

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 10 July 2023, at Olde Ironside Park, 326 Harbison Canyon Road, El Cajon.

A. ROLL CALL. Chair Darin Wessel called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM. Planning Group members Rich, Wessel, Bretz, Manning, Lutz-Partain, Scholl, Wilbur and Lucas were present, forming a quorum of 8. Members Ulm, Nehring and Becker were absent, but excused. Member Geiger was absent, but not excused. Seat 4, Seat 7 and Seat 13 are vacant.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

< Member Dave Geiger joined the meeting at 6:45 PM, raising the quorum to 9. >

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Member Mike Rich moved the Planning Group approves the minutes of its meeting on 12 June 2023, as submitted by Secretary Bretz. The motion passed (9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

Chair Wessel acknowledged that the final approved version (with revision tracking) of the minutes of the May meeting has not been sent out to Group members, and that he will get this done.

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION. No member of the Planning Group requested to speak. Kandy Franklin, resident of Crest, reported that the gas station in Crest is still allowing double-tankers to park on La Cresta Road while delivering fuel, that the night lighting has not been reduced, and that an appropriate business attendant has not been seen present on site after 10:00 PM. (Chair Wessel announced that this ongoing issue will be included on the agenda of the August meeting.)

E. ACTION ITEMS.

E1. Discussion and potential action regarding community road safety issues, including at Harbison Canyon and St. Francis and on La Cresta Road. Chair Wessel introduced Michael Kenney, County Traffic Engineer, welcoming him to hear and to participate in the Planning Group's discussion regarding community road safety issues. Community concerns discussed included: 1) high speed traffic on Harbison Canyon Road creating safety hazards at certain neighborhood intersections, pedestrian crosswalks and school bus stops; 2) creation of a single access road for several new homes located on a sharp curve/high speed portion of La Cresta Road, with no provision of a turnout lane and signage; 3) double-tank fuel trucks parked on La Cresta Road while delivering fuel to the new gas station in Crest; and 4) the general problems of poorly managed visual sightlines due to unmaintained vegetation, and the lack of adequate reflective signals and informative signage in various places. A resident of Harbison Canyon related the experience of his family, whose daughter was hit by a speeding vehicle while bicycling, and fortunately survived her serious injuries.

During discussion Mr. Kenney explained relevant County policies/regulations for specific circumstances, including: 1) that all-way stops at intersections have the highest

rate of accidents, are not a good solution for most locations, and require higher traffic volumes than occur on Harbison Canyon side streets; 2) that the County will consider and analyze the possibilities for crosswalks with flashing beacons at appropriate locations the community has identified; 3) that all school bus stops and certain specific sight lines will be analyzed for appropriate signage and visual safety; 4) and that the County will check on the Crest gas station's compliance with County permits/codes, and California Highway Patrol regulations. He requested that specific locations with these road-related issues of concern to the community be sent to him at DPW; and stated that he would provide an update for the Group's 14 August 2023 meeting about County's actions on these road safety matters.

E2. Ad Hoc Committee update regarding evacuation in case of wildfire.

(Nehring/Lucas). Member Tim Lucas reported that Ron Nehring is currently out of the country; that he (Lucas) has completed a draft write-up of the Committee's proposed changes to the Community/Subregional Plan regarding fire safety, emergency responses and evacuation in case of wildfire; that this will now be reviewed by appropriate fire/safety agencies for their comments and suggestions; and that the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee will be at 2:00 PM, 14 August 2023, at the Crest Community Club House.

< At 7:30 PM member Christina Becker joined the Planning Group, raising the quorum of the meeting to 10. >

E3. Update and discussion of Rural San Diego Fire Safe Council. (Manning).

Planning Group member Mary Manning reported that the Rural San Diego Fire Safe Council (Jamul) is: 1) looking for a 2-acre site in the Subregion that is suitable for conducting community vegetation chipping, and refuse recycling collection; 2) seeking community volunteers to manage chipping and recycling activities at such a site; and 3) planning a date for a community meeting to implement this cooperative project with CalFire. She recommended that effort should be made to enable the RSDFC to make a presentation to the Harbison Canyon and Dehesa communities soon, preferably before September.

Crest resident Kandy Franklin mentioned that due to its independent non-profit status, the Crest Fire Safe Council can work with and include local areas such as Harbison Canyon and Dehesa, by agreement through a Memorandum of Understanding with the overlying fire protection District; and that the Crest Fire Safe Council also has access to Federal grant funds due to its status.

Chair Wessel suggested reconsidering this item on the agenda of the Group's September meeting, to allow some time for meetings to gather community input, and for organizing specific actions regarding Fire Safe Council affiliations.

E4. Update on the property owner closure of California Riding and Hiking Trail.

(Wessel). Chair Wessel reported that the public access gate is still locked/blocked; that he has received no update on any efforts, by appropriate officials/agencies, to resolve the illegal closure with the involved property owner(s); and that a recent shooting event,

possibly along the illegally closed Trail route/easement, was reported to the Sheriff's Department, which could result in a Sheriff's investigation of the circumstances.

E5. Discussion and potential action regarding the funding and actions by County Department of Parks and Recreation related to improvements for South Lane Park.

Member Mike Rich reported that some vegetation trimming was started at South Lane Park, but was soon halted; that he was told this is due to the presence of nesting endangered birds on site; and that it will be months before vegetation trimming can be resumed there.

E6. LAMP for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems V.2 proposed changes – Stakeholder Feedback Session on July 12, 2023 and comments due by August 15, 2023. Chair Wessel asked the Group to provide any thoughts/comments related to the proposed changes for the County's regulations regarding Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems by the 15 August deadline; he mentioned that many of the proposed changes must be implemented by the County due to recent changes in State laws.

Member Tim Lucas requested an Internet link to the original documentation for LAMP, and Chair Wessel agreed to provide this.

F. GROUP BUSINESS.

F1. Announcements and Correspondence Received. Chair Wessel mentioned that the letter (copy previously emailed Group members) from Department of Planning and Development Services that referred to public meeting decorum has no connection to our meetings; but that meetings of some Planning/Sponsor Groups have been stressful for the attending County personnel due to unpopular County policies and inactions.

F2. Discussion Items. None.

F3. Meeting updates. None.

F3a. Reports on and upcoming BOS, PC and other Hearings/Meetings. None.

F3b. Next meeting date, 14 August 2023, at Olde Ironside Park, 326 Harbison Canyon Road, El Cajon, CA 92021.

G. ADJOURNMENT. Member Becker moved adjournment at 7:50 PM. The motion passed unanimously (10 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)