

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 9 March 2015, at Crest Community Building, 113 North Park Drive, El Cajon (Crest).

**A. CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Wally Riggs called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL.** Planning Group members Ulm, Slagill, Carroll, Walls, Wessel, Riggs, Bretz, Manning and Hertel were present, forming a quorum of 9. Members Harris and Underwood were absent, but excused. Member Bowen was absent, but not excused. Seat 10, Seat 12 and Seat 15 are vacant.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Pat Ulm moved the Planning Group approves the minutes of the meeting on 9 January 2015 as submitted. The motion passed (9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

**E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION.** No one requested to speak.

**F. ACTION ITEMS.**

**F1. Presentation of proposed emergency egress route from Crest through avocado grove north to I-8.** Chairman Riggs introduced Darcy Jones, consulting engineer and representative of the owners of Rios Canyon Ranch, which is a 600-acre avocado orchard that is situated between the north side of Crest and Interstate 8 in Lakeside. Mr. Jones described a possible emergency egress route from Crest that could be constructed utilizing some of the existing avocado ranch roads, connecting to roads in Crest via Horsemill Road in the Oakridge Ecological Reserve, and connecting to Interstate 8 via Old Highway 80 and Lake Jennings Road on the north edge of Rios Canyon Ranch. He explained that the ranch owners are planning a future housing development project for Rios Canyon Ranch (240 single-family home lots, 19 to 20 larger estate lots, and a multi-family and senior housing area) that will require a secondary access road, which also could provide an emergency egress route that connects Crest to Interstate 8. As a secondary access road for the development project, this route would be paved 32 feet in width, with less than 15% grades, and would be controlled with a locked gate at its connection to Horsemill Road in Crest. The route designed by the development planners is based on widening segments of the existing grove road network, utilizing the existing cuts and fills where possible to minimize the need for additional grading, and would be paid for by the project developers. Construction of the paved secondary access road through the ranch is contingent upon approval of the entire development project. It is currently not known how the portion of the route through the Oakridge Ecological Reserve would be designed and funded. The project developers would like to have the Crest community and the Subregional Planning Group support approval of the proposed route to serve simultaneously as a secondary access route for the development, and as an emergency egress route for Crest.

Members of the Planning Group and the public asked questions about the possibility of utilizing the existing dirt road network through the ranch (with minimal necessary upgrading) as an emergency egress route from Crest immediately, without waiting for the complete planning, approval and construction processes of the ranch development project.

The Planning Group expressed its view that the proposed road, and its dependency on the approval of a major development project, should be presented at the next meeting convened by Supervisor Jacob concerning emergency egress routes from Crest; and that Cal Fire and other agencies should be informed about and included in discussions about this possible route for emergency egress from Crest, prior to any consideration of giving Planning Group recommendation for approval of the concept.

**F2. Invitation from Sycuan to hold a future Planning Group meeting at Sycuan's new Tribal Hall.** Chairman Riggs presented to the Group an invitation from the Sycuan Band for the Planning Group to hold one of its future regular meetings at the new Tribal Hall on the Sycuan Reservation, and to be introduced to the newly elected Tribal Government members. Planning Group members discussed their concerns about disrupting the normal pattern of rotating the Group's regular meetings between public venues in the Subregion's communities (Dehesa School, Old Ironside Park and Crest Community Building). Lory Walls moved that the Planning Group invites the Sycuan Tribal Government members to attend one of the Group's regular meetings, at one of its regular meeting places in the Subregion, for the purpose of both groups to meet each other. The motion passed (9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

**F3. Authorization of payment for CCA Meeting Room, for January March and April 2015.** Chairman Riggs asked for authorization from the Group to request the County to provide \$300, for three regular Planning Group meetings (January, March and April), to pay the standard fee of \$100 per night meeting for use of the Crest Community Building. Phil Hertel moved the Planning Group approves requesting the County to provide \$300 for the use fees for its three meetings in 2015 at the Crest Community Building. The motion passed (9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

## **G. GROUP BUSINESS.**

**G1. Announcements and correspondence.** Mary Manning announced that the door locks at the Old Ironside Park building were vandalized, that currently there is only one key for unlocking the building, and that this key is in her possession.

Wally Riggs announced that Dehesa School will be in session into May, and that he will talk with school officials about the location at the school for the Group's regular meeting there in May.

**G1a. Consideration of applicants for vacant seats.** There were no applicants for the currently vacant Planning Group seats. Chairman Riggs said this agenda item would be carried forward in the future as long as the vacant seats are unfilled.

**G1b. Form 700 reminder, to file.** Chairman Riggs reminded all Planning Group members that the Registrar of Voters office must receive Form 700 financial disclosure forms by 1 April.

**G1c. Eric Lardy is the interim Planning Group Coordinator, replacing Sheri McPherson.** Chairman Riggs informed the Group about McPherson being replaced by Lardy, as Planning Group Coordinator for the Department of Planning and Development Services. Riggs also mentioned that Lisa Fitzpatrick is still the DPDS contact for reimbursement requests.

**G1d. Camino Monte Sombra temporary road closure.** Chairman Riggs reported that on 4 March 2015 the Board of Supervisors approved, following the recommendation of the Traffic Advisory Committee, the final 18-month long closure by locked gate of the east end of Camino Monte Sombra. Following this 18-month long closure, the closed part of Camino Monte Sombra will be open to uncontrolled use.

**G2. Expense reimbursement requests.** There were no reimbursement requests.

**G3. Subcommittee reports.** None.

**G4. Meeting updates.** The next Planning Group meeting will be on 13 April 2015, at the Crest Community Building, 113 N. Park Drive, El Cajon (Crest).

**H. ADJOURNMENT.** Phil Hertel moved adjournment at 8:10 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)