

County of San Diego
Campo Lake Morena Community Planning Group
7 p.m., Monday, July 19, 2021

Approved minutes

This meeting was held remotely.

The public is encouraged to attend and participate in the meetings of the Campo Lake Morena Planning Group, which is the county-sponsored link between the community and San Diego County dealing with planning and land use. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to speak regarding any item on the agenda. In addition, during public discussion, members of the community will be given the opportunity to address other matters pertaining to land use issues in our area. No action or vote may be taken on items not on the agenda. The final agenda will be posted 72 hours prior to the meeting and may be found at the Campo branch of the U.S. Post Office, the Campo branch of the San Diego County Library and the Lake Morena Market bulletin board. Community members may also contact the group chairman to regularly receive agendas by email: campoplanninggroup@nym.hush.com.

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:04 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – waived

3. ROLL CALL: 1-vacant 4- vacant 7- Bob Shea - A
 2- vacant 5- Rob Romero - P
 3- Billie Jo Jannen - P 6- Steve Biddle - P

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 24, 2021 *no quorum, no vote taken.*

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS We have the power point from SDG&E on the microgrid plan and undergrounding project and will gladly forward it to anyone who wants to know the details.

6. PUBLIC DISCUSSION: At this time, the public is invited to speak on any item that does not appear on the agenda. Public speakers will be limited to 2 minutes.

Cherry Diefenbach raised the issue of SANDAG's new plan, and the assertion from SANDAG that it would need money – most likely from a tax on vehicle miles traveled – to make up for lost gas taxes due to solar cars. She is concerned that people who drive gasoline vehicles would be double taxed, both at the pump and through the VMT tax, especially in far flung communities with long commutes.

Rob Romero commented that community groups negotiating donations from developers of big projects like Jacumba Valley Ranch should negotiate periodic payments (e.g. monthly or annual), rather than just one up-front payment.

Larry Johnson said that the historical society was planning to ask the county for signs directing drivers to the Old Stone Store. They will cc the planning group for a support letter. Also, the historic Cameron House is for sale.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. SDC Capital Improvement Program is identifying a prioritized list of transportation improvement projects on the county-maintained road network in Campo's planning area. This is a different list from the re-surfacing project we did on May 24. Examples of capital improvement projects could include new roads/reconstruction/reconfiguration (street lighting, lanes, turning lanes, roundabouts, or bike lanes); bridge repair/reconstruction; sidewalk/pathways/pedestrian access ramps; traffic signals and intersections. CIP Project Manager Ryan Lau to present. **Discussion and vote.**

We will not be able to take a vote on this tonight, but we went ahead with the public presentation. We will vote on this at the next meeting.

The group is asked to provide as much detail as possible describing issues we place on the list.

After the project description from Ryan Lau, Rob Romero asked about the long-delayed walking trail between the library and Cameron Corners. Lau said that was exactly the kind of project that could be included. The route would be along the edge of Star Ranch, which the county now owns.

Public Works Director Jeff Monet said the DPW is establishing a list of unfunded projects and ask supervisors to fund them.

Billie Jo Jannen said that nothing on the 2014 list has been done and the bridge on BSR is of concern. We were assured that the bridge is still in process. She also asked if a park-and-ride could be funded (answer is yes) and suggested that could also be placed on county land adjacent to Cameron Corners.

Larry Johnson asked that repairs on Dewey Place, which he has previously requested, be considered.

Steve Biddle said the accidents and near-misses on BSR call for some kind of elevated enforcement on this road. That would be done by CHP, and not the county.

No quorum, no vote taken.

b. Support for Jacumba's effort to promote the "Equity for Jacumba" alternative to the Jacumba Valley Ranch solar application. As proposed, the project would be three times the size of the town and butts right up to homes and facilities in the community. Jacumba has proposed it be smaller and set away from homes and community facilities. Jacumba CSG Chairman Cherry Diefenbach to present. **Discussion and vote.**

Cherry reported on the last week's planning commission hearing on JVR. One planning commissioner made a motion to deny the project, but it didn't pass. Motion to approve passed with yes votes from both of Joel Anderson's appointees. The full BOS will vote on this on August 18.

She is going to ask all District 2 chairmen to place this on an agenda for support and added that there should be political consequences for a supervisor who doesn't listen to advisors and constituents.

The project has been given a pass on some multiple EIR and permitting requirements. The developer is tearing down the historic dairy buildings. The developer is being allowed to be permitted as an "interim" project, but would operate through 2058. They are being allowed to build their own switchyard, despite the nearby one recently built by SDG&E. They have already entered into an agreement to sell all their power to the community choice district in San Diego City without an approved permit.

No quorum, no vote taken. This item will be on the next agenda for a vote.

c. Review and consideration of application for vacant Seat 1. Discussion and vote.

Standard for passage of most motions is majority of the approved membership (in Campo, 4 out of 7). Selection of new members is the only exception. Per the Policy II, Article II, Section III: "Confirmation of the candidate from an Election list or of a volunteer shall be by majority vote of the remaining members of the group." In Campo, that would currently be 3 out of 4 votes.

On motion by Rob Romero, and second by Steve Biddle, the group voted 3,0,0 to forward a request for appointment of Wellman Simmonds Sriamorn to District 2 Supervisor Joel Anderson.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Standing subcommittee reports (no action): Groundwater, Rob Romero; Sewer and Septic, vacant; Community Economic Impacts, Steve Biddle; Public Safety, Bob Shea.

Rob Romero, groundwater, reports that well monitoring in some form can be expected soon. Our aquifer is on its way to being impacted by drought. We really need to push for an updated groundwater ordinance.

Rob Romero, who also chairs the Solar Projects Subcommittee, also gave a brief report on the microgrid at Cameron Corners. Batter storage goes in within a couple of months. They can increase the holding capacity of the flow batteries just by increasing the electrolyte solution.

Steve Biddle, Economic Development, the old Cameron House would be a huge boon to local business. Higher prices are showing up locally and people are having more trouble making ends meet.

c. Chairman's report, Billie Jo Jannen (no action). *She reported about ongoing projects/issues as follows: AB 1139 (allowing SDG&E and PG&E to levy "equitable" extra charges on grid-connected solar owners). received a vote of 27-27 on June 2 by the full assembly, after an almost total rewrite in committee. It was placed in the "inactive file" by author of Lorena Gonzales, meaning it could be brought back in January 2022; AB 427 is still*

*in process and seeks to resolve periodic grid inadequacy by utilizing privately owned “behind the meter” resources, like batteries installed in homes and businesses, to put electricity back on the grid when demand is higher than what can be supplied by renewable sources; The county’s Regional Decarbonization Framework project is just starting with the goal of halting all carbon emissions in the county by 2035; The **Socially Equitable Cannabis Program** will have an **August 6** hearing with the SDC Planning Commission. The bulk of the ordinance will be approved over the course of 2 years, but interim provisions are proposed to protect existing dispensaries. The supervisors have thus far shown no interest in regulating where and how commercial grows are sited.*

9. CORRESPONDENCE: Members of the public who wish to read the correspondence listed may request it by email at campoplanninggroup@nym.hush.com.

a. June 11 agenda Traffic Advisory Committee. Nothing in our planning area. **Forwarded to group.**

b. Article on depletion of groundwater in ranching communities due to large-scale cannabis cultivation. Sent by Kathleen Lippett. “[Special Report_ Ranchers say cannabis growers use too much water.mp3 \(2.8 MB\)](#)” **Forwarded to group.**

c. Agenda for June 12 community planning group quarterly meeting. **Forwarded to group.**

d. Login information for June 15 follow-up meeting with SDG&E. Arranged by Todd Voorhees to answer technical questions tendered at our May 24 CLMPG meeting. **Forwarded to group.**

e. Notification from county that in-person meetings may resume, but are not required. Per the notice: “Your group may choose to hold hybrid (in-person and virtual) or completely virtual meetings. Executive Order N-29-20, regarding the Brown Act, is still in place and allows for group members to participate electronically/telephonically.” **Forwarded to group.**

f. Invitation to participate in a July 7 video meeting about the county’s new “Green Streets, Clean Water” initiative. The program seeks to redesign stormwater drainage and install permeable paving in some areas. **Forwarded to group.**

g. Link to KUSI interview with Jacumba CSG chairman Cherry Diefenbach on the giant Jacumba Valley Ranch industrial solar proposal. This project is on this month’s agenda for a support letter. <https://www.kusi.com/big-solar-farm-runs-into-small-town-opposition-in-jacumba-hot-springs/> **Forwarded to group.**

h. Request from the DPW Capital Improvements planner to prioritize local road and supporting infrastructure projects. This is NOT the same as the May 24 road prioritization we did on May 24. That project was strictly for re-paving alone. This item is on this agenda for action. **Forwarded to group.**

i. Notice of framework planning for the Regional Decarbonization Framework and a presentation to the BOS on July 14. The goal of this project is to halt all carbon emissions in the county by 2035.

<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/sustainability/regional-decarbonization.html>

Forwarded to group.

j. Article on Jacumba Valley Ranch industrial solar proposal in SDUT. “Big solar farm runs into small town opposition,” July 4. **Forwarded to group.**

k. Agenda for July 23 meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee. Nothing in our area. **Forwarded to group.**

l. Notice that the Socially Equitable Cannabis Program will have an August hearing with the SDC Planning Commission. The bulk of the ordinance will be approved over the course of 2 years, but interim provisions are proposed. The revisions to the Zoning Ordinance include amendments to Section 1110 Definitions, Section 6935 Medical Marijuana Collective Facilities, Section 6976 Prohibition of Marijuana Facilities – Medical or Non-Medical, and the addition of a new Section 6861 Nonconforming Cannabis Facilities. Current changes are as follows:

1. *allow for the existing dispensaries to continue operating past April 14, 2022,*
2. *allow for commercial adult use and commercial medical cannabis sales,*
3. *allow for alterations to existing structures or additions to an existing structure up to 10,000 square feet through a ministerial building permit with exemptions of B and S Special Area Designators, and*
4. *allow for the transfer of operating certificates.* **Forwarded to group.**

10. EXPENSES: Report any valid expenses for group approval. Discussion and vote.
No quorum, no vote taken.

11. UPDATES AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

12. REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDAS: All requests for placement of agenda items must be to the planning group chairman by the third Tuesday of each month.

Next regular meeting, August 22, 2021 at 7 p.m. (may be 6 p.m. if we are able to meet in person). If you wish to appear on the agenda, please contact CLMPG Chairman Billie Jo Jannen, 28736 Highway 94, Unit 1, Campo, CA 91906, email her at campoplanninggroup@nym.hush.com or call 619-415-6298. Final agendas are posted at least 72 hours prior to meeting. *Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.*