

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TIERRASANTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING GROUP

April, 2019

Section I. Introduction

The Tierrasanta Community Council (TCC) is a dual-hatted organization, part community planning group and part 510(c)4 community association. The two organizations meet jointly and share officers and member/directors.

For the 2018-2019 planning year, the officers were Jan Whitacre (President), Dawn Nielsen-Lostritto (Vice-President), Steve Muckle (Treasurer), and John Denune (Secretary).

Members included Loren Vinson, John Adair, Mike George, Elvira Plaskota, Kevin Oskow, Emily Whittemore, Russ May, and Jim Mackris plus two non-voting members Charles Kreuzberger (representing the residents of military housing) and Paul Gilmore (representing Serra High School). Following the departures of Jim Mackris (moved out of state) and Loren Vinson (reached eight-year limit), TCC appointed former members Mary Saxton and Dr. Don Chick to fill those vacancies.

Planning group committees consisted of two standing committees (Community Development and Open Space) and one ad hoc (Elections).

Section II. Administrative Matters.

TCC meets eight times per year - January, February, March, April, June, July, September, and October. This past year, we held one special meeting in November of 2018 to act on proposed changes to the planning group bylaws. Those changes are now under review in the Office of the City Attorney.

At the request of the Planning Department, the TCC submitted proposed changes to its planning group bylaws, primarily designed to fully integrate military housing residents into the planning process. We have advertised the proposed changes monthly in the Tierra Times and taken other measures to invite military housing residents to attend TCC meetings. No response to date. Our sole military housing representative was on the council before the Planning Department made its request.

TCC members are residents or property owners in Tierrasanta. We make no distinction between renters and homeowners.

Section III. Members Summary

The bylaws call for a maximum of 15 members. We held steady at 12.

Since community build-out was completed in the 1990s, TCC has had low election turnouts and vacant seats. As President, I have actively recruited among community leaders to fill vacancies as they have occurred over the past year and have tried to anticipate vacancies. We are working to increase visibility through a revitalized online presence (TCC website, Facebook, Nextdoor) and regular contributions to the Tierra Times.

Section IV. Community Plan Preparation, Plan Amendments, and Implementation

No action. The Tierrasanta Community Plan was adopted by the City Council on July 27, 1982 and last amended May 20, 2013.

It should be noted that the Tierrasanta Planning Area includes a residential development on Friars Road known as The Village Mission Valley. Because Santo Road does not continue south to Friars Road, The Village has no physical or commercial connection to the neighborhood of Tierrasanta. The community plan should be changed to reflect that reality.

Section V. Special Projects

No special projects.

Section VI. Overall Summary of Project Review & Community Development

In July TCC reviewed and recommended disapproval of a request to install a stop sign at the intersection of Remora, Gabacho, and Montego. The city elected to install a yield sign instead.

In October TCC reviewed and approved a request from the Legacy Church (formerly Vista Grande) to transfer 5,000 sqft of office and classroom space from a future sanctuary building to a newly-proposed two-story classroom building. The proposal was reviewed by the Community Development Committee, which recommended approval on a 6-0 vote. TCC approved the proposal after being assured the change would have minimal or no impact on parking or traffic.

Section VII. Activities of Associated Community Organizations

As a community association, TCC sponsors three or four Concerts in the Park every summer. These events are underwritten by grants from the County of San Diego and are free to all. TCC, the Kiwanis Club of Tierrasanta, and the Serra High School Key Club provide voluntary labor. Concerts are held at the Tierrasanta Recreation Center. Overflow parking space is provided by Gaspar de Portola Middle School and the Tierrasanta Lutheran Church.

TCC supports the Kiwanis Club in its community events, including the Patriot's Day Parade and Oktoberfest.

Jan Michael Whitacre
Chair TCC