

JAMUL DULZURA
COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
FINAL MINUTES
Tuesday, December 10, 2013
Approved January 14, 2014
Oak Grove Middle School Library
7:30 pm

1. **Call to Order:** Jean Strouf called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Jean Strouf, Elizabeth Kelly, Dan Kjongegaard, Janet Mulder, Michael Casinelli, Judy Bohlen, Steve Wragg, Bill Herde, Dan Neirinckx, Randy White, George Novinger and Joan Kouns.
Excused: Ray Deitchman, Preston Brown
Absent: Earl Katzer
3. Motion to approve the Agenda, December 10, 2013, as posted 72 hours before the meeting and the minutes of November 5, 2013. **Motion carried:** Unanimously
4. **Open Forum: Opportunity for members of the public to speak on any item not on the agenda (time limit 3 minutes)**
 - a. **Dan Neirinckx** brought up the fact that Caltrans is going to vacate some of their easement along SR 94 in the vicinity of Via Mercado near their substation which might allow the extension of the freeway at that area. **Jill Terp, Mgr of San Diego Wildlife Refuge** showed the map and pointed out that Caltrans does not own some of the land but have proposed giving parcels to the Wild Life Refuge. Caltrans is in process of surveying the land to see how much of the land they might use. Dan Neirinckx will look up the Caltrans Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and get back to us.
 - b. **Michael Casinelli** asked when they were going to start paving. They started paving at Jefferson to Otay Lakes Road today.
 - c. **Jean Strouf** asked **Jill Terp** about reopening the trails that used to go underneath the cement bridge that crosses the river. **San Diego County** owns the steel bridge, but no one seems to know who owns the land underneath the bridges. **Jean Strouf** will contact Dianne Jacob to get information on this property. **Jill Terp** suggested that we could contact SANDAG who might have information as to ownership of the land under the bridges.
5. **PDS2013-MUP-10-045W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION THOUSAND TRAILS –Dan Kjongegaard** – met with Debra out at Thousand Trails to see the area. In 2011 we recommended approval of a 75 foot faux tree that would only serve the area and east of it to Honey Springs. **Dan** visited the site with the **Debra DePratti Gardner, ATT Planner**. They want to increase the height of the antenna to increase the service area. They are proposing a 55-foot faux water tank with twelve antennas inside the tank, which would allow it to extend service all the way to Chula Vista. The existing tanks do not allow coverage to the west. The 55’ height would allow ATT to have a co-locater, which would allow them to cover the area of the “S” curve of Otay Lakes. The site would be sitting on a high ridge giving them 800 feet whereas the top of the tree is 720 feet. **Michael Casinelli** asked Dan if he felt that the faux water tower was the best or preferred design? **Debra**

pointed out that they originally proposed a pine tree and the County suggested they come back with a water tank design. **Jean Strouf** asked how close this is to the Wildlife Reserve and looking at the Fish and Wildlife Map it is about ¼ mile. **Steve Wragg** asked if the County is encouraging co-location? **Debra** pointed out that the chances are better then with the 55-foot tower. **Randy White** asked when carriers go to satellite are they required to remove the equipment? **Debra** stated that when the operation ceases, they have 90 days to reduce. **Randy Okamura**, Director AT&T External Affairs was also present. **Dan Kjongegaard** gave a list of recommendations to ATT from his observation of the site and they were discussed.

Dan Kjongegaard moved we recommend acceptance their plans for a 55 foot tower with the caveat that interior fencing with sound deadening materials around the HVAC units and generator both on the fences and concrete wall. Motion carried: 11, Yes; 0, No; 1 Absention (Neirinckx –financial interest)

6. **PDS2013 VAC – 13-004 VACATION OF OPEN SPACE – Jill Terp, Manager San Diego National Wildlife Refuge** gave all of us a handout which detailed the four National Wildlife Refuge Complex areas. She is asking for our support for vacation of some open space easements as they are counter to the regulations of their organization. She showed a map which included the open space easements that were a part of Hidden Valley LLC. The areas would be permanently in open space but not designated as such as part of the National Wildlife Refuge. It would take an act of Congress to remove it literally, as once something comes into the National Wildlife Refuge it stays in! They must remove the easements as their policies don't allow it.

Millar Ranch Road has ingress and egress easements which are allowed for the residents who must transverse the property to get to their homes. **Dan Neirinckx** asked about the plans for this area and making sure that we will be informed long before decisions are made. **Jill Terp** stated that our Planning Group would be part of the public comment section. **Jean Strouf** pointed out that we have had concerns about public access and the lack thereof. **Randy White** asked if we could possibly have a 90 day comment period as opposed to the 30-45 days she proposed as it may be too short to be able to have a Planning Group sub-committee meeting and react. **Jill Terp** pointed out that she would need to check with her planner to see what is best for them. **Janet Mulder** reminded her that we are the public forum for the public to voice their opinions.

Judy Bohlen asked if the vacation of Open Space designation still allowed people to use it and she pointed out that the SDG&E representative told us that it was easier to get easements across private land rather than federal land, which means that all lines would go through private property. It is important to remember that if we don't get access, then we, the public, would just lose the tax revenue and keep it for what? **Jill Terp** pointed out that federal funds are put back into communities to offset the loss of tax funds. Studies show that land in conservation increases the value of land in your area. She also said that they are part of the emergency response and helped to build the fire station as well as have volunteered to help SDG&E including relocating poles on the refuge. Jill also told us that there are firebreaks established to help with fire management plan either by Wildlife Refuge crews or house owners. Public Access is encouraged, however some areas are sensitive and people are not allowed on all of the land. There are some that are off-limits as they are trying to conserve plants or animals in their conservation program. **Steve Wragg moved that the JDCPG recommend approval of proposed vacation of the open space as proposed by the National Wildlife Refuge. Motion carried: 10, Yes; 2 No (Bohlen, Kelly) 0 Abstentions.**

7. **BICYCLE SUBCOMMITTEE – Bill Herde – sent letter to SANDAG, Dianne Jacob, Bob Spanbauer, Caltrans and Bicycle no one replied. Jean Strouf then spoke with Andy Hanshaw, Exec. Dir of SD Bicycle Coalition who agreed with us. He will contact SANDAG and suggested we contact SANDAG as well. The finalized letter that was sent is attached to these minutes. Jean Strouf and Bill Herde will follow through and contact the people to whom we sent the letter.**
8. **PLDO Funds and Oak Grove Middle School Sports Complex Update – Jean Strouf stated that she met with Nadine Bennett, Superintendent of Jamul Dulzura School Board and they are working on the plans and will come back to us in January or February. Jean stated that Nadine told her that the School District had authorized her to contact the District architect would plan to come back to the JDCPG with plans, timeline and estimated budget. They would be hoping for approval of \$600k from Planning Group and couple that with Supervisor Dianne Jacob’s financial help and they would hope to have the field ready by the start of school, August 2014**
9. **JDCPG/JAC COLLABORATION – Ray Deitchman was absent. Dan Kjonogaard reminded us that they are two separate organizations and should remain separate and addressed only under the agenda item in which they are represented.**
10. **JDCPG OFFICER’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
 - a. **Dan Neirinckx asked who was going to Caltrans meeting with Janet Mulder, Michael Casinelli, Dan Neirinckx, Jean Strouf, and Preston Brown.**
 - b. **Planning Group representatives Michael Casinelli and Janet Mulder along with former Planning Group member, Bill Hendrix went to Sacramento with a group of Community members to meet with Governor Brown’s Senior Advisor, Johinder Dhillion, Assemblyman Brian Jones’ Chief of Staff, Laurie Parades, Ken Williams, Federal Litigation Attorney, Jan Ortiz. Director’s Office. CA Fish and Wildlife; and Sandra Morey, Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife on November 19, 2013 at their own expense.**
 - c. **Meeting with Assemblyman Brian Jones in his District Office on Dec. 10 was attended by Michael Casinelli, Janet Mulder, Nadine Bennett, Randy Terry, Celeste Hanson, Patrick Webb and Bill Hendrix and covered the Planning Group’s position once again.**
 - d. **The Group authorized Michael Casinelli, Dan Neirinckx, Janet Mulder, Preston Brown and Jean Strouf to attend the Caltrans meeting on Tuesday, December 17 at their office.**

ADJOURNMENT: Jean Strouf adjourned the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Mulder, Secretary

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

7:30 P.M. TUESDAY, January 14, 2013
OAK GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Attached: Letter from Jean Strouf to Gary Gallegos, SANDAG Director

Director SANDAG Board of
Directors

Dear Sir:

The passage of AB 1371 (three feet safety act) has shed a light on a serious and neglected safety issue in our community. This law, which takes effect September 2014, will require a three-foot “safety zone” when passing cyclists. If unable to allow this safety zone, motorists will be required to slow and follow the cyclists until it is safe to pass.

Common sense indicates that the new law will only exasperate an already dangerous situation that exists between bicyclists and motorists (see BACKGROUND below). Backcountry roads are too narrow, have a plethora of blind curves, and not only lack bike lanes, but also lack shoulders or any other room except within the one lane of travel.

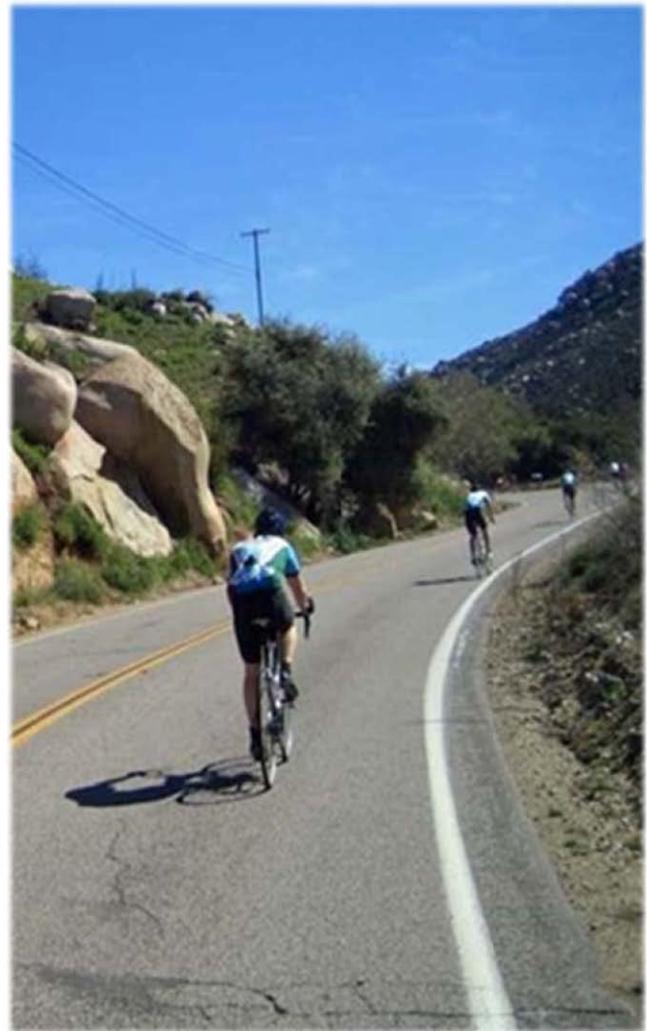
The Jamul Dulzura Community Planning Group (the CPG) recognizes the existing dangerous bicycle riding conditions within our geographic area of responsibility. The CPG is soliciting open dialogue between SANDAG, the County of San Diego, and Caltrans. The CPG will help gather input from affected motorists and bicyclists, including bicycle organizations, and share this input to assist authorities with finding solutions to this growing traffic safety problem in rural San Diego County.

BACKGROUND Backcountry roads experience daily usage by athletes from the Olympic Training Center, many local cycling clubs, as well as individuals. For example, the well-known Great Western Loop is a 47-mile route that traverses much of Jamul, and is just one of the popular rides in the area. Another example is the Campagnolo sponsored Gran Fondo race April 6, 2014, which starts in San Diego and makes a 105-mile route that includes East County. One of the popular features of this event is a “timed climb” up Honey Springs Road. Riders can be found training on this route any day of the week. In addition, Lyons Valley Road, Skyline Truck Trail and Japutal Road are also frequent routes for many cycling clubs where cyclists are often found in large groups forming lines extending hundreds of feet, often two or three abreast, and often around blind curves.

Our rural roads and highways are narrow and winding, and most lack bicycle lanes. Line of sight is extremely limited causing dangerous passing attempts.

SANDAG HAS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR MORE AND SAFER BICYCLE TRAVEL

SANDAGG has recognized the need for more and safer bicycle travel, indicated in its “Riding to 2050: San



Diego Regional Bicycle Plan (Bike Plan). To this end, SANDAG allocated \$200 million to implement its Bike Plan.

This substantial financial commitment is commendable; however, it appears that all of the \$200 million improvement projects are focused in urban and suburban areas of the County in an effort to encourage increased public use of non-motorized modes of travel. The plan neglects to address areas of the County where a major portion of the County’s bicycle touring population chooses to frequent. The need for improvement is great, while the efforts to improve are nearly non-existent.

THE TIME TO MEET TO DISCUSS A SOLUTION IS NOW

We look forward to hearing from each recipient of this letter, in a timely fashion, and we hope that recipients will contact each other to schedule an initial meeting to start discussing this matter.

The CPG's designated member for contact is Bill Herde (619) 997-5397 BHerde@Herde-IT.com.

We must act quickly as AB 1371 will be effective in less than a year.

Cc: Robert Spanbauer
Andy Hanshaw
Murali Pasumarthi