

**County of San Diego
Ramona Community Planning Group
MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2026
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 Mauren Dant Holly Hamilton-Bleakley
 Kristi Mansolf Robin Joy Maxson Terry Maxson
 Andrew Simmons Lauren Elyse Welty

Members absent: Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel, Dustin Turley

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 4-2-26 and MINUTES 5-7-26 (Action)

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE APRIL 2, 2026, AND THE MAY 7, 2026, MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Robin Joy Maxson and seconded by Terry Maxson, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley 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 she has concerns about Ramona's evacuation routes. Like so many people in Ramona, she has been evacuated twice. The first time was due to the Cedar Fire, that started on October 25, 2003, burned over 273,000 acres in 12 days with 15 fatalities and over 2,200 homes destroyed. The second time was during the Witch Creek Fire, which started on October 21, 2007,

burned over 197,000 acres in 16 days, with 2 fatalities, 40 injured firefighters and 1,100 homes destroyed. Because of first responders, we have dodged many more close calls over the years.

On June 1, the Main Fire burned 6.71 acres. Main Street/SR 67 near Etcheverry was closed for 3 hours. Northbound traffic was directed from SR-67 onto Dye Road and vice versa. All traffic was at a standstill in both directions. Related to this issue is the census population in 2000 was 14,753; in 2010 it was 20,292; in 2020, it was 21,293. Current estimate, in 2026, is 23,414. Even with the reported growth and the 2 major wildfires, evacuation routes have not been improved. There have been previous conversations in this group regarding community growth with additional housing developments with pro/con debates when developers request the RCPG's support to assist in gaining County approval. Until a solid evacuation plan is designed and implemented, no further developments should be approved or built. Ms. Thygesen referenced SB 99, Chapter 202, which mandates that general plan safety elements identify residential developments with inadequate emergency escape routes. Proposed developments in a high fire hazard area will be evacuated for evacuation related issues. CEQA generally requires projects to outline how they will mitigate the impact on local transportation, water availability and hazard risks. She is not opposed to growth – she is opposed to continuous growth with disregard to public safety.

Speaker: Joshua de Jong, Ramona Resident

Mr. de Jong has concerns about Lamar Street. It is in a residential area where several people walk on the road regularly and the road is unpaved. People speed down the road, and because it is not paved, sometimes their cars go out of control. He called the County to see what could be done and to see about getting the road paved, and the County told him to come to the RCPG as it is a local planning board issue in addition to being a safety issue. Mr. de Jong said there were 2 traffic accidents recently on Lamar Street.

The Chair asked Mr. de Jong to discuss the issue with the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee and come back to the RCPG. Items like this go to a subcommittee for review before they come to the RCPG. The County will then assess the need.

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 Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Andrew Simmons, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley 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 Roller reported that in May, on SR 67 there were 76 traffic stops, 23 citations, a

motorcycle going 118 mph on SR 67 and a Mustang going 75 mph in the Estates. For the patrol, there were 42 arrests, 137 traffic stops, 48 pedestrian stops, and 46 citations. There was an uptick in tagging in an area of Montecito Road, caused by 2 men tagging with spray paint. They were caught. Lieutenant Roller said there was an incident where someone was selling marijuana products in an area of Ramona. There was also an situation where a deputy found an older man asleep in a truck and the man had a weapon. This is a quality of life issue in Ramona.

Ms. Maxson asked what would Lieutenant recommend for us to do if we see an event involving a medical issue?

Lieutenant Roller said to always call it in if someone is having a medical issue. This would be considered a medical aid call

7-B: INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY: Discussion relating to the proposed SR 67 and Mussey Grade Roundabout

Speaker: Sue Thygesen, Ramona Resident

Ms. Thygesen said she was returning back to the issue of wildfire and evacuation. The June 1, 2026, fire was no where near the severity of our previous fires, but that 6.71 acre fire was a traffic nightmare. Can you imagine what traffic will be like at a roundabout at Mussey Grade and SR 67, during an evacuation? The previous week Ms. Thygesen observed traffic patterns for people exiting Mussey Grade Road onto SR 67. There were vehicles waiting to enter 67 – but not nearly enough to warrant a roundabout. Morning traffic heading south is a nightmare; however, the rush hour traffic coming north in the late afternoon is backed up all the way to beyond Poway Road. The thought of a roundabout sounds so illogical to her. Never mind an evacuation.

Caltrans presented the Preliminary Multi-Lane Roundabout Proposal on April 9, 2026. Their study reported that a roundabout reduces high angle conflict points and reduces vehicle speeds. She feels they are correct and traffic will be reduced to a dead stop. SB 99, Chapter 202 states that local authorities will strictly evaluate road capacity, secondary access and intersection controls to ensure new constructions does not strain existing community systems. A roundabout at Mussey Grade will definitely place a strain on our existing community system. Ms. Thygesen said she felt, after watching the traffic flow on Mussey Grade, that a traffic light would be the best solution. She felt the roundabout proposal needs to be re-evaluated and a more comprehensive study be done for demand traffic signalization.

The Chair said the item was for discussion and there would be no vote. She recommended watching the PowerPoint on this issue to get more information.

Ms. Dant said she appreciated that different options were studied. She does not feel a roundabout is a good option on SR 67. People are already navigating numerous turns. She hopes someday SR 67 will be as safe as Scripps Poway Parkway. She would like to see an alternative considered for the roundabout. She would like to see people go from Mussey Grade

to Dye Street and then to Dye Road. It doesn't make sense for all traffic to go through a roundabout.

Mr. Aruin said this option would require easements that don't exist.

Mr. Simmons said he thought the easements were granted years ago.

The Chair said the County would have to add this to the road map. She knows Caltrans did traffic studies to evaluate this issue.

Ms. Dant said she believed Dye Road was complete except for 1 portion of it. She felt this alternative should be studied and reviewed as an option.

Ms. Maxson said these roads are County roads so the County would be the one doing the study.

The Chair said this issue should go to the Transportation/Trails Subcommittee prior to coming to the RCPG.

Ms. Maxson said Caltrans is trying to make roads that make accidents survivable. Northbound traffic really moves at the Mussey Grade/SR 67 intersection. There is a lot of traffic volume on the road. There are speed issues. There is the traffic during the week and then there is the weekend traffic. She went to Oregon and every town has highway roundabouts. Caltrans has all the land they need to build a roundabout at the intersection. They will build a multi lane roundabout. Roundabouts are one of the safest methods for moving traffic through an intersection. Big rigs go through easily as do horse trailers. People can't go through fast. They have to slow down as they are approaching the roundabout to get into the roundabout. The roundabout will be 4 lanes.

The Chair said she has been to Colorado and roundabouts are everywhere. The one proposed for Mussey Grade/SR 67 will have an extra lane in both directions, as compared to some of the smaller ones in San Diego County that are only 1 lane.

Mr. Aruin said he thinks the roundabout is a good idea, especially with the bigger lanes.

Ms. Hamilton-Bleakley said she thinks roundabouts are efficient.

7-C: Discussion and Possible Action: Discussion of any concerns relating to the Mt. Woodson Gateway Preserve parking lot project for consideration to submit to the County and possibly other related entities
Mansolf, Mt. Woodson ad hoc

Speaker: Erin Brown, Ramona Resident

Ms. Brown asked that the parking lot be open for longer hours, for example, that it would be closed from 9 pm to 5 am so people can go on hikes during sunrises and sunsets. Her preference, along with other hikers she have spoken with, is to keep some parking available for hikers that

enjoy the trail early morning, before sunrise, and at night, for sunset and full moon hikes. She asked the RCPG to consider a compromise and have the section on SR 67, where people can park now, be time based, as in no parking from 9am-5pm - thus allowing early morning and night hikes. For people that work during the day, the no parking option means they are unable to use the trail at all during the week for almost half the year, and in the summertime when it's hot, the early morning and late nights are the cooler times to hike. The Mt. Woodson trail is the only safe, paved option that she feels is an option for herself and others in the area and many of them would greatly miss this trail. Hopefully there is a compromise to be had or the time restrictions for the parking lot can be lifted.

Ms. Mansolf went over the minutes from the recent Mt. Woodson meeting. It was noted at the meeting that although the parking lot is open, people are still parking on the west side of SR 67 to hike up Mt. Woodson. In the last week, the "no parking" signs on the west side of SR 67 were painted over with black paint. The damage was repaired a few days later, and now the signs are clean again. Some days there are many, many cars parked on the road. People are parking in the areas where there are no "no parking" signs, and they are also parking where there are "no parking" signs on the west side of SR 67. Ms. Mansolf has not seen anyone getting a ticket when parked by the "no parking" signs, but she asked our local Sheriff's office about it and was told the CHP is ticketing when they are available to do so. Ms. Mansolf said she was driving by one weekend morning and she saw at least 3 people parallel parking, backing into spaces, and in each instance at least a portion of their car was still in the travel lane as she passed by.

At the Mt. Woodson ad hoc, Ms. Mansolf said a speaker said they would like to see a parking sign, such as an often used sign that is a big letter "P" attached to the Mt. Woodson Trailhead sign. He felt that regarding social media – some improvements have been made online with helping people find the parking lot. All Trails has recently updated their site with the parking lot information for hiking up Mt. Woodson. He suggested the gate to the parking lot could be open for longer hours to help with the people who like to hike earlier and later in the day.

A question came up at the Mt. Woodson ad hoc meeting on whether or not the Sheriff's are also able to ticket for parking enforcement on SR 67. As Lieutenant Roller was in attendance at the June 11 RCPG meeting, and Ms. Mansolf deferred to him for this question.

Lieutenant Roller said SR 67 is mostly the domain of the CHP and Sheriff's deputies would not ordinarily be enforcing the parking rules unless there was a traffic hazard or collision.

Lieutenant Roller said he did not know who controlled parking on the dirt and he would not issue a citation for parking on the dirt because there is no delineation over who controls it.

A representative from the Mt. Woodson development, at the Mt. Woodson ad hoc meeting, said he would like signs/directions for the Mt. Woodson parking lot to be similar to the ones at Stelzer Park on Wildcat Canyon Road. He feels those signs are more visible than the 2 signs currently by Mt. Woodson. He thinks a pin on the website for the entrance to the park would be useful.

Ms. Mansolf said parking along Archie Moore Road, for hiking up the Fry Koegel Trail, has been brought up to County Traffic Engineering. The County has asked that we send them

pictures of people along Archie Moore Road for their information and files. She has sent the County some pictures of people parking along Archie Moore. In some of the pictures, people are parking in the very narrow portion of the road, near SR 67. She asked that if anyone sees cars parked on Archie Moore Road, please take a picture, if possible, and send it to her to send to the County. The County said they will add “no parking” signs to designated areas on Archie Moore Road as needed.

Ms. Mansolf said she feels that some of the signage along the road competes with the project signage. For instance, the headlight sign along the road by the Mt. Woodson parking lot exit, is big and attention-getting. It is an important sign but would probably work better in an area with less signage.

Speaker: Jim Edwards, Ramona Resident

Mr. Edwards said that the often the people hiking early in the morning and late at night are trespassing on private property to get to the hiking trail. He asked that the County and Caltrans revisit the allowed parking hours to enable people being able to hike early in the morning and later in the evening so that they have access and are not trespassing.

Dave Moniz, Jen Spencer and Emmet Aquino with County Parks were in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Moniz said that the land by the Mt. Woodson trail and the Fry Koegel trails is owned by the State of California, the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego and the City of Poway. The County provided the safe off street parking so people would not have to park and walk on SR 67 to hike Mt. Woodson. The parking lot hours are consistent with parking lot hours at other County parks and they do not anticipate changing them at this time. The roadway is very busy and there is not a good line of sight at the roadway. People can exit the parking lot after sunset, but they will not be able to enter the parking lot after sunset. He said they are trying to meet the needs of the community.

Ms. Spencer said information has been updated on the County website regarding access and the parking lot. Google Maps has been updated and the website will take hikers to the parking lot. The County has put in a request to add the “P” parking signs to the Mt. Woodson signs along SR 67. She says the hours are consistent with the City of Poway park that accesses Mt. Woodson from the City of Poway side of Mt. Woodson. Over time things will get better.

A Planning Group member asked about making the parking lot access similar to the Iron Mountain Parking Lot.

Ms. Mansolf said the Iron Mountain Parking Lot is a Park and Ride, which is a different type of facility than a regular parking lot, so there is more flexibility with parking hours, etc.

Ms. Mansolf brought forward the motions from the Mt. Woodson ad hoc meeting. The following 3 motions passed at the meeting.

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND EXTENDING THE “NO PARKING” SIGNS ON THE WEST SIDE OF SR 67, FROM SOUTH MT. WOODSON ROAD TO NORTH MT. WOODSON ROAD.

Upon motion made by Kristi Mansolf and seconded by Robin Joy Maxson, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley absent.

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND A NEW TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION REPORT FROM CALTRANS TO POTENTIALLY ADD SIGNAGE ONE-QUARTER MILE EITHER WAY OF THE GATEWAY HIKING TRAIL, INFORMING MOTORISTS OF THE PARKING LOT.

Upon motion made by Kristi Mansolf and seconded by Robin Joy Maxson, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley absent.

MOTION: TO REQUEST CALTRANS RELOCATE THE HEADLIGHT SIGN OUT OF THE PARKING LOT ACCESS AREA. Motion made by Kristi Mansolf and seconded by Robin Joy Maxson, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley absent.

Mr. Aruin said he would like to make a motion, as follows:

MOTION: TO REQUEST CALTRANS AND THE COUNTY INVESTIGATE A WAY TO ENABLE RECREATION AT MT. WOODSON OUTSIDE OF CURRENT PARKING LOT HOURS.

Upon motion made by Basil Aruin and seconded by Kristi Mansolf, the motion **passed 8-0-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley absent.

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

Ms. Maxson gave the Association of Planning Groups (APG) report. The APG includes all of the 18 Planning Groups that are under the umbrella of San Diego County for the Unincorporated communities in the County. The goal of the APG is to have a voting seat on SANDAG so the Unincorporated communities will have both a voice and a vote.

This May the APG asked SANDAG how TransNet money is allocated in San Diego County for the Unincorporated Areas? How do we know we are getting back the TransNet money here in Ramona? Dawn Vettese, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at SANDAG responded that factors, such as miles traveled by the community combined with population are used to determine where TransNet funding is allocated. The CFO asked why Unincorporated communities do not

incorporate? The APG clarified that incorporation requires a tax base to fund city infrastructure and services. Not all Unincorporated communities can become incorporated cities. The APG will meet with her for more information on this issue.

The APG held its second meeting of the year. SANDAG presented at the meeting. Clint Peace, Senior Director of Capital Delivery and Jennifer Williamson, Deputy Director of Mobility from SANDAG reported on how the agency works with the Unincorporated communities, how projects are developed for the area, and how they are funded. The APG reported concern with the ongoing lack of projects in the Unincorporated Area. SANDAG provided suggestions on how to improve the project ratio.

The APG formed 3 years ago. The Unincorporated Area expects to receive the same respect and action from SANDAG that cities have. The County has not been effective in representing the Unincorporated Areas at SANDAG - based on the ongoing lack of projects and funding for our area. The APG has been very clear with their message and is getting a response. SR-67 is brought up at almost every APG meeting, and the improvements to SR-67 are happening.

ITEM 8: GROUP BUSINESS (Possible Action)

8-A: Announcements and Correspondence Received – *None*

8-B: Discussion Items:

1. Concerns from Members

Ms. Maxson asked if we ever heard any information about the \$700,000 taken out of our PLDO balance?

The Chair said she has discussed this item with Andrew Hays, and she has heard nothing.

The Chair said the Mt. Woodson development wants to get a gate put by the RMWD easement in the Mt. Woodson Gateway Preserve parking lot. She feels this item is worth bringing up. The item has been ignored. Regarding PLDO, the Ordinance says PLDO can't be used for parking lots and trails. We can have this on a future agenda to get further clarification from the County. The Chair said she would also like discounted parking rates for Mt. Woodson to be on a future agenda.

2. Future Agenda Item Requests

Mr. Aruin said some of the future agenda items we discussed were the Elm/Poplar speeding issue; Lamar paving; the potential for Dye Street to be used as an alternative to having a roundabout at the Mussey Grade and SR 67 intersection; the Warmington housing project. He would like to talk about getting sidewalks in downtown Ramona. All of these items would go to T&T first.

3. Addition and Confirmation of New/Continuing Subcommittee Members – *None*

4. Reimbursement Request to PDS for the Secretary for copies made for the 3-5-26, 4-2-26 and 5-7-26 meetings

Ms. Mansolf had receipts of \$10.50, for the March 5, 2026, meeting; \$5.25 for the April 2, 2026, meeting; and \$12.00 for the May 7, 2026, meeting.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Lauren Elyse Welty and seconded by Andrew Simmons, the motion **passed 8-0-0-7**, with Janelle Clark, Jonas Dyer, Debbie Foster, Andrea Gibson, Dawn Perfect, Paul Stykel and Dustin Turley absent.

8-C: Ramona Design Review Board Report – Update on Projects Reviewed

The Chair reported that the Warmington housing project went to the Design Review Board and the items relating to the visual elements of the project were reviewed and approved. The Dunkin' Donuts signage was pulled. Ramona Wine and Spirits will return for review. A 45-day banner sign was approved.

8-D: Meeting Updates

1. Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and TAC Meetings

The Chair said that regarding the Roadside Vending, the TAC did not add highways as being an allowable place for a Roadside Vending operation. ADA will be discussed at the Planning Commission on June 12. The Board of Supervisors has postponed the cannabis item discussion until August or September.

2. Future Group Meeting Dates – Next RCPG Meeting to be 7-2-26 at the 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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