

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SERRA MESA PLANNING GROUP
February 20, 2014 – February 19, 2015**

Officers elected on April 17, 2014: Cindy Moore, Chair; Bob McDowell, Vice Chair; Bob Crider, Secretary.
Subcommittees: SMPG Subcommittee on Serra Mesa Projects for Using Broadstone Ad Hoc Fees; Maintenance Assessment District (MAD).

Administrative Issues:

- Met 9 times. Cancelled meetings: August 21, October 16, and December 18, 2014. Joint meeting with the Serra Mesa Park and Recreation Council on July 15, 2014.
- Broadstone Ad Hoc Fees Subcommittee – Met 5/8/2014.
- MAD Subcommittee – No meetings held.
- Filled openings by electing Nick Romero on April 17, 2014 and Jim Antoshak on May 15, 2014.

Project Review:

- Sprint, SDGE Tower (CUP renewal with modifications to the existing site) – Voted unanimously on February 20, 2014 to write a letter indicating approval of the plans. Modifications were made to the project so the item was heard again on November 20, 2014. Voted unanimously for approval.
- Sandrock Road Diet Plan (Eliminate one travel lane in each direction on Sandrock Road from Aero Drive to Gramercy and install Class II bicycle lanes with buffers in each direction) – Voted on February 20, 2014 in favor (7-0-1) of the reconfiguration with the recommendation that there be a protected permissive left turn arrow for north and southbound traffic at Murray Ridge Road. Community and Board expressed concern about the impact of lane reduction on the driveway near CVS.
- Sevan Court Sewer Easement Vacation (Sewer line turned over to the property owner for maintenance) – Voted unanimously on June 19, 2014 to approve the vacation.
- Aealas Charter School (CUP for charter school located at 9160 Gramercy Drive) – Notified by school's consultant, Atlantis Group, in June 2014 that their application was withdrawn. The time limit on their escrow wasn't extended.
- Cardinal Slope Easement Vacation (Vacation of easement that was obtained by state for CA-163 but was relinquished to the City because it was no longer needed) – Voted (5-4) on September 18, 2014 for approval of the vacation of the easement. Audience raised concerns of resulting traffic and parking problems that might be generated from up to 30 more apartments that might be built on the site. Voted unanimously for "In recognition of the strong opposition and concerns of the Birdland community regarding traffic and parking issues, we request that any future development at this property be brought to the attention of the Birdland community and the Serra Mesa Planning Group."
- Huntington Avenue Storm Drain (need for replacing a drain in easement from Huntington Avenue and Wilbee Court into the canyon) – Voted unanimously on November 20, 2014 to approve the replacement. Also voted unanimously that the project should be completed as soon as possible.
- Verizon Murray Ridge (construction of a wireless communication facility in the parking lot of Faith Community Church) – Voted unanimously on November 20, 2014 to approve on the condition that the church was allowed to approve any changes.

Special Projects:

- Broadstone Ad Hoc Fees (Subcommittee presented priorities in order of ranking: Taft Joint Use, Cabrillo Hts Western Field Lights, Ruffin Canyon Trail, Juarez Joint Use ADA) – Voted unanimously on May 15, 2014 to accept the recommendation of the subcommittee. Subsequently, staff revised project costs. A joint meeting with the Serra Mesa Park and Recreation Council was held on July 15, 2014 to discuss the prioritization of projects. Voted (6-3-0) to reaffirm the earlier SMPG vote to endorse the Taft Joint Use project as SMPG's recommendation.
- Ruffin Canyon Trail Park Equivalency (equivalency required for giving \$100,000 designated from the Broadstone Ad Hoc Fees to Canyonlands for the design and construction of Ruffin Canyon Trail) – Voted unanimously on

September 18, 2014 that “The Ruffin Canyon Trail is a park equivalency for the Serra Mesa community per the General Plan standards.”

- Ruffin Road Improvements (feasibility of providing bicycle facilities on Ruffin Road between Aero Drive and Gramercy Drive) – Item on January 15 and February 19 agenda. Voted to support Alternative 3 (parking lane, bike lane, buffer, two travel lanes on each side of the road and center turn lane) as the primary and Alternative 2 as secondary (parking lane, bike lane, two travel lanes on each side of the road and center turn lane) .

Presentations:

- Urban Forestry Management Plan for City of San Diego
- City Auditor

Planning Group Objectives:

Communications – The Serra Mesa Planning Group agenda is posted on the Serra Mesa website and an email announcing the agenda is sent to 1500+ people. Additionally, for any agenda item that has an impact on residents a flyer is distributed door-to-door if possible. Minutes are posted on the Serra Mesa website. SMPG articles are placed in the bimonthly community newsletter, *Serra Mesa Observer*, which is mailed to subscribers and available online.

Future Objectives:

- Review and prioritize the list of Serra Mesa projects
- Border rationalization (refers to northern border between Serra Mesa and Kearny Mesa)