MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RAMONA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

A regular meeting of the Ramona Community Planning Group (RCPG) was held January 4, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at the Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main Street, Ramona, California.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL (Scherer, Chair)

In Attendance: Torry Brean, Jim Cooper, Scotty Ensign, Frank Lucio, Casey Lynch, Kristi Mansolf, Robin Joy Maxson, Donna Myers, Elio Noyas, David Ross, Dan Scherer, Paul Stykel, Dan Summers

Members Absent: Chris Holloway and Richard Tomlinson

Dan Scherer, RCPG Chair, acted as Chair of the meeting, Torry Brean, RCPG Vice-Chair, acted as Vice-Chair of the meeting, and Kristi Mansolf, RCPG Secretary, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF 12-7-17

Ms. Mansolf said Ms. Maxson’s name is spelled wrong on page 1 of the minutes. Mr. Ensign said the mural on page 5 is proposed for Dave’s Auto and not Molly Malones’.


Upon motion made by Scotty Ensign and seconded by Donna Myers, the motion passed 13-0-0-2, with Chris Holloway and Richard Tomlinson absent.

ITEM 4: Announcements and Correspondence Received

Ms. Mansolf announced the Cummings Ranch project – proposed along Highland Valley Road with approximately 125 homes on almost 700 acres – is an approved Tentative Map that will eventually expire and so it will be coming to the RCPG on February 1 for a Time Extension. It will also go to the West Subcommittee the Monday the week before the RCPG meeting for a preliminary review. She asked people who wanted to sign up to receive an agenda, to please give her an email address and she will send a meeting notice.

ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Group on any subject matter within the Group’s jurisdiction that is not on posted agenda.

Speaker: Judy Ipema, Ramona Resident
Ms. Ipema will be a neighbor to the project, and she said there is a lot of development going on and proposed in Ramona – where will the water come from for the Cummings Ranch development and the other developments? Ramona will need a new source of water. This is a humongous project.

Speaker: Lorraine Krol, Ramona Resident

Ms. Krol is a neighbor to the proposed project. She asked where new residents will work? The commute right now is terrible. It will be worse after the development is completed. If there is a fire and people need to evacuate, where is the escape route? People sat on the road for hours in 2007 waiting to evacuate during the Witch Creek fire. Traffic is not good on Highland Valley Road. There are some really tight curves and people have to slam on their brakes because they are going too fast. One of the things that led to Ms. Kroll to buy property in Ramona was red tail hawks, nesting on a neighboring property. Ramona is a beautiful, peaceful valley.

Speaker: Rob Peck, Ramona Resident

Mr. Peck lives at the end of Sawday. When it rains, this area is a floodplain, and it changes. The stream starts flowing, and becomes a river. Mr. Peck also has concerns about traffic on Montecito Road. Montecito Road is a deadend road. People use the Acres to cut around that part of Ramona.

Speaker: Brian Ouellette, Ramona Resident

Mr. Ouellette was here during the 2007 fire. There was gridlock on Highway 67. There are 400 homes proposed by the airport, condos being built by Kmart, and now 125 homes proposed at the Cummings Ranch. He would like to see an expansion of Highway 67. Five hundred homes will result in about 1,000 additional cars.

ITEM 6: APPROVAL OF ORDER OF THE AGENDA (Action)

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Scotty Ensign and seconded by Torry Brean, the motion passed 13-0-0-0-2, with Chris Holloway and Richard Tomlinson absent.

ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS:

7-A: Ramona Street Extension Project – Update from County Staff and Discussion . (Michael Khoury and Ray Perdido, County of San Diego)

Mr. Khoury introduced Ray Perdido and another gentleman from the County.

Mr. Perdido said the Ramona Street Extension project is still feasible. All work will be done within the right of way. Temporary construction easements will be needed. For utilities affecting the project, there is the 36 inch aqueduct and the 8 inch RMWD water line. The County will be working with the City of San Diego to redesign the aqueduct. The RMWD is aware of the project and is taking the opportunity to upgrade the existing line.

There were concerns in the past with impacts to 2 wells that were close to the project. These impacts can be mitigated. They will monitor the wells before, during and after the project. They are waiting for a go ahead from County leadership, to go ahead with the project.

The Chair asked the status of the project?
Mr. Perdido said that the project was at 50 percent design, then it was shelved.

Mr. Khoury said the project is awaiting funding.

Mr. Lynch asked how the County will address the home that is closest to the right of way?

Mr. Perdido said the road will be lowered from where it was proposed to be before. Before they were trying to avoid the utilities. Carmen LaBelle’s property had a retaining wall proposed for it, and with the past design, fill would have been close to the front door. Now there will be just a little bit of fill and no wall. They will have to satisfy any stormwater issues. The grade will be ADA.

Ms. Maxson asked what is the expected increase in trips per day with the project?

Mr. Perdido said only a prediction can be made.

Ms. Maxson asked if there would be a stop sign as part of the design, and if the speed limit would change?

Mr. Perdido said they will monitor the need for a stop sign once the project is completed. The existing speed limit will continue to be used.

Mr. Summers said there have been concerns with the project about the slope of the driveways impacting EMS and fire.

Mr. Perdido said the road was lowered to mitigate concerns. The County did not want to dig up the aqueduct, but the City doesn’t use it all the time and so it can be redesigned.

Ms. Myers talked about prior iterations of the project where there were some safety issues. For her driveway, there is not good line of sight.

Mr. Perdido said changes were made. The road is not as steep now. Ms. Myers’ driveway will be widened for better line of sight.

Ms. Myers said her house will sit right on the road.

A point of order was called due to Ms. Myers’ proximity to the project.

Mr. Perdido said all of the right of way has been obtained. Only slope and drainage easements are still needed.

The Chair said EMS and fire will be less impacted once the driveways are paved.

Mr. Ensign asked about impacts to Ms. LaBelle’s house and easements? He asked how the project got on the RCPG CIP List?

Mr. Perdido said this information would have shown on her deed when she bought the property. The right of way was there, but using the whole right of way may not have been thought of in the 1955’s.

Mr. Scherer said the road was put on the CIP list by the RCPG.
Mr. Lynch asked about site distance for the driveways?

Mr. Perdido said a survey has been done. Some driveways were widened to provide for better line of sight.

Mr. Lynch said it is people’s responsibility to see what easements are on their property. Mr. Lynch would like to see the prediction models on traffic.

Mr. Perdido said a consultant has been hired to do a traffic study of the area.

Mr. Khoury said based on funding available, funding has been identified for 2021-2022.

Ms. Myers said the RCPG has not bought off on the design.

Mr. Perdido said the design was close to 100 percent, and then some changes were made. They had a wider road width initially. They had anticipated kids would walk to school.

Mr. Cooper said there was a design to do a 14 foot cut through the hill. He doesn’t believe the road standards allow disturbance to geology. The project was on the list in 2003, and it is currently up for approval because the Transportation Trails Subcommittee recommended deleting it. All the studies are too old and need to be redone. To keep this project in the system – the administrative cost per year is $80,000 total. Over $883,000 has been spent at this time and no dirt moved yet. He has been a student of the project since 2007. The project won’t affect him. He would like to see 2 more road alternatives for this project considered. He would like to form an ad hoc subcommittee to look at the feasibility of 2 other routes. He would like Torry to chair the meeting, and he would like Dan Summers, Chris Holloway, Dave Ross, Casey Lynch, Robin Maxson and Jim Cooper to serve on the subcommittee.

There was a recent CIP vote to revisit the 2014 CIP list. One recommendation was to remove Ramona Street Extension. Mr. Brean wanted a presentation.

Mr. Lynch said we may need this road in the future.

Mr. Cooper said there were problems with the design.

Mr. Khoury said the RCPG needed to vote first then the County will consider the issue. The design has been studied 10 years, which is longer than normal, The project is currently on the shelf.

**MOTION: TO FORM AN HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF THE RAMONA STREET EXTENSION PROJECT; TO LOOK AT ALTERNATIVE ROUTES FOR THE RAMONA STREET EXTENSION PROJECT; AND TO MAKE A FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON THE RAMONA STREET EXTENSION PROJECT.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Dan Summers, the motion failed 6-6-0-1-2, with Torry Brean, Scotty Ensign, Frank Lucio, Kristi Mansolf, Dave Ross and Paul Stykel voting no, Donna Myers stepping down, and Chris Holloway and Richard Tomlinson absent.

Mr. Brean asked if the road can realistically be safely engineered?

Mr. Perdido said the road can be safely engineered and built.
Mr. Cooper said he would like to put the consideration of alternative routes on the next Transportation/Trails Subcommittee agenda.

7-B: (Transportation/Trails Subcommittee Item) Discussion of traffic concerns associated with the corner of Elm and Poplar streets.

Mr. Cooper said no one showed up to speak to this item at the Transportation/Trails subcommittee meeting, and he will place this on the next subcommittee agenda.

7-C: (Transportation/Trails Subcommittee Item) Discussions regarding the public’s concerns about the quality of the recent repaving of Ramona roads by the Department of Public Works

Speaker: Casey Lynch, Ramona Resident

Mr. Lynch said a contractor’s paving machine broke down leaving a ¼ to ½ inch lip next to the roadway, and the contractor is not required to fix the problem. The machinery needs to be fixed or it will continue to create faulty roads. We deserve better roads. Mr. Lynch is affected by the problem, which also happened in other areas.

No action was taken at this time.

7-D: (Transportation/Trails Subcommittee Item) Review of Ramona Resurfacing list by Ad Hoc Committee to now include the greater study identified by the County letter dated November 7, 2017 and entitled: PRIORITIZATION REQUEST FOR ROADWAY PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE IN THE RAMONA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP (CPG) AREA

Mr. Cooper said he is trying to arrange a 1-18-18 meeting for the ad hoc committee for the road resurfacing issue.

7-E: (Transportation/Trails Subcommittee Item) Review and update, for possible RCPG action, the 2014 Ramona Community Planning Group Capital Improvement Road Priority List.

This item was tabled. It will be discussed at the next Transportation/Trails meeting.

7-F: (Transportation/Trails Subcommittee Item) Report from TAC meeting 12-8-17 on Montecito Road Radar Recertification

Mr. Cooper went to the TAC meeting where the radar recertification of Montecito Road was discussed. The TAC made a decision to keep the 40 mph speed limit. The question came up with what will happen to the rest of the speed limit for Montecito Road to the airport? The speed limit will be 40 mph there, also.

7-G: (Parks Subcommittee Item) Review of Wellfield Park 1994 Storm Water Decision (To be discussed 2-1-18)

7-H: (Parks Subcommittee Item) Review of Additional project specific questions from County for Wellfield Park Projects (To be discussed 2-1-18)
ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)
     8-A: Election of Officers for 2018: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

The Chair opened nominations for Chair for 2018.

Mr. Brean nominated Dan Scherer and Scotty Ensign seconded the nomination.

There were no additional nominations and the Chair closed the nominations.

Vote:
Torry Brean: Dan Scherer
Jim Cooper: Dan Scherer
Scotty Ensign: Dan Scherer
Chris Holloway: Absent
Frank Lucio: Dan Scherer
Casey Lynch: Dan Scherer
Kristi Mansolf: Dan Scherer
Robin Joy Maxson: Dan Scherer
Donna Myers: Dan Scherer
Elio Noyas: Dan Scherer
David Ross: Dan Scherer
Dan Scherer: Dan Scherer
Paul Stykel: Dan Scherer
Dan Summers: Dan Scherer
Richard Tomlinson: Absent

The Chair opened nominations for Vice-Chair for 2018.

Frank Lucio nominated Torry Brean, and Dan Summers seconded the nomination.

There were no additional nominations and the Chair closed the nominations.

Vote:
Torry Brean: Torry Brean
Jim Cooper: Torry Brean
Scotty Ensign: Torry Brean
Chris Holloway: Absent
Frank Lucio: Torry Brean
Casey Lynch: Torry Brean
Kristi Mansolf: Torry Brean
Robin Joy Maxson: Torry Brean
Donna Myers: Torry Brean
Elio Noyas: Torry Brean
David Ross: Torry Brean
Dan Scherer: Torry Brean
Paul Stykel: Torry Brean
Dan Summers: Torry Brean
Richard Tomlinson: Absent

The Chair opened nominations for Secretary for 2018.
The Chair nominated Kristi Mansolf and Scotty Ensign seconded the nomination.

There were no additional nominations and the Chair closed the nominations.

**Vote:**

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8-B: Mandatory Annual Planning Group Member Training, In Person Training  
*Dates: 1-6-18, 2-10-18*

8-C: DESIGN REVIEW REPORT (Ensign) – Update on Projects Reviewed

Mr. Ensign said Ms. Fowler will replace Dan Vengler on the Design Review Board. The Kahoots’ sign was reviewed. There will be 24 inch letters on the building. This is allowed in the Form Based Code area. Arco moved their propane tank. It is now by KFC. It will be smaller. They will be putting a car wash in, in 2018. They may put a mural on the tank. They will be doing some new signs with their corporate office. NCHS will be moving into the old Sears’ building. Resurrected Rustic, next to the Chamber, added signage since the last meeting. O’Reillys now want their own building. They are currently at Hunter and Main.

Mr. Scherer asked if the Dave’s Auto mural was approved?

Mr. Ensign said it was.

8-D: Discussion Items (Possible Action)  
8-D-1: Concerns from Members

Mr. Stykel said he would be unable to attend and chair the upcoming CUDA meeting, 1-29-18. He will also be resigning as chair of CUDA

8-D-2: Future Agenda Item Requests

Mr. Cooper said he would like to add the Emergency Evacuation Road through the Grasslands to the next Transportation/Trails agenda and RCPG agendas. He would also like an item on the agenda to follow up on the median barrier issue.
Mr. Cooper reminded subcommittee chairs that they needed to get letters/notes from their subcommittee members to say they wanted to continue being a member of the subcommittee(s) they serve on.

The Chair said he received a call from the County from the planner for the tall cell site on the Christiansen Amusement property. The cell site proposed has been approved by the County.

**8-D-3: Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members – None Brought Forward**

**8-E: Meeting Updates**

8-E-1: Board of Supervisor and Planning Commission Meetings: Planning Commission will Hear the County Climate Action on 1-18-18 in Preparation For Making Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Information on the County Action Plan is Available at: [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/advance/climateactionplan.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/advance/climateactionplan.html)

8-E-2: Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 2-1-18 at the Ramona Community Library, 7 p.m.

**ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Mansolf

The RCPG is advisory only to the County of San Diego. Community issues not related to planning and land use are not within the purview of this group. Item #5: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the RCPG on any subject within the group’s jurisdiction that does not appear as an item on this agenda. The RCPG cannot discuss these matters except to place them on a future agenda, refer them to a subcommittee, or to County staff. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes. Please fill out a speaker request form located at the rear of the room and present to Vice Chairperson.

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