



OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP
SPECIAL MEETING
MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 16, 2026
3003 CORONADO AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92154

Otay Mesa Planning Group, Chair, Rob Hixson called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm.
 Introductions are made across the room.

Members present:	Members absent:
Alejandra Mier y Teran	Felipe Nuño, Secretary
Allen Kashani	Jason Wells
Chris Holder	Jose Hernandez
Diane Kirma	Ted Shaw, Vice-Chair
Jorge Goytortua	Tom Simmons
Rob Hixson, Chair	Tony Blas
Ronnie Taylor	
Seth Dorros	

Approval of minutes:

March 2026

Vote: A motion was made by C. Holder *seconded* by D. Kirma. **Motion Passed (07-01-0-0).**

- **Yes:** R. Hixson, J. Goytortua, A. Kashani, A. Mier y Teran, & S. Dorros.
- **Recusal:** R. Taylor
- **Abstained:** None
- **Vote No:** None
- **Comments:** None

Public Input/Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda

Brandon Plasencia: Thank you to San Diego Police Officers. We saw a drop of 71% on property crime since we hired private security and sending police, which has been more active in the community in regard to parking issues. So, we've seen great success in the community and a great partnership with departments.

Chairman's Report: Rob Hixson, Chair

The primary challenge encountered was the lack of a quorum at the previous meeting, which significantly impeded progress.

Items Received:

1. Notice of Future Decision | La Media Improvements: Siempre Viva to Otay Truck Route | WBS No. B-19020

Government Liaison Reports

A. COUNCILMEMBER MORENO'S OFFICE: *Victor Caymaris*

- [Digital report](#)
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - April 20th: Youth-led Town Hall on the Tijuana River pollution crisis
 - Community art sale
- **District Updates:**
 - State grant secured for Grove Park, a 30-year-old development project
 - Land development code update recently passed, with more information in the [Digital Report](#)
 - Todd Gloria's proposed budget includes sizable cuts to partisan libraries and cultural funding, but critical services will be spared
- **Budget Review:**
 - Budget review hearings: first and second week of May
 - Opportunity for public input and advocacy: see the attached "Public Input Guide" for more information

B. MAYOR'S OFFICE: *Electronic Update, Lucero Maganda*

City to Begin Phased Rollout of Light Blue Recycling Bins:

- The City of San Diego will begin delivering new recycling bins to households eligible for City-provided trash and recycling collection service.
- The City is replacing the older dark blue recycling bins with new, light blue bins to help ensure service is provided only to eligible customers and at the correct service level.
- For most customers, delivery will occur on their regular trash day, and crews will remove the old dark blue recycling bins on that day as well.
- With more than 225,000 households eligible for City-provided trash service, the process will be phased over several months, with some properties receiving their new bins in early fall.
- The City's Environmental Services Department (ESD) is notifying customers about their bin delivery date through email and mailers being sent to property owners. Anyone eligible for City trash service can also look online at sandiego.gov/trash to see their estimated delivery date using the [Container Delivery Lookup tool](#).



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- If old bins remain after 48 hours, residents should submit a Container Removal Request on Get It Done or call ESD at 858-694-7000.
 - **City Announces New Partnership with Hyundai Motor America to Support Lifeguard Operations:**
- The City of San Diego announced a new multi-year marketing agreement with Hyundai Motor America that will provide the San Diego Fire-Rescue Lifeguard Division with a fully supported fleet of 32 brand-new vehicles, ongoing maintenance, upfitting and expanded community water safety programming.
- Under the partnership, Hyundai will become the Official Vehicle of the San Diego Lifeguards, supplying 18 Hyundai Santa Cruz trucks, 12 Hyundai Palisade XRT SUVs and two Hyundai IONIQ 5 electric vehicles.
- All vehicles will be replaced every two to three years, and Hyundai will cover preventive maintenance, warranty repairs and upfitting costs of up to \$18,400 per vehicle.
- The agreement includes an initial five-year term with the option of two additional five-year renewals, providing up to 15 years of operational support. There is an estimated \$4 million value over the initial five-year term.
 - **San Diego Crime Declines for Fourth Consecutive Year:**
- Mayor Todd Gloria and Police Chief Scott Wahl announced that crime in San Diego was down in 2025, reinforcing the City's reputation as one of the safest large cities in the United States.
- The new data shows that overall crime decreased by 6.3% in 2025 compared to 2024, continuing a steady decline that includes a 1.5% reduction in 2024 and a 2.7% decrease in 2023.
- The statistics are reported through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), a nationwide data collection system maintained by the U.S. Department of Justice. NIBRS crimes include crimes against persons, property, and society.
- Several individual crime indicators showed notable improvements in 2025:
 - Murders decreased by 25%
 - Sexual assaults decreased by 6.9%
 - Non-fatal shootings decreased by 25 cases, representing a 21% drop
 - Motor vehicle theft declined by 22%
 - Hate crime reports decreased from 60 in 2024 to 41 in 2025, a 32% reduction
 - Crimes committed by gang members decreased 13%

The full crime statistics are available in the [2025 Annual Crime Statistics Report](#).

- **City Celebrates Nearly 500 New Homes Across Three Projects:**
- Hundreds of new homes are coming online in San Diego through a combination of programs that incentivize affordable housing across the city.
- Mayor Todd Gloria helped celebrate the opening of SkyLINE, a new, mixed-use, transit-oriented development located at the **Rancho Bernardo** Transit Station.
 - Developed through a partnership between Affirmed Housing and San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), SkyLINE replaces a portion of an existing MTS parking lot with a seven-story affordable housing development featuring 100 homes, approximately 14,000 square feet of office space and parking for MTS riders.
 - SkyLINE provides 100 apartments, ranging from one to three-bedroom homes, for low-income families earning between 30% and 55% of the area median income.
 - The project was made possible through the City's efforts to encourage housing near major transit and included funding from the City of San Diego through our [Bridge to Home program](#) to help finance construction.
- In **North Park**, the Monroe is an eight-story building with 137 homes that include a mix of studio, one and two bedrooms.
 - The development also includes on-site parking for residents using mechanical stacker systems that allow vehicles to be parked vertically, increasing parking capacity within a smaller footprint.
 - Approved as part of the City's [Complete Communities Housing Solutions](#) incentive program, The Monroe is centrally located in a walkable neighborhood near restaurants, small businesses and community spaces.
- The Quince in **Bankers Hill** is a project that includes 262 homes — 22 of them affordable.
 - A topping-off ceremony on March 5 marked construction progress on the housing project, which includes commercial space and an open-air public plaza.
 - This [Complete Communities Housing Solutions](#) project will feature co-working space, a gym, pool and spa, along with on-site parking.

San Diego's Key Budget Dates: What to Know About the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget:

- March 10, 2026: City Council reviews FY 2027-2031 Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook and related report by the Office of the IBA.
- April 15, 2026: Release of Mayor's FY 2027 Draft Budget online. Per City Charter, the Mayor must release the Draft Budget to the Council and the public no later than April 15.
- April 20, 2026: Mayor presents FY 2027 Draft Budget at City Council.
- May 4 through May 8: Budget Review Committee (BRC) budget presentation hearings, including: IBA's Review of the FY 2027 Draft Budget, to be presented on May 4; presentations by City departments and agencies and corresponding Office of the IBA presentations.



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- May 4, 2026: 6 p.m. BRC hearing for public input on the FY 2027 Draft Budget.
- May 13, 2026: Release of the following reports:
 - Mayor's May Revision to the FY 2027 Draft Budget (May Revision)
 - FY 2026 Third Quarter Budget Monitoring Report
 - FY 2026 CIP Year-End Budget Monitoring Report
- May 18, 2026: City Council reviews the FY 2027 May Revision and FY 2026 Third Quarter Budget Monitoring Report as informational items.
- June 2: Release of IBA's report on final recommended City Council modifications to the Mayor's FY 2027 Draft Budget and review of the May Revision, as well as a report transmitting the Councilmembers' final budget modification memoranda.
- June 5, 2026: BRC discusses the recommended City Council budget modifications.
- June 9, 2026: City Council approval of the FY 2027 Budget with any final budget modifications. Per City Charter, budget adoption is required no later than June 15.

C. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DAVID ALVAREZ OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

D. COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

E. SENATOR PADILLA'S OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT & CODE COMPLIANCE: *Officer Edington*

➤ **Spanish-language Community Academy:**

- It starts May 6th and runs for 6 weeks, 1 day a week, until June 10th
- Held at Casa Community Center, 212 West Park, San Ysidro
- Covers various topics, including:
 - Traffic stops and rights
 - Internal affairs process
 - Police department inner workings
- No registration required

➤ **English-language Community Academy:**

- Held at a different location (4054 Logan Avenue) during the same time as the Spanish-language program.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT: *No report was provided.*

H. IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT: *No report was provided.*

Monthly Reports:

A. CPC- *(Allen Kashani)*

➤ **Two agenda items were discussed on March 24th**

- Concerns about density, growth, and transit development in Golden Hill.
- City of San Diego's development impact and DSP process.
- The city implemented a city-wide fee program in 2020 to compartmentalize funds.
- Projects filed under SB 330 before 2020 are grandfathered in and may still receive funding.
- The city only collects 1-2% of capital project funding from DSPs.

B. Southwest Village Committee – *(Electronic Update- Rob Hixson)*

- The Southwest Village Specific Plan will be heard by the San Diego Planning Commission on May 7, 2026, and they will be heard by the City Council in June or July. After nearly 2 decades of planning, the plan includes 5,000+ homes, parks, schools, a village core, and infrastructure. The public is encouraged to attend and show support.

C. Border Transportation – *(Alejandra Mier y Teran)*

➤ **New tariff regulations:**

- Tariffs now apply to the entire value of a product, not just the percentage of a specific material (e.g. steel, aluminum, copper)
- 232 tariffs are still in place.

➤ **De minimis rule:**

- If a product contains less than 15% of a specific material, no tariff is applied.
- Exceptions apply depending on the country of origin.

D. Siempre Viva Rd / Britannia Blvd Route – *(Rob Hixson)*

- Our next CIP project.

E. San Diego Airport Advisory Committee – *No report provided.*

F. Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce – *(Alejandra Mier y Teran)*

- The 35th Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for [Friday, May 1, 2026](#) – two foursomes left available
- Webinar on tariff regulations: April 21st
- Refund process for tariffs: guidance from the government has been issued.

East Otay Mesa Property Owner's Association Update – *(David Wick)*



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- Amazon is looking to occupy a 100-200 square foot warehouse, not the large distribution center on Enrico Fermi and Otay Mesa Road.
- Amazon is exploring existing buildings for their warehouse needs, not new construction.
- In East Otay Mesa:
 - There are no vans or trailers with people living in the streets as of today.
 - The only unpermitted property is the property on Otay Mesa Road and Alta Road, which is being addressed by the owner.
- The goal is to have all properties in East Otay Mesa fully permitted and improved to attract new businesses like Samsung and Amazon.
- This will help create a positive and attractive industrial area for potential tenants.

G. La Media West Wetlands - No report was provided.

H. Informational Items – None.

Action Items:

a) Elections results:

- **Welcome to the planning group:**
 - Aj Jashan
 - Brandon Placencia
 - Jessica Damschen

No.	Name of Candidate	Position	Tally
1.	Aj Jahshan	Property Owner	### I (6)
2.	Allen Kashani	Property Owner	### IIII (9)
3.	Brandon Plasencia	Resident	### ### (10)
4.	Chris Holder	Property Owner	### ### (10)
5.	Diane Kirma	Property Owner	### ### (10)
6.	Felipe Nuno	Resident	### ### (10)
7.	Jessica Damschen	Business Representative	### ### (10)
8.	Jorge Goytortua	Business Representative	### ### (10)
9.	Jose Hernandez	Business Representative	### ### (10)
10.	Rob Hixson	Property Owner	### ### (10)
11.	Ronnie Taylor	Resident	### ### (10)
12.	Seth Dorros	Property Owner	### IIII (9)
13.	Ted Shaw	Business Representative	### ### (10)
14.	Tom Simmons (*)	Property Owner	### (5)
15.	Tony Blas	Property Owner	### II (8)

(*) not elected

a) 6021 Business Center Court CPG Input/ EAS Determination | PRJ-1123958

The proposed scope of work includes the demolition of the existing 7,875 SF commercial retail building & existing parking surfaces and the construction of a new 3,700 SF McDonald's with a dual drive-through lane. No alcohol licenses or co-tenants are proposed.

Update: Environmental Determination:

EAS has completed the environmental review of your project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act CEQA and can make an environmental determination. The proposed activity is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) and Section 15332 In-Fill Development Project) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

- **Vote:** A motion was made by A. Mier y Teran *seconded* by R. Taylor. Motion passed (08-0-0-0)
- **Yes:** R. Hixson, J. Goytortua, A. Kashani, D. Kirma, S. Dorros, & C. Holder.
- **Recusal:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Vote No:** None
- **Comments:** None

b) Appointment to Fill Vacant Seat on the Otay Mesa Community Planning Group | Alfredo Ripa | Representative from the San Ysidro Community Planning Group



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The Otay Mesa Planning Group to consider an action to appoint an Alfredo Ripa to fill a vacant seat as a representative from the San Ysidro Planning Group.

- **Vote:** A motion was made by A. Mier y Teran *seconded* by C. Holder. Motion passed (08-0-0-0)
Yes: R. Hixson, J. Goytortua, A. Kashani, D. Kirma, S. Dorros, & R. Taylor.
- **Recusal:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Vote No:** None
- **Comments:** None

I. **Closing remarks** – Rob Hixson, Chair, Thank you for your participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 pm by Rob Hixson, Chair of the Otay Mesa Planning Group.