

**County of San Diego
Ramona Community Planning Group
MEETING MINUTES**

March 6, 2025

7:00 PM @ the Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane, Ramona

ITEM 1: Call to Order, Lauren Elyse Welty, Chair

ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM 3: ROLL CALL (Welty, Chair)

In Attendance:	Basil Aruin	Janelle Clark	Maureen Dant
	Jonas Dyer	Holly Hamilton-Bleakley	Kristi Mansolf
	Robin Joy Maxson	Terry Maxson	Dawn Perfect
	Andrew Simmons	Dustin Turley	Lauren Elyse Welty

Members absent: Debbie Foster, Paul Stykel, and Dan Summers (*resigned*)

Lauren Elyse Welty, RCPG Chair, acted as Chair of the meeting, Robin Joy Maxson, RCPG Vice-Chair, acted as Vice-Chair of the meeting, and Kristi Mansolf, RCPG Secretary, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2-6-25 (Action)

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 6, 2025, MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Basil Aruin, the motion **passed 12-0-0-0-2**, with Debbie Foster and Paul Stykel absent, and Dan Summers resigned.

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. Speakers will submit a speaker slip to the Vice Chair, each speaker is limited to 3 minutes, and the elected body of the RCPG cannot respond.

Speaker: Mischa Dobrotin, Ramona Resident

Mr. Dobrotin said there is a road named Littlepage in Ramona. It was originally a family name and is one word. The street sign for Littlepage Road is shown as 2 words. He spoke with an aide at the County and the aide said there was another sign for the road to replace the existing one. He asked if the RCPG could follow up on this. He also wanted to bring up the winery signs that are along some of our main highways. On Hwy 78, on the east side, there is a sign that says "wineries ½ - 5" when heading east. He was curious as to what it meant.

Ms. Maxson said given insight, it may be nice to add miles to the signs.

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

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

Upon motion made by Dawn Perfect and seconded by Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 12-0-0-0-2**, with Debbie Foster and Paul Stykel absent, and Dan Summers resigned.

ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS:

7-A: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY : Update from San Diego County Sheriff's Department - Ramona Substation for the community of Ramona.

Lieutenant Crysler said the Ramona Sheriff's is expecting to get the green light soon for the new Sheriff's Substation. It will take 24 months to build the new station. In October/November the Sheriff's will be moving into a new temporary facility. Due to the timeline for the Sheriff's Substation to be built, they expect to be there for 24 months.

Ten contractors wanted to bid on the project. He should have an exact figure for the cost of the project in April.

Ms. Maxson asked how the Sheriff's plan to reduce the speed on Main Street?

Lieutenant Crysler said deputies go out daily and give verbal warnings and issue citations. They are still using radar. There is a lot of speeding within the community. There are times when the Sheriff's use mass enforcement, and they will continue to do so.

7-B: Presentation and Comments: Presentation by Caltrans Representatives on the SR 67 Highway Improvement Project

Stephen Welborn, Tyler Hicks, Sam Amen, Karina Cantero-Angel and Miyoko Nakajima were in attendance from Caltrans to present the SR 67 Highway Improvement Project. The Design Chief, Project Manager and Design Manager all joined the project in the middle of the project. Sam Amen is the Design Chief.

Mr. Amen introduced Miyoko Nakajime, the Project Manager. Ms. Nakajime said Mapleview in Lakeside to the Highland Valley/Dye Intersection is a distance of 16 miles. In the last 10 years Caltrans has spent \$60 million on SR 67. They have added high friction surface treatments to the road, signs and guardrails have been added, as well as channelizers and broadband. The work done benefits the public by preventing head on collisions. Right now Caltrans is doing a sliver widening (shoulder widening) from Ellie Lane to Chaparral Way. People experience delays on SR 67 everyday. This can be much worse during evacuations. For funding – progress has been made. SANDAG is funding the project. Caltrans came up with 3 build alternatives and studied evacuation. In 2020, Caltrans began the San Vicente Multi Modal Corridor Project.

Karina Cantero-Angel, project Design Manager, continued the presentation. She showed the current configuration of SR 67. Some of it is 3 lane, some is 4 lane and some is 2 lane. The first alternative of the proposed improvement plan would be to create 4 lanes (2 in each direction) from Highland Valley/Dye to Poway Road. One lane would be added in 2 segments south of Poway Road, and 2 lanes would be added near Vigilante Road. Two additional lanes would be added in two segments north of Poway Road. There would also be a multi use lane/trail added for the length of SR 67 from Highland Valley/Dye. The multi use trail could be separated from the highway by 20 feet and protected by a barrier. Emergency responders could use this multi use trail in an emergency.

Option 2 will include shoulder widening from Highland Valley/Dye and the addition of a multi use trail from Highland Valley/Dye to Poway Road.

Option 3 would widen 11 miles of SR 67 by 1 lane in multiple areas with a stretch near Poway Road, from Cloudy Moon Drive to Rockhouse Road, widened by 2 lanes. The multi use trail is proposed for this option to be built across 9.7 miles from Poway Road to Maplevue.

The goals of the project are to increase safety, maintain or reduce travel time within the project limits, increase temporary emergency evacuation capacity, encourage bus and bicycle transportation, facilitate recreational and wildlife movement and preserve the natural environment and community character. With any of the 3 options, improvements would be phased in over a time period.

The project timeline estimates completing environmental and traffic studies by early 2026, finishing a draft EIR by summer of 2026, holding a public hearing in fall of 2026, and selecting 1 of the 3 alternatives by summer of 2027. Possibly designing the project could begin by winter 2027.

Mr. Amen said Caltrans would like input from the public which will be considered along with the EIR results in determining which of the 3 options will be selected. Alternatives may be mixed and matched. Biological studies are included in the project to assess whether a type of wildlife crossing could be incorporated into the project. Facilitating recreational and wildlife movement along and across the project area is one of the goals of the project.

Ms. Maxson said the RSRS Subcommittee preferred option 1, which would create 4 southbound evacuation lanes from Highland Valley/Dye to Poway Road, 3 southbound evacuation lanes from Poway Road to Maplevue, and 1 northbound lane for the length of the proposed project.

Mr. Welborn said there was information on the back table of the meeting room that will assist people in providing input on the project.

Mr. Amen said people can scan the QR Code to give input. Caltrans is looking for input and not questions on the project.

Speaker: Torrey Brean, Ramona Resident

Mr. Brean asked how much time would it take to clear the town out during an evacuation with the improvements in place? Will the alternatives change our ability to evacuate Ramona?

Ms. Cantero-Angel said she has the draft evacuation report. Once the document is finalized, they will know how long it takes to get people out of the community.

Ms. Maxson said the community has paid for transportation improvements through taxes, and now we are finally getting a return on our investment and we are keeping our community safe.

Ms. Cantero-Angel said she feels the area north of Poway Road is most important in this project.

Mr. Amen said public input will make a difference in this process.

Ms. Dant asked what will protect people from head on collisions?

Ms. Cantero-Angel said once the improvements have been made, they will have to wait to see how effective they are and if any further work will need to be done to make the project area safer.

Ms. Dant said she sees many dead animals on the road.

Mr. Amen said they are going to try to find ways to guide wildlife to certain crossings

7-C: Discussion and Possible Action: Ramona States Routes

Action Items:

1. Discussion/Possible Action: Status of SRs 67/78 Main Street traffic calming measures for safety.

Ms. Maxson said the traffic calming measure on Main Street was addressed at a recent RCPG meeting, and it was discussed at the most recent RSRS meeting.

2. Discussion/Possible Action: Status of SR 67 Highway Improvement Project. *Presented by Caltrans as Item 7-A*
3. Discussion/Possible Action: Striping of SR 67 and adding channelizers as a safety measure by new Mt. Woodson parking lot intersection.

Ms. Maxson said at the RSRS Subcommittee, 2 motions were made regarding the Mt. Woodson parking lot issue. One motion was to approve the recommendation that includes the use of channelizers throughout the plan area to clearly delineate the lanes. A second motion made was to approve exploration of the possibility of adding a dedicated 3rd lane to turn into the Mt. Woodson parking lot driveway for southbound traffic and a dedicated 3rd lane leaving the Mt. Woodson parking lot driveway traveling south. Both motions passed. The subcommittee wanted channelizers to be used to delineate the lanes so people won't ignore them. They wanted

to have a third lane added going toward the parking lot access for southbound traffic, and a 3rd lane coming out of the parking lot for southbound traffic.

Ms. Cantero-Angel said there is a drop lane now in that area of SR 67 and the proposed parking lot. They could remove the drop lane.

Ms. Maxson said they would like a lane between Archie Moore and the Mt. Woodson trail access.

4. Informational Only: Update on Community meeting to address the SR 67 and Mussey Grade intersection.
Maxson, RSRS Subcommittee

Stephen Welborn asked the Chair if she wanted to discuss the SR 67 and Mussey Grade Intersection that evening?

The Chair asked if Caltrans could come back in the near future to discuss the item.

Mr. Welborn said there are evacuation concerns and safety concerns. Nothing is set in stone for a roundabout. They will come back to talk about the roundabout – possibly in the summer.

Speaker: Mischa Dobrotin, Ramona Resident

Mr. Dobrotin said he has concerns with traffic merging in to a roundabout.

Mr. Amen said the roundabout would have to work with the SR 67 Improvement Project.

7-D: **Action Item:** Wing Stop, Illuminated Wall Sign Proposed, 1668 Main St Suite 4D, D Designator on Property. *As no project proponents were able to attend the meeting, the item was tabled to the April, 2025, meeting.*
Simmons, Town Center

7-E: **Discussion and Possible Action:** Used Car Dealership 499 Main Street. D Designator on Property. *The project applicant was not in attendance, so the item was tabled to the April meeting.*
Simmons, Town Center

7-F: **Discussion and Possible Action:** Draft Cannabis Program EIR. Public Review Ends 3-31-25

Ms. Mansolf announced that the Draft Cannabis Program EIR is out for public review. She had sent out comments received from a constituent to the RCPG. If we have comments, they are due by March 31, 2025.

7-G: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: APG Report on updates in the
unincorporated area
Maxson

Ms. Maxson gave the APG report. No one from the Board of Supervisors attended the SANDAG meetings at the beginning of the year. Four meetings were missed total. This got attention from the SANDAG board who saw that the County was not being represented at the SANDAG meetings. Sacramento is working to get a voting seat for the APG on SANDAG. Ms. Maxson said there is a tunnel under Del Mar that is currently getting SANDAG's attention.

ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)

8-A: Introduction of New Members

The Chair apologized for not having new members introduce themselves yet. She asked each of the new members to please introduce themselves.

Mr. Aruin said he has lived in Ramona for 8 years. He is an engineer. He likes getting around town without a car.

Mr. Maxson said he is a retired therapist. He has lived in Ramona for 17 years. He feels there are many benefits to living in Ramona. For instance, Ramona has a very good school system.

Ms. Dant has lived in Ramona for 11 years. She lives in the Acres. The Acres need the County's attention and resources. There are no paved roads in the Acres. There is also no mail delivery, and no water and sewer. She is an architect and works on coastal historical projects. She understands zoning.

Mr. Turley has lived in Ramona for 5 years. Ramona is a gem and he loves living here. He is a general contractor in the asphalt and concrete industry. He has worked with cities and jurisdictions. He is happy to be part of the RCPG.

8-B: Announcements and Correspondence Received

Ms. Mansolf said Andrea Gibson is on the agenda to be appointed to the RCPG at the Board of Supervisors meeting March 11, 2025.

The Chair said that she received a request from Supervisor Anderson's office asking for input on the Unsafe Camping Ordinance that is going to the Board of Supervisors on March 11. She had some sample letters that RCPG members could send in if they would like. Supervisor Anderson's office would like any comments by the end of the day on March 7.

8-C: Discussion Items:

1. Concerns from Members

The Chair said that she and Ms. Mansolf talked to County Counsel about the concerns brought up by RCPG members serving on other committees for other entities, and this information not

being in our Standing Rules or other RCPG organizational documentation. County Counsel said they did not want the information of what other groups RCPG members may be serving on being in the Standing Rules. They said they would like to see it in the other groups administrative documentation. The RMWD was used as an example of a group with a few committees that RCPG members are serving on. County Counsel would like to see documentation of these committees, and the groups that comprise them, in the RMWD rules and organizational documentation

2. Future Agenda Item Requests

Ms. Maxson said a dangerous situation at SR 78 and the property at 1448 Pine Street was noted at the RSRS meeting. Vehicles are leaving the road and going through a property fence. She asked that this item be on a future agenda.

Ms. Clark asked that there be a future agenda item to follow up regarding the Mt. Woodson striping, the addition of channelizers and the change in road configuration as discussed and voted on by the RSRS Subcommittee, relating to the parking lot issue.

3. Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members
No names were brought forward

Ms. Mansolf said someone contacted her and requested to be on the RCPG Parks and Recreation Subcommittee.

Ms. Perfect said the chair of the subcommittee should have some input on how many members serve on their subcommittee. She suggested waiting until the subcommittee chair was seated for Parks and Recreation before adding any new members.

8-D: DESIGN REVIEW REPORT (Jonas Dyer) – Update on Projects Reviewed

Mr. Dyer gave the Design Review Report:

WAIVER REQUESTS:

2337 Vermont Street (Detached Barn) **APPROVED**
Rotary Banners (Civil Service) **APPROVED**

PRELIMINARY REVIEW:

499 Main Street (Used Car Dealership)

8-E: Meeting Updates

1. Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings
No additional information brought forward
2. Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 4-3-25,
Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane

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 #6: 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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