur at various dates in November 2021; go to: <http://wedrawthelinesca.org/>

Additional information is available at:

Weekly Social Media Toolkits

[Social Media Toolkit - We Draw the Lines CA](#)

Communities of Interest Online Mapping Tool

[Draw My CA Community](#)

Draw My CA Community Walkthrough

<https://youtu.be/Go9KBuBUnKs>

Assistance with Draw My CA Community and Draw My CA Districts online mapping tools (by appointment only in-person or virtual)

[Statewide Database | Redistricting Access Centers](#)

\*San Diego's Redistricting Access Center is located in Mission Valley.

Schedule of Commission Meetings [Amoral - We Draw the Lines CA](#)

### 3) Climate Resilient San Diego Plan

This was an action item regarding the City's Climate Resilient San Diego Plan. Heidi Vonblum, Jordan Moore, and Rebecca Malone from the Planning Department made the presentation, which focused on the development and content of the Draft Climate Resilient San Diego Plan. Climate Resilient SD Plan is the City's comprehensive climate adaptation and resiliency plan, which is intended to increase the City's ability to adapt, recover and thrive in a changing climate.

The Plan identifies four primary climate change hazards that pose a risk to the City: sea level rise, flooding and drought, extreme heat, and wildfires. These hazards impact San Diegans and the economy, infrastructure, and natural environment. The City of San Diego has been working collaboratively with community members and stakeholders to develop a suite of climate adaptation strategies that focus on minimizing risk and increasing the resilience of San Diego's people, assets, economy and natural resources.

For more information go to: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sustainability/resilience>.

Although there was concern that once again the City planning staff waited until just before the public hearings to present this item to the CPC, the majority voted to support the plan following the staff presentation and comment period. The item will go to City Council in December.

#### **4) Trees**

This was an information item about tree planting programs in San Diego. The presenters were Carolyn Chase from Treewatch San Diego and Mandy Havlik from Kate's Trees. The presenters addressed the inadequacies of the City's Urban Forest policies, and requested more community advocacy for trees.

Mandy Havlik described the activities being conducted as part of Kate Sessions Commitment – Kate Sessions Trees (<https://katestrees.org/>). She reviewed by we should grow trees and what benefits they provide, including shade, beauty, clean air, places to gather, memories, and much more. This organization teaches volunteers the fundamentals of planting and caring for trees. Participation also provides community members with a fun way to meet community leaders and neighbors who align with environmental justice and stewardship. The goal is to provide healthy trees along our streets, and in our parks, parking lots, schoolyards, backyards, places of worship, and businesses. Among many other co-benefits, planting trees helps to implement Climate Action Plans, reduce water and air pollution, provide wildlife habitats, and carry on the legacy of Kate Sessions. Go to the webpage to view videos on the importance of trees in cities.

Carolyn Chase from Treewatch San Diego ([TreewatchSD.org](http://TreewatchSD.org)) explained what Treewatch San Diego is doing to increase the number of trees in San Diego. Trees are an important part of our environment, as they support clean air, clean water, carbon sequestration, shade, temperature control, increased property value, and wildlife habitat, just to name a few benefits. San Diego has policies for preserving, protecting and encouraging the planting and growth of trees. Unfortunately, our urban forest is shrinking, instead of growing. Older trees are being removed and not being replaced.

Advocates are needed to speak for the trees, especially in urban areas. TreeWatch is a neighborhood-based, citizen-science volunteer program to involve residents in identifying and protecting their local city trees and contributing to implementing the City's Climate Action Plan.

Carolyn also described two neighborhood-level programs: Tree Ambassadors that encourage groups, neighborhoods or organizations to get and plant "free trees." And TreeWatchers, which assists community members in learning about trees in their area, and how to protect them. Go the website for more information. The Treewatch San Diego website identifies tree programs in the City that are currently inactive and explains how residents can join the campaign to reactivate these programs.

Anne Fege, who was the chair of the City's Community Forestry Advisory Board, indicated that all 9 Councilmembers recommended increased tree maintenance budgets in 2021 and tree planting at \$360k. The Community Forestry Advisory Board needs to be revitalized and all vacant positions filled.

All of the speakers encouraged community members to get involved and plant trees where they have been removed or can be accommodated. Go to the websites provided to get information about potential free trees, as well as advise on which trees are most appropriate for specific locations.

### **\*RB Community Council**

- The Board reviewed options for the second pizza fun run fundraiser;
- The Board approved appointment of the earth day ad hoc committee members;
- The Board was given an update on the student member ad hoc committee;
- The Board was given an update on the holiday day of giving event set for December 12;
- The Board was given a debriefing of the very successful Halloween event;

### **Rancho Bernardo Community Recreation Group**

- The Board will be meeting in December.

### **San Diego Regional Planning Agency (SANDAG)**

- **Highlights of Nov 2021 SANDAG Newsletter**
  - SANDAG 2021 Regional Plan (Transportation)
    - Proposed final plan and final EIR going to SANDAG board on December 10.
    - <https://sdforward.com/mobility-planning/2021-regional-plan>
  - Mid-Coast Extension of UCSD Blue Line
    - Grand opening event: Sunday 11/21/2021 11am-3pm (UCSD Central Campus Station at Warren Field).
    - <https://www.keepsandiegomoving.com/Mid-Coast/midcoast-opening.aspx>
  - Regional Bikeway Program
    - Bayshore Bikeway project to loop around San Diego Bay (via Coronado Ferry)

- Connection from Convention Center to Barrio Logan has been bid.
- [https://www.keepsandiegomoving.com/RegionalBikeProjects/bayshore\\_bikeway\\_in\\_tro.aspx](https://www.keepsandiegomoving.com/RegionalBikeProjects/bayshore_bikeway_in_tro.aspx)
- New “Animated Map of Unemployment” digital tool made public.
  - <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/77aa5664a4524c9e970328432557c299>
- At Oct 22 SANDAG meeting:
  - Approved “Free Transit for Youth” pilot project was set to start October 22.
  - Discussed digital equity strategy.
  - Approved new Regional Housing Subcommittee
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4eHlrhXa18>

### **San Dieguito River Park – JPA Meeting – September 17, 2021**

#### **Report**

#### **River Park JPA Exec Director Report – Shawna Anderson**

Attended Rancho Bernardo Safety Fair

SDRP/Volunteer Trainings

Watershed Explorers

Submitting application for Covid Funds relief for JPA, which is special district- submitting application for revenue losses and unanticipated costs.

#### **CA State Parks Outdoor Equity Grant – Escondido Explorers of San Dieguito Water Shed**

Requested \$261k to fund program for 3 yrs. Reminder, Escondido Library is home base

Nature area trips to 6 locations throughout watershed

Six partner organizations.

#### **Office transitioning from Brenda Miller to Christal Ames due to Brenda’s retirement**

#### **Other JPA Updates**

Surf Cup Trail Status- coordinating w Joe LaCava to get volunteer work program to get the trail built. November 6, tentative date.

Sikes Farmer’s Market – looking for new operator. Got close, but did not happen. Still looking for new operator.

JPS Staff Retreat at SY Nature Center schedule – Santa Ysabel nature center. All day for JPA staff. Did not occur last year due to COVID.

#### **Comments on Public Matter**

#### **Clem Brown City of Del Mar- City Emergency Manager -Oil Spill Update**

Unified Command is overseeing this. UC consists of Coast Guard, CA Fish and Game, and the responsible Party Amplified Energy. OC and SD dept of emergency services are leading the cleanup effort.

Encinitas has opened emergency operations center. Del Mar lifeguards are monitoring situation. Boom placed before to protect the lagoon.

Good news is pipeline leak has been temporarily patched.

Beaches in OC now open. No closures needed in San Diego.

Water quality testing is being done. Pending, but in Orange County. Water OK. Air quality also being tested. Result, no air quality impact in OC.



Reminder for visitors/residents. Should you encounter tar ball or oil, don't touch.. Toxic. Document, take a pic, and report to website and team will clean up.

### **Resolution**

#### **Appreciation for Brenda Miller due to retirement.**

Resolution – thank and honor. River park JPA. Dedicated service after 7 yrs. 2014-2021.

### **Status Report – Shawna Anderson**

#### **GAP Report –Status of Gaps in Trail**

Filling gaps of coast to crest trail.

Santa Ysabel East Preserve to Coast

71 planned miles. Multi use hikers, bikes, horses

49 miles complete, one in progress, still 21 miles of gaps remaining as priority, with 34 additional miles remaining.

Priorities: Funding, approval of trail rout, Engineering and CEQA permits, Construction plans

### **Question**

Is Surf Cup meeting contractual obligations to get their portion done?

No timeline in agreement, so working with Councilmember LaCava to move this along. SURF has not provided a timeline.

Copy of Gap report available online.

### **Update on W 19 Phase 2 of San Dieguito lagoon restoration**

Coordinating w SANDAG Construcion should be next 3 yrs.

E of I5 will result in 60 acres of new wetlands. Great project

Mitigation for low sand

SANDAG is funding, CalTrans is the project lead, and they have a contractor in place.

### **Partner Report**

#### **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy -Trish Boaz Exec Director**

Ranger Station opening great event

4-7 Del Mar Hilton Fundraising event, Silent Auction

River Park- Del Mar. Dwight will make additional comments.

### **Jurisdictional Status Reports.**

Board members any report on things going on in their area.

Friends of San Dieguito River Valley – no report

Volcan Mt Federation – N?A

SD Lagoon Committee – N/A

Friends of Sikes Adope – N/Ae

Escondido- Councilmember Tina Incoe noted Escondido city council was pleased Escondido Library is partnering with water shed program and application for funding.

### **Dwight Worden**

River Park del Mar. Durante to Crest Canyon

Gap at grand ave bridge, and Phase 3, being worked on will complete that gap.

Quarterly meetings between JPA chair and Conservancy. Have had 2. Going well. Looking at 2014 memorandum of understanding for updates and revisions, as some parts of the doc are outdated.

Question : Updates on Horse Park RFP?

One submittal just received, which has yet to be reviewed.

### **San Pasqual Lake Hodges Planning Board**

#### **Officer Julie Draght- Community Relations Officer, City of San Diego**

Question from member regarding road growth - hazardous and has become a problem

Response : Use Get it done app for immediate reporting, call non-emergency police number, as police don't patrol regularly.

Chair Linshield stated problems with overgrowth because of large commercial vehicles.

Highland Valley Rd. is also a training area for bicyclists, making driving more hazardous as drivers must look out for bike riders.

#### **Mark Burroughs – Superintendent San Pascual Union School District**

Slap your teacher on TIK ToK, and other online pranks have become a problem. Suggestions to Officer Draght.

Could the police discuss tik-tok and the seriousness of this new fad. Are we bringing more awareness or are we deterring it? Mark likes the idea of law enforcement talking about it.

Important for kids to know and be reminded that these are crimes. Such challenges like writing on walls, exposing yourself, slapping a teacher; all crimes. Maybe the police addressing this would send a different message.

Suggest such discussions include cyber-bullying. Red ribbon is coming up which is anti-drug .

#### **City of San Diego**

Brief statements by:

#### **Lourdes Bernhard – Property Agent City of San Diego**

#### **Niki McGinnis- Program Mgr. Lease Administration.**

#### **Questions regarding San Pascual Academy**

County plans on shutting it down. Unsure what the outcome will be. In the interim, the student population has declined from 15-20, now to one.

Advocacy groups are pushing for it are there, but county is not responsive. So it's clear it's going away and will be something different.

Mark Burroughs cited some of the issues, including lack of cooperation with the academy and his school and offered the opinion that academy has good intentions to serve needs of the students, but children need a better opportunity than what's been provided. Poor management, runaways, vandalism.

#### **Member statements on Academy**

General consensus is more vandalism and crime

Assaults are somehow underreported but fire dept gets called in when police don't respond.

One member stated he'd like to see the property used for Ag Housing, and functioning homeless not in need of counseling , but needing financial assistance.

Mark stated his opinion was the biggest challenge is students cannot be independent. They receive funding for school, but have challenges afterward, and should be college or trade school ready.

Long discussion with other ideas regarding alternate used of the San Pascual Academy property.

**RB Community Council**

**San Diego Regional Planning Agency (SANDAG)**

**San Dieguito River Park**