

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
RAMONA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**

A regular meeting of the Ramona Community Planning Group (RCPG) was held May 3, 2012, at 7 p.m., at the Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main Street, Ramona, California.

In Attendance: Chad Anderson (Arr 7:30)      Scotty Ensign      Bob Hailey  
                 Carl Hickman                              Eb Hogervorst      Kristi Mansolf  
                 Jim Piva    Dennis Sprong      Angus Tobiason  
                 Richard Tomlinson (Arr 7:40)      Kevin Wallace

Absent: Chris Anderson, Torry Brean, Matt Deskovick, Paul Stykel

Jim Piva, RCPG Chair, acted as Chair of the meeting, Chris Anderson, RCPG Vice-Chair, acted as Vice-Chair of the meeting, and Kristi Mansolf, RCPG Secretary, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

**ITEM 1:      The Chair Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.**

**ITEM 2:      Pledge of Allegiance**

**ITEM 3:      DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (Mansolf)**

The Secretary determined a quorum was present.

**ITEM 4:      LIST OF ABSENTEES FOR THIS MEETING:** Determination of Excused and Unexcused Absences by the RCPG – Secretary Will Read Record Separately from the Minutes

Chris Anderson, Torry Brean, Matt Deskovick and Paul Stykel had an excused absence.

**ITEM 5:      ANNOUNCEMENTS & Correspondence Received (Chair)**

Ms. Mansolf announced that SDG&E would be replacing wood poles with steel poles along the Santa Ysabel to Ramona line.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration for the solar project on Warnock is out for public review, but came out too late to get on the agenda. The public review period ends June 1. The County will not extend the comment period to after the June 1 deadline (the next RCPG meeting in June 7), so if the RCPG wants to review it, there will have to be a special meeting.

The Chair said the RCPG will discuss a meeting date later on in the meeting.

**ITEM 6:      FORMATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR – *No items brought forward***

**ITEM 7:      APPROVAL OF ORDER OF THE AGENDA (Action)**

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

Upon motion made by Bob Hailey and seconded by Dennis Sprong, the motion **passed 9-0-0-0-6**, with Chad Anderson, Chris Anderson, Torry Brean, Matt Deskovick, Paul Stykel and Richard Tomlinson absent.

**ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4-5-12 (Action)**

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 4-5-12.**

Upon motion made by Bob Hailey and seconded by Kevin Wallace, the motion **passed 8-0-1-0-6**, with Dennis Sprong abstaining, and Chad Anderson, Chris Anderson, Torry Brean, Matt Deskovick, Paul Stykel and Richard Tomlinson absent.

**ITEM 9: NON-AGENDA ITEMS Presentations on Land Issues not on Current Agenda (No Presentations on Ongoing Projects – These Must be Agendized)**

Speaker: Shelly Myers, Ramona Resident

Ms. Myers said there are still concerns with the safety for pedestrians, including children, and motorists over the proposed Ramona Street Extension improvements. She invited RCPG members who have not yet visited the site to go and look at the project from the Brennecke property and visualize how they, and others along the road, will get in and out of their driveways due to the cut that will be going in per the current road design with people driving at 45 mph. The project will not meet County road standards. Supervisor Jacob recently visited the proposed project site and expressed concern for the safety of children walking in the area to the schools. She understands the difficulty of lowering the water line and the aqueduct. Ms. Myers asked RCPG members to please visit the site.

Speaker: Sharon Jurist, Ramona Resident

Ms. Jurist doesn't want Ramona Street to go through. She heard one reason to put it through was to help traffic going to the San Diego Country Estates (SDCE). Hanson Lane is a mess with 3 schools on it. Her child was hit because someone went around cars when traffic was crawling. She can't see how putting Ramona Street through will make it better. A lot of kids walk to school in this neighborhood. There will be 1600 more cars on Hanson Lane. She moved to Ramona from Spring Valley so her family could live in a rural place.

Speaker: Diane Chapman, Ramona Resident

Ms. Chapman read a letter to the editor in a local paper regarding the Ramona Street project.. She has attended 2 Citizens for a Rural Ramona (CFARR) meetings. She feels these are earnest and honest people. Ramona Street going through will not help traffic but will put kids in danger. There will be lawsuits because of the way the road is designed. The neighborhood will be turned into a Scripps Poway Parkway. Ramona Street is off the Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) list now. The County knows about transportation and safety. She doesn't understand why this road is being pursued.

Speaker: Ken Brennecke, Ramona Resident

Mr. Brennecke invited Supervisor Jacob to walk his property at the Coffee with the Constituents meeting, and she walked it on March 3. Richard Tomlinson toured the property on March 10. Mr. Brennecke invited the rest of the RCPG to take the tour.

Speaker: Patricia Brennecke, Ramona Resident

Ms. Brennecke reminded the RCPG members that they represent the best interests of Ramona. The County wants the money designated for Ramona to be spent on a road that appears to be a straight line on a map and connects a small segment of land. The RCPG needs to be sure the County is giving an appropriate product at a reasonable cost. She feels the road improvements will result in an ugly gash that will devalue the neighborhood and make it dangerous. She asked the RCPG to thoroughly review the final plans and do their research and consider what they have learned from the members of the community. Ramona has areas where growth is appropriate, and Ramona Street is an agricultural area that should be left alone.

Speaker: Jim Cooper, Ramona Resident

Mr. Cooper said he spoke about the Ramona Street Extension project at Supervisor Jacob's Revitalization Committee meeting on October 28. In November, 2011, DPW distributed the 70 percent plan for the Ramona Street Extension construction which showed numerous construction standards problems and safety concerns. CFARR researched all issues and made a presentation to Supervisor Jacob on the project following the release of the 4<sup>th</sup> design. She requested the presentation also be made to DPW. At the meeting with DPW, people in attendance were told the County road standards did not need to be complied with for the road to proceed. The County is in the process of rewriting the TIF program, and has removed Ramona Street as a TIF road. Many valid concerns have been expressed to the RCPG over the years. Mr. Cooper doesn't feel any of the rationale he has heard justifying the project are valid. He fails to see the need for the project.

Speaker: Donna Myers, Ramona Resident

Ms. Myers said she speaks for rural Ramona. She is opposed to expanding Ramona Street. The watershed will be disturbed. This is the last working agricultural area in Ramona. She disagrees with the mitigated negative declaration for the project. There will be impacts if the project is built. The project will only serve 10 percent of the Ramona population. The solar project will serve SDG&E. The fourth plan for the road improvements is out. Each plan was worse than the one before it.

**ITEM 10: Review of Cedar Creek Falls Visitor Permit Project, Draft Environmental Assessment. Public Comment Period ends Approximately May 17. Available online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/cleveland/projects> (Discussion and Possible Action)**

Bjorn Fredrickson, Recreation Lands Program Manager of the USFS Goose Valley Fire Station, presented the project. The Environmental Assessment came out on April 17 with public comment to close on May 17. The USFS has developed a proposed permit system for Cedar Creek Falls. They hope that it will help prevent traffic impacts in the surrounding neighborhoods and new trails being cut. They are proposing a limit for the number to be allowed on the trail in a day.

People have been visiting the Falls for many decades. An adaptive management system is being proposed. The USFS wants to address social and other concerns, plus provide access to the site.

Previously when the trail was open, trail use was out of compliance for the following issues: There was too much litter; signs and fences were torn down and cut – this is considered as cutting new trails; there was a negative trend annually for stream health; rescue operations increased; and the parking in the vicinity of the trailhead impacted the neighboring residents. There were 50 or more cars parked on County roads. Usage was greatest on weekends and holidays. The busiest days were the opening day of hunting and Memorial Day.

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In the future, if there is compliance – the use of the area will be loosened up. If out of compliance, trail usage will decrease by 20 percent. If in compliance, trail usage can increase by 10 percent. Seventy five permits per day will be handed out to start, with an average of 3 people in a group expected, but 5 total are permitted in a group. This will include both access points – the one in Ramona and the one in Julian. People will be allowed to access the Falls, but the Falls will be buffered. Currently, access is open to the Falls at Eagle Peak Road. This constitutes 15 to 20 percent of the total traffic at the Falls.

Quick details for the permit are that people will reserve a day use permit online or by phone. There will be an administrative cost of \$7.00. Alcohol is prohibited – this is in place now. The cliffs will be closed. There has been 1 rescue for a man having a heart attack that had to be brought out. Now it is quiet at the Falls.

There is another project that will be coming up. The environmental community filed a lawsuit challenging use in the wilderness areas. So there is a new project to recommend some areas be wilderness areas where no motorized vehicles will be allowed. Mr. Frederickson invited everyone to an open house on the project on May 31 from 4 to 7. The meeting will be at the USFS Goose Valley Fire Station on Magnolia.

The Chair said he attended the meetings to give input on the plan. There is a County trigger of approved parking restrictions, but they are waiting to see if they need to use them until the trail reopens. A parking restriction is a last resort.

Mr. Sprong had a question on the wilderness area. Is it roadless?

Mr. Frederickson said a wilderness area would be accessed by hiking.

Mr. Ensign asked if part of Cedar Creek Falls is fenced off?

Mr. Frederickson said a small part of the area by Cedar Creek Falls is proposed to be fenced. There are no fences yet.

Mr. Ensign asked how the people supervising the area would know if people have alcohol?

Mr. Frederickson said they will know by the trash people leave. There is a new group – a civil air patrol. There are also volunteers that will be part of a health and safety patrol. There have been no violations yet, and it has been 3 weeks.

Mr. Ensign asks who pays for the helicopters?

Mr. Frederickson said the County pays. There were 3 rescues at 3 Sister Falls over the previous weekend.

Mr. Ensign went to Bryce National Park recently. He said there was a lot of helpful signage along the trails, containing many different warnings. Will there be signage added to Cedar Creek Falls?

Mr. Frederickson said not a lot of signage will be added. They are working on revamping the signs. An average of 10 dogs die per year. With a permit, they will have the opportunity to provide information to visitors about safety.

Mr. Hickman asked what the magic number was for vehicles allowed? Is it 75?

Mr. Frederickson said there will be 1 permit per vehicle.

Mr. Hickman asked how many hikers there are per vehicle?

Mr. Frederickson said there are usually 2 or 3 per vehicle.

Mr. Hickman asked if the USFS is acknowledging that 29 parking spaces will not be enough to accommodate everyone? They know there will be too many cars for 29 spaces?

Mr. Frederickson said there was an internal disagreement of the size of the parking lot when it was built.

Mr. Hickman asked how many rangers would be on duty?

Mr. Frederickson said someone will be down there all day on the weekend – 1 person.

Mr. Hickman asked who will enforce alcohol violations?

Mr. Frederickson said law enforcement officers and forest service officers can cite for alcohol.

Mr. Hickman said an option had been suggested to put excess parking at the end of Ramona Oaks. This is not in the EA. There had been a problem with getting an easement from SDCE, but the General Manager of the SDCE Association agreed to do it.

Mr. Fredickson said the cost is substantial to build the trail to Ramona Oaks. It would also be very steep. It is not being considered.

The Chair commended Sheriff's Lt. Julie Sutton for her work and enforcement. The project is fluid. He suggested strong enforcement at the beginning to minimize future problems. Send out strong a message and get the word out quickly.

**MOTION: TO SEND COMMENTS.**

Upon motion made by Kristi Mansolf and seconded by Scotty Ensign, the motion **passed 11-0-0-0-4**, with Chris Anderson, Torry Brean, Matt Deskovick and Paul Stykel absent.

**ITEM 11: General Plan Update Zoning Cleanup 2012 out for Public Review. Includes Draft Amendments for the New Special Circumstances Language and Maps for Property Specific Changes. Comments requested by 5-11-12. Information available at:** <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/advance/zoningcleanup.html>

Ms. Mansolf announced that the GP Update Zoning Cleanup is available for public review. The item was placed on the agenda in case any affected parties wanted to discuss changes to their property.

No one was in attendance to discuss changes.

**ITEM 12: Subcommittee Reports**  
**12-A: SOUTH (Hailey) (No Business)**

**12-B: WEST (Mansolf) (No Business)**

**12-C: EAST (Ensign)(No Business)**

**12-D: PARKS (Tomlinson)(No Business)**

**12-E: CUDA (Brean)(No Business)**

**12-F: Transportation/Trails (Hickman)**

**12-F-1: Proposal for a Retail Feed and Pet Supply Store at the Corner of Letton and Main St. (Hwy 67). D and D5 Designators Apply (Discussion)**

Mr. Hickman said they reviewed the feed store project with the applicants. There are concerns with drainage and access on Letton and Kelly Streets. Mr. Rumansoff has not yet gone to CalTrans.

Mr. Tobiason asked about grading?

Mr. Hickman said there are no curb cuts proposed for a formal driveway. More will be determined once the applicant has gone to CalTrans.

**12-F-2: Determination of Subcommittee Group Size (Subcommittee Issue -- Discussion and Possible Action)**

Mr. Hickman said the Transportation and Trails Subcommittee took an action determining they will stay with 9 members.

**12-G: DESIGN REVIEW (Chris Anderson) – Update on Projects Reviewed by the Design Review Board**

**12-H: Village Design Committee Meeting Report (Brean, Stykel)**

**ITEM 13: OTHER BUSINESS (Chair) (Possible Action) – None**

**ITEM 14: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (Chair)**

**A. Ethics Training Reminder**

The Chair reminded all RCPG members to complete their ethics training.

Mr. Tomlinson asked where he sends his certificate of completion?

Ms. Mansolf will re-send the instructions for the training. If not stated on the instructions, she will find out where to send proof of completion.

**B. Names Submitted for New Subcommittee Members (Action) – None**

**C. Concerns of Members – None**

**D. Agenda Requests**

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Mr. Sprong said there have been many actions taken for the GP Update. It is hard to pick up the changes. He requested a possible presentation by the County to go over all of the changes in the near future.

Ms. Mansolf said she asked Mike Aguilar if a presentation could be made to the RCPG on the 100 percent complete design for the San Vicente Road Improvement project. He said that he is not the project manager for that project, but he thought the County would come out and do a presentation.

Mr. Hickman said he would like Transportation and Trails to have a presentation first.

There was discussion on when to have a special meeting to look at the environmental document for the solar project on Warnock. Ms. Mansolf would check on dates and locations for around May 24.

Mr. Tomlinson stepped down from the RCPG and spoke as a citizen of Ramona. He has to recuse himself when discussing the solar project. He feels having a meeting on the project will have little value. The state is requiring renewable energy resources.

Mr. Hickman said he agreed with Mr. Tomlinson, but feels we owe this meeting to the community.

Speaker: Jim Cooper, Ramona Resident

Mr. Cooper said that there is a recent change to the solar project, and a cut and fill of 2,400 cubic yards is now being required.

**ITEM 15: ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Mansolf