# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOULEVARD COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP (BCPG) \*\*\*MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 \*\*\*

BCPG September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

This meeting was shared on zoom.

Prior to roll call Chair Goodnight announced: We have late developing business occurring after the agenda was posted. On 8/26 the San Diego County BOS voted to accept Carl Anderson III's nomination to the BCPG. With this vote, Supervisor Joel Anderson appointed Carl Anderson III to the BCPG. At this time, we are officially accepting Carl Anderson III as a member of the Boulevard Planning Group. Carl took his seat on the Board. The meeting continued with roll call.

#### Roll call

- 1. Manuel Casanova, Jr.
- 2. Earl Goodnight
- 3. Carl Anderson III
- 4. Anthony Ralphs (arrived late)
- Melanie Hayden
- 6. Michael Coyne (unexcused absence)
- 7. Nancy Good (excused absence due to illness)

A quorum was present.

## Pledge of Allegiance

# Approval of minutes for August 7th meeting

Motion carried: 4 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent, 1 Late arrival

#### **Public Communication**

Thomas Wall, the spokesman for the group No Starlight Solar presented a letter to the BCPG outlining "Community Strategy and Next Steps Regarding the Proposed Starlight Solar Project". A request was made for agenda time for the October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with a showing of a drone fly over of the Starlight Solar Project.

There were two comments from Zoom.

Kathleen Lippit expressed her concern that there was not enough effort by the unincorporated community in addressing our needs to their County Supervisors. She urged people to get involved and attend the BOS meetings.

Becky Rapt commented on the problems of underage drinking in the area and her concerns on the cannabis operations that have been approved. This will only increase underage substance abuse. She urged the community to fight any cannabis projects trying to locate in your area.

#### **Action items**

No action items this month.

#### Group business & announcements

#### Planning Group seat vacancy

With the acceptance of Carl to the BCPG, this item was negated.

#### AES Desert Jewel Battery Energy Storage System Project

Michael Huynh, and his team from the AES Corporation presented their PowerPoint Desert Jewel BESS Project to the Group. PowerPoint handouts were made available. The project is still in the Pre-Application process with the County. A question & answer session followed. The type of batteries were questioned, heat produced from batteries and A/C units, setbacks from property lines and questions they were unable to answered will be covered in subsequent meetings.

#### Draft EIR for the Starlight Solar Project

A review was done on the Draft EIR released onJuly 31<sup>st</sup> for public review and comments. The comment period will close on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Comment letter forms were made available during the Planning meeting, or by email to BCPG Chair: blvdgoodnight@gmail.com.

The Draft EIR was made available in hard copy during the Planning meeting, also the Jacumba library and online from the Public Disclosure Website using the link provided:

Starlight Solar (sandiegocounty.gov)

## SANDAG Unincorporated Representation

SANDAG's Draft Environmental Impact Report for the 2025 Regional Plan is available for public comment. Review the Draft EIR for the proposed 2025 Regional Plan and share your written comment (digitally or postmarked) by October 13 at 5 p.m. Your input will help develop the final EIR for the 2025 Regional Plan, which is expected to be released in December 2025. The Draft EIR notice was included in the agenda packet.

Note: The Draft EIR contains East County interchange improvements at the Crestwood Road & I-8 interchange.

At the time of agenda posting, Association of Planning Groups SANDAG meeting minutes were not available.

#### Chairman's report

San Diego County is offering free trees to the unincorporated area on September 27, at Lake Mareno County Park. Sign up by September 13<sup>th</sup> to participate. Information is available.

How your SDG&E electric bill is calculated will change with your October bill. CPUC has authorized SDG&E to add a flat charge of \$24.15 monthly for all electric accounts. An article with details was included in the agenda packet.

Details on the new Golden Pacific Powerlink have been released, running from the Imperial Valley Substation to the San Diego County/Orange County border. An article with details was included in the agenda packet.

## Revitalization & Fire Safe Council reports

# Fire Safe

The 9/16 Boulevard community clean up event collected 16.37 tons of trash, .64 tons of e-waste & 7.93 tons of metal. This was a combined effort with Fire Safe & JBRA. volunteers: East County Transitional Living 6, Tzu Chi 6, Boulevard 2, Campo 1, and Jacumba 2. Thank you to the volunteers for a smooth event. Special thanks to EDCO for supplying the trucks and bins. EDCO has done this free of charge for several years.

Upcoming events Chipping - Boulevard 9/27-8am to 12noon, Campo - clean up event 9/20-8am to 11am (Home Makers Thrift store location).

#### Revitalization

We still have people dropping off mattresses without calling, most can't be recycled, and we are left with disposing of them. We are looking to discontinue this service due to the effort of having to dispose of non-recyclable mattresses.

Household recycling is going well, bin is close to being full and soon to be picked and replaced. HVAC system is finished and working in the Bay.

A new sign for the front of the driveway is in process, a local artist is painting the sign. Made possible by donation.

Community Resource Center mock drill went well, and the Resource Center is ready for a PSPS if needed.

Painting & maintenance is still ongoing. If anyone wants to help with either, organizations can contact **201-890-3344** and leave message with contact information. We are one hundred percent volunteer based and rely on grants and donations to operate. All donations are tax deductible.

### **Project updates**

# 1. 100 MW Starlight Solar and Battery Storage Project

Jim Whalen reported: They have developed the KMZ we said we would investigate pulling together. Jim thinks it helps a viewer see what is where. The KMZ is an overlay on Google Earth showing detailed features and properties around the project.

Chair asked if the user needs Google Earth downloaded, the answer was yes. Chair stated if anyone would like the KMZ information send him an email for the download.

# 2. 74 MW Rugged Solar Project

Jim Whalen reported there has been no progress or changes with the project.

Chair reported there was no movement on agenda items 3 through 7 since the June update.

# Adjournment

The BCPG meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 2, 2025.

BCPG September meeting minutes were approved, with noted corrections, by the Group on October 2, 2025.

Signed: Earl Goodnight, Chair,

For more information contact Earl Goodnight, email <a href="mailto:blvdgoodnight@gmail.com">blvdgoodnight@gmail.com</a>, Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <a href="http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html">http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html</a>.

ns.