

Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee

General Meeting Minutes April 14, 2026

A video of this meeting is available at: <https://youtu.be/y3ePyo7Ipg8>

Meeting called to order at: 7:02 pm.

Members present

Bettina Rausa (Chair), Redwood Village
Sonia Lang (Vice Chair), Rolando Park
John Hogan (Treasurer), Redwood Village
Laura Riebau, El Cerrito (*online*)
Jim Westheimer, El Cerrito
Richard Diaz, Oak Park

Amertah Perman, Oak Park
Emily Perez, Rolando
Lynn Edwards, Rolando Park
Jessica Arreguin, Webster
Joe Yorty, Business Owner (Webster)

Absent: Jen Eastman, Webster; Kim Nguyen, Rolando

Quorum: Yes

Chair's Welcome

Bettina welcomed all new and returning members.

Adoption of Agenda or Agenda Changes

Lynn made a motion to add an action item requesting that EACPC support a letter of support from Groundwork and a coalition of community organizations to the mayor and city council requesting that staff cuts to the Parks and Recreation Department and Open Space Division as part of the upcoming budget cycle for FY27 be halted immediately.

Sonia seconded the motion and the vote to add the action item was unanimous, 10-0-0.

Communication from the Public on Non-Agenda Items

- Becky Rapp
 - Updated the community on Councilmember Foster's proposal to double the number of permitted cannabis shops to 72, along with related land use changes
 - Expressed concerns about public health and safety implications, as well as financial costs to the city during a budget deficit
 - Called for a comprehensive audit of the existing marijuana industry's revenue performance
- Naiyali Cruz from Groundwork San Diego shared information about energy programs, electric vehicles, and upcoming volunteer opportunities at the Earth Lab.
- Kathleen Lippitt raised concerns about the city's financial management and criticized recent council actions regarding park land and conflict of interest waivers.

City, County, and State Representatives' Reports

- Bruce Williams for Webster and Oak Park, District 4, Councilmember Henry Foster III
 - Provided updates on the budget deficit and upcoming dumpster day events
 - Trying to coordinate a joint dumpster day with D9 at Gloria's Mesa, targeting June 27, and a Webster dumpster day on May
- Anisa Mohamed – Community Representative for District 9, Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera
 - Announced that the due process and safety ordinance had passed unanimously and was awaiting the Mayor's signature
 - Shared that the 2027 budget process will begin soon with public hearings scheduled for May
 - Discussed upcoming block parties at Teralta Park
 - Provided updates on the University Avenue Bikeway project, noting that MTS buses will continue stopping within their travel lane as designed
 - Will follow up on questions about Streamview Drive Phase 2, Chollas Triangle Park, and possible safety features being removed from the University Bikeway project

Information and Action Items

- **Information and action:** Candidate Valerie Inge from Webster introduced herself for the open member at large position. Valerie was elected unanimously to the position, 10-0-0.
- **Information and action:** EACPC Annual Election of Officers
Elected as follows:
 - Chair: Bettina and Lynn, Co-Chairs
 - Vice Chair: Sonia
 - Secretary: Jim
 - Treasurer: John
 - Community Planners Committee representative: Laura
- Before proceeding, the Chair asked all members to give a brief introduction
- **Information and action: Letter of support supporting Groundwork's letter to the mayor and city council**
Groundwork requested that EACPC support a letter of support from Groundwork and a coalition of community organizations to the mayor and city council requesting that staff cuts to the Parks and Recreation Department and Open Space Division as part of the upcoming budget cycle for FY27 be halted immediately.

Amertah made the motion for EACPC to approve supporting Groundwork's letter and adding our name to the list of community-based organizations who support the letter, Emily seconded the motion. Approved unanimously, 10-0-0.

Review, Correction, and Approval of Minutes for February and March

- John made the motion to approve the minutes for February and March with corrections, Jim seconded. Approved unanimously, 10-0-0.

Subcommittee Reports

- Community updates:
 - El Cerrito (Laura): Will have someone from the city review fire hazard areas

- Oak Park (Richard): Assistant City Attorney filed a lawsuit against an Independent Living Facility (ILF) in Oak Park; meet and greet with Councilmember Henry Foster on Saturday, April 18
- Redwood Village (John): Working on a pocket park at University/60th
- Rolando (Emily); Rolando Street Fair was on Sunday, very successful; Catwalk cleanup on Saturday, April 18; next RCC meeting on April 21
- Rolando Park (Lynn): Community cleanup in Zena Canyon on April 18, I Love A Clean San Diego's Creek to Bay cleanup at Chollas Lake on April 25
- Webster (Joe): Last month, Webster Elementary met with the public, city officials, and the architect for the school modernization project; residents advocated for a joint use park as part of the project
- Parks & Recreation – Daniele Laman
At the Thursday, Parks and Recreation Board meeting:
 - Will be hearing about the recreation element of the Mid-City Community Plan Update
 - CDP amendment to Dennis V Allen park
 - Reallocation of FY 2026 Regional Parks Improvement Funds
 - Still working on adding Portia Dawson's name to the Colina Rec Center
 - Looking at changes to the Chollas Lake GDP; elements changing due to location of new library
 - Pendleton Park in Rolando costs now at \$7 million, most of it for the design
- CPC December Meeting – Laura: At the March meeting, presentation on changes to Developer Impact Funding (DIF); also a presentation on Complete Communities Density Tracking project by Preserve Golden Hill group

For the Good of the Order and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05.