

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MISSION VALLEY PLANNING GROUP**

**September 04, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marla Bell  
Deborah Bossmeyer  
Paul Brown  
John Carson  
Gina Cord  
Monica Davis  
Robert Doherty  
Randall Dolph  
Alan Grant  
John LaRaia  
Elizabeth Leventhal  
John Nugent  
Doris Payne-Camp  
Karen Ruggels  
Marco Sessa  
Dottie Surdi  
Josh Weiselberg

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jason Broad  
Bob Cummings  
Perry Dealy  
Alex Plishner  
Brittany Ruggels

GUESTS

Vicky Joes  
Kathleen Lippitt  
Rick Wilson

FEDERAL REP'S STAFF

Jonathan Hardy

CITY STAFF

Lx Fangonilo  
Brian Schoenfisch  
Goldy Thach

COUNTY STAFF

Katie Judd  
Hanna Kite

ASSEMBLY STAFF

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President Dottie Surdi called the regular meeting of the Mission Valley Planning Group (MVPG) to order at 12:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library Community Room located at 2123 Fenton Parkway.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Verify Quorum – 13 members were present, constituting a quorum.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Gina Cord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. INTRODUCTIONS / OPENING REMARKS/ AGENDA CHANGE**

Dottie Surdi welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded those present to sign the sign in sheets.

Guests introduced themselves.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Doris Payne-Camp moved to approve the minutes of the August 07, 2013 regular meeting. Gina Cord seconded the motion. Minutes were approved 12 – 0 – 1, with John Carson abstaining.**

**E. PUBLIC INPUT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Kathleen Lippitt, Public Health Advocate for the North County Prevention Coalition of SAY San Diego reviewed the organization and its purpose and goals. SAY San Diego is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the positive development of young people, their families and communities.

SAY's primary services include:

- Delinquency Prevention and Juvenile Diversion
- Extended Day Before and After School Programs
- Family Support and Development
- Health Promotion
- Community Development and Collaboration
- School Readiness and Support
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Abuse Prevention
- Mental Health

Kathleen distributed information on the Crime-free Multi-Housing Program.

Further information can be obtained at [www.saysandiego.org](http://www.saysandiego.org)

**F. MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS – John Nugent**

No business at this time.

**G. TREASURER’S REPORT**

Bob Doherty reported a balance of \$1,414.43.

**H. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

1. Police Department – Officer Holland (Holly) Tafoya

Officer Holly described the suspect in the Mission Valley Wells Fargo bank robbery and stated that there have been a number of city wide commercial break-ins through roof openings. Officer Holly introduced her replacement Adam McElroy.

2. Fire Department – No report.

**I. GOVERNMENTAL STAFF REPORTS**

1. Mayor’s Office

No report.

## 2. State Representatives

- a. Senate Member's Office – Sen. Marty Block from the 39<sup>th</sup> Senate District I. Ralph Dimarucut was not present. No report.
- b. Assembly Member's Office – Shirley Weber from the 79th Assembly District George Gastil was not present. No report.

## 3. Federal Representatives

### a. Congresswoman Susan Davis' Office --

Jonathan Hardy distributed the September 2013 “Davis Dispatch” and reviewed Congresswoman Susan Davis work on the Mission Valley Post Office closure. While no official response has been received Congresswoman Davis was encouraged by a meeting with postal officials who indicated that they were reviewing some alternatives for retaining a post office in the Mission Valley.

- b. Congressman Scott Peters' Office – Sarah Czarrecki was not present. No report.

## **J. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. City Planning and Neighborhood Restoration Department– Bill Fulton (Information Item)**

Bill Fulton postponed his appearance until the November MVPG meeting.

### **2. Project to End Chronic Homelessness-Vicky Joes (Information Item)**

Vicky Joes from LeSar Development, the recipients of the United Way of San Diego County grant to implement the Plan to End Chronic Homelessness (PTECH) in San Diego County and advance United Way's Project 25, presented and overview of the project and homelessness statistics.

Through Project 25, United Way has proved that the Housing First/ Housing Plus model works to save both taxpayer dollars and lives. The United Way grant to LeSar Development is a project to take the next steps in its mission to end chronic homelessness through moving the most vulnerable members of the community off the streets and into permanent housing and supportive services.

Among the strategies the United Way project will focus on are:

- Successfully Complete Project 25 data sharing and identifying alternate resources to sustain the participants long term.
- Increase Supply of Affordable Housing through advocating for an increase in permanent supportive housing units and rental assistance, as well as removing barriers to access existing housing.
- Advocate at the Local, State and Federal Levels through pushing for an increase in funds allocated to affordable housing and permanent supportive housing units.
- Strengthen and Broaden Community Support and Involvement through scaling up the “Home Again” public engagement campaign to get more San Diegans

involved in solving the issue of homelessness. United Way's recent achievements include housing 36 of the most frequent users of public resources through Project 25, which saved the community over \$1.4 million in 2012, as well as funding the acquisition of IDs for highly vulnerable veterans so they can obtain housing more rapidly.

### Homelessness in San Diego

San Diego has many unsheltered people living on the streets, many with some sort of untreated mental illness; many of them are veterans and living for years, gradually losing hope for their future. The 2012 Point-in-Time Report by The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development revealed that San Diego ranks 3rd in highest homeless population among major American cities, behind Los Angeles and New York.

### History of Homelessness

- In 2004, Bush Administration called for communities across the country to create 10-Year Plans to End Homelessness
- U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness prioritized San Diego
- City and County asked United Way to convene and lead comprehensive planning process
- United Way selects Dene Oliver to serve as Chair of Leadership Council and lead efforts to create the Plan
- Planning leaders visited other communities to identify successful practices, especially Housing First strategies
- In 2006, Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the San Diego Region (PTECH) was released, reflecting those national best practices
- PTECH adopted by the City of San Diego and other local jurisdictions. Plan currently being implemented by United Way and partners
- Project 25 three-year pilot launched to help the 25 most vulnerable and costly homeless San Diegans move into permanent housing. Currently serving 34 individuals.

### 2013 Homeless Statistics

Regional Task Force on the Homeless reported results from the **WeALLCount** campaign, an annual count to gather data on San Diego homeless which will determine federal funding dollars.

<b>Homeless Summary</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Total Homeless	9,638	8,879
Unsheltered	5,267	4,574
Sheltered	4,371	4,305

<b>Unsheltered Homeless Summary</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013*</b>
Total Unsheltered Homeless	5,267	4,574
Male	75%	75%
Veterans	18%	15%
High Level Substance Abuse	35%	34%
Severe Mental Health Issues	39%	39%

Chronically Homeless Individuals	47%	51%
Used Emergency Room in Past Year	50%	54%
Have College Experience	33%	33%

\*Derived from a sample of 697 surveyed adults

### **Solution to Chronic Homelessness**

The answer is one simple notion - housing first. Once the chronic homeless have a place to call home, then structures can be created to offer support, services, mental healthcare and job readiness assistance in a smarter, more successful way. This will save San Diego County a significant amount of money and, more importantly, will help to keep homeless individuals off the streets and living a better, fuller life.

Project 25 is the first program collaboration of its kind in San Diego, involving partnerships between United Way of San Diego County, the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego and the local non-profit sector.

For more information, visit <http://www.homeagainisd.org>. The link to the video mentioned during the report is: <http://endingsdhomelessness.org/2013/02/14/featured-video-blitz-week-2012/>

### **3. City of San Diego’s Water Purification Demonstration Project –Goldy Thach ( Information Item)**

Goldy Thach, a Senior Water Resources Specialist with the Public Utilities Department presented an overview of the City of San Diego The Water Purification Demonstration Project.

In 2009, the City of San Diego embarked on a demonstration project to examine the use of advanced water purification technology to provide safe and reliable water for San Diego's future. The Water Purification Demonstration Project has evaluated the feasibility of a full-scale reservoir augmentation project, which would diversify San Diego's water supply, reduce its dependence on imported water and provide a reliable, local drinking water supply for residents.

The project’s operational testing and monitoring verified the water purification process consistently produces water that meets all regulatory requirements and is similar in quality to distilled water.

In 2007, the San Diego City Council commissioned the Water Purification Demonstration Project to determine the feasibility of turning recycled water into purified water that could be sent to a reservoir and later be distributed as drinking water. Sending purified water to a reservoir before additional treatment at a drinking water treatment facility is known as reservoir augmentation. (No purified water is being added to the reservoir).

#### ***Demonstration Project components:***

- Operated, tested and monitored a demonstration-scale Advanced Water Purification (AWP)
- Facility that produced one million gallons of purified water per day

- Convened an Independent Advisory Panel to provide expert peer review and feedback
- Conducted a study of San Vicente Reservoir
- Proposed a regulatory framework for a full-scale reservoir augmentation project
- Performed an energy and cost analysis
- Performed a pipeline alignment study
- Conducted an education and outreach program

The City's findings from the yearlong test are detailed in the March 2013 Project Report, which was adopted by City Council in April 2013. The Report includes the results of the AWP Facility testing, technical studies and education and outreach efforts. For the complete findings, visit [www.purewatersd.org/projectreports](http://www.purewatersd.org/projectreports).

***Demonstration Project key results:***

- The AWP Facility produces water of exceptional quality that meets all federal and state drinking water standards
- San Vicente Reservoir provides an environmental barrier that satisfies all anticipated regulatory requirements
- The California Department of Public Health and San Diego Regional Water Board granted conceptual approval of the reservoir augmentation plan
- The energy needed to produce purified water would be comparable to the energy use for imported water, and the cost for a full-scale, 15 million gallon per day water purification facility would be \$2,000 per acre foot of water
- The education and outreach program increased understanding and approval of water purification, with public support rising from 26% in 2004 to 73% in 2012

***Ultimately, the Demonstration Project has proven that purified water can be produced and safely added to the San Vicente Reservoir as part of a full-scale potable reuse project.***

For more information [www.purewatersd.org](http://www.purewatersd.org)

There were questions/discussion regarding the length of time, FY 2016, to write and approve the regulations and standards for this type of water purification program, the infrastructure needed to build the plant and 23 mile pipeline and the amount of water use in the San Diego area for people versus agriculture.

**K. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. City Planning Update**

Brian Schoenfisch had no report.

**2. Council Office-District 7- Councilmember Scott Sherman**

Lx Fangonilo reported on the health of Jack Straw and Councilmember Sherman's letter and efforts to retain a post office in Mission Valley. He also indicated that Councilmember Sherman has met with the interim mayor to discuss Mission Valley issues. Lx will be the new Council representative for Mission Valley.

### 3. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Design Advisory Board  
Randall Dolph-No report
- b. Stadium Committee  
Randall Dolph- No report
- c. San Diego River Coalition  
Alan Grant reported that the August meeting included a midyear review of the Coalition's work plan, although there are no items from the Mission Valley on the plan.

There will be no meeting in September 2013 due to the 12th Anniversary Celebration at the Admiral Baker clubhouse on 9/19/2013. For further information:  
<http://sandiegoriver.org/anniversary.php>

- d. Community Planners Committee (CPC)  
Dottie Surdi reported that there was no meeting in August, she will distribute the latest minutes when available
- e. Parks Subcommittee  
Doris Payne-Camp reported that the next hearings/meetings on the UT Pocket Park will be:
  - 1. The Park Board's Design Review meeting will be September 11, 2013, 8:30 am, Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room, Balboa Park
  - 2. City of SD Park Board meeting will be September 19, 2013, 2pm, City Council Committee Room, 12th floor, 202 C street San Diego
- f. Uptown Regional Bike Corridor Advisory Group  
Brittany Ruggels was not present-No report.
- g. Public Health, Safety and Welfare  
Elizabeth Leventhal thanked Vicky Joes for attending and presenting her report.

### 4. Miscellaneous Mail

No Mail.

**L. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 02, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library, Community Room.

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John Nugent, Secretary