OTAY MESA-NESTOR COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

St. Charles Catholic School
August 12th, 2026

Members Present:	**Members Absent:**
District 1 Edgar Garfias	District 2 Mary Lou Tarobal
District 4 Omar Araiza	District 5 Andrea Ongaco
District 6 Alexis Gonzalez	District 12 Carlos Sanchez
District 7 John Wojcik	District 13 Brian McGonagill
District 8 Steve Egger	
District 9 Albert Estrada	**Vacant District Seats:**
District 10 Bob Mikloski	District 3
District 11 Albert Velasquez	District 14
District 15 Gary McGrath	
District 16 Bobby Hicks	

1. **Call to Order/Introduction of Members:** Albert Velasquez, Chair of the Otay Mesa Nestor Community Planning Group (OMNCPG), called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. He welcomed all Board members and members of the community to the meeting.

2. **Approval of the Minutes**: The draft minutes of the July 8th, OMNCPG meeting were approved unanimously with an edit to item 13b for clarification.

3. **Non-Agenda Public Comments**: (2-minute limit per speaker).
    a. Gary McGrath spoke about the Tuesday Night Out event, good community engagement, San Ysidro planning also being present.
    b. Edgar Garfias brought up the reminder to complete E-Cow training.
    c. Omar Araiza attended San Ysidro planning committee meeting and are looking to partner more closely with the OMNCPG.
        i. Additionally, mentioned the upcoming Climate Smart Gardening event on August 30th, and Native Plant Workshop on September 6th.

4. **San Diego Police Department Report**: SDPD Officer Ascencio Agustin, aascencio@pd.sandiego.gov
    a. National Night Out on August 4th
    b. Alexis Gonzalez asked about any patrols on Coronado and the gas station. There has been a back and forth with them moving around as enforcement shows up.
        i. Additionally, asked about the cameras in Chula Vista, is the city coordinating with them?
            1. Yes, there would be coordination if they're looking for someone specifically. Will start setting off red flags once the information is entered.
    c. Omar Araiza asked about surveillance LPRs in the community. How many are in our community? Are the private surveillance cameras need to be announced?
        i. Private are legal so long as they're focused on the private property.
    d. Bobby Hicks asked about the new speed limits and multiple signs on the same street.

e. Steve Egger asked about the improvements of the cameras on the ability of the department to solve crime.
    i. Yes, there have been improvements.
f. Bob Mikloski asked about people doing donuts on the streets,
    i. Yes, they're catching them. 2 were caught this past weekend.

5. **City of San Diego, Council District 8 Report**: Victor Caymaris, Council Representative, 619-236-6688, VCaymaris@sandiego.gov
    a. The San Diego Bird Alliance will be hosting a "Native Seed Library paint party" event on Friday, August 14th at the Otay Mesa-Nestor Library at 10:00 am.
    b. 2026 Thanksgiving Turkey Drive @ Los Altos Elementary School (1332 Kenalan Dr, 92154) on November 20th, 2026 → we are seeking donors and volunteers for the day of the event; please let me know if you would be interested in supporting this year!
    c. Movies in the Park ("Goat") on Friday, August 28th @ Cesar Solis Community Park (4895 Del Sol Blvd, 92154)
    d. South Bay Sustainable Communities will be hosting "The Art of Passion Fruit" event on Sunday, August 30th from 10:00 to 12:00 at their community farm in the Tijuana River Valley (2225 Hollister St)
    e. Save the date for this year's Tijuana River Action Month (TRAM) September 13 - October 17, 2026. → TRAM events on both sides of the border include Coastal Cleanup Day, guided walks, workshops, art events, habitat restoration projects, and more! More information and registration coming soon.
    f. Join the Environmental Justice Workgroup (County of San Diego) before August 31st
    g. Omar Araiza asked about what type of impact will the new homes in Otay Mesa have on the sewage situation.
    h. Albert Estrada spoke about the Park. Council session, Park officials explained that the 1.2 million dollars that are not spent. Montgomery back balance. Why if there are issues, why has no one put that money to work.
        i. Opportunity fund distribution, little money is being sent to District 8 because per the department the money in the bucket wasn't being spent. The question is what's going on at the administrative level at the District 8 rec centers that doesn't know about the money or isn't spending it to address the issue.
        ii. Brought up San Diego Union Tribune article from June 18, 2026 highlighting city council members criticizing how money from San Diego's four-year-old opportunity fund is being allocated to recreation centers in low-income areas.
        iii. https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2026/06/18/this-fund-was-supposed-to-help-san-diegos-neediest-rec-centers-so-why-isnt-the-city-spending-the-money/
    i. Alexis Gonzalez asked about Caliente Avenue and Beyer Boulevard extension project.
        i. The purpose of the project is to make the area walkable and have people use public transportation.

ii. Beyer Blvd East project needs to be completed as a part of the project due to accessibility and fire concerns.

j. Omar Araiza asked about Economic Development plans for the neighborhood. San Ysidro is trying to revitalize the community business. We are also lacking that. Are there any plans to have an economic development project in our area?

k. Bob Miklowski asked whether the money is set aside to address Piccard in September.
   i. Yes, the money is already set aside. Will confirm if in September.

6. **City of San Diego, Office of the Mayor**: Lucero Maganda, Community Representative, LMaganda@sandiego.gov
   a. No report

7. **San Diego Board of Supervisors, District 1:** Andres Geurts-Barreto, Community Representative, andres.geurts@sdcounty.ca.gov
   a. Sept 1st Meeting
      i. 2 Major Decisions
         1. Ending County Facilities to end license agreements allowing CPB and ICE of county operated and leased firing range.
         2. 2026 Utilities Executive Compensation limits tied to rates.
   b. Pipe Extension slated to be completed by Spring of 2027, have completed the study and design, next will be to bid the project. Still looking funding for the culvert bridge and getting partners for the capture and cleaning of the Tijuana river flows.
   c. Sweetwater Little League are one game away from making it to the Little League World Series.
   d. Omar Araiza asked if there are any preparations for the projected El Nino in the Tijuana River Valley?
      i. Imperial Beach Library meeting to discuss what will happen to address potential health issues and flooding risks.

8. **80th Assembly District Report**: Lilianna Barba, Field Representative, 619-498-8580, Lilianna.barba@asm.ca.gov
   a. AB 2056 Binational Teacher Expansion Act has passed the California State Legislature and is now headed to Governor Newsom's desk for signature
      i. This bill strengthens California's World Language Teacher Exchange Program by expanding the state's teacher exchange partnership with Mexico and Spain.
   b. Assemblymember Alvarez has 10 bills in the suspense file with the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the hearing is on Thursday, August 13.
   c. Medi-Cal
      i. Update your contact information with your county benefits office.
      ii. Keep an eye out for any letters mailed from the county or state.
   d. CalMatters and inewsource is hosting an in-person panel discussion. The Tijuana River Crisis: Health, Accountability, and Hope for San Diego's South Bay.

i. Thursday, August 13 at 6pm to 7:30pm at The FRONT Arte & Cultura (147 W San Ysidro Boulevard, San Ysidro, CA 92173)
ii. CalMatters and inewsource will bring together leading political leaders, medical professional and residents who deal with these issues daily.
iii. https://cal.news/tijuana-river

9. **52nd Congressional District Report**: Valery Gomez, District Aide, Valery.Gomez@mail.house.gov
   a. No Report.

10. **Office of Senator Steve Padilla Report**: Artemis Hodoyan, District Representative, Artemis.Hodoyan@sen.ca.gov
   a. No Report.

11. **Informational Item: Otay Mesa-Nestor Community Plan Update**
The City of San Diego will provide an overview of the process as we kick off the community plan update for the Otay Mesa-Nestor Community. Shannon Corr, Senior Planner, SLCorr@sandiego.gov
   a. https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/otay-mesa-nestor-community-plan-update
   b. Presentation: https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2026-08/otay-mesa-nestor-community-plan-update-presentation-to-community-planning-group-8_14_2026.pdf
   c. 4 Phases
      a. Community Ideas (Summer-Winter 2026) will release existing conditions report and develop framework for ideas
         i. Stakeholder interviews
         ii. Pop Up Events
         iii. Arts based youth engagement at schools
         iv. Online Survey
         v. Community Planning Group meetings
      b. Community Validation (Winter-Summer 2027)
         i. High level conversations and goals and policies, land use, urba design, mobility, housing
      c. Draft Community Plan (Summer-Winter 2027)
         i. Feedback on goals, policies, concepts and ideas
      d. Hearing Process and Adoption (Winter-Summer 2028)
         i. Plan refinement to be made prior to seeking adoption.
   d. Existing Conditions Report
      a. History and Place
      b. Sustainability, Equity, Resilience, and Conservation
      c. Land Use and Development
      d. Mobility
      e. Parks and Public Facilities
   e. Unrelated, but the planning department is also working on a Extreme Heat Action Plan, complete the survey at: https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/work/extreme-heat-action-plan

f. Alberto Velasquez asked about what the existing conditions report is built from?
    a. Using information from SANDAG, Fire Hazard, Coastal Overlay maps, Demographics maps. Report will outline the details of where the information comes from.
g. Bob Mikloski asked why did it take so long and how long is this supposed to last.
    a. Should last 30 years and the timeline of updates is based on the changes in the community rather than a strict timeline to update.
h. Gary McGrath asked who are stakeholders.
    a. Planning Group, anyone that brings community together, businesses, property owners, schools, community groups, religious orgs, YMCA, anyone that's part of the community.
i. John Wojcik asked about how outreach is being done?
    a. Meetings, email updates, social media, potential flyers in the mail, increasing community connections to tap into existing outreach channels.
    b. Press release, local news, flyers at locations where people gather like community rec centers, schools, and other.
j. Resident asked about whether this is an opportunity to bring up projects that could become CIPs? What is the community planning update in layman terms? Do the costal community get a
    a. No, this would be a separate process.
    b. A high level wish list for the next 30 years in the community.
    c. The coastal commission would need to adopt the plan for any part of the community that falls into the coastal zone. Will coordinate with them during the process. Wont be official for the coastal zone until its adopted by the commission.
k. Omar Araiza brought up discrepancies between the plan and the reality. This plan should also address the Tijuana River Valley. Concerns about the small turnout at meetings held in the community.

12. **Sub-Committee Reports**:
    a. Election Subcommittee
        i. Karlo Vazquez Melendez is eligible for membership
        ii. Districts 3 and 14 are vacant
        iii. Karlo Vazquez Melendez was unanimously approved and will represent District 3.
    b. Community Planning Group Vision Subcommittee
    c. Parks Subcommittee
        i. CRG will not meet until September.
    d. Tijuana River Valley Subcommittee
        i. Mosquitos are increasing and West Nile is in our county.
        ii. August 26 and 27 the helicopter will be treating the valley with a larvicide.
        iii. A continuous flow of the river rather than ponding would result in fewer mosquitos.
        iv. Long term recommendation from Dudek, it was recommended that the North Channel cutoff project be selected.
        v. Omar Araiza brought up fever brought on by mosquito bites.

vi. John Wojcik mentioned improvement with less flow of sewage at the hot spot, but unsure of what has been done that has led to improvements.
    1. There is more trash clean up and other small improvements in Tijuana that may be adding up to the improvement in the flow into the valley.
    2. President of Mexico and the Secretary of the Interior has been bringing up the Tijuana River Valley.

13. **Chair's Report:** Albert Velasquez, OMNCPG Chair
    a. Reminder that there is still a board seat open.

14. **Meeting was adjournment at 8:02pm**

Guests Present at Meeting		
Valeria Viera	Marco Espinosa	Jay Jackson
Anoush Vashe	Edgar Cordes	Ana McGrath
Liz Enriquez	Karlo Vazquez	