

**County of San Diego  
Ramona Community Planning Group  
MEETING MINUTES**

**April 4, 2024**

**7:00 PM @ the Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main Street**

**ITEM 1: Call to Order, Casey Lynch, Chair**

**ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ITEM 3: ROLL CALL (Lynch, Chair)**

In Attendance:      Torry Brean                      Jonas Dyer                      Holly Hamilton-Bleakley  
                                 Casey Lynch                      Kristi Mansolf                      Robin Joy Maxson  
                                 Andrew Simmons                      Lauren Elyse Welty

Members absent:      Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains,  
                                 Paul Stykel, Dan Summers

Casey Lynch, RCPG Chair, acted as Chair of the meeting, Lauren Elyse Welty, RCPG Vice Chair, acted as Vice-Chair of the meeting, and Kristi Mansolf, RCPG Secretary, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

**ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES 3-7-24 (Action)**

Ms. Mansolf said the March 7, 2024, minutes were not yet completed.

**ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:**  
**Opportunity for members of the public to speak to Group on any subject matter within the Group’s jurisdiction that is not on posted agenda. Speakers will submit speaker slip to the Vice Chair, each speaker is limited to 3 minutes, and the elected body of the RCPG cannot respond.**

There were no speakers under Public Communication.

**ITEM 6: APPROVAL OF ORDER OF THE AGENDA (Action)**

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Lauren Elyse Welty, the motion passed 8-0-0-7, with Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Dan Summers absent.

**ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS:**  
**7-A: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY : Update from San Diego County Sheriff's Department - Ramona Substation for the community of Ramona.**

Lieutenant Malan was unable to attend the meeting and so there was no report from the Ramona Sheriff's.

**7-B: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: Report from Caltrans  
Summers, RSRS Subcommittee**

A representative from Caltrans was scheduled to be on the agenda to give a report, however, they were unable to attend the meeting.

**7-C: ACTION ITEM: PDS2023-STP-79-040W1 Ramco Ramona Gas  
Station Site Plan Minor Deviation & Sign – adding a New 7500 SF Gast  
Station to an existing Car Wash Site.  
Simmons, Town Center Subcommittee**

The applicant was not yet ready to present the project to the RCPG.

**7-D: ACTION ITEM: PDS 2024-ABC-24-001, Request for ABC License at 1423 Main  
Street, Country Wine and Spirits. This ABC Request does not Include any physical  
changes to the building/structure  
Simmons, Town Center Subcommittee**

Vince Kattoula presented the project. Currently he has 3 other stores that have an ABC License to sell craft wines, craft beers and craft sodas in San Diego. This would be his fourth store. The building the store would be going in to is the old Hallmark store. This store would also showcase Ramona wines. People would be able to get specialty items, including snack types of items, at this store they would not be able to get at other stores .

Mr. Simmons said the Town Center Subcommittee reviewed the project and approved it.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ABC LICENSE AS PRESENTED.**

Upon motion made by Andrew Simmons and seconded by Jonas Dyer, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Dan Summers absent.

**7-E: ACTION ITEM: 7th Street traffic speed concern.  
Perfect, Transportation/Trails Subcommittee**

In Ms. Perfect's absence, the Chair read the report from the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee meeting:

“Several residents spoke to the subcommittee expressing concerns about the speed of traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The speed limit is posted at 25 mph, but residents report that traffic often is moving much faster. Various remedies were suggested. The following motion was made: That the concerns be reported to the County for review and implementation of safety measures as

appropriate. The motion passed unanimously. It was also added that the subcommittee would like concerns reported to law enforcement for extra attention.”

**MOTION: THAT THE (7<sup>th</sup> STREET) CONCERNS BE REPORTED TO THE COUNTY FOR REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY MEASURES AS APPROPRIATE.**

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Jonas Dyer, the item was open for discussion.

*(Discussion on the topic/motion)*

There were 3 speakers on this issue.

Speaker: Michele Gilmore, Ramona Resident

Michele Gilmore thanked the members of the RCPG for the opportunity to follow up on her concerns about speeding traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Through the recent distribution of informational flyers in her neighborhood, they have learned that, without exception, all are in agreement with the current efforts to implement effective, safe traffic control on 7<sup>th</sup> Street between Telford Lane and Collier Park. With strong neighborhood support, they presented their concerns to the Transportation and Trails Subcommittee at the March 26 meeting, and there was a unanimous vote from that board to proceed with support and recommendations to conduct any needed studies, through coordination with the RCPG, to encourage the County to give serious consideration and take action on this issue.

The reality is, posted speed limit signs are mostly ignored and not effective to control traffic in this area. They have the support of the Ramona Sheriff’s Department and the CHP who are working together on this issue. They are extremely fortunate to have the presence and concern of these dedicated teams of professionals to help keep our community safe behind the wheel.

Speeding drivers have no regard or respect for the rule of law or the residents. The noise of their speeding vehicles to include tire noise, modified exhaust systems and loud radios blasting impacts people’s quality of life in this neighborhood.

The neighbors have made a list of resolutions for submission to the County, to help alleviate the traffic problems particular to 7<sup>th</sup> Street, between Telford Lane and I Street:

*Installation of stop signs requested:*

- One for westbound traffic on Telford Lane at 7<sup>th</sup>
- One for northbound traffic on Ashley (aka 7<sup>th</sup> Street) at Telford Lane
- Southbound traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Street at Telford Lane
- North and southbound traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Street at I Street.

*The following are also strongly suggested for 7<sup>th</sup> Street for the north and southbound lanes:*

Installation of rumble strips to slow traffic, or painted lines to resemble rumble strips  
Paint ' 25' on 7th Street in large numbers, north and southbound lanes  
Install flashing speed monitor signs, indicating the driver's current speed  
Install a sign indicating "Entering Quiet Neighborhood Zone"  
Post "weight limit" signs for commercial vehicles; usage by commercial on 7<sup>th</sup> Street has increased as an alternative to using 10<sup>th</sup> Street, as there are very few stop signs on 7<sup>th</sup> so people can drive faster.

In conclusion, Ms. Gilmore encourages the County to take prompt action on this serious matter.

Speaker: Paul Jarrett, Ramona Resident

Mr. Jarrett said he shares the concerns Ms. Gilmore has. He knows of kids who have been involved in accidents at the top of 7<sup>th</sup>. He is aware of 15 or 16 accidents there. He asked that a 4 way stop be put in at 7<sup>th</sup> and I.

Speaker: Tina Conrad, Ramona Resident

Ms. Conrad is a 10 year resident on 7<sup>th</sup> street located between I and Telford. Over the past 10 years they have had a significant increase in the amount of traffic on their street along with an increased amount of people EXCESSIVELY exceeding the posted speed limit of 25 mph.

This combination has made 7th Street and the adjoining intersections increasingly unsafe. She was in attendance to respectfully request the RCPG consider any and all measures to help ensure the safety of not only the vehicles traveling 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and crossing the intersections, but also the pedestrians that walk these streets.

On the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street there is a blind hill located in both directions. This makes this corner EXTREMELY dangerous for cars and, more importantly for pedestrians. This intersection is 1 block from Montecito High School's football field and 2 blocks from Collier Park. This proximity makes this a corner that needs to be made a priority for the safety of our families that drive and walk these roads. If possible, she is requesting not only making this a 4 way stop at the intersection, but also adding pedestrian crossing signs and lines painted on the street.

On the corner of Telford and 7<sup>th</sup> street. when turning RIGHT onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street, you are having to completely look behind your shoulder to view oncoming traffic. This causes a depth perception issue and makes it harder to judge the speed of the oncoming vehicles. When turning left onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street, you are looking up a blind hill for oncoming traffic. IF vehicles are traveling the speed limit this would not be an issue. HOWEVER, as stated above, this is frequently not the case. Existing conditions cause people to pull out into the path of a speeding car. She believes that making this a 3-way stop would make this a safer intersection for all that travel it.

I am also requesting the RCPG consider additional measures that would potentially help decrease the speed over these blind hills such as street signs that alert drivers that they are approaching a

blind hill, speed humps, and painting the 25 MPH posted speed limit on the actual street going up to these hills.

She has seen MANY close calls between speeding vehicles and delivery drivers, construction workers, mail personnel, and even emergency workers. She believes 7<sup>th</sup> Street is no longer safe to turn onto, pull into, or enter out of the area driveways, check their mail, and more importantly, to walk on. The RCPG has the opportunity to make necessary changes that will allow the impacted streets to become safe residential streets once again.

Mr. Brean repeated the motion and added an amendment at the end of the discussion of the item:

**MOTION: THAT THE (7<sup>TH</sup> STREET) CONCERNS BE REPORTED TO THE COUNTY FOR REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY MEASURES AS APPROPRIATE. AND TO INCLUDE THE DOCUMENT(S) PROVIDED BY RESIDENTS TO SEND TO THE COUNTY.**

*(Further Discussion on the motion)*

Ms. Maxson said people go faster up hills and it is dangerous when there are visibility issues, too. Would this area qualify for the Safes Routes to Schools Program?

The Chair said it is a matter of time before another youth is killed due to unsafe roads. If we ask about speed, it may increase as the County would do a study and a speed limit can be picked that would be above 25 mph. The County Traffic Engineer is open to certain recommendations. Speed bumps are not a popular one and people often complain about them. People often don't look at signs. He did not know if the area would qualify for the Safe Routes to Schools Program funding.

*(Voting on the amended motion)*

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Jonas Dyer, the motion **passed 8-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Dan Summers absent.

**7-F: POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM: San Vicente Road lane delineation. Center line is difficult to see.  
Perfect, Transportation/Trails Subcommittee**

The Chair read the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee report on this item. "Lane striping is faded at the merge on the west end on San Vicente Road. A motion passed to ask the County to address the lane striping at this location."

Ms. Mansolf asked where is the start of the lane restriping request, and where would it end?

The Chair said the striping on San Vicente Road is faded started at Wildcat Canyon Road and continuing to the median at the beginning of the San Diego Country Estates.

A comment was made that the County be asked to review for the potential for channelizers at this location.

**MOTION: TO REQUEST COUNTY TRAFFIC ENGINEERING REVIEW THE NEED FOR RESTRIPING ON SAN VICENTE ROAD, BETWEEN WILDCAT CANYON ROAD AND THE MEDIAN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTRY ESTATES.**

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Dan Summers absent.

**7:G: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: Update from the Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County on SANDAG Board of Directors March meetings  
Maxson**

Ms. Maxson was at a meeting where the draft FY 2025 budget was discussed. There was discussion on where spending will occur. The coastal areas are dotted heavily with funded improvements. Funds are to be spent where they will do the most good for the most people. The unincorporated area has 500,000 people and many more visitors on the weekends. The unincorporated area has a large population, but they are spread out over a large area. She doesn't see funding being allocated to improve the roadways in the unincorporated area. The final budget will be voted on at the May 10, 2024, meeting. For Ramona, we need to be able to safely evacuate to Scripps Poway Parkway in a wildfire. During an evacuation the current SANDAG plan is that a machine will need to be sent up to remove the channelizers along Highway 67. The community will stay if they can't safely evacuate. A lot of the visitors in Ramona on weekends will not know where to shelter in place and will instead fill SR 67 as they evacuate back down the hill. Ms. Maxson will draft a letter from the RCPG to SANDAG regarding the lack of funds for Ramona in the draft FY 2025 budget for our next meeting.

**7-H: ACTION ITEM: Proposed letter from the Ramona Community Planning Group to SANDAG regarding Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and Wildfire Evacuation issues for SANDAG's consideration while drafting the 2025 Regional Plan  
Maxson**

Ms. Maxson prepared a letter from the RCPG to SANDAG related to the development of the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan. The two issues impacting Ramona were referenced in the letter: VMTs and safe wildfire evacuation. The chair read the letter to the board.

**MOTION: THE RCPG SEND THE VMT/WILDFIRE EVACUATION ISSUE LETTER, AS PRESENTED, TO CHAIR NORA VARGAS OF SANDAG.**

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Kristi Mansolf, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Debbie Foster, Dawn Perfect, Matt Rains, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Dan Summers absent.

**7-I: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS ONLY: Ramona State Routes Subcommittee Items**

As Mr. Summers, RSRS Chair was not in attendance, the following items were not reported on.

- 1. Current and resolved SR 67 issues;**
  - a. Status of SR 67 repaving project; final painting and channelizers**
  - b. Status of RCPG letter requesting additional sidewalks at 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets along with digital speed monitor installed on westbound SR 78 between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets.**
  - c. Stephen Welborn will provide study information on decision to install traffic control in the intersection of SR 67 and Mussey Grade Road**
  - d. Stephen Welborn will send crew to evaluate asphalt deterioration on southbound SR 78 at Haverford Road**
  - e. Discuss medians between 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets**

**Summers, RSRS Subcommittee**

**ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)**

**8-A: Announcements and Correspondence Received**

Ms. Mansolf announced that bids for the Mt. Woodson parking lot project closed, and 5 contractors submitted bids for the project.

The Chair said he would be on vacation for the next RCPG meeting May 2, 2024, and would not be in attendance.

The Chair announced the Land Development Cost Recovery project is coming out at the County.

Ms. Welty said there will be a 4 to 6 percent increase across the board per hour.

The Chair announced that there is a new Planning and Sponsor Group Coordinator – Dawn Noble.

The Chair announced the D Street Sidewalk project will be at the Board of Supervisors on May 22, 2024.

SDG&E will be undergrounding utilities on Rangeland Road at Montecito.

**8-B: Discussion Items:**

- 1. Concerns from Members**

The Chair brought up a concern. There are RCPG members missing meetings consistently. There are rules for absence/attendance in Board Policy I-1 and also in the RCPG Standing Rules. When RCPG members are absent consistently, the public is not represented.

Mr. Brean asked if the Chair has talked to the County about this issue? He asked about making a motion relating to asking the County about this problem.

The Chair said he will formally ask the question to the County. As RCPG members, we know the policies that govern us.

Mr. Dyer said members cannot miss 3 consecutive meetings, or 1/3 of the total meeting in a calendar year (4 meetings).

Ms. Maxson said members with frequent absences can step down.

Mr. Brean said that by not taking action, we are violating our policies. He asked that the item be agendaized for next month. Every member absent is a 'no' vote.

The Chair said we have a job to do and we are expected to attend the RCPG meeting as RCPG members.

Ms. Hamilton-Bleakley said we should not allow or enable a culture of missed meetings.

Mr. Dyer said there is no excuse to not know the rules.

The Chair said he will write an email to all members about having this item on the next agenda before the next meeting.

## **2. Future Agenda Item Requests**

Ms. Maxson asked that SANDAG Transnet Fund be on the next agenda.

The Chair said the July RCPG meeting for July would occur on July 4, so it will be moved to July 11, 2024, due to the holiday.

The Chair said that a potential land use applicant would like our feedback before they submit their project, and he would like this item to go on the next agenda so the applicant can get our feedback on the item as an informational item. They will come back in the future for a vote. Site plans cannot be conditioned, when the RCPG is reviewing them, so they are either a yes or no vote.

The Chair said changes in the Tiered Winery Ordinance may take 12 to 16 months before they will be out for review.

## **3. Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members (*None added*)**



**8-C: DESIGN REVIEW BOARD REPORT (Jonas Dyer) – Update on Projects Reviewed**

Mr. Dyer gave the Design Review Board Report:

**WAIVER REQUESTS**

Quail Run Apartments, 411 14<sup>th</sup> St. -Unanimous Approval

Ramona Rotary Military Banner – Unanimous Approval

Loantown, 1174 Main St. Signage – Unanimous Approval

**8-D: Meeting Updates**

- 1. Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings**
- 2. Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 5-2-24, Ramona Library, 1275 Main Street.**

**ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Mansolf

The RCPG is advisory only to the County of San Diego. Community issues not related to planning and land use are not within the purview of this group. Item #6: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the RCPG on any subject within the group's jurisdiction that does not appear as an item on this agenda. The RCPG cannot discuss these matters except to place them on a future agenda, refer them to a subcommittee, or to County staff. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes. Please fill out a speaker request form located at the rear of the room and present to Vice Chairperson.

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