

**County of San Diego  
Valle De Oro Community Planning Group  
P.O. Box 936  
La Mesa, CA 91944-0936**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: March 19, 2013**

**LOCATION:** Otay Water District Headquarters  
Training Room, Lower Terrace  
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.  
Spring Valley, California 91978-2004

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** 7:02 PM Jack L. Phillips, Presiding Chair

Members present: Brownlee, Feathers, Fitchett, Forthun, Myers, Perry, Phillips, Schuppert, Tierney

Absent: Hyatt, Henderson, Manning, Mitrovich, Reith, Wollitz

**2. FINALIZE AGENDA:** As shown

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:** None

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 5, 2013 **VOTE: 8-0-0 to approve.** Perry not yet confirmed.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. A 100-foot long by 14-foot high vertical retaining wall structure is proposed for the south side of Fuerte Drive immediately east of Mt. Helix Drive. The structure is composed of a series of vertical steel "I" beams with faux-wood concrete or treated wood planks forming the wall between the vertical "I" beams. Fuerte Drive is a designated scenic corridor in the Valle de Oro Community Plan.

SCHUPPERT introduced the projects. There are actually two public works slope repairs that are proposed along the south side of Fuerte Drive. Site One is located along the south side of Fuerte Drive, several lots west of Sunset Drive heading down toward the Brigantine Restaurant. The slope has recently failed at this location and is presently held in place with temporary rip rap. The failure is several feet above the elevation of Fuerte Drive and there are no habitable structures in potential peril. There is an existing wood fence that has been damaged and an existing block wall on the private property that may be impacted by future slope failure, but the primary reason for the proposed project is for public safety. The scope of repair is relatively simple covers an area of only .06 acres or nearly 2,600 square feet. The repairs will include new rip rap identified a River Rock Method and the installation of a new fence post to assist in the private property fence

repair. The slope grade of the river rock will match the surrounding grade and extend down to the pavement.

Site Two is located along Fuerte Drive, east of the intersection with Mt Helix Drive. The slope at this location has also recently failed, but is much steeper and much more elevated. The back corner of the home is very near the edge of this steep embankment which has been giving way during the past rainy season. This slope poses immediate danger to the public and to private property should there be a significant slope failure within the right of way.

The proposed repairs to this slope is much greater in scope than for Site One and includes Fourteen (14) Soldier Piles that will be eight-feet on center and be vertically elevated by about 12.5 to 14.5 feet above street grade. The soldier piles will be approximately 11" (or 18") wide which will be seen from the street and be 19" deep. The face of the Soldier Beams will be painted. The vertical lagging will consist of 6"x12" Pressured Treated Structural Timbers. The bottom of the retaining wall will have a rock swale directing water to the drain located near the western end of the project. Above the retaining wall will be a concrete gutter to prevent back pressure on the wall. The gutter will include a drain that weeps down to the swale. A cable railing will be atop of the retaining wall where there will be a seven foot wide concrete paved apron to the road's right of way boundary where there will be a chain link fence. The apron and fence will likely be out of view from the road.

Michael Long from the County of San Diego conducted a power point presentation. He mentioned the two wall options, timber versus concrete. DPW maintenance is OK with the timber. The life span is 40 to 60 years. SCHUPPERT asked if the I-beam faces will be 11" or 18". Mr. Long will find out which I-beam they will use. We'd prefer 11". SCHUPPERT also was concerned with quality control for wood coloring and consistency of its appearance. Mr. Long answered that the wood will be pressure treated and the color will be as specified. SCHUPPERT stated that there is a traffic issue on Fuerte, requesting no disruption of traffic during peak hours of travel. Accordingly, work windows should be included in plans. Existing overhead lines in proposed location will require coordination with Cox, AT&T (temporary re-route) and SDG&E (permanently re-align their wiring so that 50' drill rigs can operate). SCHUPPERT stated that the natural wood material is intended to be a permanent fix, but would be replaced if its structural integrity fails. Therefore, there is no material benefit to the community by selecting concrete over wood. The use of natural materials such as wood and rock helps preserve the semi-rural character of this community and the designated scenic corridor. SCHUPPERT **moves** to support wooden soldier piles with the following restrictions:

1. The timbers be stained (not painted) with a dark brown color.

2. There should be quality control in place to assure the consistency of color between the Timbers (Unlike the similar project underway at Grossmont Hospital).
3. The Soldier Pilings be painted with an accurately matching color.
4. Two way traffic should be free from interruption prior 8:30 AM and after 3:30 PM.
5. Construction period should be in the summer after the Grossmont High School session has ended.
6. The plans show both 11” and 18” I-Beams faces. The smaller faced I-Beams should be used if they are structurally acceptable.

Recommendations apply to both sites. (Myers seconds.) **VOTE: 8-0-0 to approve.**

**6. LAND USE**

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**8. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

New Valle De Oro CPG roster distributed.

Form 700 still not received for many CPG members.

County DPDS wants our input in regards to the Specific Plan Area for C2 site. We reviewed MUP in September 2012. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

Ad hoc committee established to investigate an open space vacation.

**9. ADJOURNMENT at 8:04 PM**

Submitted by: Jösan Feathers