

Ramona Community Planning Group
Ramona State Routes Subcommittee
Teleconference Meeting

FINAL Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2021

Access for Public and Committee Members
Call in # 978-990-5330
Access Code - 8612750

1. CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order by Dan Summers at 6:04pm
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Maya Phillips
3. DETERMINATION OF MEMBERS PRESENT
Attendees: Debbie Foster, Lynn Hopewell, Robin Joy Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips, and Dan Summers
Absent: Torry Brean
4. CORRECTIONS/APPROVAL OF SRSR MINUTES OF March 31, 2021 - Motion to approve minutes made by Elio Noyas, 2nd by Debbie Foster.
Motion approved 6-0-0-1.
5. ANNOUNCEMENTS - None
6. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
Preston Brown, Vice Chair of Jamul/Delzura Planning Group. Wants to communicate with other planning groups regarding challenges of evacuation and travel. Wasn't sure what we could learn from fires in 2000. Think it's really needed and has been in touch with Valley Center about their plan. See what we're dealing with and like them going through interstate and the count and state involvement with evacuation as comments will be taken collective. Dan Summers said when he thinks of Jamul there's only one way in and out and if you have only one road the road gets backed up. Preston said that's a fair assessment. They have only one back way out through Japatul. But every time there's a fire, they close the road and use as a staging area. Dan said we have a lot in common. We're trying to expand Hwy 67 to four lanes especially since the fires in 2003/2007. Dan shared that we had a fire summit about 1-1/2 years ago and the County and Fire Dept. were in attendance. Have they considered that in Jamul? Preston said they're looking for ideas, especially since the fire last year. In particular, he contacted Valley Center as it's the only other area that the County funded for an evacuation study. Need a permanent committee that has all players and look at the safety element. Depending on the community to make connections work between everyone. Which is ok as each community needs to figure it out for themselves. Each planning

group needs to reach out to the agencies. Robin Joy Maxson asked him to share information from Tony Meachum. Preston said he spoke at the Valley Center evacuation group. He gave the history, also Dianne Jacob has a farm in the Jamul area, he worked with her from 2006 to consolidate San Diego County since it doesn't have its own fire dept. Most areas are under-funded and under staffed and in some cases have no fire dept. at all. They have consolidated all fire depts under one command. Preston had questions and expressed an interest in meeting with him. They had Tony Meachum last night and had an in-depth discussion and one of the key issues in order to accomplish the evacuation routes would involve crossing private properties. There's no answer to get agreements for crossing with land owners and the county. The County would have to take over any liability and maintain the roads. Residents concerned about invasion of privacy. Dan in the 2003 fire, the Poway Fire Dept., and San Marcos Fire Dept., couldn't communicate with each other, nor any of the other fire departments due to radio frequency issues. The Incident Commander was in the same situation as he couldn't communicate with any of the fire departments he was in charge of. Between 2003-2007 nothing changed. Then we had the 2007 fire that had similar conditions. After that there was a grand jury investigation and other investigations conducted by hired people, they came to the conclusion the San Diego Fire Department are serial non-learners. After the 2007 fire, fire departments were forced to get onboard and communicate. It took two fires and property loss to have the problem with communication between departments fixed. Events like our summit are very helpful.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Update on Zoom meetings with SANDAG voting Mayors

Dan Summers shared that to date we've met with Mayor Matt Hall - Carlsbad, Mayor Mary Salas - Chula Vista, Mayor Terry Gaasterland - Del Mar, Mayor Bill Wells - El Cajon, Catherine Blakespeare - Encinitas, Mayor Paul McNamara - Escondido, Mayor Rebecca Jones - San Marcos, and Mayor Racquel Vasquez - Lemon Grove. Mayor Judy Ritter - Vista and Mayor Steve Vaus - Poway have already said they support us. Tomorrow we're meeting with Mayor Lisa Heebner - Solana Beach, she indicated we don't need a passcode just the number. Need to meet with Mayor Richard Baily - Coronado, Mayor Serge Dedina - Imperial Beach, Mayor Mark Arapostathis - La Mesa, Mayor Alejandra Stelo-Solis - National City, Mayor Esther C. Sanchez - Oceanside, Mayor Todd Gloria - San Diego, and Mayor John Pinto - Santee. Mayor Gloria is hard to reach, Dan has sent emails, called, and gone down there. Dan shared that Mayor Heebner is open minded and interested.

b. Discussion on downtown traffic calming, parking, improved Pedestrian crosswalks, looking for solutions and direction.

Dan Summers shared that a few months back this topic came up and we were talking about crosswalks and embedded lots in crosswalks, different stripping, and traffic calming methods. The discussion started with the idea of a 6th Street crosswalk. The concern was that we do a study now with Covid would that

reflect the true situation. That led to the speeding from 3rd St to 10th St. Thinking of calming measures to slow traffic down. Elio Noyas said if he remembers correctly the 6th St. crosswalk fell into the hands of CalTrans so that's why it got thrown out. But there's definitely a problem. He was at Stage Stop getting gas and there were people racing up and down Main from 3rd Street going around 60. Need signs that have lights around it to alert them to slow down. Dan asked who sponsors Cruising Main, the Chamber? Elio didn't know but will look into it. Think we wrote a letter from Ramona Planning Group (RCPG) to County. Robin Joy Maxson talked about the article in the Sentinel regarding parking and pedestrian issues. She spoke to CalTrans about this and met with Erin who is in charge of parking in the Old Town area. They were going to work on a study but doesn't know about the results. This will be covered at the RCPG meeting next on May 6, 2021. They're ready to listen and hear our solutions. Robin supports the same idea as what Bishop has. She's provided pictures showing the crosswalks along that state highway. She called the City of Bishop Police Commander and asked how they interfaced with the highway. She noticed that they have some of the same elements as we do. They have the trailer radar signs that show the speed and tells people to reduce speed. These signs tell drivers that the town is serious about safety in their town. They've been able to get their crosswalks in and reduce speed. Dan said one of those signs that show what your speed is coming into and out of town. Robin said each town is serious with their signage telling drivers to slow down. There's no signage telling drivers that they're entering Ramona and to slow down. Dan with the template of Bishop it ought to be something we can use to show that it works there and it's a state highway, why can't we have it here. Regarding Cruising Main on Thursday night, if sponsored by Chamber of Commerce call Joe Stuper and say that it's a great thing for Ramona but people are speeding up and down Main. Maybe Joe can put up some signage that says Thursday night cruisers please obey speed laws. Or ask for his input. Doesn't know what communication he has with cruisers. Another thing Robin there's a whole downtown village program. About a center divide, trees, and crosswalks. Robin said it's in the Form Based Code showing goals and mission. Dan that seems to be in the background as he hasn't seen any work taking place. How to generate interest in the form-based code. Robin said Scotty Ensign, Ramona Design Review Board is the connection. The Form-Based Code is on the County web site. What steps are needed to move forward. Lynn Hopewell shared how there was a crosswalk at Main and 8th Streets for years but when the road was redone was removed. Dan wonders how Bishop got crosswalks and if they were in other than designated traffic light areas.

- c. Marvin Canton will provide an update on the San Vicente Corridor at next RSRS meeting on May 26, 2021.

Dan Summers shared that Marvin will be giving us a report each month. But not joining tonight as he'll be at the RCPG meeting on May 6, 2021 to discuss repaving. It's coming up this summer and will be done in phases. Between the intersection of Dye/Highland Valley and Ramona St. will be torn up completely

and a new road built in its place. Which will have an impact on commuter traffic and residents. Lynn Hopewell shared that Dawn Perfect with Transportation and Trails spoke to the condition of the road and how drivers are swerving and going off the road to avoid holes in the road. Dan understands that.

8. CONCERNS FROM MEMBERS - None
9. AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS
 - a. Traffic Calming Measure and Crosswalks in Old Town
 - b. Marvin Canton will provide an update on the San Vicente Corridor
10. ADJOURNMENT – motion to adjourn made by Lynn Hopewell, 2nd Elio Noyas. Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm. Motion approved 6-0-0-1 (Torry Brean absent)

Next meeting is May 31, 2021.