

Skyline-Paradise Hills Community Planning Group

July 14, 2026 Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Houston called the meeting to order at 18:04 hours. He noted that this was his first meeting as Chair following the resignation of former Chair Samantha Jenkins earlier in the year.

Roll Call

The following members were present for a quorum:

- Don Houston
- Avery Montoya
- Wayne English
- Dexter Saldaen
- Erin Tomaras
- Tanika Tyler

The following members were absent:

- Rhonda Shephard
- Tanisha-Jean Martin

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- *Chair Houston requested that Representative Reports be moved to the end of the agenda and that the action item to add Dexter Saldaen as a voting member be heard first under Action Items. No voting members objected.*
- *Member Montoya motioned to approve the May 12, 2026 minutes. Member Tyler seconded. Members Houston, Montoya, English, Tomaras, and Tyler voted for the motion to pass.*

Non-Agenda Public Comment

- Edwina Hardieaway, past president of a Skyline Hills community group, expressed interest in collaborating on community issues. She noted that the neighborhood is changing, residents have received frequent calls to sell their homes, and members of Christ the King Church have raised concerns regarding ICE activity. She suggested creating a phone tree or contact list to share information when community concerns arise.
- Alexander Young, a Skyline Hills resident, requested assistance obtaining trash cans at bus stops along Skyline Drive. The resident noted picking up trash weekly at bus stops and that existing trash cans are often overflowing.
 - Chair Houston suggested contacting Councilmember Foster's office and the Mayor's office. Member Montoya suggested a letter that the CPG could consider supporting.
- David Townsend, a Skyline Hills resident, raised concerns regarding traffic at 47th Street and Imperial Avenue and requested coordination of traffic signals to reduce congestion on and near the freeway.
 - Larry Young stated that the light changes every three cycles instead of every other cycle.
 - An additional lane was suggested as a potential way to help alleviate traffic.
 - Member English suggested talking to Councilmember Foster/Bruce Williams.
- Member English said that the CPG could use more voting members and invited the public to apply.

Community Planners Committee Report

- Chair Houston reported on the most recent CPC meetings that he's attended. He noted that the meetings are Zoom meetings that the public can attend online or in person.
- He showed the CPC website (<https://www.sdcp.org/>) and noted that the presentations are available on their website. He noted the following topics:
 - o SB79– Allows high-density development near trolley stops
 - o Neighbors for a Better San Diego – The City is pushing for more condo buildings and townhomes, which will change the character of single-family neighborhoods
 - o A Seat at the Table – Community representatives get 1 minute at City meetings and developers get more time. City now allowing community representatives up to 15 minutes if there are enough time ceders in attendance.
 - o Noise Ordinance Land Development Code Change – CPC asking the City to put in guard rails for a noise ordinance change that allows business to make noise all day if they have a permit
 - o OB Rag – Kate Callen is soliciting input to tell a story about each CPG
 - o Other Presentations – Other recent presentations have included ones on technology and community gardens.

Chair's Report

- Chair Houston went over his goals for the rest of the 2026-2026 term and noted he will need help from the community and voting members to get these achieved:
 - o Recruit voting member in advance of 2027 elections
 - He wants to have a robust election (with competition that yields the best candidates).
 - He said the CPG is currently missing representatives from Lomita and Jamacha and is focused on recruitment in those areas.
 - o Update bylaws/operating procedures
 - This process was started last year but never completed. It will include update of election procedures.
 - o Establish internet/social media presence
 - Groundworks San Diego has paid for websites for other CPGs
 - Starting to get together with other Southeast SD CPGs, coordinating a quarterly meeting .
 - District 4 website has all the CPGs and Town Councils meeting details, but Member English has been asking to include that meeting information in the monthly newsletter as well.
 - o Attend 2 community engagement and participation events
 - The CPG has already participated in the grand opening of the Paradise Hills Native Garden.
 - o Give the letterhead a facelift
- Chair Houston went over the CPG's responsibilities.

- He noted that it changed from a Community Planning Committee to Community Planning Group on May 29, 2024 and the latest version of CP 600-24 is from the same date
 - Responsibilities include collaboration with City staff, advisory planning review and submittal of CPG recommendations to the City within 10 days, adherence to the Brown Act, maintenance of open records.
 - A new AT&T tower project in Paradise Hills has come to the CPG for review and Chair Houston invited the project applicant to a future meeting
 - Chair Houston noted that the CPG is an “Independent Entity”, which means it independent from the City and must be able to operate as such
- Chair Houston noted that the training with City needs to be completed every year and the annual report needs to be submitted every year.
 - The latest annual report was submitted on July 13.
- Chair Houston shared the Skyline - Paradise Hills Community Plan and the planning issues stated in the plan.
 - It was adopted in 1987 and is a good reference when asking for the CPG to support a cause (i.e., reference language from plan).
 - He noted that an update to the plan is needed.
- Chair Houston noted that participated as a time ceder for the Emerald Hills Development Appeal Hearing.
 - The appeal was unsuccessful.
 - Supervisor Montgomery supported the radio towers project.

Voting Members Report

- No voting member reports were provided.

Informational Items

- No informational items were provided.

Action Items

- Appoint Dexter Saldean as a CPG Voting Member
 - ***Member English motioned to appoint Dexter Saldaen as a CPG voting member for the remainder of Samantha Jenkins’ term, ending March 31, 2027. Member Montoya seconded. Members Houston, Montoya, English, Tomaras, and Tyler voted for the motion to pass.***
- Motion re: California Coast Credit Union Account No. XXXXXXXX089
 - ***Member English motioned to request that Samantha Jenkins and Harry Bennett Jr. be removed from California Coast Credit Union Account No. XXXXXXXX089 and that Don Houston and Erin Tomaras be added to the account and that all future account statements be sent to Don Houston. Member Montoya seconded. Members Houston, Montoya, English, Tomaras, Saldean, and Tyler voted for the motion to pass.***
- Review and submit a letter of support for continued planning, community engagement, and partnership exploration of the Douglas District/Green Ribbon Corridor concept as a community-serving initiative

- o The CPG discussed the proposed letter of support.
- o Chair Houston noted that the letter should be addressed to a specific recipient rather than “To Whom It May Concern.” Member Tyler clarified that the letter was intended as an initial support letter for District 4 community members and organizations.
- o Chair Houston indicated that the CPG can support the Marie Widman Park project but cannot support projects outside of the CPG’s boundary.
- o It was decided to keep discussing the letter of support at the next meeting.
- Review and submit the Community Infrastructure Priorities list due on August 1
 - o The infrastructure priority projects that the CPG discussed and agreed to submit to the City included the following:
 - Construct a sidewalk on south side of Paradise Valley Road
 - Improve existing bike lanes on Paradise Valley Road with curb and bollard protection from National City to Woodman Street
 - Restore riparian scrub habitat on south side of Paradise Valley Road
 - Update Kieller Park equipment/playing fields

Representative Reports

- Tiffany Harrison (City Council District 4) provided the following information:
 - o Arts and culture funding opportunities are open, and the last virtual webinar will be held on August 4.
 - o Community Infrastructure Priorities are due by August 1.
 - o Get It Done Days will occur during the first week of August, beginning in the Chollas CPG area.
- Robin Todd (California Assembly District 79) provided updates regarding bills related to retail theft (AB 2108) and child support (AB 2395).
- Officer Jones (Southeastern Division) provided the following information:
 - o He provided his email and phone number for community members to reach out to jonescl@pd.sandiego.gov, 619-701-4016
 - o Residents were encouraged to submit parking enforcement concerns through the Get It Done app, take a screenshot, and email the information to Officer Jones. Officer overtime has been approved to assist with parking enforcement.
 - Recent enforcement resulted in 74 citations and 66 vehicles towed.
 - o Officer Jones stated that residents may send flyers to him for distribution.
 - o Graffiti concerns should be submitted through Get It Done.
 - o Young and Prosperous Foundation has helped previously with trash clean ups.
 - o A complaint from the public was made about no one staffing the front desk of a police station.
 - Officer Jones suggested calling the non-emergency number as staffing issues can result in no one staffing the front desk.

Adjournment

Chair Houston adjourned the meeting at 19:51 hours.

Meeting minutes were recorded by:

Erin Tomaras

Erin Tomaras, Secretary

Approved at August 11, 2026 meeting