

Community Planners Committee

City Planning Department
City of San Diego 202 C Street, MS 413
San Diego, CA 92101
SDPlanningGroups@sandiego.gov
(619)-235-5200

Meeting Location:
Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center
4425 Bannock Ave.
San Diego, CA 92117

Tuesday, June 24, 2025
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
TIME: 6:15-8:15 p.m.

NOTE: If a Sign Language interpretation or language translation services are required, please visit www.sandiego.gov/planning/translation to submit a request at least (3) three workdays prior to the meeting date to insure availability. Times assigned for each item are approximate. The order of agenda items may be modified at the beginning of the meeting at the discretion of the Chair.

- ITEM #1 – 6:15** **CALL TO ORDER/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA/ROLL CALL**
- ITEM #2 – 6:20** **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT** - 2 minutes per issue
Identification of issues that are within the jurisdiction of the CPC, but not on the agenda. No discussion or action is permitted, except to establish a subcommittee for study, or place the item on a future agenda.
- ITEM #3 – 6:30** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF April 22, 2024 & May 27, 2025**
- ITEM #4 – 6:40** **MTS OnTrack (INFORMATION ITEM)** - MTS major planning effort for the future of bus and trolley service in our region. *Stacie Bishop, San Diego MTS*
- ITEM #5 – 7:00** **ADU BONUS - COUNCIL VOTE RESULTS (INFORMATION ITEM)**
Review of City Council decisions: *David Moty, Chair of the ADU subcommittee and Danna Givot, vice-chair of Neighbors for a Better San Diego*
- ITEM #6 – 7:20** **CALIFORNIA SB 79 (DISCUSSION/ACTION)** Review of SB 79 that passed the Senate. Moving on to the CA Assembly. Should CPC state a position on the bill. *David Moty & Danna Givot*
- ITEM #7 – 7:40** **PBPG CORRESPONDENCE TO DSD (ACTION ITEM)** PBPG request for CPC to support position regarding DSD letter/policy. *Marcella Bothwell, PBPG Chair*

ITEM #8 – 8:00

REPORTS TO CPC:

- Staff Report
- Chair's Report
- CPC Member Comments

ITEM #6 – 8:15

ADJOURNMENT



Pacific Beach Planning Group

The Official Planning Group for the Coastal Community of Pacific Beach

June 11, 2025

City of San Diego
Development Services Department
1222 First Avenue, MS 301
San Diego, CA 92101

Subject: Request for Documentation and Clarification on \$34 Document Review Fee and Note-Taking Policy

Dear Elyse Lowe, Director:

In our recent appointment at DSD, John Terrel, Development Chair, PBPG and myself were surprised to learn about the \$34 administrative fee for reviewing project documents and the policy prohibiting constituents from taking notes during these reviews. While our Councilmember clarified that the note-taking restriction was a misunderstanding, the staff member clearly believed this was an official policy. As residents and Community Planning Group members committed to transparency and community engagement in the development process, we respectfully request clarification, documentation, and reconsideration of these measures.

The \$34 fee creates a financial barrier for residents seeking to stay informed about projects that may impact their neighborhoods. Access to public records is essential for fostering trust and participation in local governance, and this fee may disproportionately affect individuals or community groups with limited resources. Additionally, prohibiting note-taking during document reviews restricts constituents' ability to engage meaningfully with the information provided, limiting their capacity to provide informed feedback or participate in public discussions.

To better understand these policies, I kindly request the following:

- Documentation outlining the new \$34 administrative fee, including the ordinance, resolution, or policy establishing it, its purpose, and how it aligns with the City's commitment to transparency and public access.
- Identification of the department, office, or individual(s) responsible for implementing and approving the \$34 fee and the note-taking restriction policy.
- An explanation of the note-taking restriction, including its intended purpose and any supporting documentation or guidelines.

- Consideration of alternative approaches, such as waiving the fee for non-commercial, public interest reviews.
- Relaxation of the "no phones" policy, an overreach to comply with State Law prohibiting copies, to bar photos only, not note taking, checking or research common to this modern technology

I appreciate the Department's efforts to manage resources efficiently while serving the public. However, I believe these policies may inadvertently hinder community involvement. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further or participate in any public forums addressing these concerns. Please provide the requested documentation and responses to our address and or email below.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Marcella Bothwell, MD, MBA
Chair, Pacific Beach Planning Group

Cc:

Councilmember Joe Lacava
Councilmember Jennifer Campbell
Councilmember Stephen Whitburn
Councilmember Henry Foster Iii
Councilmember Marni Von Wilpert
Councilmember Kent Lee
Councilmember Raul Campillo
Councilmember Vivian Moreno
Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera
Mayor Todd Gloria
City Attorney Heather Ferbert