



## County of San Diego Planning & Development Services

# October eBLAST

### Planning & Development Services Hosts Canadian Local Government Delegation

Representatives from London, Ontario, visited Planning & Development Services (PDS) recently to learn about the County of San Diego's experiences, strategic direction, and current issues in the field of planning.



PDS staff provided the Canadian group with an overview of the County's General Plan, discussed form-based code, the process of converting discretionary permits to ministerial permits, transit-oriented development, overall permit trends, and permit management systems. County staff also shared their approach to stakeholder engagement and the unique nature of supporting 26 community planning and sponsor groups, along with many other stakeholder and customer groups.

The visit was one of several in the San Diego region for the London team in an effort to study best practices.

### Zoning Ordinance Update and County Code Amendments Now Go to the Board of Supervisors

The County Board of Supervisors (Board) will evaluate proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance (POD-13-003) when they meet on Oct. 29. The proposed improvement includes changes to various definitions, use regulations, procedures and other miscellaneous revisions and clarifications. They also include proposed amendments related to setbacks, detached garages and barns and recycling.

This latest update also proposes to amend various sections of the Zoning Ordinance, make minor revisions to the Noise Ordinance and would add a new chapter to the County Code related to Reasonable Accommodation. The project consists of proposed amendments to the County Code related to General Sound Level Limits, Hours of Operation of Construction Equipment and Reasonable Accommodation.

#### Board of Supervisors

GREG COX  
First District

DIANNE JACOB  
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS  
Third District

RON ROBERTS  
Fourth District

BILL HORN  
Fifth District

#### Planning & Development Services

MARK WARDLAW  
Director

DARREN GRETHER  
Assistant Director

### Important Dates

Board of Supervisors  
Calendar and Agendas

Planning Commission  
Calendars and Agendas

Before the Board makes its decision on the Amendments they will also review and consider the information in the June 26 Negative Declaration which is on file with PDS as Environmental Review Number 13-00-001. The public hearing before the Board is scheduled for 9 a.m., in room 310 at the County Administration Center, which is located at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101. To review the draft documents and a summary of the proposed changes [click here](#). For more information contact Heather Lingelser at (858) 495-5802 or [heather.lingelser@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:heather.lingelser@sdcounty.ca.gov)

## PDS Contributes to County's Impressive Performance in Statewide Awards Competition

PDS' online building permit program won a 2014 Merit Award from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), earning distinction for innovation in government and topping competition among the state's most populous counties.



The CSAC recognition comes as online building permit popularity soars. Roughly half of PDS building permits now are processed online, saving customers trips to County offices and reducing traffic at the PDS public counters.

PDS staff also contributed to another CSAC award-winning effort: The implementation of LUEG's Accela Automation record- and permit-management software. Collectively the County of San Diego captured seven CSAC awards this year.

An independent panel of judges with expertise in county programs selected the award recipients from a field of more than 200 entries.

## The Numbers Are Out!

The 4th quarter Permit Center Time Standards for performance are out! You can see how we're doing by clicking on [Permit Center Time Standards and Performance](#)

## PDS Staff Teamwork Extends to Softball Diamond



Now batting! The helpful counter technician who guided you through the building permit process. On deck! The knowledgeable planner who answered your questions about the County Zoning Ordinance. The talent and versatility of PDS Permit Center staff apparently are apparently a "hit" on the softball field too. Eleven PDS employees are members of the "Permittees", a co-ed

## Did you know?

The name Anza Borrego Springs is derived from a combination of Juan Baptista de Anza and "borrego" which is Spanish for the local herds of bighorn sheep that live in the area.

## Online Services

### [Citizen Access Portal](#)

Research property information and permits. Apply for some permits online.

### [GIS Maps](#)

Determine the zoning and characteristics of properties with our web-based mapping tool.



team competing this fall in the San Diego Adult Softball Leagues.

Among this season's highlights for the colleagues-turned-teammates is an 18-10 win in a recent slugfest. "We cannot be successful if we do not work and play together as a team," said "Permittees" Manager Mario Aguinaga, a PDS plans examiner. "It goes a long way and is a good recipe for success." Other PDS employees on the slick-fielding "Permittees" roster are Travis Bataller, Carol Gordon, Lea Gordon, Gina Hargrove, Vanessa Pash, Kathy Pigott, Souphie Sakdarak, Mike Viglione, and Linda Vo.

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## Vacant House Creates Public Nuisance



Code Compliance received a report from neighbors about a nearby vacant house in El Cajon. When staff inspected the property, they discovered the house vandalized by graffiti and the yard strewn with trash.



They also discovered evidence that the house, which had been left unlocked, was being illegally used by trespassers. Staff quickly contacted the absentee property owner who cleaned the site and secured the house.

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## Welcome aboard!



*Melanie Tylke  
Land Use/Environmental Planner I  
Advance Planning*

Melanie joins the Advance Planning Division after having been a consultant in our Project Planning Division for close to two years. She received her Bachelor's degree in Urban Studies and Planning from the UC San Diego. Melanie's environmental knowledge and experience will make her a valued asset to the PDS team and its customers.

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## On the Move!



Matt Schneider, PDS Planning Manager, has accepted a position with the County of Santa Barbara as the Deputy Director of Long Range Planning for the Planning & Development Department. Congratulations Matt!



Todd Snyder, PDS Chief of Advance Planning, has accepted a position with San Diego County Department of Public Works as a LUEG Project Manager for the Watershed/Stormwater program. Congratulations Todd!

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