

OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 15, 2023
 Via ZOOM

Otay Mesa Planning Group member, Mr. Rob Hixson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Introductions are made via the zoom meeting screen.

Members present:	Members absent:
Rob Hixson	Tony Blas
Jimmy Ayala	Tom Simmons
Diane Kirma	James Street
Rita Mahoney	Clarissa Falcon
Felipe Nuno	Jayson Christopher
Ronnie Taylor	<i>T. Ricotta</i>
Ted Shaw	
Alejandra Mier y Teran	
Chris Holder	
Scott Merry	
Jason Wells	
Tom Ricotta	
Mark Freed	

Approval of minutes:

January 2023

- **Vote:** A motion was made J. Ayala by & seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed (13-0-0)
- **Yes:** R. Hixson, D. Kirma, R. Taylor, T. Shaw, T. Ricotta, A. Mier y Teran, C. Holder, J. Wells, R. Mahoney, M. Freed, & S. Merry.
- **Abstained:** None.
- **Vote No:** None.

Public Input/Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda:

None.

Chairman's Report:

It has been busy in Otay Mesa.

Government Liaison Reports

A. COUNCILMEMBER MORENO'S OFFICE: Gerardo Ramirez:

➤ **Sustainability Talks**

- The Sustainability & Mobility Department is collaborating with SD Public Libraries to put on a series of workshops to educate and empower the community on climate action.
- Earn a certificate and continuing education credit through UC San Diego Extended Studies for attending all five workshop topics!

Climate Action 101

- Central Library, March 4, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- San Ysidro Library, April 1, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Zero Waste San Diego: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- Logan Heights Library, March 11, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- College-Rolando Library, April 8, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Moving Around San Diego: Transforming Transportation

- Mountain View/ Beckwourth Library, March 25, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- City Heights/Weingart Library, March 27, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Green San Diego: Building Resilient Communities

- Linda Vista Library, March 18, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- Otay Mesa-Nestor Library, April 17, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

The Rise of Clean Energy: Why It Matters

- Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library, April 15, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- Skyline Hills Library, April 22, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

➤ **City of San Diego-Career Fair**

- If you know someone who might be interested in working for the City of San Diego please, help us spread the word about the City's upcoming Career Fair on Wednesday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American Road.

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- ❖ Link to English version of Career Fair flyer:
https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/hr_career_and_job_fair_flyer_2-7.pdf
- ❖ Link to Spanish version of Career Fair flyer:
https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/hr_career_fair_flyer-spanish.pdf
- ❖ Link to the City Jobs webpage: <https://www.sandiego.gov/empopp/current>

➤ **OVRP Beautification Project**

- Our office has been working on addressing the encampments and trash in the OVRP.
- It's a challenge due to the JEPA however, we continue to search for innovative ways to make a dent on the issue.
- We are happy to report that we received a \$250k grant to beautify the OVRP. Urban Corps will clean the 11 miles of trails in the park.

B. ASSEMBLY MEMBER WEBER'S OFFICE: No report provided.

C. SUPERVISOR VARGAS' OFFICE: *Andrew Harvey:*

- Due to the recent news of County Supervisor of District 4, over the next few weeks, the BOS will be following a process established by the Board policy and charter which gives them options on filling the future vacancy for District 4. United with public input the board will determine the best direction for the County. The May 2nd BOS meeting will explain the process and timeline moving forward.
- County of San Diego is prepping for their upcoming budget cycle. May 4 the recommended budget is released and e-comment submissions begin.
- Budget recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer is released to the public.
[E-comments](#) can be submitted through June 21.

D. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DAVID ALVAREZ OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

E. SENATOR HUESOS' OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT & CODE COMPLIANCE: *No report was provided.*

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT: *No report was provided.*

H. IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT: *No report was provided.*

I. CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: *No report was provided.*

Monthly Report:

A. CPC- *(Mark Freed, Business Representative)*

CPC Agenda 1/24/23

https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/cpc_agenda-2023_jan_24_0.pdf

➤ **SANDAG REGIONAL PLAN 101** <https://www.sandag.org/> (See links for detailed information).

SANDAG Regional Planning Program Manager provided an update on the **Regional Transportation Plan**

<https://www.sandag.org/regional-plan/2025-regional-plan>

and information on the **Flexible Fleets pilot program** <https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/innovative-mobility/flexible-fleets>.

The Regional Plan is aimed at reducing vehicle Miles Traveled and Green House Gases across the County.

The Plan revolves around **5 Big Moves** <https://www.sandag.org/regional-plan/5-big-moves> and **3 Featured**

Projects:

SR11/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry

<https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/featured-projects/sr-11-otay-mesa-port-of-entry>

The SR11/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry will create a new, modern land POE for the San Diego-Baja California region. Using state-of-art technologies, the OME POE will improve mobility and air quality in the border region, and fuel economic growth and binational trade.

Central Mobility Hub

<https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/featured-projects/central-mobility-hub>

San Diego International Airport - The Central Mobility Hub would bring together all modes of transit in one central location, including bus, Rapid, Trolley, and commuter rail like the COASTER and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner. Serving

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as one of the region's primary transportation centers, it would provide transit links to destinations throughout the region and serve everyone going to or from the airport

Del Mar Bluffs & Lossan Rail Improvements

<https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/featured-projects/del-mar-bluffs-and-lossan-rail-improvements>

The Los Angeles—San Diego—San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) rail corridor is the second busiest intercity rail corridor in the nation supporting commuter, intercity, and freight rail services. The rail corridor is the economic lifeline for our region, moving nearly eight million passengers and \$1 billion worth of goods a year and plays a vital role in the nation's defense by providing direct rail access to several key military bases. During the next 20 years, SANDAG plans to construct nearly \$1 billion in improvements in the San Diego segment

➤ **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STREET PRESERVATION ORDINANCE**

The Deputy Director of the Transportation Department provided information on the City's efforts to make changes to the municipal code that stipulates requirements on excavators and restoring utility trenches in city streets. This is an important step to resolve settled utility trenches in streets throughout the City.

<https://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/mayor-gloria-announces-new-effort-fix-san-diego-streets-faster>

➤ **RETURN TO IN PERSON MEETINGS**

The Governor's emergency order to allow virtual meetings will expire on February 28th. The City Council has been voting month by month to extend this order. Council has until February 10th to extend through March.

➤ **JANUARY 12TH LAND USE AND HOUSING COMMITTEE**

The CPC discussed the Land Use and Housing Committee's January 12th items to decide on possible future agenda items. The discussion included the Independent Budget Analysis report on how to increase affordable housing and the priorities memo for Councilmembers LaCava, Lee, and Whitburn **(See attached PDF's)**.

CPC Agenda 2/28/23

https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/cpc_agenda_feb_2023_0.pdf

➤ **UPDATE ON REQUIRED BYLAWS CHANGES** - A Planning Department presentation on Bylaw updates for all planning boards required since the changes to council policy 600-24 approved on Sept. 13, 2022.

Council Policy 600-24 (Amended) https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/cpg_resources_-_cp600-24_and_exhibits.pdf

The Policy sets forth the process by which the City Council exercises its sole and exclusive discretion to formally recognize "Community Planning Groups," as

independent advisory bodies to the City of San Diego, and its ability to revoke recognition of any CPG. Council Policy 600-24 (Amended) is comprised of the following sections:

- Standard Operating Procedures and Responsibilities
- Terms and Conditions
- Guidelines for Ethical Standards
- Participation and Representation Plan

➤ **QUESTIONS REGARDING AB2449**- A Planning Dept. Q & A

AB 361, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with specified Brown Act teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. The Governor's Office rescinded the COVID 19 State of Emergency on Feb. 28, 2023. On Feb. 7, 2023 the City Council unanimously voted to adopt Resolution R-314595 authorizing teleconferenced Public Meetings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the public notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public.

AB2449 revises and recasts those teleconferencing provisions and, until January 1, 2026, would authorize a member to participate remotely under specified circumstances, including participating remotely for just cause or due to emergency circumstances.

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https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiK_MXt7dz9AhUCL_EQIHeBTB5cQFnoECA0QAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fleginfo.legislature.ca.gov%2Ffaces%2FbillNavClient.xhtml%3Fbill_id%3D202120220AB2449&usq=AOvVaw3u8m8DY7M0-y1D-C4L98OP

➤ **LAND USE AND HOUSING COMMITTEE PRIORITIES**- The discussion on which Land Use and Housing Priorities are also a priority for the CPC continued from the Jan. 24 meeting.

- Next CPC meeting March 27, 2023

B. Southwest Village Committee – (Felipe Nuno, Resident)

- We're still waiting for the city to approve the 5th environmental report. It is due to be approved by the summer of 2023. Once approved, it will come to the Otay Mesa Planning Group for their recommendation for approval.

C. Border Transportation – (Alejandra Mier y Teran, Business Representative)

- Caltrans will close the Eastbound SR-905 Siempre Viva/Last U.S. Exit off-ramp. On Thursday March 16th.

D. La Media Truck Route- (David Wick, Business Representative)

- La Media Road breaks ground March 27th with the city and TC Construction.
- The detour is in place to exit Siempre Viva Road or existing north bound La Media Road and take Otay Mesa east to Sanyo Road to get back on Airway Road.
- The project is projected to take 18-months to complete.

E. San Diego Airport Advisory Committee – (Jayson Christopher, Business Representative)

- Nothing to report.

F. Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce – (Alejandra Mier y Teran, Business Representative)

- 32nd Annual Summer Golf Tournament, Friday, August 18th at 10:30AM.
- Forced Labor Trade Compliance Webinar with CBP – March 28th at 9:00 AM.
- Virtual Event with the Department of Labor – March 21st at 9:00 AM.

G. East Otay Mesa Property Owner's Association Update – (David Wick, Business Representative)

- The new Otay II port of entry is progressing under construction as planned. LS power broke ground on the second phase of their battery storage project which is adding an additional 250 megawatts of clean energy into the grid for San Diego County.
- Kearney Real Estate is finishing up their final phase of industrial lots within Otay Crossings which adds more infrastructure and roadways in East Otay Mesa

H. La Media West Wetlands - No report was provided.

I. Informational Items- None.

J. Action Items:

8. Motion:

BDM Mixed Use, Project No. 673818

Presented by: Steven Bossi

A motion was made by J. Ayala & seconded by S. Merry Motion passed (10-3-0)

- **Yes:** D. Kirma, R. Taylor, A. Mier y Teran, C. Holder, J. Wells, R. Hixson, & T. Ricotta, & R. Mahoney.

Abstained: T. Shaw, F. Nuno, & M. Freed

- **Vote No:** None.
- **Recusal:**

K. Closing remarks:

Thank you.

L. Old Business:

No old business.

Meeting adjourned at 3: 58 p.m. by Rob Hixson, Planning Group Chair.