

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP (BCPG)
*****7 PM THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026 – PUBLIC MEETING FINAL AGENDA / NOTICE**
COMMUNITY ROOM, 39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905***

TONIGHT'S MEETING IS BEING SHARED ON ZOOM.

Meeting ID: 822 7528 1419

Passcode: 367682

Invite Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82275281419?pwd=0MxlEwL0tuyoDUJKIDvXNcOcwjbQ3n.1>

A. ROLL CALL (Determination of quorum): 1) Manuel Casanova, Jr.; 2) Earl Goodnight; 3) Carl Anderson III;
4) Anthony Ralphs; 5) Melanie Hayden; 6) Vacant; 7) Nancy Good

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):

C. APPROVE MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR July 2nd MEETING:

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: This is an opportunity for public comment on any subject within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda. No action can be taken on non-agenda items. Items can be added to future agendas.
Comments shall be limited to (3) minutes.

E. ACTION ITEMS:

No action items on this month's agenda.

F. GROUP BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **NEW BOULEVARD COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARDS:** Information and updates on the program to purchase and install community bulletin boards in the Boulevard areas.
- **ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) PUBLICATION "INSIGHTS FROM EPRI'S BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) FAILURE INCIDENT DATABASE":** This database has been implemented into San Diego County's Best Practices Policy on BESS construction (Appendix D), Anthony Ralphs has done extensive search into Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Tony will share several key findings from the EPRI's **BESS Failure Incident Database**.
The nine points that will be covered are included in your agenda packet.
- **UPCOMING DRAFT BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) ZONING ORDINANCE PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:** The County of San Diego Planning & Development Services (PDS) is pleased to announce that the Draft Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Zoning Ordinance amendment will be made available for public review in mid-August. The 45-day public review period will end in late September.

An additional notice will be sent to Community Planning & Sponsor Group (CPSG) Chairs and the public when the draft ordinance is available on the [Engage San Diego County website](#).

The draft ordinance defines BESS uses, determines where BESS can be located, and sets standards for reducing impacts to surrounding areas.

County staff are available to attend CPSG meetings during the public review period.

Additionally, staff will host two virtual public meetings in late August and mid-September to provide a summary of the draft ordinance and collect feedback. Both meetings will cover the same presentation material. The virtual public meeting dates and meeting link will be provided once the draft ordinance is available.

- **PLANNING GROUP SEAT VACANCIES:** The BCPG will have three (even numbered) seats up for election in the November election. You may file for candidacy in person at the Registrar of Voters, or documents may be picked up by the candidate, or by the person authorized by the candidate. The form needed to authorize someone to pick up the candidate's documents is available. To make an appointment, call **(858) 505-7260** or email: **CandidateFiling@sdcounty.ca.gov**.
Candidate filing period: July 17, 2026 – August 7, 2026.
Deadline for filing is August 7, 2026, at 5:00 PM.
- **SANDAG UNINCORPORATED REPRESENTATION:** Association of Planning Groups (APG) June 2026 meeting minutes from The SANDAG Board of Directors meeting is included in your agenda packet.
APG's next in-person meeting will be on Saturday, December 5, 2026.
- **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**
Summer 2026 Aging & Independence Services Bulletin is available.

Intel to Action Workshop number 2. The session will focus on how to utilize PACE for wildfire evacuation and strategies and tactics for survival.

Sexually violent predator released to home in Borrego Springs

- **FIRE SAFE & REVITALIZATION (JBRA) REPORTS:**

G. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. **100 MW STARLIGHT SOLAR AND BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT DRAFT EIR RELEASED 7/31/2025 (PDS2022-MUP-22-010):** Jim Whalen to report.

2. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR DISCRETIONARY PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 TIME EXTENSION PERMIT:**
Jim Whalen to report.

NO MOVEMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS 3,4,5,6

3. **TULE WIND PHASE II-69MW:** Currently permitted to erect up to 24 new turbines on State land and the Ewiiapayaap Reservation.
Avangrid Inc. (parent company of Tule Wind) and Vitol Inc. have reached a transfer agreement for the 2023 **production tax credits** of the Tule Wind Project. Going forward, we will have to see how it affects the project.
4. **TERRA-GEN'S BOULDER BRUSH FACILITIES (SUBSTATION GEN-TIE) PDS2022-MUP-19-002TE:** Ruling on appeal submitted 6/20/2023 by non-profit BAD.

Litigation against the Boulder Brush Substation update from Donna Tisdale:

BAD last appeal of Boulder Brush was lost because it was based in large part on the County not including Torrey Wind in the EIR and then Terra-Gen withdrew Torrey Wind. Our attorney argued that the withdrawal was done informally through the planner instead of making a formal withdrawal.

Project docs and maps link: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/ceqa/BoulderBrush.html>.

5. **TERRA-GEN'S 252 MW-60 TURBINE CAMPO WIND PROJECT. ON OCTOBER 27th THE 9th CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS DIMISSED THE LEGAL CHALLENGE BASED ON TRIBAL SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY:** Campo Wind was

approved for Campo Reservation land by Dept of Interior April 2020. Federal lawsuit filed 7-8-20. On August 6, 2021, the federal judge granted the Campo Band's Motion to Dismiss the case based on sovereignty. The case was appealed to 9th Circuit. In 2021. **The non-profit BAD won their appeal against the FAA approval of the project.**

6. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road;** No project progress reported. This project is currently still in process with the County; however, they have not received a new submittal for some time.

An absentee owner is promoting the project.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 3, 2026

For more information contact Earl Goodnight, email boulevardplanninggroup@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>.

****Disclaimer Language included as directed by San Diego County PDS: Public Disclosure:** We strive to protect personally identifiable information by collecting only information necessary to deliver our services. All information that may be collected becomes public record that may be subject to inspection and copying by the public, unless an exemption in law exists. In the event of a conflict between this Privacy Notice and any County ordinance or other law governing the County's disclosure of records, the County ordinance or other applicable law will control.*

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ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) PUBLICATION “INSIGHTS FROM EPRI'S BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) FAILURE INCIDENT DATABASE”: This database has been implemented into San Diego County's Best Practices Policy on BESS construction (Appendix D), Anthony Ralphs has done an extensive search into Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Tony will share several key findings from the EPRI's BESS Failure Incident Database.

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Attachment

ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI)

- 1.) "The **overall rate of incidents has sharply decreased**, as lessons learned from early failure incidents have been incorporated into new designs and best practices. Between 2018 and 2023, the global grid-scale BESS failure rate has dropped 97%" (page 3)
- 2.) "There is currently NO PUBLIC RESOURCE that categorizes BESS incidents by **cause of failure**. This information would provide industry-level insights on common and uncommon failure modes, and would help to prioritize needed mitigation technology research and development." (p.3)
- 3.) "This knowledge is particularly important because **individual incident details and root cause information are not always easily accessible**, but are **crucial to improve safety and understand risk**. ***Failure classification can help determine the role of different components of a BESS, from controls to battery cell/module, in contributing to an incident and in preventing future incidents.***" (p.3)
- 4.) "**No current federal, state, or local jurisdiction requires incident reporting. Even in cases where detailed root cause investigations are conducted, legal barriers often prevent the results from being shared publicly.**" (p.3)
- 5.) "New York State encouraged Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to disclose root cause analyses (RCAs) after failure incidents, but stopped short of including a requirement for disclosure in their pending update to the fire code." (p.3)
- 6.) Once categorized in a standardized manner, the aggregated failure data was analyzed to better understand trends in how, why, and how infrequently BESS fail , and to provide recommendations for future safety improvements. (p.3)
- 7.) "72% of failures where the system age is known happen during construction, commissioning, or within the first two years of operation. Integration, Assembly & Construction is a critical phase in BESS risk mitigation." (p.8)
- 8.) "Manufacturing as a root cause has the fewest failures attributed to it. This is most likely due to the difficulty in definitively identifying a manufacturing defect as a root cause with the loss of physical evidence after a fire or explosion." (p.9)
- 9.) "Integration is the most common root cause of BESS failures, and the vast majority of incidents with this classification involved BOS components. These components included DC and AC wiring, HVAC subsystems, and safety elements such as the fire suppression system. Operation is the second most common root cause, and in all cases, the operation failure occurred in the control system." (p. 10)