



**Resiliency Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, Sept 18, 2025 at 1:00-3:00 pm

Location: Civic Center Plaza, 1200 3rd Ave, 4th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

The public is encouraged to subscribe to receive meeting agendas.

Please click the link below to join the meeting: <https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1615253690>

Chair: Cynthia Rose Harris | Vice Chair: Eric Lardy | Secretary: Jamie Garrett

Seated Board members: Ian Clampett, Cynthia Rose Harris, Erika Morgan, Stan Williams, Eric Lardy, A-bel Yee Gong, Jamie Garrett, Andrew Meyer

Staff Liaison: Julia Chase, Chief Resilience Officer, City Planning Department

KEY

Motions

Notes for inclusion in RAB Annual Report

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call (1:01 pm)

Board Member	Attendance
Ian Clampett	Present
Cynthia Rose Harris	Present
Erika Morgan	Present
Stan Williams	Present (Virtual) Motion by Board Member Clampett, Second by Board Member Morgan
Eric Lardy	Absent
A-bel Gong	Present
Jamie Garrett	Present
Andrew Meyer	Present

Item 2: Land Acknowledgement (1:02)

Item 3: Adoption/Modification of Agenda Order (1:03)

Motion by Board Chair Harris to move Items 9B and 9A, in that order, before Item 7. Motion to Approve by Board Member Meyer, Second by Board Member Gong

Item 4: Announcements and Board Member Comments (1:03)

- City Staff:
 - Inclusive Public Engagement Guide is available to the public for review. Members of the public may submit comments until Oct 19. Link will be shared with meeting minutes.
 - <https://www.sandiego.gov/engagement>
 - Board members should review the section on boards and commissions.
 - City Council approved the Coastal Resilience Master Plan, the associated Environmental Impact Report and initiated the inclusion of the prioritized sites (Tourmaline Beach, Ocean Beach Dog Beach, Ocean Beach – Beachfront, and Sunset Cliffs) for the Capital Improvement Program. The Mission Beach site was previously prioritized but was exchanged with the Tourmaline Beach site based on need to evaluate further impacts to public safety operations.
 - Next phase is funded by same grant
- Board Member Gong: San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative opened Climate Leader Awards, nominations due October 24. Winners will be announced in early December at networking event
 - Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeAS4lIMEuszac-jsovlaag-vnYP7v-XmbxAbbVRVdAV6A_bg/viewform
- Board Member Meyer: Latino Conservation Week
 - September 21, 9am-2pm event at Tijuana Restoration

Item 5: Approval of Minutes (1:10)

- June 12, 2025
 - Motion to approve Board Member Gong
 - Second by Board Member Morgan

Item 6: Non-Agenda Public Comment (1:11)

- None

Item 7: Unfinished Business (1:11)

- None pending

Item 9**b) Presentation on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) by Carie Chouinard, Fire-Rescue Department**

- CERT Mission: “Do the most good for the most people”
 - Force Multiplier for emergency response
- Board Member Gong asks: Any certifications around heat waves?
 - Yes. Heat stroke vs heat exhaustion, how to identify and treat, etc.
- Board Member Meyer asks about response to oil spills
 - No, not part of CERT SD Scope
- Board Member Morgan asks about participation annually
 - Fluctuates, 2,700 trained via academy. Reached 5,000 people as participants

- Word of mouth helps more participants find out about it
 - Trained volunteers to spread the word
- Board Member Gong asks about how many chapters are in the County of SD
 - 23 chapters
- Board Chair Harris asks about liability
 - Volunteers are trained on what they can and cannot do
- Board Member Meyer asks about climate change as a topic
 - No, it's not directly- but they do cover the impacts of climate change

Item 9: Information Items

a) Presentation on Biodiverse SD by Tara Ash-Reynolds and Kaelynn Graham, Dan Monroe City Planning Department

- a. San Diego County is the most biodiverse county in the continental United States and has implemented several conservation efforts to protect its unique habitats and species. Key programs include the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and the Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan (VPHCP), both of which have permits extending through 2047 to facilitate long-term species protection. The Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) works in conjunction with the VPHCP to support these efforts. The City enforces a Municipal Code for Environmentally Sensitive Lands that includes biology guidelines, brush management regulations, and landscape standards, and all development projects must undergo thorough environmental review.
- b. Coordination with wildlife agencies is essential, and annual reports track habitat gains and losses, management activities, boundary adjustments, and species monitoring. The City has already met 99.5% of its conservation land acquisition goal. Public tools, such as interactive MHPA and VPHCP maps, help people understand where special permitting might be required. Biodiverse SD collaborates with Parks & Recreation, the Public Utilities, and Airports to manage open space, and prioritizes public education through resources like story maps and homeowner guides for brush management, including rules to protect nesting birds.
- c. **Public comment:** Anne Fege emphasized the critical role of brush management in fire protection and urged consideration of all types and locations where brush management occurs, including within parks.
- d. Board Member Clampett inquired how these local efforts align with state conservation goals.
- e. Board Member Meyer raised questions about how conservation goals evolve over time, noting that while San Diego may have met its current objectives, maintaining and expanding these efforts into the future remains essential. Board Member Meyer also asked about protections for areas surrounding conserved lands. In response, it was explained that preserved areas and their borders are carefully managed to prevent negative impacts from nearby development, pets, and human activity. Even after conservation goals are met, the team plans to continue acquiring additional

land. Volunteer groups assist with ongoing maintenance, and community plans are encouraged to include setbacks from canyons and other sensitive areas to further protect natural habitats.

Item 8: Action Items

a) Presentation by Ad Hoc Task Force and consideration of draft 2025 Annual Report for Resiliency Advisory Board for approval

- <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/city-of-san-diego-resiliency-advisory-board-annual-report-draft.pdf>
- Ad Hoc Task Force: Board Chair Harris, Board Secretary Garrett, Board Member Williams
- Annual Report summarizes the Resiliency Advisory Board, why we exist, our work plan, and how it helps us to accomplish our goals. It takes into account thoughts and recommendations by board members. We tried to align the presentations and Board decisions with the Primary and Priority Goals outlined in the Resiliency Advisory Board, Work Plan. The Report dives into the multiple facets/ definitions of resiliency and makes recommendations that will ultimately aid the City in decision making and in considering resiliency in its future actions.
- Next steps are outlined and include improving the recruitment and appointment processes, adopting new priority goals, including energy resiliency as a major workplan goal, and monitoring whether City leadership implements our recommendations.
- Next step/Timing:
 - November 13 docket for Environmental Committee along with Climate Advisory Board, CAP, Biodiverse SD and Climate Resilient SD updates
 - Approval process requires final materials by last week of Oct (Oct 27)
 - All that is required (according to Kelly Stanco, Deputy Director City Planning) is periodic reports to Environmental Committee so it can inform budget moving forward=
 - Aligning the Final Report with the Fiscal Year (July 1-June 30) will better ensure incorporation of recommendations into the annual budgetary process.
 - Edits to be made to Annual Report for Oct 16 meeting
 - Task Force to reconvene and make the following changes:
 - Add a timeline harmonizing Board recommendations with the City budget process.
 - The timeline to incorporate milestones over the course of the year for the RAB to report to the Environment Committee, City Council, and Mayor's office to inform budget moving forward
 - Modify Report sequence: recommendation first, followed by the related City efforts carried out in parallel
 - Add column to chart about the City's initiative and how we have engaged, for context
 - Color code Primary vs Priority Goals
 - Add Annual Work Plan as appendix

- Energy Resilience as “Priority Goal” – nomenclature
 - In the last section, add a sentence to the effect of: “Board is considering including energy resiliency in next year’s Work Plan.”
 - Adjust processes moving forward
 - Make the Resiliency Advisory Board 2025 Key Recommendations: Individual Board Member Recommendations available year round. Allow ongoing process to submit recommendations all year
 - Are some recommendations worth taking before the annual report is due?
 - Create a living document.
 - Board Member Meyer: Natural Resource Management Planning Process presentation was given by Mark Berenger- We want to make a recommendation to support NRM staff with the resources they need so they can move forward with and expedite their efforts.
 - Board Member Clampett recommendation – integrate resiliency planning into city design and maintenance
- Motion: Board Member Meyers, Second Board Member Gong, Passes Unanimously

Item 10: Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings (2:55)

- a) October:
 - a. Finalize 2025 Annual Report
 - b. Presentation on grid resilience
 - c. Presentation from San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)
- b) Future
 - a. Discuss bylaws
 - b. Community engagement plan

Item 11: Adjournment (3:00)

- a) Next meeting October 16, 2025