

Jamul-Dulzura
Community Planning Group
Unincorporated Area of the County of San Diego
FINAL MINUTES
April 1, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Preston Brown, Michael Casinelli, Thomas Gray, Lisa Hodgson, Ed Mollen, Courtney Etnyre, Steve Wragg, John McClure, Lucille Hargraves, David Imrie, Paul Dombkowski, Janet Mulder, Michael Casinelli, Darla Kasmedo

Excused: Eve Nasby, Kevin May (Zoom)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 4 and March 18, 2025

Ed Mollen moved to approve March 4, 2025 Minutes

Passed Unanimously

Darla Kasmedo moved to approve the March 18, 2025 Minutes.

Passed Unanimously

4. OPEN FORUM

- **Chair Lisa Hodgson** read a letter from SDGE concerning how the timeline for Strategic Undergrounding has changed due to fewer miles being approved for funding. Rate payers should be receiving updates soon via email/mail. **Lisa** is planning to ask SDGE to return to an upcoming meeting soon.
- **Michael Casinelli** shared an update about the new proposed Community Park. He met with the superintendent, who will discuss an updated site with the school board at an upcoming board meeting. Original parcel: more costly due to numerous reasons. The newer site has better access to parking but has no access during school hours. We are waiting to see how things go with the school district before any other information can be shared.
- **Preston Brown** said the Sierra Club and a coalition of environmental nonprofits including the Endangered Habitats League and the California Attorney General's Office announced a legal settlement regarding the Otay Ranch Village 13 master planned community north of the Otay Reservoir. It will enhance environmental protections and provide safeguards for endangered species, while simultaneously increasing the opportunity for new housing in the region.
The agreement substantially reduces the footprint of the proposed housing development, preserving approximately 300 additional acres of open space and the settlement simultaneously allows the developer flexibility to add additional units. The developer

may apply for up to 2,750 housing units (increased from 1,938) within the same building area, allowing for additional housing supply while reducing environmental impacts.

5. LETTERHEAD LOGO FOR JDCPG

The new Logo for our Planning Group was approved at the last meeting. It will be included in future Minutes.

6. WILDFIRE AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION TOUR WITH SANDAG AND CALTRANS – SR-94

Vice Chair Paul Dombkowski shared the following updates:

- SR 94 brush clearing/tree trimming continues from Lyons Valley Road to Steele Canyon Road. Brush clearing/tree trimming from Otay Lakes Road through to Dulzura is still on hold as Caltrans continues their investigation of cultural sites located on this stretch of SR- 94.
- **Paul** provided an update on the Dulzura Town Center speeding issue. **Paul** is in direct contact with the new El Cajon Area CHP Commander Captain Michael Monte Agundo, who confirmed that they have increased CHP presence along SR-94 near the Dulzura mini mart. The CHP have issued 25 citations for speeding over the past weekend. The CHP will continue to increase their presence along this Dulzura stretch of SR-94 throughout the week and on weekends.
- Lance Hafen shared that the speed limit on SR-94 needs to be clearly marked. The current speed limit is 55 mph.
- **Chair Lisa Hodgson** stated that she had shared the SD County workshop information about speed limit reductions with Dulzura via Facebook messenger. The reductions in speed limits are being done in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol and it aims to reduce traffic accidents and injuries by reducing speed limits by 5 miles an hour in specific areas around the county. This initiative is the result of **AB 43** passed in 2022.
- **Paul** shared highlights from the most recent SANDAG Board March 2025 Meetings. Mario Orso, CEO, SANDAG, mentioned **SB 375** and discussed whether SANDAG should use VMT in its General Plan going forward.
Rep. Carl DeMaio and Senator Brian Jones have both introduced bills focused on giving the unincorporated areas a vote through the APG. Of note, there is considerable support from other SANDAG Board members with very little opposition to date.
Supervisor Joel Anderson also supported giving the APG a vote at future SANDAG Board Meetings.
Rep. Darrell Issa is holding two events for meetings with the CPGs across the Unincorporated Areas of the County. The APG is still requesting a separate meeting with him and Mario Orso. The Public Safety Committee at SANDAG meeting highlights were sent out by **Paul**.
The goal of the “Regional Vision Zero Action Plan” is to have zero fatalities and/or injuries by 2050. This plan includes Safe Streets and Roads for all implementation grants.

7. ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING GROUPS (APG)

- **Paul** shared highlights from the most recent SANDAG Board March 2025 Meetings. Mario Orso, CEO, SANDAG, mentioned SB 375 and discussed whether SANDAG should use VMT in its General Plan going forward.

Rep. Carl DeMaio and Senator Brian Jones have both introduced bills focused on giving the unincorporated areas a vote through the APG. Of note, there is considerable support from other SANDAG Board members with very little opposition to date. Supervisor Joel Anderson also supported giving the APG a vote at future SANDAG Board Meetings.

- Rep. Darrell Issa is holding two events for meetings with the CPGs across the Unincorporated Areas of the County. The APG is still requesting a separate meeting with him and Mario Orso. The Public Safety Committee at SANDAG meeting highlights were sent out by **Paul**.
- The goal of the “Regional Vision Zero Action Plan” is to have zero fatalities and/or injuries by 2050. This plan includes Safe Streets and Roads for all implementation grants.

8. JAMUL CASINO HOTEL AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

Night time light pollution from the Jamul Casino is an increasing concern among Jamul residents.

Preston Brown consulted with Travis Longcore, the Science Director of The Urban Wildlands Group, a Los Angeles-based conservation nonprofit, and an independent ecological design and environmental policy consultant. Dr. Longcore is a world leader in the environmental and ecological effects of night lighting, including the disruption of behavioral and physiological processes across species. Dr. Longcore was quickly able to pull data from the website DarkSky.org showing the dramatic increase in nighttime light pollution since the opening of the Jamul Casino in 2016. Long term onsite follow-up studies will be needed to determine impacts to wildlife in the area.

SEE ATTACHMENT I “Graphic Radiance Light Trends”

Preston stated that the annual migration season of many bird species is occurring from March 1 through June 16th. He shared information about “Lights Out San Diego”, an event that encourages residents to decrease outdoor lighting. More information can be found at “Lights Out, San Diego”. **Preston** has volunteered to write a letter to the Jamul Indian Village/ Jamul Casino regarding the effects of light pollution from the recent additions of nighttime lighting themes to the Casino and Hotel and the addition of the new Jamul Casino Sign.

Our group will continue to monitor and follow up with the JIV and the wildlife agencies whose conservation lands could be negatively affected.

9. FINAL LETTER TO COUNTY ON SOCIALLY EQUITABLE CANNABIS PROGRAM - DRAFT DEIR

Enclosed is our final letter to the County PDS with our recommendations for revisions to the Draft EIR, Regulatory and Zoning Amendments.

SEE ATTACHMENT II

10. REQUEST TO CALTRANS FOR A “LEFT HAND TURN LANE” ON VISTA SAGE

Enclosed is our letter requesting help on getting a “Left Hand Turn Lane” onto Vista Sage from SR-94.

SEE ATTACHMENT III

11. LETTER TO SUP. JOEL ANDERSON IN SUPPORT OF THE UPDATED “UNSAFE CAMPING ORDINANCE”
SEE ATTACHMENT IV

12. REPORT ON COTTONWOOD SAND MINE MEETING

Preston Brown attended the Cottonwood Sand Mine Meeting held by the Valle de Oro Community Planning Group. The Valle de Oro CPG received public comment for their formal recommendation to the County Planning Commission. Over a hundred people attended and expressed their overwhelming opposition to this project. The scheduled April 18, Planning Commission Hearing has been postponed till sometime in May or June.

13. JDCPG OFFICERS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

- **Chair Lisa Hodgson** will attend the Dulzura Community Meeting on April 19, 2025 at 5pm at 1136 Community Building Road.
- **Lisa** received an update regarding the CPUC Public Participation Hearings on the rules of *“Carrier of Last Resort”*:

14. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

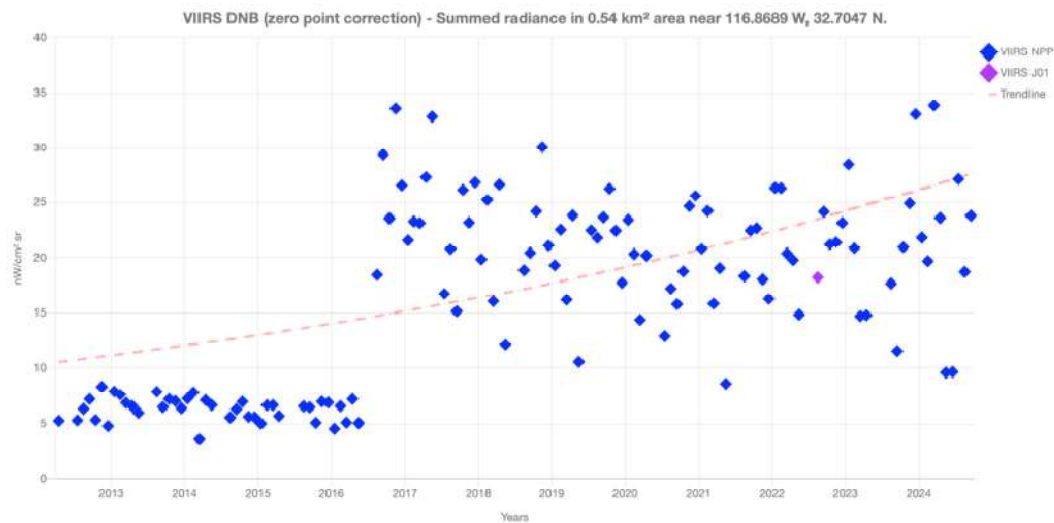
Lisa will contact SDG&E re: attending upcoming JDCPG for SUG updates

Lisa will send copies of letters with Secretary Courtney Etnyre for attachment to Minutes.

Preston Brown to write Light Pollution letter to the JIV.

15. ADJOURNMENT: 8:34pm

ATTACHMENT I “Graphic Radiance Light Trends”. The area from satellite height focuses on an area of 133 acres with the Jamul Casino in the center. NOTE: Each of the colored squares are the measurements taken for an entire month.



ATTACHMENT II

March 25, 2025

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services (PDS)
5500 Overland Avenue, Suite 210
San Diego, CA 92123
Attn: Jessica Norton

Subject: County of San Diego Socially Equitable Cannabis Program

Dear County of San Diego, PDS:

The Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group favors Alternative 4 by a vote of 8-3.

While our recommendation is Alternative 4, we also believe that the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) fails to adequately address topics which have been discussed in the DEIR and

Regulatory Comments. In particular:

1. The effects and impacts to our rural roads and infrastructure.
2. The negative effects from impaired drivers who have visited cannabis lounges and temporary events.
3. The negative environmental effects of cannabis cultivation on utilities, rural aesthetics and surrounding residents and businesses.
4. The negative impacts of outdoor temporary events.
5. The negative environmental effects of cannabis cultivation odors.
6. Negative effects on other crops.
7. Negative effects on law enforcement, first responders and public services.

We recommend that the EIR be revised to include a more thorough and up to date analysis of these topics and their negative environmental impacts on our unincorporated communities.

Please see attached comments for additional details.

Sincerely,

//S//

Lisa Hodgson

Chairman, Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group

jdcpgchairman@gmail.com

ATTACHMENT III

March 21, 2025

Ann Fox

District Director

Caltrans District 11

4050 Taylor St.

San Diego, CA 92110

Subject: Urgent Request for Left-Hand Turn Lane at CA-94 and Vista Sage Ln to Improve Safety

Dear Director Fox,

On behalf of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group, I am requesting you investigate the feasibility of the request for left-hand turn lane at CA-94 and Vista Sage Lane (aka "Slaughter Curve") in Jamul per Subject letter from Assemblyman Carl DeMaio dated February 25, 2025.

This request was previously made as early as 2017, to no avail. Since then, there have been numerous accidents including fatalities.

We request that you provide an update within 30 days of receipt of this request so that we can monitor the status and provide feedback to the community.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

/s/

Lisa Hodgson

Chairman

Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group

jdcpgchairman@gmail.com

ATTACHMENT IV

March 21, 2025

Supervisor Joel Anderson

San Diego County Board of Supervisors

1600 Pacific Highway Room 335

San Diego CA, 92101

Dear Supervisor Anderson,

I am writing on behalf of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group (JDCPG) to express our full support for the Board of Supervisors to approve and implement enhancements to the Unsafe Camping Ordinance, a critical measure to enhance public safety and protect our shared communities from the growing threat of wildfires. With the vast majority of the unincorporated areas in the High Fire Threat District, your commitment to addressing illegal encampments in these fire-prone areas is essential to safeguarding lives, homes, and natural resources.

Recent wildfires, including the Border 2 Fire, Lilac Fire and Center Fire have shown the devastating impact of encampments in fire-prone areas. Your effort takes a proactive approach by empowering law enforcement to remove potentially dangerous illegal encampments, clear hazardous areas, and prevent future disasters.

Your efforts are further reinforced by recent legal and policy developments, including the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson* and Governor Newsom's Executive Order encouraging local governments to take decisive action on encampments regardless of if shelter beds are available. As incorporated cities like San Diego, Chula Vista, and Santee have already implemented similar ordinances, it is imperative that we address the unique challenges in our unincorporated areas, where encampments in riverbeds, canyons, and open spaces present significant fire hazards.

This ordinance is not only about fire prevention—it is about ensuring public safety while maintaining a compassionate and balanced approach. By aligning with regional efforts and providing law enforcement with the necessary tools, we can prevent avoidable tragedies and create safer communities for all residents.

Sincerely,
/s/
Lisa Hodgson
Chairman
Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group
chairmanjdcpg@gmail.com

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, April 15, 2025 @ 7:00 pm.
Jamul-Dulzura Union School District - Jamul Education Center
14581 Lyons Valley Road, Jamul, CA 91935
Hybrid Meeting: Both In-Person and Zoom Attendance

MEETING MINUTES AND AGENDAS can be accessed at
<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pds/CommunityGroups.html>

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 Public Notice and any County ordinance or other law governing the County's disclosure of records, the County ordinance or other applicable law will control. Access and Correction of Personal Information. You can review any personal information collected about you. You may recommend changes to your personal information you believe is in error by submitting a written request that credibly shows the error. If you believe that your personal information is being used for a purpose other than what was intended when submitted, you may contact us. In all cases, we will take reasonable steps to verify your identity before granting access or making corrections.

JAMUL DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is to represent the best interests of the communities of Jamul and Dulzura while adhering to County of San Diego, California Board of Supervisors Policy I-1."

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is:

- *To provide a public forum where local citizens can learn about issues of importance to them and their community and provide input.*
- *To carefully consider all input when advising the county on such issues as planning, land use, discretionary projects, and community and sub-regional*