

**County of San Diego
Ramona Community Planning Group
MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2025
7:00 PM @ the Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main Street, 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
	Debbie Foster	Holly Hamilton-Bleakley	Kristi Mansolf
	Robin Joy Maxson	Terry Maxson	Dustin Turley
	Lauren Elyse Welty		

Members absent: Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons, Paul Stykel

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 11-6-25 (Action)

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

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Dustin Turley, the motion **passed 10-0-0-5**, with Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel absent.

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 the 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: Susan Thygesen, Ramona Resident

Ms. Thygesen said an 8 year old child was killed, and several of the child's relatives were hurt in a Thanksgiving weekend wreck near Julian. Alcohol is believed to be a factor in the crash. There are conversations about increasing law enforcement and making our roads safer. There are measures that are being taken, but the bottom line is – to be a licensed driver – people are required to obtain driver education and take both a written and road driving test. There are documented vehicle situations that can cause a collision – blown out tires or some mechanical

vehicle issue; however, most of these collisions are caused by human error, such as being distracted, being under the influence and being impatient. There was a public request made to submit comments to SANDAG for our traffic issues. From what Ms. Thygesen understands – there were only 2 comments submitted and one was hers. This is up from zero comments being submitted previously.

A while back there was an agenda item regarding music at our local wineries. There was full out community support and the room was packed, and justifiably so. Music is important entertainment for our winery community. But Caltrans was also at that same meeting to discuss our traffic issues – another important issue for our community – people are dying – almost on a weekly basis. After that music/winery item was closed, the room emptied. That was a loud community voice – winery music completely overrode traffic safety.

Ms. Thygesen does not know of anyone in Ramona that doesn't know of someone who was killed or seriously injured on our roads. Why does this keep happening? Not because there is not enough law enforcement or our roads are too curvy – it is because people are driving erratically and irresponsibly. We need to come up with and implement strategies to get through to people that this behavior has to stop.

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

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

Upon motion made by Holly Hamilton-Bleakley and seconded by Debbie Foster, the motion **passed 10-0-0-0-5**, with Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel absent.

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 Scott Roller said there were 25 arrests, 71 traffic stops, 24 pedestrian stops and 12 citations for the month of November. This is in addition to all the radio calls and other patrols the station completes during the month. There was also 1 situation involving the impersonation of an officer.

Ms. Foster asked how a homicide would be investigated?

Lieutenant Roller said that if there was a homicide, it would go to a specialized unit. Any questions regarding that matter would go to the homicide Lieutenant.

The question came up about what to do when someone is impersonating an officer and a driver is pulled over. Lieutenant Roller said this is a very rare occurrence, and if a driver is pulled over by someone in an unmarked car, the driver can call 911 and stay on the phone with 911 during the stop.

Ms. Clark asked if the impersonator was wearing a uniform?

Lieutenant Roller said the matter is under investigation.

7-B: Action Item: RCPG to consider letter to the County regarding the use of the Community of Ramona's PLDO funds.
Welty (Chair)

The Chair said the County did not fully address the use of Ramona's PLDO funds at the November meeting, and Ms. Maxson has drafted a letter to Supervisor Anderson from the RCPG requesting restoration of the community's PLDO fund balance to reflect a return of the missing \$700K that was used for the Mt. Woodson parking lot project. The letter was sent out to the RCPG to review. The Chair said that, according to her calculations, Ramona should have more in PLDO funds than we do.

Speaker: Torry Brean, Ramona Resident

Mr. Brean presented a letter he had prepared on this topic. The letter was sent to all RCPG members and he asked that it be included in the meeting minutes:

“To whom it may concern:

The surreptitious reallocation of over \$700,000 in PLDO allocated funds to solve the Mount Woodson traffic problems needs to be reconsidered and subsequently reversed. I have served as a member of the Ramona community planning group from 2004 to 2024. The entirety of this time I was also a member of the parks subcommittee. Much of that time I was the chairperson for said committee. Throughout this two decade span I worked with numerous county parks staff members as a Ramona representative to develop the community's PLDO priorities.

It was repeatedly reinforced by these staff members that PLDO funds could only be used to develop active recreation space. I can attest that I was told numerous times that trails were not considered viable use for these funds, per the ordinance. If they were, the Ramona community would certainly have been interested in using a portion of our PLDO assets to build the Santa Maria Greenway trail: a long-term goal. In fact, it is certainly highly suggestive that no trails have ever been developed using the PLDO process despite trails being a substantial part of Ramona's identity and interest.

Additionally, using PLDO to construct only a parking lot has always been impermissible in accordance with the official ordinance. Parking lots, by themselves, are not active recreation. I specifically remember this being reinforced during a discussion to purchase land for a parking lot in support of the sportsfields and fairgrounds. In no uncertain terms, and on multiple occasions, the planning group was told, “No, you may not allocate PLDO funds to purchase a parking lot.”

Furthermore, the community has always been involved in setting the priorities for these limited resources. Taking the town's money without consulting the townsfolk is completely unprecedented. Using those funds to solve the transportation issue is equally unprecedented.

I am a resolute supporter of the Mt. Woodson parking lot. This is a needed and necessary traffic and safety issue. I wholeheartedly support finding government funding from appropriate sources to complete this project. I maintain that the very limited PLDO bucket is not one of these sources.

Developing parks is an ongoing struggle and point of contention for the people of Ramona. The recent flip-flopping by county leadership on developing a skatepark at the RICC is still a very sore topic and, I believe, a poor but resolvable reflection on the integrity of the current administration. I respectfully ask that county leadership take a second look at these issues, and consider the context of Ramona's repeatedly expressed parkland needs alongside the stated goal of the PLDO ordinance."

The Chair said we have been allocating our PLDO money to the skatepark. If that had changed at the County level, we should have been aware of the change. The County keeps moving the PLDO money around. The Chair asked for a motion to send Ms. Maxson's letter to Supervisor Anderson.

MOTION: TO SEND THE DRAFT LETTER, AS PRESENTED, TO SUPERVISOR ANDERSON'S OFFICE FOR CONSIDERATION.

(Discussion on the motion)

Ms. Dant said the \$700,000 in funds was moved using Director discretion. The RCPG is advisory to the County. Do we have a say at all? What does our input mean? The ultimate authority rides with the County.

Ms. Maxson said Mr. Brean is a subject matter expert on Parks issues, and she appreciates his input on this issue. We can ask the County 'where did the money go?'

Mr. Brean said he has worked with so many Parks experts at the County. Parks' consistent direction is the development of active recreation space. We do have priorities. He did not think that taking funds out to solve traffic problems was ever part of PLDO.

Ms. Dant said that if there is a charge for parking – parking should be free for Ramona residents.

(Voting on the motion)

Upon motion made by Basil Aruin and seconded by Dustin Turley, the motion **passed 10-0-0-0-5**, with Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel absent.

7-C: Action Item: RCPG to consider letter of support for SB 240, per Supervisor Joel Anderson's request. SB 240 is a Bill to create a voting seat for the Unincorporated Area of San Diego County on the SANDAG Board of Directors. Maxson

Ms. Maxson said Andrew Hayes (from Supervisor Anderson's office) has requested support for SB 240, a bill from Senator Brian Jones. Since the request, Ms. Maxson and the APG met with Senator Jones to discuss the bill, and at this time he is planning to withdraw the bill and do a new bill. Currently the cities and the County at the SANDAG board each have a seat A and a seat B. Seat B doesn't vote unless the vote is a weighted vote. Seat B is null without a weighted vote. So at this time SB 240 is not viable.

MOTION: TO SEND A LETTER TO SUPERVISOR ANDERSON'S OFFICE SAYING THE RCPG IS UNABLE TO SUPPORT SB 240 BASED ON INFORMATION FROM SENATOR JONES' OFFICE INDICATING THAT SB 240 IS NOT VIABLE AND NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN GOING FORWARD.

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Kristi Mansolf, the motion **passed 10-0-0-0-5**, with Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel absent.

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

Ms. Maxson said the APG Reports from October and November were sent out to the RCPG for their information. SANDAG is going through a transformation. They have hired consultants to help clean up their act as a regional agency. She continues to work on getting a voting seat on SANDAG for the unincorporated area.

ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)

8-A: Announcements and Correspondence Received

The Chair received a call from the County regarding their plans to pave the extension off of 13th Street to Maple (13th Street Extension). Stormwater will be addressed.

Ms. Mansolf said Bev Torres gave her an update of the proposal for mailboxes to be moved from Elm to Poplar. The mailboxes have been moved. However, she says the escalated traffic speed around that blind curve still creates significant danger. One of the routine Ramona Disposal Drivers is refusing to service their homes. She would like to request the County to consider installing additional speed reduction devices near this dangerous corner.

Miss Foster said the County recently purchased a firefighting helicopter that can fly at night, from SDG&E. This will help significantly when fighting wildfires.

8-B: Discussion Items:

1. Concerns from Members (*None Brought Forward*)
2. Future Agenda Item Requests

Mr. Aruin asked why there were areas in Ramona with no sidewalks? Sidewalks are islands. He would like to request a future item agenda asking for sidewalks between D Street and Main Street and on D Street.

Ms. Gibson, who was not in attendance, had said previously that there would be a PLDO update on the next agenda.

3. Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members
(None Brought Forward)
4. Reimbursement Request to PDS for the Secretary for copies made for the 11-6-25 and 12-4-25 meetings

Ms. Mansolf spent \$10.50 for copies for the November 6, 2025, RCPG meeting, and \$9.00 for copies for the December 4, 2025, RCPG meeting, for a total of \$19.50.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST FOR THE RCPG SECRETARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19.50, FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 2025.

Upon motion made by Lauren Elyse Welty and seconded by Dustin Turley, the motion **passed 10-0-0-0-5**, with Jonas Dyer, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Andrew Simmons and Paul Stykel absent.

8-C: Ramona Design Review Board Report (Jonas Dyer) – Update on Projects Reviewed

As Mr. Dyer was not in attendance, there was no Design Review Board report.

8-D: Meeting Updates

1. Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings

The Chair gave a report of upcoming meetings with respect to Ramona.

The Board of Supervisors will be discussing an IOD for SR 78 in Ramona, at their meeting on December 10, and possible transferring the land to Caltrans.

On December 5, the Planning Commission will review and provide a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the proposed Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance Amendment, which includes provisions to allow the separate sale of ADUs.

The December 5, TAC agenda has 2 Ramona items on it. One is Radar Certification, Warnock Drive/Ramona Street/Dye Road, San Vicente Road to SR 67. The second is Intersection Controls at Fifth Street and D Street.

2. Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 1-8-25 (a Special Meeting due to 1-1-25 falling on a holiday), Ramona Community Library, 1275 Main St.

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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