

**Mira Mesa Community Planning Group
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Date/Time: Thurs, June 22, 2023, 7:00pm

Location: Mira Mesa Public Library, 8405 New Salem Street, San Diego CA 92126

Call to Order/ 7:00 PM by Chris Cate. Attendance recorded and quorum confirmed.

Attendees: ~~Bo Gibbons~~, Andrew Miklusicak (7:13pm), Lillith Nover, ~~Ramon Bieri~~, Nicholas Boechler, Chris Cate, Tommy Hough, Joe Frichtel, Bari Vaz, Sean Tompkins, Dorothy Lorenz, Keith Flitner, Julia Schriber, Harikishan Parekh, ~~Tiffany English~~, David Mandelbaum, ~~Mike Linton~~, Phillip Linssen, Evan Cassolato.

1. Adopt Previous Meeting Minutes (Action). Tommy 1st, Lil 2nd, approved by Board 14-0.
2. Non-Agenda Public Comments: 3 Minutes per speaker.
 - a. Joe raised the delays in redeveloping the space that used to be Mimi's (into a BJ's Restaurant). Permitting has been slow, but Bari agreed to look into it.
3. Announcements & Reports: 2 Minutes per speaker.
 - a. Announcements – fireworks and picnic and Hourglass Field on July 2. 4pm to 9:30pm, with food trucks on site
 - b. Report of the Chair.
 - i. An update re Mar's stroke status was read aloud (visits are encouraged at Carmel Mountain Ranch Rehab)
 - ii. COW training was held online last June 12 – this training is required for both old and new planning board members (and any member wishing to ensure indemnification by the City)
 - iii. Email communications were read (three topics, NORA right to appeal, traffic signals and the dispensary on Miramar Rd)
 - iv. No MMPG meeting in July - reminder
 - c. Community Planners Committee
 - i. We heard information items on the following topics:
 1. Cannabis Social Equity and Economic Development Program – CPC will be asked to take a position on this item in September. We will look to have this presentation as an action item at our August meeting.
 2. Equity Forward Initiative and CIP Prioritization process
 3. Councilmember Whitburn and Mayor Gloria's Homeless Encampment Ban proposal
 - ii. The selection of the executive board members was delayed until this month's meeting.
 - d. Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee
 - i. Committee meeting again, 3rd Thursday in July
4. Modifications to the Agenda:
 - a. none presented.

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5. Old Business
 - a. none presented.

6. New Business
 - a. Presentation on North City Pure Water Pipeline (purewatersd@sandiego.gov) – Ozzy Lamore and Sarah Rossetto, City of San Diego Public Utilities Department. Maps of the extensive project were provided along with an update on the status of this project. New work is starting on July 5 and likely going to 2025, there are 10 phases in total; 2 phases were already begun. Sarah Rossetto is the point of contact for questions or concerns; further information is available at the web address provided above and through social media. Slides attached to these minutes or posted to MMPG website.
 - i. Tommy inquired about the main contractor – Dudley
 - ii. Joe noted a large trailer parked on Mercy Road – unlikely associated with this project but Sarah to check.
 - iii. Keith asked if there was budget to compensate for the wear and tear impacting Mira Mesa Blvd due to the construction traffic.
 - iv. Public inquiry as to impact to the Airshow – in the plan, and should not present any problem.
 - v. Beri inquired as to plans to pave both sides of Miramar Rd – plans are in flux as there are many projects bundled together, some of which are in the process of being unbundled (thus a work in progress).
 - vi. Chair asked as to the full completion of the project – planned for 2025.
 - vii. Public inquiry as to emergency contact (for example, referencing power outage along Miramar corridor last week – *UNRELATED TO THIS PROJECT*).

 - b. Epicentre presentation by Alyssa Way and Brandon. Building (at the park, near corner of Camino Ruiz and Mira Mesa Blvd) has been vacant for 7 years now. Coming out of several public outreach meetings late '22 to early '23, proposed concept to create an arts, music, cultural, youth recreation space. Pending approval of plans, proposed work to begin mid 2024 – slides attached to these minutes or posted to MMPG website.
 - i. Much public inquiry as to the status and intentions for the redevelopment of this space. Lease terms? Unconfirmed at this time. Michaela provided a description of the general process. Andrew concurred that no further clarification would be forthcoming since this project is still considered to be in a 'concept' phase (a proposal is still pending).
 - ii. Tommy inquired about renderings, in particular the headspace relative to intended use, and understanding the resulting limitations. Trusses in the ceiling are structural and will remain, but space still useable (no budget to change this).
 - iii. Impassioned public comment focused on doing more with the Epicenter space and establishing a performing arts center in Mira Mesa; keeping room for growth in MM and reflecting future uses. MMHS currently has a plan to build an auditorium on the NE corner of the school property. As a public building, however, there remain usage considerations, not to mention a lack of funding.

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- iv. Phillip and Beri acknowledged that the City and Mira Mesa HS and all stakeholders should be aligned on ensuring full community access to completed auditorium.
 - v. Summary from Chair – focus should remain on doing the best possible with \$8M available in the existing Epicenter space, and look elsewhere for funding for a performing arts center.
- c. Capital Improvement Project – the deadline for input is end of July; an online survey is open now for public input on priorities. Consideration was given to the MMPG holding a special meeting in July to consolidate ideas.
- i. Michaela supported both individual input as well as MMPG
 - ii. Jeff noted that priorities were discussed a year ago and three items were proposed by the MMPG; Michaela suggested that this survey might be a little different, and offered to look into clarifying goals of survey and any extension to the timing.
 - iii. Per Joe, phase 2 has already been allocated
 - iv. Nic offered that timing bias can alter survey outcomes, as well as organization and structure of a survey, leading to poor conclusions (only in observation, not accusation). How will outcome be communicated to the public? Others questioned this and concurred; Lil suggested NextDoor. Many present agreed that timely and pertinent dissemination of information to the public in general was clearly necessary, though not often effective.
 - v. In conclusion: Pull from past plans and proposals. Board or individual input? Shall a special MMPG meeting be held in July to discuss? Final confirmation TBD.

7. Elected Officials/Government Agencies

- a. United States Congress – California 53rd District Kathleen Dang for Sara Jacobs – not present
- b. California Senate – District 40 Mark Schaefer for Brian Jones – not present
- c. California Assembly – District 78 Miki Holmes for Chris Ward miki.holmes@asm.ca.gov
 - i. Budget vote last week
 - ii. Status of bills is available on website
 - iii. Nominations open for businesses to be recognized (due by July 12)
- d. San Diego County – Board of Supervisors District 3 Becca Smith for Terra Lawson-Remer – not present
- e. San Diego – Mayor’s Office Michaela Valk for Todd Gloria mvalk@sandiego.gov
 - i. a detailed report is attached to these minutes
 - ii. Nic inquired about speed limit reduction plan – no word yet from City
 - iii. Lil inquired about SB10 vote – more information is likely available after July 3 meeting (as well as follow up scheduled for the fall)
 - iv. Ben inquired about safe camping issue & signage required; and also enforcement of law related to homeless individuals

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- v. Joe reminded all to be vocal re SB10
 - f. San Diego – City Council District 6, Jermaine Rocacorba for Kent Lee.
rocacorbaJ@sandiego.gov
 - i. The office is open and available for public contact and communication at any time
 - ii. At the same time, patience requested regarding open issues and email response times
 - iii. CPPS applications are under review
 - iv. Brush management and fire prevention activities are under way
 - v. Community meeting options are available through the council website
 - g. MCAS Miramar – not present. All reminded of Miramar Airshow Sept 22-24
8. Adjourned 8:55 PM.

Report from Michaela Valk:

I. COMPREHENSIVE SHELTER STRATEGY PLAN AND UNSAFE CAMPING ORDINANCE

On June 13, 2023 City Council heard two items related to homelessness: the Comprehensive Shelter Strategy and the Unsafe Camping Ordinance.

[The Comprehensive Shelter Strategy](#), outlines our next steps to address homelessness in our city with short, medium, and long term options for shelter, safe parking, and safe camping. These sites will create a safe place for people to go and access supportive services that doesn't block sidewalks.

The first safe camping site set to open in July is the 20th and B Street location to serve over 130 individuals with wrap-around services and tents provided on-site. The City is working on opening the "O" Lot below the Naval Hospital near Balboa Park to serve over 400 individuals.

The safe camping site will be low-barrier and will be helpful in allowing us to enforce the Unsafe Camping Ordinance which will prohibit tent encampments citywide and prohibit tent encampments at the following locations considered to be high risk to public health and safety:

- • within two blocks of K-12 schools;
- • within two blocks of a homeless shelter;
- • along trolley tracks and transportation hubs;
- • In City parks;
- • In canyons;
- • and in waterways like the San Diego River.

For frequent updates on my administration's actions to address homelessness, I encourage you to sign up for our [Homelessness Newsletter](#). In addition, please visit our Homelessness Strategies and Solutions Department [website](#) for a comprehensive overview of our continued work to address homelessness in San Diego.

II. FY 2024 BUDGET

The Mayor will be signing the Fiscal Year 2024 “Getting It Done” budget tomorrow morning. The new fiscal year will begin on July 1, 2023.

The Mayor’s Fiscal Year 2024 Budget is geared toward delivering on the significant investments laid out in my first two budgets, which broadly were aimed at getting our economy and city back on track post-COVID, addressing the longstanding neglect of critical infrastructure, and improving service levels in every neighborhood.

The \$5.17 billion FY2024 “Getting It Done” budget:

- funds the positions and programs that enable us to execute on major investments in infrastructure projects and street repair
- maintains all service levels and makes strategic spending increases on top priorities: homelessness, street repair and public safety (police, fire and lifeguards)

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

Expands General Fund support for homelessness, adding \$24.5 million to maintain and operate the nearly 70 percent in additional shelter bed capacity we've achieved to date.

The FY24 budget adds:

- \$5 million to further expand shelter capacity in FY24, including funding for a Safe Camping program
- \$2.3 million for rental assistance for San Diegans who are at risk of losing their housing.
- \$3 million for an Eviction Prevention Program
- \$1.4 million in funding to support new positions and vehicles to remove waste from the public right-of-way in areas most heavily impacted by encampments.

DELIVERING ON INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Last year's budget marked the largest-ever investments in infrastructure and significantly expanded the capacity of our City workforce to deliver critical capital projects that benefit San Diego communities. This year's budget is further focused on delivering on the promise of those investments.

- Through our capital financing program, we are allocating nearly \$140 million toward street repair/resurfacing – the most we have invested in any given year – which will:

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- double the number of miles of freshly repaved streets compared to each of the prior two fiscal years
 - allow us to resurface 157 miles of streets (includes slurry seal), which is a more than 40 percent increase over the previous fiscal year
- We are transferring \$21.5 million to the Infrastructure Fund to continue making necessary improvements to city facilities, parks and stormwater infrastructure
- We are adding an additional \$2.5 million to comply with stormwater requirements
- The Capital Improvements budget includes \$38.6 million in capital improvement program funding for improvements to parks and playgrounds, as well as the development of new green spaces throughout the city.

KEEPING SAN DIEGO SAFE

Keeping our communities safe is job No. 1 for City government, and we're continuing to provide our public safety departments with the resources they need to do their jobs effectively in this budget, which includes:

- \$3.5 million for smart streetlights that will be placed strategically throughout the city to help solve crime and investigate collisions involving fatal and serious injuries
- 21 civilian positions in the Police Department to support administrative functions, freeing up our sworn police officers to patrol and respond to calls for service (\$2.2 million)
- adding 2 lifeguard positions at La Jolla Shores beach, with one of those positions for the winter months, giving the beach year-round coverage
- funding the Lifeguard Division's biannual Advanced Lifeguard Academy
 - 10-week lifeguard academy provides advanced training in a variety of critical disciplines, including law enforcement, cliff rescue and water rescue
- adding 4 positions to the Fire-Rescue Department that will be focused on fire safety inspections and the hazardous materials management
- deployment of \$4.4 million in funds from the opioid settlement, which this year will fund harm-reduction and safe-haven shelters, the PLEADS restorative justice program, special vehicles for the team that helps chronically homeless individuals and special vehicles and equipment to help law enforcement detect fentanyl.

LONG-TERM FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

This budget is balanced, on-time and designed to be forward-looking – which means considering the likelihood of a revenue dip in the next few years. This budget funds reserves at a responsible level and strikes a balance between delivering needed services while trying not to widen our structural deficit (the gap between ongoing revenues and ongoing expenses for the service level San Diegans expect and deserve).

III. PARK UPDATES IN MIRA MESA AS OF 6/15/2023

Mira Mesa Community Park:

Staff is currently working on the draft bid documents. Permitting is in progress with DSD, DEH County Department of Environmental Health, and SDFR San Diego Fire-Rescue Department for the Hazardous Material Permit. Final plans are expected this week and staff is targeting to bid the project this month. The delay was due to incorporating final DSD and DEH comments into the bidding set.

Wangenheim Joint Use:

Construction continues at the site with the estimated project completion currently at 74%. Ongoing work currently includes installation, framing at Comfort Station, placing concrete pad dugout, placing concrete pad at bleachers, and framing ADA curb ramps at Flanders.

Salk Joint Use/Neighborhood Park:

Construction is approximately 18% complete with ongoing work to include biological surveying noise levels, excavating type c soil off turf areas at the sports field, screening soil, rough grading for walkways and mulch at the Dog park, excavating trenches for underground electrical light poles bases, and excavating foundation for comfort station.

IV. STREET PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

The proposed update to the Street Preservation Ordinance is expected to go to City Council on July 10 or 11. The proposed amendments will ensure that private utilities, Cit crews and contractors who excavate in the right of way are held to a high standard of complete and timely repairs. This includes higher quality resurfacing after trenching and tighter time limits for temporary asphalt patches, which often sink and make the streets uneven. The updated guidelines also will improve coordination among all projects operating in the right-of-way, reducing repeated work on the same street to limit impacts on communities.

At the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the ordinance defined major excavation as a trench greater than 6 inches wide or greater than 3 feet in depth; changing existing moratoriums on asphalt overlay from 5 years to 3 years and slurry seal from 3 years to 1 year; requiring most trenching and restoration work to be completed within 180

days; and adjusting the street damage fee to ensure the public is made whole for the total cost of damages and reduced service life from activity on our right of way. This will increase the longevity of roads and account for the costs of damages upfront, rather than allowing repairs to become an unfunded burden on taxpayers.

V. CITY SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT ON NEIGHBORHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

To achieve more equitable infrastructure investment for all communities, the City of San Diego is asking San Diegans to weigh in on what projects they would like to see prioritized in their neighborhoods. This could include new or improved parks, libraries, streets or sidewalks.

This month, the City's Planning Department [launched a website](#) for its new Infrastructure Prioritization Engagement initiative, which aims to identify which public infrastructure projects are most wanted and needed. As part of the website, community members can take a survey to share what infrastructure projects they'd like to see in their neighborhoods and find out about in-person events where they can also share their ideas with City staff. This all comes after the San Diego City Council adopted updates to Council Policies [800-14](#) and [000-32](#) in December. These policies set the guidelines for how [Capital Improvements Program \(CIP\)](#) projects are prioritized and funded, and how engagement with community members occurs. Updates were made to increase public outreach and to the factors that determine how projects are prioritized to fund them more equitably and efficiently.

City staff will annually evaluate infrastructure project ideas for the CIP budget and the [Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook](#), which assists in planning future infrastructure projects, based on funding, operational feasibility, legal requirements, Council input, alignment with existing plans and policies, community input and prioritization factors in Council Policy 800-14. For projects to be considered for this year's updates, community members must fill out the survey in [English](#) or [Spanish](#) by July 31. People [can request](#) that the survey be translated into other languages.

City staff and partner organizations will continue to engage San Diegans through surveys, workshops and other events, and they welcome input at any time throughout the year. The Infrastructure Prioritization Engagement initiative is part of [Equity Forward](#), a comprehensive approach of evolving policies, plans and processes to create more equitable opportunities and investments in San Diego.

VI. HOUSING ACTION PACKAGE 2.0

The Housing Action Package was presented to the Planning Commission last month who requested that the Planning Department propose alternative scenarios for SB 10 implementation. I encourage you to visit the Housing Action Package 2.0 [website](#) to provide your feedback on SB 10 as well as provide feedback and learn more about the other initiatives in this proposal, including anti-displacement measures, fighting for environmental justice, and addressing student homelessness.