

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

Special Meeting -- July 11, 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 Janelle Clark Jonas Dyer
 Holly Hamilton-Bleakley Casey Lynch
 Kristi Mansolf Dawn Perfect Matt Rains
 Michelle Rains Andrew Simmons Dan Summers
 Paul Stykel

Members absent: Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson, Lauren Elyse Welty

Casey Lynch, RCPG Chair, acted as Chair of the meeting, Janelle Clark, RCPG Member, acted as Vice-Chair of the meeting, and Kristi Mansolf, RCPG Secretary, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES 6-13-24 (Action)

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Jonas Dyer, the motion **passed 12-0-0-0-3**, with Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson and Lauren Elyse Welty absent.

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.

Speaker: Rex Schildhouse, Ramona Resident

Mr. Schildhouse has concerns about putting a roundabout at the intersection of Mussey Grade Road and SR 67. One problem with roundabouts are large vehicles using the roundabout with a wide turning radius, like a horse trailer, RV trailer, equipment trailer, semi-trailer truck or long motor home. Drivers entering roundabouts improperly also impacts the success of a roundabout. Mr. Schildhouse said that what may work at this intersection is if SR 67 and Mussey Grade Road form a T-intersection from the south. SR 67 has 2 lanes going westbound from Highland Valley Road. The left lane ends at a traffic light halting only left (southbound)

traffic turning on to Mussey Grade Road. Using traffic controls, eastbound SR 67 traffic is stopped by their traffic light. The right turn lane of westbound SR 67 is an unimpeded bypass lane around the intersection of Mussey Grade. While traffic is entering westbound SR 67 from Mussey Grade, the westbound traffic in the bypass lane gets a flashing yellow light of the merging traffic. The traffic light on eastbound SR 67 stops eastbound SR 67 traffic only coordinated with a traffic light on northbound Mussey Grade for traffic wanting to turn left (westbound on to SR 67), turn right (go eastbound from Mussey Grade) to enter SR 67 or to turn left (southbound on to Mussey Grade from SR 67). Other solutions can be considered using tools such as u-turns. There is no simple, cur all solution for SR 67, SR 78 and Wildcat Canyon routes and traffic entering and leaving Ramona.

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

MOTION: TO MOVE ITEM 7-D TO BEFORE 7-B.

Upon motion made by Dan Summers and seconded by Kristi Mansolf, the motion **passed 12-0-0-0-3**, with Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson and Lauren Elyse Welty absent.

MOTION: TO COMBINE ITEM 7-F WITH ITEM 7-D.

Upon motion made by Dawn Perfect and seconded by Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 12-0-0-0-3**, with Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson and Lauren Elyse Welty absent.

ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS:

- 7-A: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY : Presentation by Sheriff's Emergency Planning Detail on Genasys EVAC, a new evacuation system to be used by the County in the future.

Deputy Matt Faddis made the presentation. Genasys is now an existing system. A new all hazard evacuation and repopulation management platform called Genasys Protect, formerly Zonehaven. Alert San Diego will call telephones and play a recorded message, send text messages to registered cell phones and send emails to those that signed up for email notification. Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) will send special emergency alert messages to cell phones in the affected areas. Both are still in use and will continued to be used. WEA's are sent from a cell tower to any cell phones. There is no need to register. WEA's provide information for non fire emergencies.

Depute Faddis recommended that everyone sign up for the Genasys Protect app. Genasys went live about a month ago. They now have a system of maps to use in the field. If people want to register their address to get alerts, they can get them multiple ways. People can click on a zone and see if there is an issue. The zone status is displayed on the map with a shaded color. The zones will show where there is an immediate threat.

Mr. Brean asked where the community residents will be able to download the app?

Deputy Faddis said the information needed to download the app is on the Sheriff's website. Every agency is on board with the new system and it is live now

The Chair asked if the program was used in cooperation with CAL FIRE's Ready Set Go program?

Deputy Faddis said CAL FIRE will still be using Ready Set Go. Genasys can be tied into other medias. Evacuation routes and shelters are put into Genasys. Once evacuation information goes out, then evacuation routes and shelters may appear.

Mr. Brean asked how many people can be evacuated at 1 time?

Deputy Faddis said if 10 areas need to be evacuated, they can use an AI for population and vehicles, which will tell them how many cars and people are in the area.

The Chair said that SR 67 has a capacity of 1,200 cars.

Mr. Stykel asked if evacuations were coordinated with SDG&E?

Deputy Faddis said SDG&E has created zones and are part of the unified command. SDG&E has to check lines and are part of the team.

Mr. Summers said there were no electronic notices in the fires of 2003 and 2007. In the book "The Fire Outside My Window," the author looked outside her window and saw a huge fire. They barely escaped with their lives.

Deputy Faddis said deputies will still go door to door to let people know when to evacuate. The high/low siren will still be broadcast. There are pre recorded messages in English and Spanish telling people to leave that will be broadcast. More information can be found at Emergencyservices.planningdetail@sdsheriff.org

7-D: *INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY:* Report from Caltrans by Stephen Welborn Summers, RSRS Subcommittee (*Taken out of Order – Items from 7-D are also included here*)

Stephen Welborn and Tyler Hicks from Caltrans were in attendance to give an update on SR 67 issues. One issue that came up recently was a roundabout at the intersection of Mussey Grade Road and SR 67. Something needs to be done at this intersection. They are investigating, and in 18 to 24 months, they will come back with a recommendation. Caltrans wants to hear from the RCPG on this when the recommendation is made.

For the pavement projects, there are about 2 months left to go before the project is done.

Mr. Summers said that he normally calls Mr. Welborn when there is an issue in Ramona relating to SR 67. Mr. Summers asked Mr. Welborn about the crosswalks proposed by the RCPG for

Main Street and 6th, 8th and 9th. The RCPG had sent a letter regarding medians/crosswalks to Caltrans.

Mr. Welborn said the letter was received and the investigation has started.

Mr. Summers said the crosswalks will enhance safety and the attractiveness of the downtown business district.

Mr. Welborn said that as the investigation is being done, options will be put forward.

Mr. Summers said that Mr. Welborn has been asked to look at the asphalt on Highway 78 at Haverford to see if it needs work.

Mr. Welborn said that there is a project for Highway 78. The environmental review is now complete for the project. Pavement rehabilitation is planned as are other improvements.

The Chair asked for the status of the SR 67 improvement project?

Mr. Welborn said Caltrans is focusing on evacuation with that project. They want to be able to get people out of Ramona quickly if there is an evacuation. That project is in the environmental stage and there have been delays because some people won't sign the paper work to let Caltrans on their property for soil investigations. There are about 100 people who haven't signed the paper work yet.

Mr. Brean asked about the bridge work at Etcheverry?

Mr. Welborn said the original work is being redone. Just the concrete work is left to do.

Mr. Brean asked about the crosswalks. It depends on the time of day what the pedestrian traffic is like. What is going on in Ramona can also make a difference. Mr. Brean asked about installing pedestrian crossing signs or signals?

Mr. Welborn said this would happen later on due to safety issues. Caltrans works to build it right the first time. There was a crosswalk at 6th and it was taken out in the early 90's. Schools create situations like the need for crosswalks a priority. Bars do not.

Mr. Summers said more businesses have been put in since the crosswalk was taken out, increasing the need for crosswalks.

Ms. Perfect said she was curious about diverting Mussey Grade traffic to Dye Street. She asked if this has ever been considered?

Mr. Welborn said he was not aware of this possibility.

Ms. Perfect said there was an easement there. She hopes that Caltrans will consider this option.

The Chair said the easement is a County easement.

Mr. Dyer asked if the roundabout would be 2 lane?

Mr. Welborn said the roundabout would be 2 lane. There is a roundabout on SR 76. People were flying through the signs. Fatalities stopped immediately after the roundabout was put in.

Ms. Perfect said she has concerns with tourist traffic, recreational vehicles and trucks with trailers if a roundabout is put in.

Mr. Welborn said they try to make sure the largest delivery truck can go through the roundabout with a car at its side.

Ms. Mansolf asked if the channelizers would need to be removed in an evacuation.?

Mr. Welborn said the channelizers would not need to be removed if there was an evacuation.

7-B: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: SDG&E Strategic Undergrounding Project Updates: SDG&E has some infrastructure undergrounding projects taking place in the Ramona area beginning in the next few months.

Dallin Young and John Black from SDG&E were in attendance to present the Strategic Undergrounding Program that will go under a lot of Ramona, with part of the project going downtown. There are 3 fire risk tiers. They are focusing on the high fire risk areas of tier 2 and tier 3. Overhead powerlines are a fire risk. The program is to safeguard the community. They are working to harden the electrical system. Undergrounding will keep the powerlines and the community safe. They expect the work to go through 2027. As part of the project, there will be 2 to 3 miles of undergrounding in Ramona. There are numerous circuits county wide. Total work area will be about 165 miles. They are not sure how long all the work will take.

Mr. Summers said the wooden poles on his property were replaced with steel and the job was done very well.

The Chair asked about double poles from other entities?

Mr. Young said once the work is done, they cut down the old pole and quitclaim the other pole to the other entity.

The Chair asked if they leave the conduit?

Mr. Black said they meet with other the other entities regularly to work out details.

Mr. Young said they will be giving us updates as the job progresses.

7-C: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: Presentation by County staff on RICC project, to include housing component, park, bridge and Community Resource Center. 12th/13th and Main

Steve Schmidt, Deputy Director of the Department of General Services introduced the RICC project.

For the Paseo Norte project, Elizabeth Enloe introduced Rebecca Louie and John Sugden of Wakeland Housing. For the 13th Street Bridge project, Ms. Enloe introduced Audrey Hamilton of DPW. For the RCRC project, Ms. Enloe introduced Dave Timber. For future recreation of the area, Ms. Enloe introduced Emily Hubbard. The Community Resource Center is being built now.

Mr. Sugden said that Wakeland has been operating for 25 years. They are a San Diego based company and they have produced 8,500 units at 62 locations. The Paseo Norte project will consist of 100 affordable units for seniors 55 and older. There will be 85 1 bedroom and 15 2 bedroom units. There will be 98 parking spaces. Project access will be from 12th and 13th Streets, and there will be pedestrian access to the RICC. There will be a new PACE alternative care clinic that is 5,000 square feet and 4 acres of active/passive open space. There will be a pickle ball court, a tot lot and picnic benches. There will be a multi-purpose trail with connections to the Santa Maria Greenway, 12th Street and Maple Street. The project was authorized in 2020. In 2023 there was the approval of the Disposition and Development Agreement. A subsequent MND was approved in May of 2024. They are in the Planning, Permitting and Finance stage. Construction should begin in June 2026 and be completed in December of 2027.

Audrey Hamilton presented the 13th Street Bridge project. The project will cost \$14.5 million. The new bridge will be on 13th Street over the Santa Maria Creek. The bridge remains in the design phase with utility relocation and private property access being addressed. They have Board approval to advertise for a contractor in 2025. They are anticipating construction will run from 2025 to 2027. The project was started in 2011. Maybe it will be done by 2031.

Dave Timber of the Department of General Services presented the Ramona Community Resource Center. There is a strong effort to have a campus feel for the project. For the library, there is a Tuscan theme from former Library Director Aponte. The budget for this project is \$15 million. The building will replace the outdated facility at 1521 Main Street. The new location will be at 1421 Main Street, a former Caltrans property. The building will be 7,300 square feet and it will have zero net energy. Features include a community room, seven art pieces by six artists, outdoor plaza for community events, 39 parking spaces (four EV). HHSA services to be provided include Behavioral Health, Child and Family Well Being, Public Health and Self Sufficiency. Mr. Timber wanted to give a shout out to Dawn Perfect and Arvie Degenfelder for their work getting the project going many years ago. The groundbreaking was done in 2023. They expect construction will be completed by mid October. They can move in to the facility in November of 2024. The ribbon cutting will be in November 2024.

Emily Hubbard presented the Parks and Recreation portion of the project. There will be a centralized site dedicated to active recreation and community gathering. Funding for Outreach, Design, and Environmental Analysis is requested in FY 2025-2026. There will be a small active recreation area north of Paseo Norte – dedicated back to DPR as a public park. The site is approximately 3.5 acres. She knows funding has been held up for the skatepark. They are still planning to have a skatepark. Other locations for a skatepark are also being explored. This is a priority of the department. Once open, there will be events. There will be trail connections to the Santa Maria Creek Greenway. Dedicated open space is included in the development. DPR will operate and maintain these facilities after completion. For a timeline – 2024 they will have touch points with the community. In 2025, there will be Board approval of the budget for Outreach, Design, and Environmental Analysis. In 2025-2027, there will be Project Planning, Outreach, Design and Environmental Analysis. Construction will begin in 2027.

Speaker: Jack Rogers, Ramona Resident

Mr. Rogers said he felt the County went over the original vision of the project. He appreciates the County's involvement. Supervisor Jacob found the money for the project. There would not be all of the amenities without the vision.

Mr. Summers said that 13th Street is only paved for 75 yards. Is more paving to the new bridge part of the plan?

Ms. Hamilton said that 13th Street will be improved. The new bridge will meet the criteria for the 100 year flood capacity of the river.

Mr. Brean asked if there was a ballpark for construction spending?

Ms. Hubbard said the figure can be found on the web page.

Mr. Brean requested that a public artist's work be on the bridge.

Ms. Perfect said she would like to see pedestrian pathways between the resource center and the library that would draw people in from Main Street to the RICC. The original vision was to hold music performance, art shows and other public gatherings in the RICC's outdoor space. Hopefully in the next iterations we will see that treated as a higher priority than we've seen. The Resource Center looks great. She would like to see a pedestrian element from Main Street and a plaza. The skatepark was not to be the centerpiece of the project, but it is still wanted.

Ms. Rains asked if Ramona residents would get priority for the senior housing?

Mr. Sugden said they usually give preference to residents. They will start a wait list half way through construction.

The Chair said he is concerned that a senior center is not part of the project. He doesn't see a plan for one spot where seniors can go. A senior center serves as a gathering space.

Mr. Sugden said the building has shrunk and there won't be Meals on Wheels at the RICC.

Ms. Perfect said she looks forward to seeing the project at the subcommittee level.

7-E: ACTION ITEM: Safety concerns at intersection of San Vicente Road & Vista Vicente
Perfect, Transportation/Trails Subcommittee

Ms. Perfect said the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee wanted to ask the County to evaluate the intersection of San Vicente Road and Vista Vicente for safety.

The Chair said there could be a right turn only at Vista Vicente onto San Vicente. The County could look at the data regarding westbound turns. We would be just asking the County to look at this and tell us what their thoughts were.

Ms. Perfect said the subcommittee wanted to see the County do something at this intersection. The subcommittee didn't come up with any solutions.

Ms. Hamilton-Bleakley said that there is not bad visibility at that corner.

Ms. Perfect said they wanted data from the County for a decision. They wanted to push this issue forward.

Ms. Hamilton-Bleakley said people drive fast into and out of SDCE. If we make people turn right from Vista Vicente, they would have to turn left at Gunn Stage.

Ms. Perfect asked if we should not address this item?

The Chair said we can't control human behavior. If we don't ask nothing will be done.

MOTION: TO REQUEST THE COUNTY TO EVALUATE THE INTERSECTION OF SAN VICENTE ROAD AND VISTA VICENTE AND RECOMMEND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS WITH DATA TO SUPPORT THE DECISION – INCLUDING NON-MOTORIZED ELEMENTS AS PART OF THE INVESTIGATION (DATA FOR DECISION).

Upon motion made by Dawn Perfect and seconded by Janelle Clark, the motion **failed 6-6-0-0-3**, with Torry Brean, Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Holly Hamilton-Bleakley, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel voting no, and Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson and Lauren Elyse Welty absent.

7-F: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS ONLY: Ramona State Routes Subcommittee Items
(Combined with Item 7-D)
SR 67 and SR 78 issues:
1. Status of paving project
2. Status of request for crosswalks at 6th, 8th, and 9th
3. Status of asphalt repair on SR 78 at the Haverford Road

- Intersection
4. Status of request for medians in the downtown district between 6th and 10th

7-G: DISCUSSION ITEM: Plan and discuss Email Draft of onboarding email sent to new members and potential candidates or group appointed members.

Michelle Rains, ad hoc subcommittee chair, gave the report. Prior to her meeting she sent out the information that she has been working on – the email draft to send out to new members. She is still working on the email, which has links for a variety of information on the County website relating to being a new RCPG member.

There were suggestions from members about the types of information that could be available in the email, such as the types of project applications that come before the RCPG.

The Chair said there were many tools on the PDS website.

Ms. Rains said she plans to have the work complete by the end of the year.

ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)

8.A. Announcements and Correspondence Received.

The Chair announced that Vince Bernabeo from DPW sent out an email regarding the upcoming CIP Community Meeting for Ramona at the Ramona Library on Monday, July 22, from 6 to 7 pm. There was no Leadership Council report as he did not attend the meeting.

(Ms. Perfect left around 9 pm)

8-B. Discussion Items:

1. Concerns from Members

Mr. Summers said he has enjoyed the Ramona Sheriff's presentation every month. He would like to have a local battalion chief come, too. As we go into fire season, this information would be good to have.

2. Future Agenda Item Requests

Ms. Mansolf said what she had for the next agenda was 1) a "through traffic doesn't stop" at the D and 5th Intersection, 2) a 3 way stop at Montecito Road and Ramona Street, and 3) the 4 lane stretch of SR 67 by Mt. Woodson with the lane ending abruptly.

3. Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members
(None brought forward)

4. Reimbursement request to PDS for the secretary for copies made for the 6-13-24 and the 7-11-24 meetings

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST FOR THE SECRETARY AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Jonas Dyer and seconded by Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 11-0-0-0-4**, with Debbie Foster, Robin Joy Maxson, Dawn Perfect and Lauren Elyse Welty absent.

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

Mr. Dyer gave the Design Review Board meeting report.
Site Plan Review:

- Children’s Paradise on B Street – APPROVED
- Mixed Use At 7th/B Street - TABLED

8-D: Meeting Updates

1. Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings (*No information brought forward*)
2. Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 8-1-24, Ramona Community 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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