

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
RAMONA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**

A regular meeting of the Ramona Community Planning Group (RCPG) was held August 2, 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	Chris Holloway	Casey Lynch
	Kristi Mansolf	Robin Joy Maxson	Donna Myers
	Elio Noyas	Dan Scherer	Paul Stykel (Arr 7:10)
	Dan Summers	Richard Tomlinson	

Members Absent: David Ross

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 7-5-18**

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 5, 2018 AS PRESENTED.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Torry Brean, the motion **passed 11-0-2-0-2**, with Frank Lucio and Casey Lynch abstaining, and David Ross and Paul Stykel absent.

**ITEM 4: Announcements and Correspondence Received**

Ms. Mansolf announced the County released a recent update of accomplishments of the Climate Action Plan, that was adopted February 14, 2018.

Caltrans responded with a letter on the median barrier issue. Everyone received a copy.

The Chair said that Caltrans was given the information on July 27, 2017, and the response is dated July 24, 2018. The Chair read the letter, which states the Highway Safety Monitoring Program has not identified this segment of Highway 67 for investigation.

**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: Donna Myers, Ramona Resident

Subcommittees serve under the RCPG and let people have a voice in the community. The South Subcommittee includes the Mussey Grade Road area, SDCE, Ramona Street, Warnock Drive, Dye Road and San Vicente Road. There have been big issues these last 10 years, including big road projects. The South Subcommittee is missing from the record. Did the South Subcommittee reach out to members of the Royal Vista Road area recently when that roadway came up as an alternative

route for consideration to improve circulation? She encourages the South Subcommittee to have more meetings in the future.

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

The following motion was made:

**MOTION: TO MOVE ITEM 7-D UP TO BEFORE 7-A.**

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Robin Maxson, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

**ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS:**

- 7-D: Consideration and discussion on naming the bridge on San Vicente Road by Ramona High School to honor the memory of Army SPC. Chase J. Simmons (Taken out of order)**

Vicky Simmons said her son Chase Simmons died 15 months after his car was hit by a semi truck on Highway 67. Prior to the accident, he had been stationed in South Korea for 2 years as a behavioral health specialist. His work with soldiers suffering from post traumatic stress disorder was highly regarded. He went to Ramona High, and the naming the bridge on San Vicente Road near Ramona High and Grace Community Church in his memory would be a huge honor. Coincidentally, Chase's uncle built the bridge

**MOTION: THAT WE APPROVE THE NAMING OF THE BRIDGE BY RAMONA HIGH SCHOOL (ON SAN VICENTE ROAD) IN THE MEMORY OF ARMY SPC. CHASE J. SIMMONS.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Casey Lynch, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

**7-A: Presentation on County Active Transportation Plan by County staff. Information is available on this project at:**

<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/advance/ActiveTransportationPlan.html>

Robert Efird and Everett Hauser presented the project. The Active Transportation Plan includes any non motorized travel lane for walking or bicycles. *Live Well San Diego* is the County of San Diego's vision for a region that is Building Better Health, Living Safely and Thriving. The public can comment on the project until August 17.

The ATP is separate from the Community Trails Master Plans, but talks about connectivity and transit connections. There are 88.72 miles of bike routes in Ramona and Barona. People who use transit can also bike or walk. There is a connection to the County Climate Action Plan. Roadway segments will be improved to be multi modal. In June the pedestrian gap analysis, the bike network evacuation methods, the bike network properties and implementation steps were released. The pedestrian gap analysis surveyed every roadway. 760 miles of public roads were inventoried and conditions recorded. Sidewalk improvements were implemented for both pathways and sidewalk improvements.

For bike classifications, Class 1 is a multi use path separate from the road. Class 2 is a bike lane with a white line on the road and Class 3 is a shared bike route where bikes can use the full lane.

There are 145 miles of Class 2 bike lanes and 1 mile of Class 1 bike lanes. For funding implementation, money comes from Transnet sales and the Transportation Impact Fee. There is also money available from competitive grants and private development.

For time line, they are working on revisions during the summer, the project will go to the Planning Commission late summer and then to the Board of Supervisors in fall or winter. There will be no increase in taxes to fund this program.

Mr. Efird said that all projects will be site specific, and as they are designed they will get into the details of the design of the facilities.

Mr. Hauser said it would cost a billion dollars to build every road on the plan.

Ms. Maxson asked if the funds have been secured? Would the project compete for funding with Highway 67?

Mr. Lynch said it is another level of funding.

Mr. Hauser said that every year a 5 year plan is developed to reflect funding availability.

Mr. Efird said that the funding sources have been identified for the project. Eighty six percent of the bike plan in the mobility element has some gaps. There will be refinement and expansion in the future.

Mr. Brean said he never sees people on the bike lanes on San Vicente Road. Also, Gem Lane has no turn lane. He has concerns with this project being built at the expense of not putting money toward improving the roadways.

Mr. Efird said it is an open process and refinement of a plan.

Mr. Scherer said the community gets 30 days to respond. People put together a transportation plan in 2013, and there is no mention of whether or not it is consistent with other plans for Ramona. He doesn't feel anyone has ever driven down Old Julian Highway and Highway 78, and bike lanes are being considered for these roads.

Mr. Hauser said that the ATP was launched in 2015. A grant was applied for from SANDAG. They have a long term goal to make the roads safer by multiple means.

Mr. Ensign said that Highway 78 is used by the Tour de France. He would like to see this roadway be improved to Class 2.

Ms. Myers said Warnock by her is heavily traveled by bikes. She would like to see a bike lane added to that network of roads in her area.

Mr. Efird said there are many design solutions. This is not a design document.

Mr. Lynch said we have micro concerns and this is a macro plan.

Mr. Noyas said there are enough bad roads all over. Money to improve roads comes from vehicles. Bikes should pay registration. Over the years road money has been used for bike projects. Bicyclists are often inconsiderate and ride side by side.

Mr. Stykel said he wants our roads to be safer for public use.

The Chair said Caltrans doesn't think our roads are dangerous enough. We present safety issues and are given a presentation on let's build bike trails. We appreciate the work and would appreciate improvements to roads. We would like safer roads if we are getting the bike lanes.

Mr. Efird said that in most cases both types of improvements would have to be done.

Speaker: Richard Jarrett, Ramona Resident

Mr. Jarrett said that Pile Street has a single dashed double line down it. Haverford Road has a double yellow line. There is a hill on Pile Street, and Pile Street needs to be a solid yellow line to improve safety.

Mr. Cooper suggested putting this item on the next Transportation/Trails Subcommittee agenda.

**7-B: MUP 18-013, Lavender and Olive (L&O), 633 Montecito Way, 5.016 Acres. The project applicant is proposing to develop a wedding event center based around an equestrian theme. This would require the processing of a Major Use Permit. The facility will be available to rent seven (7) days a week with operating hours from 10am to 10pm, with a maximum capacity of 225 people, including employees and subcontracted staff. The main entrance to the facility will be located on Montecito Way with secondary ingress/egress being accessed from Montecito Road. New from last month – request for a waiver for the undergrounding of utilities (Board of Supervisors Policy I-92). Woodcrest REV**

Ms. Schulte reiterated opening/closing times and said the traffic study for the project has been approved. Neighbors have been noticed about the project. Lights will be shielded down. Noise impacts will be studied.

The Transportation/Trails Subcommittee gave their report on the item. Noise concerns were mentioned and impacts to the neighbors.

Mr. Tomlinson commented that Montecito Way is a very narrow road (12 feet wide), and he has concerns over dust from the project. He knows people who live in the area who also have concerns relating to the project.

The West Subcommittee report had been given July 5, 2018. The project did not receive a recommendation of approval by a majority of the authorized membership, with 2 yes votes, 1 no vote and 1 member absent.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE PROJECT AS PRESENTED, AND TO APPROVE THE WAIVER OF THE UNDERGROUNDING OF UTILITIES FOR THE PROJECT.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Kristi Mansolf, the motion **passed 13-1-0-0-1**, with Richard Tomlinson voting no and David Ross absent.

**7-C: Request for S-Designator Waiver Request in the Scenic Corridor at 18888 Old Julian Trail. Applicant is proposing to place a detached sea cargo container to**

**be used for storage and a detached garage containing an attached workshop and dog kennel on the property. The existing dog kennel use is allowed per the animal designator “O” in the property’s zoning. Note: The proposed accessory dwelling unit shown on the plot plan is not subject to scenic area regulations**

Sue Gray, who owns the property, is requesting the Scenic Waiver to add a 1700 sq ft structure to house her show dogs (Kennel) a workroom for her dog accessories and a garage for her vehicles. Her show dogs have been living on the property for over two years and she has had no neighbor complaints.

Mr. Lucio said the East Subcommittee verified that the proposed structure would be very difficult to see from the highway since it will be built behind the house which is up hill from the highway as per his drive-by observation of the site. The kennel, garage and workroom are all under one roof which pushes the square footage over 1000 sq ft. for which the owner is requesting a “S” Special exemption. The subcommittee felt there were no negative impacts and approved the proposal.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED.**

Upon motion made by Frank Lucio and seconded by Jim Cooper, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

- 7-D: Consideration and discussion on naming the bridge on San Vicente Road by Ramona High School to honor the memory of Army SPC. Chase J. Simmons (Taken out of order before Item 7-A)**
- 7-E: Discussion of additional routes, Keyser Road, Equestrian Trail and/or Royal Vista, connecting Hanson Lane to Warnock to alleviate traffic congestion in the vicinity of Hanson Lane. Consideration of requesting the County to do a GPA so that a feasibility study can be done in the future**

Mr. Lynch gave a report. Keyser Road is too close to San Vicente, so it would be redundant to have Keyser Road be a circulation element road, plus there are power poles along the side of the road that would need to be moved if the road was improved, and this would cost a lot, so his recommendation was to skip this road.

Royal Vista has IOD’s but these are blocked by others obtaining easements. There are also 90 degree turns, so the road is not a straight accessible path, and therefore is not good for the circulation element.

Equestrian Trail has 60 feet of IOD already dedicated. In terms of circulation, it would help people get through from one side to the other. It appears to be the best option and has the IOD’s. There are some design constraints, but overall it is a good option.

Mr. Cooper said there were 3 roads for discussion for a General Plan Amendment (GPA). T&T recommended Keyser and Royal Vista be removed, and that a GPA be done on Equestrian Trail.

Mr. Stykel said we still have Ramona Street up for consideration going through this area. We don’t know anything about Equestrian Trail. He has concerns with trying to reroute around Ramona Street.

Mr. Cooper said Equestrian Trail would be in addition to Ramona Street and not an alternative.

Ms. Maxson asked about Boundary being a dead end road by the school?

Mr. Lynch said there was some discussion about the school on Boundary, too. The school is one of the largest. Everyone goes east from the school.

Mr. Cooper said Boundary to Etcheverry is #1 on the CIP list for Ramona. This road improvement was in the original school plan and at the end it dropped off. But from the beginning of discussion of the school, the road was part of the presentation and part of the school plan.

Mr. Holloway said if the school is evacuated, this route would help in the future.

**MOTION: TO REQUEST THE COUNTY DO A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT ON EQUESTRIAN TRAIL FROM DYE TO BOUNDARY SO THAT A FEASIBILITY STUDY CAN BE DONE IN THE FUTURE.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Dan Summers, the motion **passed 13-1-0-0-1**, with Paul Stykel voting no and David Ross absent.

**MOTION: TO REMOVE KEYSER ROAD AND ROYAL VISTA FROM CONSIDERATION OF A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Paul Stykel, the motion **passed 14-1-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

**7-F. County request to remove some pine trees on the east side of 14<sup>th</sup> street between E St. and La Haina St. RCPG consent needed for tree removal in order for the sidewalk repairs to be put in the upcoming contract**

Mr. Cooper said someone from the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee went by to look at the trees, and the homeowner was home that would be affected by the tree removal. He was asked if he was okay with having the trees removed, and he said he was. He would also like the 2 trees removed on La Haina Street by his home, as they are messy, dropping debris.

**MOTION: TO REMOVE 3 TREES ON 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND 2 TREES ON LA HAINA.**

Upon motion made by Jim Cooper and seconded by Robin Joy Maxson, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

**7-G: Ramona Transportation Summit: to pursue a meeting with Duncan Hunter with a goal of exploring all opportunities for the earliest resolution of all Hwy 67 traffic concerns using the newly created Presidents Federal Highway Update program: Report from ad hoc committee on progress**

Mr. Summers reported that Highway 67 road improvements (widening) are 32 years out in 2050. The ad hoc committee had a meeting with Mike Harrison who talked about the federal process. Some committee members contacted Ramona's political leaders. Currently, 3 plus Supervisor Jacob have given their support. Duncan Hunter is not available to meet in the near future due to other commitments. Mike Harrison talked about other potential funding resources for improving Highway 67. Mr. Summers said there was discussion on approaching SANDAG with the request to

improve Highway 67, with the support of Ramona's political leaders. Mr. Summers said rural areas are generally not as high of a priority as more populated, and we are competing with the more populated areas for the funds. He did not feel the problem was a lack of funding but a lack of priority.

**7-H: Report from Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting 7-27-18 by Jim Cooper, where Radar Recertification of Dye Rd/Ramona St/Warnock Dr and Radar Recertification of San Vicente Rd were on the agenda**

Mr. Cooper attended the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting on July 27. Two roads were considered for Radar Recertification: Dye Road/Ramona Street/Warnock Drive, and San Vicente Road. Mr. Cooper gave the meeting report.

Dye Road/Ramona Street/Warnock Drive from a point 1000 feet west of Ramona Street to San Vicente Road.

1. Dye Road/Ramona Street/Warnock Drive from a point 1000 feet west of Ramona Street to San Vicente Road This road is classified as a Light Collector with a posted speed limit of 50 MPH/Radar Certified. The daily traffic count on 4/18 was 6,425 (from 5310 in 10/11). 83% of the traffic fell within 10% of the posted speed limit. However, there have been 33 reported collisions along this segment, 5 of which involved injury from 5-1-13 to 4-30-18. 14 if which were due to excessive speed.

Further analysis indicated that the bulk of these excessive speed accidents occur at the corners of Warnock and Ramona and then at Ramona and Dye.

The final decision was to not change the posted speed limit BUT to seek from the Traffic Engineers a better system of posted warnings regarding these two 90% turns, to be installed within the next six months, and then revisit this at the eighteen month point.

2. San Vicente Road from hanson Lane northerly to Eleventh Street.

This road is classified as a Light Collector with a posted speed limit of 50 MPH?Radar Certified. The daily traffic count on 4/18 was 10,600 (from 10,000 in 10/11). 84% of the traffic fell within 10% of the posted speed limit. There have been 9 reported collisions along this segment, 1 of which involved injury, and only two of which was associated with excessive speed.

No changes were recommended regarding the speed limit along this Ramona roadway....

**7-I: Emergency Evacuation Route through the Grasslands**

Jim Cooper has the 2014 Ramona Evacuation Plan. He noted that Highland Valley Road is not part of the current plan. The plan can be found on the Office of Emergency Services website.

A motion was made at the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee meeting to have the members of the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee acquire and review the plan and make suggestions at the next meeting.

Ms. Mansolf will put the Ramona Community Protection and Evacuation Plan on the next agenda.

**7-J: Warnock Solar Project Landscaping Update**

Mr. Noyas gave the update on the Warnock solar project landscaping. He emailed David Kahler, County Landscape Architect, who said he did not have the master plan for the project. Code Enforcement is saying now that this project is not within their purview. Mr. Noyas thought it would be best to go to Supervisor Jacob with the project concerns.

Mr. Ensign said that to build and maintain landscaping for the project was included with the project approval. Supervisor Jacob voted against the project, and Supervisor Cox expanded the landscape plan when the project was appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Noyas said the RCPG sent a letter to Supervisor Jacob in January, 2017. Although there were efforts taken with regards to the project landscaping, such as meetings, the landscaping problem was never solved.

Mr. Cooper suggested calling Supervisor Jacob and asking for an appointment.

Ms. Mansolf said she would coordinate a meeting with Supervisor Jacob and RCPG members Dan Scherer, Scotty Ensign and Elio Noyas.

**ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)**

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

Mr. Ensign gave the Design Review Board report. For Code Compliance, the California Firewood sales yard has been vacated. Mike's Liquor property owner says all signs for the business are grandfathered in. The A-1 Car Wash has no permits. Ramona Realty removed the temporary signs on Dye Road at the old car lot. Ramona Realty removed all signs on the Rustic Building. For the Highway 67 model home violation, a site plan submittal is imminent. Mr. Llewallen is going to see that the modular homes are moved further back from the highway. BJ's is in compliance but is still on the list. Some other projects/properties that have been recently looked into are the exterior signage for Pepe's, Ramona Cash Grocery and the CVS landscaping issue. Bank of South California landscaping is not approved. Cactus and succulents are not allowed on Main Street. Graham's Diner is coming into a shop that is currently an antique shop. Cannabis on Pine wants to use a water tower for signage. They came to the meeting and showed landscaping plans. The sign is 20 feet tall and 4 feet wide, and it has been run by Caltrans. There are 2 more painted utility boxes in town. There will be a replacement sign at the Arco – the vendor is AM/PM. They are trying to use the same colors as before. McDonald's is almost done. They will be coming back for a menu board update.

**8-B: Discussion Items (Possible Action)**

**8-B-1: Concerns from Members**

Ms. Maxson said she wants to see consistency and fair treatment given to members of the public from the RCPG. When a project comes to the RCPG, it usually gets referred to a subcommittee for more review. The botanical garden by Ramona Street was brought up on the agenda July 5, 2018, and following the presentation on the project, it was not referred to a subcommittee.

The Chair said that if a subcommittee wants to see the botanical garden project, they can.

Mr. Brean said if the project gets referred to be put on the next agenda, it can move forward.

The Chair said the botanical garden got tied in with the Ramona Street Extension project.

Mr. Stykel said there is no new information on the project, which has been talked about for awhile.

Mr. Cooper was asked if he wanted the project on the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee agenda, and he declined.

Mr. Noyas said he would put the project on the South Subcommittee agenda next month.

**8-B-2: Future Agenda Item Requests**

Ms. Mansolf said the agenda items to be on the agenda include the Aldi Market, the Ramona Community Protection and Evacuation Plan, and the Pile Street traffic issue brought up by Mr. Jarrett.

**8-B-3: Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members**

Ms. Mansolf expressed an interest in serving on the Highway 67 ad hoc committee to look into having a Transportation Summit and find funding to widen Highway 67.

**MOTION: TO ADD KRISTI MANSOLF TO THE HIGHWAY 67 AD HOC COMMITTEE.**

Upon motion made by Dan Scherer and seconded by Dan Summers, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with David Ross absent.

Mr. Lynch announced that there was to be a meeting with Supervisor Jacob on Wellfield Park on August 9. Additionally, RPRA asked Mr. Lynch to help get property quotes for Parks projects.

**8-B-4: Old Business**

Mr. Cooper brought up the parking lot issue at Mt. Woodson as old business.

There was no new information on the progress of the project. The property to be bought is still being negotiated between the County and the owner.

**8-C: Meeting Updates**

**8-C-1: Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings** (*no additional information brought forward*)

**8-C-2: Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 9-6-18 at the Ramona Community Library, 7 p.m.**

**8-C-3: The filing period for the November election for RCPG members is from July 16 – August 10, 2018**

**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.**

*Public Disclosure: 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 Privacy 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*