

**County of San Diego
Ramona Community Planning Group
MEETING MINUTES
May 6, 2021
ZOOM MEETING
(DETAILS)**

~~7:00 PM @ the Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main Street, Ramona~~
Meeting shall be a Zoom Meeting held at 7:00 P.M

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95132954099?pwd=OG8yM0doeCtZUcyT2pPYUt2OXdYQT09>

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A Temporary email address has been created to request agenda item information via email.

Please send an email to: rcpgcovid19meetinginfo@gmail.com to request documents for each item to follow along with during the teleconference.

Requests for documents will be responded to before and during the meeting as possible to accommodate any member of the public wishing to participate during the meeting.

Members of the public are requested to make a speaker request via email prior to the meeting as well. This request is to ensure everyone is heard and has an equal opportunity to speak during the meeting as well as providing the RCPG a chance to organize our speakers ahead of the meeting to ensure we have ample time for each item. Please indicate if you are speaking as PUBLIC COMMUNICATION or as an AGENDA ITEM and note the agenda item you wish to respond to and please limit your written response to 3 minutes or less.

Written comments to be read into the record will also be accepted via email prior to the meeting. Please indicate the item number you wish to respond to and please limit your written response to 3 minutes or less.

ITEM 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL (Maxson, Chair)

In Attendance:	Torry Brean	Scotty Ensign	Debbie Foster
	Lynn Hopewell	Casey Lynch	Kristi Mansolf
	Robin Joy Maxson	Elio Noyas	Dawn Perfect
	Matt Rains	Michelle Rains	Paul Stykel
	Dan Summers	Kevin Wallace (Arr. 7:15)	

Absent: Andrew Simmons

Robin Joy Maxson, 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 MINUTES 3-4-21 (Action)

No changes were brought forward for the March 4, 2021, minutes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2021, MEETING AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Scotty Ensign and seconded by Casey Lynch, the motion **passed 13-0-0-2**, with Andrew Simmons and Kevin Wallace absent.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4-1-21 (Action)

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2021, MEETING AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Lynn Hopewell and seconded by Debbie Foster, the motion **passed 13-0-0-2**, with Andrew Simmons and Kevin Wallace absent.

ITEM 5: Announcements and Correspondence Received

The Chair announced:

1. Upcoming Chair meeting by the County on Socially Equitable Cannabis Program.
2. Report on April 3rd meeting with new Second District County Supervisor, Joel Anderson. Attended by the Chair and Torry. Some of the issues discussed with Supervisor Anderson were: SR 67 safety, the alternative emergency evacuation route, the cannabis ordinance, Old Town Ramona pedestrian/parking/business issues, SDCE traffic calming, blight/business impact caused by fairy shrimp.

ITEM 6: 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: Kathleen Lippitt, Ramona Resident

Ms. Lippitt made the following summary of points relating to the topic of the Cannabis Ordinance issue:

- Unincorporated communities have been speaking in opposition to Supervisor Fletcher's Cannabis Equity Framework.
- The County's proposed marijuana ordinance is cloaked in noble contemporary ideological adjectives; social equity, justice, and diversity would apply only to certain types of diversity, inclusion and equity making the policies inherently exclusionary, inequitable, and unjust.
- Fletcher had assured unincorporated residents they were only at the very beginning of the process, according to KPBS the ordinance had already been drafted by Fletcher and none other than Dallin Young a MJ advocate and lobbyist with a long-standing relationship with Fletcher.

Dallin Young is likely the source for the unprecedented and unsafe concept of onsite consumption lounges.

- Fletcher asserted his voters supported his marijuana policies yet didn't propose his plan in his own District, but in unincorporated communities. Fletcher has no unincorporated communities in his District
- The marijuana industry has been generous to candidates who would support them. It has donated over \$315k to the Democratic Party. It spent \$25k to oppose Gaspar.
- Supervisor Anderson voted to approve the ordinance along with Vargas, and Lawson-Reimer.
- Supervisor Desmond has stood alone in defending unincorporated communities from his plan.
- The ordinance returns to the Board June 9, voice your opinion if you support Supervisor Desmond and consider speaking at the next Board of Supervisor meeting.
- The priorities of County residents should be consistent with the priorities of County Supervisors, not the priorities of a for-profit industry of addiction.

Speaker: Keene Simonds, Executive Director of LAFCO

Mr. Simonds is the Executive Director of LAFCO, a regional planning subdivision of the State of California responsible for overseeing the establishment, expansion, and consolidation of government entities for San Diego. LAFCO is preparing a study of the Municipal Service Review specific to the RMWD and fire service in Ramona. They are getting close to having a draft. Mr. Simonds wanted to invite the community to get more information on this issue at sdlafco.org. Water, wastewater, parks and fire service are all included. The public has an opportunity to participate in the public discussion of a report card to document service demands. The study may lead to changes. If there is interest, he can arrange for a formal presentation on this topic by LAFCO to the community.

CALL FOR ANY ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS

VICE-CHAIR SHALL ANNOUNCE EACH SPEAKER REQUEST BY NAME, THE SPEAKER SHALL STATE THEY ARE ON THE CALL AND BEGIN. THE TIME LIMIT IS 3 MINUTES AND THE CHAIR SHALL CALL TIME AT THE END OF 3 MINUTES AND THE SPEAKER WILL STOP ON THE CALL.

ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF ORDER OF THE AGENDA (Action)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA.

Upon motion made by Torry Brean and seconded by Lynn Hopewell, the motion **passed 14-0-0-0-1**, with Andrew Simmons absent.

ITEM 8: ACTION ITEMS:

8-A. 2055 Main Street, New Illuminated Wall Sign proposed at Sunbelt Rentals (formerly B J Rentals), D Special Area Designation over the property.

Mr. Brean said CUDA did not have a quorum and so did not meet. Mr. Ensign said the Design Review Board saw the project.

Tim Seaman presented the project. The project is a sign on the front of the building and it will be an illuminated wall sign.

There was some discussion on different types of signs that could be used.

Ms. Mansolf said the action requested from the County does not allow us to make a recommendation on a particular type of sign. Either we agree with the exemption for the sign before us or we don't. We can't condition the sign.

Mr. Lynch said that if we approve the sign that is being proposed and waive the site plan requirement, the applicant won't need to do a site plan. If we don't approve the site plan exemption, the applicant will need to do a site plan. Mr. Lynch asked if the business would be open when the sun is up?

Mr. Seaman said the business would probably be open when the sun is up in the winter.

Mr. Lynch said an illuminated sign at night makes sense. People are light sensitive. The sign is coming to the RCPG because there is a D Designator on the property. There is the question on the need for illumination of the sign.

Ms. Foster said she is not a fan of a big illuminated sign in Ramona.

Mr. Stykel asked if it would be backlit or if light would be shining down on the sign?

Mr. Lynch said it would be backlit and internally illuminated. It would glow green with a yellow logo at night.

Mr. Stykel said that this is typical of Sunbelt Rentals. He doesn't feel this fits in Ramona.

Ms. Rains said that painting the top of the roof green would make the project fit better in Ramona. Right now it is painted a color that doesn't fit.

Mr. Seaman said no expansion of the building is being requested. The building is changing from BJ's to Sunbelt. The Design Review Board approved the sign.

Mr. Ensign said the Design Review Board did approve the sign. There was nothing in the minutes about illumination of the sign.

Ms. Hopewell said she couldn't take minutes while she was sharing her screen.

Mr. Lynch said it is up to the applicant to go back to the Design Review Board. The project may be out of compliance if they didn't include illumination at the Design Review Board.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE 'D' SPECIAL AREA REGULATION WAIVER (SITE PLAN EXEMPTION).

Upon motion made by Matt Rains and seconded by Torry Brean, the motion **passed 13-1-0-0-1**, with Kevin Wallace voting no and Andrew Simmons absent.

- A. MUP 12-00, Wildcat Canyon Cell Site. Originally installed on RMWD tank, relocated to a temp monopole while improvements were made to water tank, but**

now will be replacing temp monopole with a monopalm. Requesting input on RCPG design requirements. 23403 Calistoga Place

Mr. Lynch recused himself from the discussion.

Ms. Mahoney made the presentation. There is an existing cell site that was once on an RMWD tower in the SDCE area. The cell site was moved off the tower to paint the tower, and the RMWD asked that the cell site remain off the tower once painting was completed. The cell site is now mounted in a temporary location and still operational, but the County says a faux tree design is required to complete the process. Ms. Mahoney is asking for input on the design of the cell site. She attended the Design Review Board meeting and there were no speakers on the item. The Design Review Board wanted to know what type of tree was proposed. Her company is interested in using a palm tree design.

Ms. Mansolf said that the preferred design of a tree should include a full branch count with branches extended over the antenna to camouflage the cell site as a tree to the maximum extent possible. She would like to see a photo simulation of the type of palm that is being considered. She has never seen a palm tree design that camouflaged well.

Ms. Hopewell wants to see the design before she approves a design for the cell site.

Ms. Mahoney said she will prepare photo simulations of both a pine and a palm tree.

Mr. Brean said he would like to see the cell site on a post in front of the tower.

Ms. Mahoney said the County wants a tree design.

Mr. Brean said his preference of tree design would not be a palm tree.

Mr. Noyas said the South Subcommittee met, but the applicant did not show up.

Ms. Mahoney said she was not aware of the meeting.

B. Presentation by Caltrans on SR-67 resurfacing project, scheduled to begin Summer of 2021. Road work will start in Lakeside and end at 10th Street in Ramona. Marcello Peinado and Marvin Canton of Caltrans will outline the project and give a timeline

Mr. Summers said there will be a new project – road resurfacing – done by Caltrans this summer. Caltrans is here to talk about the project. Mr. Summers introduced Marvin Canton of Caltrans.

Mr. Canton introduced Ross Cather, Marcelo Peinado and Erwin Gojuangco. Mr. Peinado would be making the presentation.

Mr. Peinado said the project is a pavement rehabilitation project. It will start at Willow Road and go to 10th Street/SR-78 for a total of 18 miles. It is an SB1 project. There will be \$5 billion in funds available annually for state highways and local roads. Caltrans is using a “fix it first” approach. Pavement, bridges, TMS elements and culverts can all be rehabilitated.

There will be high friction surface treatments at 6 locations. They are replacing guardrails at 36 locations. Twelve culverts are being repaired or replaced. For striping, there will be 530,000

linear feet of striping. Pavement markers will be replaced. Channelizers will be replaced with new, improved channelizers that are a better design. Signals will be replaced. There will be more rumble strips. All intersections will have new pavement markers. At 3 intersections, lighting will be upgraded. Right now it is a work in progress, but they are looking at adding broadband the full 18 miles. SANDAG will be voting on this. If there is broadband, there will be 2 ducts for it. TMS, SMS signs and signals; and TMS safety and mobility along the highway. Right now there are empty ducts. With funding, SANDAG can see if someone would fill the ducts with fiber.

For timeline, they are planning on the bid opening on May 26. The contract will be awarded in July and construction will begin in August. They are anticipating it will take 150 days and will be done in the Spring of 2022.

The Chair thanked Mr. Peinado for his presentation. There have been a lot of pavement issues on SR-67. Can he share any details of managing the flow in and out of Ramona during construction for us?

Mr. Peinado said there will be a Traffic Management Plan. Residents, businesses, truckers and buses will be impacted. They are working with local media. They plan to do multi media blasts each week to get the word out. Work will be 8 pm to 5 am. They will be using a 9 hour window. There will be lane closures. They must keep 1 lane open and they will try to keep open 1 lane in each direction. They will be replacing the drainage at Ramona Street and Pala Street. There will be a full closure for 2 days of 9 hours each day. They will be replacing the pipe and there will be a detour around the block.

They plan to start paving at the south end of SR-67. The north end will be having other programs at this time. If broadband is to be added, it will be done at the beginning of the project.

The Chair said the work will be beginning in fire season. How will it be managed if there is an evacuation?

Mr. Peinado said if there is an emergency, all work will stop. The contractor can help with an evacuation. At the end of the day all paving will be completed with grinding and overlay done. There will be temporary striping on the road. In some areas they will be installing the high friction surface treatments.

Mr. Lynch asked if Caltrans will have available a construction document?

Mr. Peinado said it will be posted online for the contractors to review.

Mr. Lynch wants to see monument perpetuation.

Mr. Peinado said there will be monument perpetuation once the pavement is done.

Mr. Peinado said there was an evacuation working group meeting. There will be additional widening to accommodate 2 lanes of traffic for 4/10 of a mile. It is a sliver widening project. It was scheduled to be in construction now, but they have to wait until September due to environmental constraints. The project will be by Ellie Lane.

Ms. Foster said the project is much needed. She is concerned about fire season and construction work at night. Will they have enough big pieces of steel we can drive over if a fire starts? Two lane roads are hard in an evacuation.

Mr. Peinado said he will give thought to the role of a contractor in an emergency. The contractor will have to button up the work. Maybe Caltrans will have to add verbiage in their contract with the contractor on this issue.

Mr. Rains asked about the flow of work. Was the work going to be done west to east and in segments?

Mr. Peinado said the work will be in one direction. They will work a few days on the northbound lane and then work a few days on the southbound lane. Maybe do a mile on the northbound lane and then a mile on the southbound lane.

Mr. Stykel said the worst part of the road is from the town to Mussey Grade Road. He asked if Caltrans knew when that work will be done?

Mr. Peinado said they will know when the work will be done when the contractor submits his pavement plan. Some bad areas will be done before the paving.

Mr. Summer said this has been needed for a long time.

Mr. Peinado said the work will take about 150 days. The paving work will take about 70 working days. They can't do the pavement work when the temperature outside is cold. Pavement work should be done in November. Any type of lane closure will be done at night. Most work requires a high percentage of lane closures.

Mr. Summers thanked Mr. Peinado for the presentation and for the project.

8-D: Discussion on downtown traffic calming, parking, improved pedestrian crosswalks, looking for solutions and direction

The Chair said the Village Design plan of downtown has different elements the County will allow on a state highway. When Mr. Brean and the Chair met with Supervisor Anderson and discussed the downtown traffic calming issue, he recommended they go to the state representative with this concern. An example of good traffic calming in a town is in Bishop. The state highway goes through the town and the streets are walkable, crossable and pedestrian friendly. The speed limit through town is enforced.

Ross Cather said Caltrans is trying to anticipate what is wanted. There have been long standing issues with parking in Ramona.

Erwin Gojuangco said that previously at an RCPG meeting, Caltrans made the commitment to provide an updated Highway 78 parking project. They have published and made available the proposed plan to the public and it is available online on the Caltrans District 11 website.

Mr. Gojuangco gave a brief overview of the project. Two blocks between 8th and 10th will be refreshed and have restriping. They are going to re-establish 47 parking spaces where there was no parking. This should help the businesses on SR-78. Public comment is requested by May 29. There are 2 maps online showing the existing conditions between 8th and 10th Streets – 2 lanes, 12 foot in each direction, a 2 way turn lane and a 5 foot, 9 inch wide shoulder. Caltrans is proposing 8 foot shoulders on each side of the road, 2 12 foot lanes in each direction between 9th and 10th. One 12 foot and 1 11 foot lane in each direction between 8th and 9th. There will be no median 2-

way turning lane between 9th and 10th. There will be parallel parking spaces for 21 vehicles on the westbound side and 20 vehicles on the eastbound side. The road will be restriped.

Mr. Cather said it was called to Caltrans' attention a few years ago that the parking spaces were too narrow and people were having their rear view side mirrors hit. Caltrans measured the parking area and determined it was too narrow so they put signs up for no parking. .

Mr. Gojuangco said Caltrans will apply a black seal coat and restripe the road. Some signs have been removed. Caltrans wants public comments, and it was probably inappropriate not getting the community involved initially.

Mr. Wallace asked how Caltrans is addressing parking for Mt. Woodson?

Mr. Cather said the County wants to make a parking lot for Mt. Woodson hikers. Caltrans will work with them. The access to the parking lot needs to be constructed. Some work is being done to redesign the turn into the parking lot. Once the parking lot is complete, parking on the side of SR-67 will be restricted.

Mr. Lynch said there used to be a crosswalk for pedestrians at 6th and Main. Could Caltrans consider doing this again? There are more people on the streets now.

Mr. Cather said that Caltrans 20-24 Strategic Plan looks at other things not focused on previously. Caltrans is designing transportation facilities to make more vibrant livable communities. Previously the focus was on the highway. So while a crosswalk at 6th and Main was not focused on previously, there is an opportunity to focus on it now because of the current Strategic Plan. In Bishop Caltrans and the community came to an agreement and made changes.

Mr. Lynch asked if a centerline median project could be considered?

Mr. Cather said the discussion of improvements for state highway/Main Street is on the table now.

Ms. Rains asked if someone had been hit by a car the previous evening on Main Street at 3rd? She was in a traffic accident at Main and 3rd. People start going fast before they get out of town.

Mr. Cather said that westbound on SR-78 there is a real change from fast to slow going out of town. This area would be a good candidate to review for traffic calming features.

Mr. Brean said he feels that it is socially equitable to have a walkable community.

The Chair said the Form Based Code supports a walkable community. It is great Caltrans is jumping on the bandwagon. She would like to see textured crosswalks from 5th to 10th. Downtown can be made vibrant. She would like to see the community partner with Caltrans.

Mr. Summers said a plan has already been developed by Caltrans that includes traffic calming. It is probably sitting on a shelf somewhere.

Ms. Hopewell asked Mr. Brean about having a brick pattern on the street?

Mr. Brean said that a pattern can be pressed onto asphalt and painted.

Ms. Hopewell said she would like this to be considered to be done at intersections. It may help to slow traffic down.

Mr. Cather said Caltrans can look to see what other communities have done in the state to see what the possibilities are.

Ms. Perfect said there was a grant for SR-78 between 7th and 8th that had room for parking. It was a sidewalk improvement project. Trees were planted with grates. It was a prototype of what the sidewalks could look like. Textured crosswalks would help. It would be good to continue the work that was done for a couple of additional blocks.

Mr. Cather said anything is possible. There are existing models of things that can be done to make a community walkable.

Ms. Perfect said she would like to see the work that was done between 7th and 8th be done between 6th and 7th. How could we make this happen? The improvement that was done meets our needs.

Mr. Cather said the project may have come in as a grant encroachment permit. Maybe the County wrote the grant application.

Mr. Stykel said the Form Based Code is a document that enhances Main Street. When creating it, there was discussion on creating parallel parking on Main and directing traffic to B and D. A center median with trees was envisioned with 1 lane on either side. Caltrans was not supportive of the plan at the time. Maybe we can look at this plan now.

The Chair said the goal is a safe, vibrant downtown. How to move toward this in the future? Assemblymember Randy Voepel is asking for a list of safety improvement items.

Mr. Cather said there is a public meeting on June 1 for the CMTP. He is working to move this forward. The RTP is also happening now. They are seeking public input on both issues and both are on Caltrans' website.

Mr. Canton said he would look at the cost of a textured crosswalk and flashing crosswalk signs to support the Chair's list for Assemblymember Voepel.

The Chair will get the list to Mr. Canton early in the day tomorrow.

8-E: "Budget Request" by Assemblymember Randy Voepel. Opportunity for Ramona to receive funds for SR 67 safety. Assemblymember Vopel requesting list of safety items for submission by May 7th.

Ms. Maxson said that Randy Voepel made an informal request for a wish list of safety items for Ramona by May 7. We just heard from Caltrans on consensus. Let's keep providing information to the public. Some of the things she heard mentioned were textured crosswalks, increased enforcement, radar speed signs, new guard rails, flashing lights at a crosswalk. What does the RCPG think?

Mr. Summers said radar speed signs are effective for him. There is 1 by Cheers leaving Ramona – there could be 1 going into Ramona.

Mr. Brean would like to see stamped, colored crosswalks between 5th and 10th.

Mr. Lynch said Main Street is wide to turn a wagon and horse team around. A landscape median project could be good. The left turn across traffic would then have to be removed. It would help to cross the wide highway in a wide area and cause the cars to slow. Adding community signage would be good, like what is in Coronado.

The Chair said the downtown Main Street falls into the Ramona Village Design, Form Based Code. She doesn't remember the median idea.

Mr. Brean said it was talked about some but it wasn't established. He thinks at the time they thought Caltrans would not agree with it.

Mr. Lynch said the Form Based Code can be amended. Caltrans has changed their perspective on how they look at a community area on a state highway. They are being forward thinking.

Ms. Perfect said she was on the Form Based Code committee, and a median was discussed at length. They opted for another style.

Mr. Rains said he would like to see the addition of signaling after 7th going east to 3rd. He would like to know the cost for lighting a crosswalk.

Mr. Stykel said there was a lot of discussion on having a raised median and putting trees in to make something like a colonnade area, and traffic would be diverted to B and D. Caltrans was against it then. Maybe now they will be more open

Mr. Brean suggested rumble bars (4 lines) on 3rd and 5th. Textured bars are less intense than rumble strips and they still work at slowing people down.

Mr. Stykel said we are not traffic people. It would take an enormous amount of discussion to come up with a list and priorities should be itemized.

Mr. Summers said that Randy Voepel is asking our opinion. We don't need to be experts to observe efforts that work in other communities. We can look to other communities to see what worked.

Mr. Brean said that Mr. Stykel is right, but now our representative is asking, "what can we do for you?" We should take this opportunity and Mr. Brean wanted to thank Assemblymember Voepel for asking.

Ms. Perfect said we've been talking about traffic safety for over a month. The Form Based Code doesn't change often. She is not excited by the idea of flashing speed signs in Ramona.

The Chair said the goal is that funds will be assigned to communities for safety. They are asking if Ramona has a need. They want something tangible. She was asked if we wanted a guardrail. Identifying the items for a highway safety wishlist will be helpful. The Chair said Marvin Canton of Caltrans will give us an estimated cost associated with each item listed to submit with the items requested to Assemblymember Voepel.

Mr. Lynch said that we are competing with other communities. We need to provide a list for traffic safety elements.

Mr. Stykel said he felt it was ridiculous to submit a list in an hour.

The Chair presented the list so far:

Three radar speed signs:

First sign located around 3rd Street on Westbound SR 78/Main Street, where speed limit is reduced

Second sign located after crossing over 10th Street on Eastbound SR 78/Main Street where speed limit is reduced

Third sign on Northbound SR 67 upon entering town from the west where speed limit changes from 55 to 45

Stamped concrete crosswalks at both 5th Street and 10th Street intersections of SR 78/Main Street.

Raised center median 5th Street to 10th Street of SR 78/Main Street.

Additional intersection signal light east of 7th street (most likely at 5th Street) on SR 78/Main Street.

Rumble bars on Westbound SR 78/Main Street prior to 5th street upon entering town from the east.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE LIST AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Matt Rains and seconded by Dan Summers, the motion **passed 8-6-0-0-1**, with Debbie Foster, Lynn Hopewell, Dawn Perfect, Michelle Rains, Paul Stykel and Kevin Wallace voting no, and Andrew Simmons absent.

8-F: Presentation by County Planning and Development Services on the Organic Materials Ordinance Update project

Claire Moss and Tyler Farmer were in attendance to make the presentation on the Organic Materials Ordinance Update.

Ms. Moss said CPG's are key stakeholders for this issue. Organic materials composting is easier within communities. The objectives are to divert organic materials from the landfill, support composting operations, protect public health and safety and to advance sustainability goals. Organic materials would include tree and yard trimmings, manure, crop residues and other agricultural materials, restaurant and grocery store food products, and fruits, vegetables, coffee grounds and other non processed foods.

There are many types of composting. Residential and agricultural composting is limited to household waste with no off site importing. Community gardens are limited to community garden members. For chipping and grinding, it would be done in industrial areas and require a permit. For animal waste processing, a permit would be required.

The Organic Materials Ordinance outline will be a tiered system, exempt to full public review and based on volume and materials. Composting will be allowed for agricultural operations. It will provide guidance and make the Zoning code easier to use.

For a timeline, right now they are looking at options and doing public outreach. The ordinance will be developed this summer. It is anticipated the issue will go to the Board of Supervisors for adoption prior to January 2022.

Composting sites are good. They protect landfills. Organic materials will not go into landfills. Materials such as green and plant materials, ag material crops, vegetation only that is plant based like fruit, vegetables, and coffee grounds will be composted. Static materials will break down. They will be turned over manually. They will be in a vessel for composting with no oxygen. The existing County Ordinance makes reference to composting but gives no direction. No outside materials are allowed. The new ordinance allows animal waste processing. Composting has an impact to land and is categorized as ag operations. A map was shared that showed where composting was allowed.

The Chair asked if horse manure will not go to landfills?

Ms. Moss said horse manure will go to compost. She said we are in the public review phase. They want to hear concerns with composting.

Mr. Lynch asked if a Major Use Permit would be required or would the process be streamlined?

Ms. Moss said a tiered approach will be used which will help streamline the process.

Mr. Lynch said streamlining makes sense. Environmental concerns should be considered. Groundwater should be considered in Ramona. There can be residual impacts on groundwater.

Ms. Perfect asked if Ramona High School was on the map? She saw that it was and asked if material will be brought in for composting or will the material have to be here?

Ms. Moss said there is an opportunity now to determine what this might look like.

Ms. Perfect asked that outside materials not be brought up the hill to dump in Ramona. Those with livestock pay to get dumpsters. How will this affect cost? Our ag enterprises are optional and not mandatory. Cafeteria waste is shown as compost.

Mr. Farmer said some restrictions will be removed. A farmer with plant waste can get together with a farmer with cow waste. There will be a cost reduction.

Ms. Perfect said she thought the changes proposed are a good idea but would like to see it stay local. Staying local will reduce wear on our roads, too.

Ms. Rains asked about looking to businesses that use organic material for input.

Mr. Farmer said they are trying to make the process easier and more common sense. Farmers can accept material if they want. The process empower farmers.

Mr. Stykel said there is a facility in San Pasqual that does composting. The new ordinance will be better for farmers in Ramona with respect to composting.

Ms. Perfect said it will be good for the dairy farm.

Mr. Rains said that now farmers pay someone to take their compostable waste.

Mr. Farmer and Ms. Moss thanked the RCPG for their comments.

8-G: Presentation of the Burrowing Owl Release Program by the San Diego Habitat Conservancy and the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

Ms. Mansolf said the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance would not be making the presentation that evening, but would be coming to an RCPG meeting in the fall to present.

8-H: Follow up on request to the County for a feasibility study on a road named Equestrian Trail that is to connect Dye Road with Boundary Avenue. Consideration of again requesting the County to do a GPA so that a feasibility study can be done in the future (originally requested 8-2-18)

Mr. Lynch followed up with Rami Talleh on this issue. A GPA so that a feasibility study can be done in the future for Equestrian Trail going through won't happen until the next time the Mobility Element is updated and we aren't sure when that will be at this time.

8-I: Reintroduction of emergency evacuation route through the Ramona Grasslands

Mr. Lynch said he had a conflict and was unable to attend the most recent RMWD meeting, but he will attend the next meeting.

8-J: County of San Diego, DPW, Annual Road Resurfacing Program Update

Mr. Lynch thanked Mr. Rains for his work on this issue. Mr. Rains looked at some of the roads out at SDCE. Ms. Hopewell and Mr. Lynch also looked at some roads, and the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee agreed with the list the County had come up with and voted to approve it as it was.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE LIST AS PRESENTED BY THE COUNTY IN THE ORDER PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Casey Lynch and seconded by Lynn Hopewell, the motion passed **13-0-0-0-2**, with Andrew Simmons and Kevin Wallace absent.

8-K: Cannabis and Social Equity Programs, Informational Only: Review the current ordinance, previous RCPG Chair actions and negotiated revisions to the current ordinance and a review of the 2015 Board of Supervisors Sunset Order.

Mr. Lynch said they had a Cannabis Ordinance meeting and talked about this item. He said the item can come off future agendas as Item 8-L will still be on there and it encompasses potential actions to be taken related to the ordinance.

8-L: The Board of Supervisors is requesting input regarding upcoming changes to the cannabis ordinance that will include the sale of ingestible cannabis products and allow onsite consumption of cannabis products at marijuana dispensaries. Consideration is also being given to the creation of jobs in

farming and manufacturing, testing and retail sales of cannabis products and the opportunity to advance social equity.

Mr. Lynch said the Cannabis Ordinance ad hoc met with and talked with the dispensary owners about having a community style workshop. May 18 at 7 p.m. will be the date of the meeting and all 3 dispensary owners will be participating. A matrix is being put together on each item for when it will be presented to the RCPG.

Speaker: Becky Rapp, Ramona Resident

Ms. Rapp is a parents group mentor. She appreciates the meetings on this issue being put together. The supervisors are allowing more time to review this item. Supervisor Fletcher is putting these types of businesses outside of his area. There are concerns about cannabis getting into the wrong hands – like those of teens. Traffic and speeding can be a real problem. She is speaking against consumption. She doesn't like the billboards advertising the cannabis businesses right on our highways.

Speaker: Judi Strang, Ramona Resident

Ms. Strang spoke on the Board of Supervisors' meetings on May 4 (Tuesday) and 5 (Wednesday) regarding the number of speakers who spoke in Public Comments against the Supervisors proposal to bring marijuana businesses to the unincorporated areas of the County, about 8-9 speakers per day. She quoted one of the speakers:

“Perhaps you were as surprised as I was by the KPBS story regarding the amount of money coming from marijuana businesses to elected officials. Although I guess I shouldn't have been surprised by the ‘pay to play’ practice.

Although the KPBS article was regarding the County's proposed ordinance to put marijuana businesses in the unincorporated areas of the County, the KPBS article went on with this disturbing statement: ‘Supervisor Fletcher said one of the consultants who helped draft the County's marijuana policies was Dallin Young, a local cannabis advocate and lobbyist, who was his field director of his mayoral run in 2013’.

Again the voice of money from cannabis capitalists took precedence over the voice of the people who are trying to yell: ‘Give us better roads, better lighting, and better excess to water, not pot businesses’.

Speaker: Jennifer Romandia, Ramona Resident

Ms. Romandia spoke with the County planner on this issue. They feel they are 2 years out for completion of the ordinance. She doesn't like that 1 of the supervisors is working with a lobbyist. She thinks the County is doing their due diligence.

Mr. Lynch thanked the speakers for their comments. He doesn't want to wait 2 years for the ordinance to be completed – he wants it to be shaped as soon as possible. If pushed to the wayside, it will have negative impacts for the stakeholders. We will have the workshop early and hear from the owners, who have been part of our community for the last several years and have invested in our community – we will hear what they want and what their thoughts are on this topic.

8-M: Update on Zoom meetings with SANDAG voting Mayors

Mr. Summers said the RSRS Subcommittee has been in contact with all mayors and they have either met with them or are continuing to set up meetings with the remaining mayors. The committee is sharing background and safety issues with them and the positive impact this project will have. Mr. Summers thanked his subcommittee members, Elio Noyas, Debbie Foster, Torry Breaun, Robin Joy Maxson and Maya Phillips for participating in the meetings.

8-N: General Plan Update of 3 elements: Housing, Safety and Environmental Justice. Based on previous County Staff presentation and webinars, Planning and Development Services (PDS) requests Ramona Community Planning Group provide feedback on these 3 elements to PDS and Planning Commission at May 14th Planning Commission meeting.

The Chair said the General Plan Update of 3 elements is going to the Planning Commission on May 14. The Chair introduced Preston Brown, Jamul Dulzura CPG Chair

Mr. Brown said Jamul Dulzura and Ramona have similar problems when it comes to emergency evacuation. Ramona has been hit hard with evacuation problems. The Safety Element update of the General Plan will give new life to the topic of evacuation. Both Valley Center and Jamul Dulzura had evacuation corridor studies done, and these will be more appreciated due to the Safety Element update. Mr. Brown hopes the RCPG comes in with strong comments on SR-67 for the Safety Element update. Some communities have Community Wildfire Protection Plans. It is up to the RCPG to make good things happen now with the Safety Element update opportunity.

Chief Meacham determined capacity on their roads in Jamul Dulzura. SR-67 needs the capacity determined for it. They want each community to have 2 evacuation routes.

The Chair said many communities in the County have the risk of wildfire. Perhaps a type of coalition could be formed between them?

Mr. Brown said there is now money dedicated to Safety. When the Sheriffs want to send a communication out to residents during an emergency, a lot of people don't have reliable internet service.

Mr. Lynch said there may be a shortage of housing in Ramona in the future because most of the Specific Plan Areas are gone. Cummings Ranch is yet to be built. It would be nice if the County could look at the Specific Plan Areas and other areas to put 6,700 homes in Ramona.

Ms. Foster said we need more housing in Ramona.

The Chair thanked Mr. Brown for attending the meeting and for his information.

8-O: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) - At the May 19, 2021 Board of Supervisors' meeting, County staff will be presenting an overview of the geographic options considered before the County adopts its Transportation Study Guide (TSG) to implement SB 743. These options include using the entire region, including the 18 cities, or only using the unincorporated area when analyzing VMT. County requests Ramona Community Planning Group's opinion of the geographic options.

The Chair said the County had not yet posted the webinars online for the topic of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).

Mr. Noyas said VMT's are tied in with SB 743 and create more bureaucracy. It changes the focus on to where people are going and how long it takes to get there, and punishes people who use the road.

The Chair said all of the information about VMT's is on the County website.

Mr. Lynch said depending on whether the whole area is used for determining VMT's or just the unincorporated area, you get different numbers. If just the unincorporated area is used, there will be a higher number of VMT's.

The Chair said the change will impact everyone who drives.

ITEM 9: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)

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

Mr. Ensign said a T-Mobile sign will be going on the same building as Panda Express. The sign they presented had 18 inch letters and it was denied. They will be back in the future. The Mason Jar on Main Street has closed and it will become the Vintage Vibe eclectic antique store. The sign for Vintage Vibe was approved and they are freshening up the paint on the building, too. A car place with new owners is going in by Cheers. They had a preliminary review and the item was tabled. Hague Quality Water is opening up at 436 Main Street, next to the hotel. That building will be repainted and the paint pallet was approved. Mr. Ensign said there are still 2 openings on the Design Review Board in case any RCPG members are interested.

9-B: Discussion Items (Possible Action)

9-B-1: Concerns from Members

The Chair brought up the RCPG having a Facebook page. The County decided it is okay as long as it is only an electronic bulletin board. We would not be making comments and we would not be answering comments.

Mr. Rains said the public is interested in the RCPG having a Facebook page and he agreed with the Chair that it would only be an electronic bulletin board.

MOTION: THE RCPG APPROVE ESTABLISHING/HAVING AN RCPG FACEBOOK PAGE.

The motion **passed 12-0-0-3**, with Andrew Simmons, Paul Stykel and Kevin Wallace absent.

Mr. Rains asked if there was a formal way to split up long RCPG meetings?

The Chair agreed that the meeting was going late but acknowledged that there were more time-sensitive items on the agenda for the meeting than normal.

Mr. Summers asked that this item be placed on a future agenda.

9-B-2: Future Agenda Item Requests

Mr. Noyas brought up the Warnock solar project landscaping.

Mr. Ensign said the landscape person for the Warnock solar project did get paid. Dead plants have been removed and now they need to be replaced. He asked that more time be allowed for replanting before putting the item on a future agenda.

Mr. Summers asked that getting a third ambulance in Ramona be placed on a future agenda. He wrote an article on April 22 on this issue in the Ramona Sentinel. He thought the RCPG should get involved in this issue which is critical to the community.

Ms. Foster asked that on the “wish list” to Randy Voepel, 2 additional traffic lights be added for Main Street – 1 more going into town on both sides of town for SR-67. She also asked that regarding Item 8-N, concerning the Safety Element, that enforcement be added to the Safety Element of the General Plan.

The Chair said she would add the traffic lights.

**9-B-3: Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members –
*No New Members were Brought Forward***

9-C: Meeting Updates

**9-C-1: Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings – *No
Additional Information was Brought Forward on Future Meetings***

**9-C-2: Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 6-3-21, Format to
be Determined**

ITEM 10: 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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