

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)
MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 7, 2021**

A. MEMBERS PRESENT: 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale; 5) Michele Strand; 6) Michael Coyne; 7) Nancy Good. **SEAT #1: VACANT.** (Applications are being accepted to fill vacant Seat #1)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: (WAIVED FOR VIRTUAL MEETING)

C. ACT ON DRAFT MINUTES/ NOVEMBER 10TH:

- Chair Tisdale apologized that minutes were unavailable for review.

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: None

E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO SERVE JANUARY – DECEMBER 2021:

- *M/S: KEANE/STRAND: TO ELECT DONNA TISDALE TO THE POSITION OF CHAIR. Passed 6-0-0*
- *M/S: TISDALE/STRAND: TO ELECT EARL GOODNIGHT TO THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR. Passed 6-0-0*
- *M/S: GOOD/KEANE: TO ELECT MICHELE STRAND TO THE POSITION OF SECRETARY. Passed 6-0-0*

2. UPDATING SAFETY ELEMENT & DEVELOPMENT OF FIRST ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT OF GENERAL PLAN:

- Michael de la Rosa, Tara Lieberman, and Audrey Hamilton gave an introduction/presentation on the County's efforts in updating parts of the General Plan. The last comprehensive update was in 2011.
- Community outreach: Public is invited to participate – email lists and website are available for review.
- Goal is to focus on Housing, Safety, and Environmental Justice (EJ) – due 4/15/21, with a grace date of 8/13/21.
- Areas not focused on include Land Use, Circulation (Mobility), Conservation, and Noise.
- The Housing update happens every 8 years (this one will be from 2021-2029)
- Rouya Rasoulzadeh spoke about the Safety Element: seismic hazard, evacuation, military installations, water supply, roads and structures, and flood and fire hazards.
- Audrey Hamilton spoke about EJ: Senate Bill 1000 in 2016 for disadvantaged communities; CalEPA determines the communities that qualify; customized methodology resulted in EJ areas in North El Cajon, North Lemon Grove, Spring Valley, and Sweetwater.
- Some communities not captured by criteria, including Boulevard/backcountry.
- Unique compounding health risks – reduce pollution exposure, safe and sanitary homes, public facilities, physical activity, food. First workshops were in November 2020.
- Camila Easland – Housing Element. 858-505-6677 pdsadvanceplanning@sdcounty.ca.gov
- Jim Whalen asked if County looking at need or actual numbers.
- Boulevard should be included for EJ, disproportionately impacted by industrial wind and solar.
- 6 cycles (less than previous cycles due to changed methodology by SANDAG) – lower due to transit locations, homeless, and senior needs. Will need 6700 units (size of Rhode Island).
- Questions were asked why Boulevard and Borrego Springs not included as EJ communities; it was brought up at quarterly meeting that renewable energy locations would have to be considered environmental degradation.
- Michael de la Rosa responded that each community has unique issues and criteria from the state to determine locations. Donna replied that it's all been said before and it's a double standard for developers to call our community disadvantaged for their benefit, but then when we say it, it doesn't

matter. Increased fire risk, millions of gallons of water used, yet our comments never “apply”. Even though the state criteria ignore our issues, equity is important.

- Staff has asked Board of Supervisors to include renewable energy projects.
- Mark Ostrander talked about food access for seniors who don’t drive. He personally went to Los Angeles every week for 3-4 weeks for fresh fruits and vegetables for about 70 families, plus seniors. Poor conditions and fixed incomes, some as low as \$900/month, for the Housing Element. No activities for kids, the Backcountry Resource Center is doing educational programs, medical, dental, and vision outreach.
- Michael Coyne brought up a Housing issue in Live Oaks Springs. Substandard housing. Codes Compliance can go after slumlords. The new resort operator is bringing in dilapidated old trailers from the 1960’s, degrading the area. County needs to ID and improve conditions in hot spots like Live Oak Springs and Jacumba. Further discussion and action is under Item #4.
- Mark Ostrander expressed concerns with potential for people to lose housing if just code compliance is involved. Many fear losing the housing they have due to lack of funds to move.
- Staff is trying to take these issues back to the Board. There are some services available such as food, health and human services.
- The Community Assessment flyer was a little misleading because it only asked about “your household”, so the respondents may not have issues but their neighbors might – no place to differentiate or explain that. Also, printed versions would allow everyone, not just computer literate, to participate.
- Ken Daubach talked about too many people living in one house, no school lunches in our area after COVID hit, and SDG&E only brought water and ice after the 3rd outage. Handed out over 300 meals from Resource Center. Also discussed our garbage issue – Revitalization volunteered and removed 100 tons of debris/appliances/etc at four clean-up events, but there is no other cost-efficient way to remove trash from up here. There is ¼ mile of trash and appliances dumped halfway between Jacumba and Boulevard (old Jacumba Garage) that needs to be removed.
- Michael de la Rosa said they can ID areas, including partner agencies, to make issues known.
- Kevin Keane talked about a neighbor having electricity only when they could afford to use generator.
- Michael Coyne also raised issue of illegal dumping in Campo Creek area of Live Oak Springs.
- Michele Strand said her business is located in area of El Cajon ID as EJ community, but Boulevard is much more impacted by EJ issues. Getting worse. Renewable Overlay zone would just make it easier for developers and harder for residents.
- Staff: Webinar on January 19th. Recognize EJ criteria do not apply to Boulevard. That needs to be addressed.
- Jim Whalen said County needs to use CEQA to mitigate project / overlay impacts.
- Community input is needed. Take survey. Printed surveys can be made available for those without internet.

3. RENEWABLE ENERGY OVERLY OPTIONS FOR BOULEVARD/BACKCOUNTRY:

- Donald Chase, PDS project manager provided an update from November 10th meeting presentation.
- December 9th Board hearing was postponed due to extended Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event that impacted communities included in the overlay map. Chase asked that it be postponed over concerns of inability of residents to participate.
- Chair Tisdale reported submitting comments for the December 9th hearing, in her name only, after the December 3rd Planning Group meeting also had to be cancelled due to the previous PSPS event.

- Chase reported that Board of Supervisors asked for options.
- Quick and robust analysis of visual and physical effects of renewable energy projects.
- Categories are Solar, Wind, and Solar & Wind combined.
- Chase confirmed that staff is now recommending solar only. No wind.
- Jim Whalen asked why solar predicted only in giga watt hours (GWH). A megawatt (MW) component should be added.
- Don Chase responded that GW are relatable to Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.
- Chair Tisdale asked for any feedback on the comments she submitted on this issue and asked for authorization to submit updated comments for rescheduled Board hearing.
- We now have several new Supervisors. Dianne Jacob termed out. Joel Anderson is our new Supervisor. Unfortunately, he has supported SDG&E, Hamann Companies that runs Rough Acres Ranch, and Soitec Solar's projects in Boulevard.
- Kevin Keane said he reviewed and supports Donna's comments. There were no objections or concerns expressed.
- ***M/S: KEANE/COYNE: Authorize the Chair to submit comments in opposition to Renewable Energy Overlay options. Approved 6-0-0***

4. RESPOND TO PUBLIC REQUEST TO COUNTY FOR INQUIRY INTO THE CURRENT PARK/TRAILER PARK AT LIVE OAK SPRINGS RESORT:

- Michael Coyne reported that the resort owner is bringing in some older mobile homes from the 1960's to create a sort of trailer park in the park area of Live Oak Springs. Long-term residents confirm that the park area has always been open space with no trailers.
- There is some confusion over what is and is not allowed.
- Resort is owned by Santee resident through a LLC.
- Can't find anything that authorizes Mobile Home Park / use.
- Dubious if any valid permits. Driveways are being added along County maintained road. Water system under stress. Sewage system next to pond or potentially into pond, as was alleged years ago.
- Debris is being dumped in the creek bed. Code Compliance has been contacted, but no response so far. New operator may be taking advantage of the COVID breakdowns in service at the County. It was reported that some County employees, working on water system, are aware of some of these problems, but nothing has been done so far to correct it. No current MUP found.
- Chair Donna Tisdale was concerned about the septic systems (if any) and/or cisterns, and fire code violations.
- Michael de le Rosa said he will pass along concerns about potential for water contamination.
- Kevin Keane concerned that old trailers do not comply with current codes.
- Michele Strand commented that codes compliance response is worse since COVID. Lack of response.
- Michael Coyne offered to draft letter on behalf of the BPG, that Donna would review and sign, asking Code Compliance to investigate just what is and is not allowed, before additional damage done.
- ***M/S: KEANE/STRAND: Authorize Coyne to draft letter to PDS and Codes Compliance for Chair Tisdale to review/correct, seeking verification of current authorized/permitted uses, an overview of the permit history, and addressing potential code violations at Live Oak Springs Resort. Passed 6-0-0***

F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Chair Tisdale repeated that applications for vacant Seat #1 are still being accepted.
2. **REVITALIZATION REPORT:**

- Center was opened for PSPS events.
- Mark Ostrander reported delivering means and ice during PSPS .
- COVID has resulted in loss of necessary income for Resource Center. Funding needed.

3. FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT:

- Ken Daubach reported that 7 Firesafe groups are working together on 7 community cleanups with lower chipping costs than provided through SDG&E grant.
- Cleanup #'s: Boulevard 26 tons; Campo 32 tons; Jacumba 35 tons; Potrero 32 tons: Total 125 tons.

G. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. **BOULDER BRUSH FACILITIES SUBSTATION & GEN-TIE LINES FOR 60-CAMPO WIND AND 30-TORREY WIND TURBINES; PDS2018 - MUP-19-002; FEBRUARY 10TH Board of Supervisors meeting:** On November 13th, the County Planning Commission approved the staff recommendations supporting the project. The Board of Supervisors hearing is currently set for February 10th.
2. **90 MW JACUMBA VALLEY RANCH ENERGY PARK (JVR SOLAR) PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT EIR ENDED ON DECEMBER 7TH: PDS2018-GPA-18-010, PDS2018-REZ-18-007, PDS2018-MUP-18-022; PDS2018-ER-18-22-001:** Project documents are posted at: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/ceqa/MUP-18-022.html> Project Manager: Nicholas.Koutoufidis@sdcounty.ca.gov; 858.495.5329.
3. **TERRA-GEN'S 252 MW-60 TURBINE CAMPO WIND PROJECT:** Approved by Dept of Interior in April 2020. Resolution of litigation filed 7-8-20; petition filed with FAA challenging approval, and additional project approvals are still pending.
4. **TERRA-GEN'S 126 MW TORREY WIND PROJECT WITH 30-4.2 MW TURBINES: PDS2018-MUP-18-014:** No project progress reported since approximately 2018.
5. **TULE WIND PHASE II:** Currently permitted to erect up to 24 new turbines on State land and the Ewiiapayaap Reservation, with a capacity of 69 megawatts. No project progress reported since approximately 2016.
6. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR: PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION-NEW PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**
 - Jim Whalen reported that they have finalized the Project Description with 15-20% reduced footprint; 9 ft tall trackers instead of 29 ft tall Soitec Solar trackers. Waiting for County OK; then review technical documents.
 - Ken Daubach thanked Jim for trying to help our schools.
7. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road;** No project progress reported. Approved in 2014 and terminated by Soitec Solar in March 2015.
8. **100MW BOULEVARD ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY; PDS 2017-ZAP-17-006:** No action or progress since approximately 2017.

G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:58 PM: NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2021.

Approved by Group at meeting held on 2-4-21:  Michele Strand, Secretary

For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or tisdale.donna@gmail.com ; Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

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