

**County of San Diego  
Spring Valley Community Planning Group  
P.O. Box 1637, Spring Valley, CA 91979**

**Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2019; 7:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Location: Otay Water District Headquarters  
2554 Sweetwater Spring Boulevard, Spring Valley, CA 91978**

**E-mail: [svpgchair@gmail.com](mailto:svpgchair@gmail.com); Facebook: [Spring Valley Planning Group](#)**

**A. Members**

seat	Name	absent	seat	Name	absent
1	Elizabeth "Liz" Lavertu (Co-Chair)		9	Clifton Cunningham	<b>X</b>
2	Lora Lowes (Co-Chair)		10	Chris Pearson	
3	Jesse Robles		11	James "Jim" Custeau (Secretary)	
4	Mark Kalsho		12	Adrian Caminos	
5	Marilyn Wilkinson (Vice-Chair)		13	Edward Woodruff	
6	John Eugenio		14	Robert "Bob" Eble	
7	Scott Harris		15	Tim Snyder	
8	Scott Shaffer				

**The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.**

- A. **Public Communications:** Alejandro Orozco, a resident of 2288 Helix St. spoke about his systemic concerns with the trash receptacles for a group of apartments. This has been an ongoing trash and illegal dumping issue. Alejandro thanked Jesse Robles for his ongoing assistance on this issue.
- Tony Gomez received a violation and they are working on improving their site.
- Chris Pearson spoke about his ongoing interest in encouraging the marketing teams from the three housing developments under construction or soon to be under construction to work to market these homes to employees of businesses and governmental agencies with facilities/businesses located near these developments.

**B. Action Items:**

**1. Code Compliance Presentation - The county will present on Code Compliance to the group with Thomas Causey, our Code Compliance Officer. Presenter: McGhee.**

Code compliance representatives from the County shared a Power point informing our group about how their department works. They deal with zoning issues, noise, trash, etc. The intake team receives and processes complaints from the residents in the community. Priority is given to health and safety issues. They try to work with property owners and or tenants to work through the code compliance issues and to reach resolution via volunteer compliance. They investigate citizens complaints that come in, verifying the complaint and document their findings. Eventually a compliance issue could move to a more serious level resulting in regulatory citations and fines. Ken Melton, junior planner shared some statistics Countywide they have closed 3514 cases in FY 18/19. Members of the planning group shared their collective frustration with ongoing code violations that seem to never get resolved. Our Planning Group was asked to make a top 10 list of code compliance issues for code enforcement to

prioritize. The illegal dumping at the Helix St. Apartments was discussed at length. The Code Compliance team is frustrated by this as are members of the planning group and concerned community members.

Over 8000 homeless in the county – big concern about the encampments that these people live in, creating serious concerns with fire, sanitation, drug paraphernalia, trash, etc. Property owners are responsible for clearing out these encampments on private property. There are over 60 properties that have been cleaned up. Currently there are 6 illegal marijuana dispensary cases in Spring Valley. Community member, James Comeau suggests that the Helix St. trash issue should be considered ongoing and not a new violation each time. Scott Harris said, how does the number of assigned officers (1) in Spring Valley compare, by population to the rest of the county? Lowes: people being on private property, squatting. How long before they can be removed. No easy answer. Marijuana dispensaries can appeal being shut down. Caminos: can't do abatement for homeless on public properties? No, public works deals with that. Code compliance only works with issues on private property. Code enforcement must rely on citizen complaints to begin enforcement against illegal dispensaries. Robles: thank you for coming out today and helping us understand what you do. Shaffer: question about compliance - If the code violation (trash on Helix St.) is corrected, nothing else can be done until the problem reappears, and another complaint is made. Unfortunately, because many properties in Spring Valley were built prior to current trash enclosure regulations, there is no way to make one of these properties comply with current regulations. Can we get more compliance officers in Spring Valley - due to the high number code compliance issues reported relative to the rest of the county as highlighted in your brief? Answer: There will likely be more officers in the field soon. Custeau: illegal structures for auto repair for example – blue tarps strung up over conduit frames – can you get those removed. Yes, those are illegal. Submit a complaint. Snyder: what about volunteers? Yes, we have some volunteers. They provide services in our office only and don't go into the field. Eble: what are the County's highest areas of complaints? Spring Valley is number 3 in violations. Number one is an area in north county, number 2 is also in north county. Either a phone call or an email starts a complaint. Multiple complaints about a single violation will increase the priority of that complaint. Lavertu: thanks for being here today. I know it's been a long day. Can we send Marijuana dispensaries as a single complaint on our top ten list? Answer, yes. We don't seem to get our fair share of resources compared to our population. Work with advanced planning team at PDS to deal with our current solid waste issue. Start with Bob Spanbauer in Supervisor Jacob' office to work on possibility of changing regulations to help deal with ongoing issues such as those on Helix St.

**2. Letter of Support for Parking Restrictions on campo Road: Proposed letter of support for no overnight parking for vehicles exceeding 10,000 pound GVW – sign to be posted. Presenter: Custeau.**

Motion: Approve sending letter as amended, including Cc to Supervisor Jacob.

M/S (Shaffer/Pearson)

Vote: Aye (14); No (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1); Vacant: (0)

Motion Passes

**3. Target Request for ABC license, PDS2019-ABC-19-003:** The proponent requests approval of a Type 21 Off-Sale General License for Target store at 935 Sweetwater Road. Presenter: Lavertu; Proponent: Target. Several members are concerned about the sale of hard liquor at the site. There is already a type 21 license for Smart and Final in the same center. Snyder said there are approximately 80 liquor sales establishments in Spring Valley, counting both on-site consumption and carry out. Wilkinson

says we don't need another liquor sales location in an area already saturated with liquor sales.

**Motion: we do not support alcohol sales at this establishment due to high crime reporting index and density of alcohol sales. Additionally, there are 2 licenses allowed in the census track and there are already 7 licenses.**

**M/S (Wilkinson/Pearson)**

Vote: Aye (14); No (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1); Vacant (0). Vote was unanimous.

Motion: Passes to deny request for liquor license.

**4. Discussion and vote to form Committees: Discussion on what committees would be beneficial for short-term and long-term goals for community improvement Presenter: Lavertu.**

Community members can also be members of these various committees. A list of committees was compiled, including those interested in serving on the various committees.

1. Plot plan design review: Eble, Woodruff, Harris, Lowes, Wilkinson
2. Community improvement (sidewalks, gutters, trash dumping, etc.) Robles, Snyder,
3. Code Compliance: Robles, Wilkinson, Caminos, Shaffer
4. Transportation: Custeau, Kalsho, Robles, Shaffer
5. Park, trails, open space: Lowes, Woodruff, Wilkinson, Cunningham

**C. Approval of Minutes of September 10, 2019 meeting**

Motion: Approve minutes of September 10, 2019 meeting as amended.

M/S: (Pearson/Caminos)

Vote: Aye: (13); No: (0); Abstain: (1, Shaffer); Absent: (1); Vacant: (0)

Motion Passes

**E. GROUP BUSINESS**

1. Community revitalization meeting on Thursday morning at 9:30 am. Several members will attend.
2. Shaffer says the library can't physically store all our boxes of archived documents. They will work with us in hosting our digital plans moving forward. There is a chance we could get some grant money to help convert our paper documents to electronic format, but we will have to explore those options for next year's grant cycle.
3. Chair Lavertu asks if member of the group can attend the SANDAG meeting this Friday at 9:00a.m. to request all the preliminary 94/125 interchange funding in 2020, both land acquisition and planning. Delays will likely lead to much greater costs in the long run.
4. Next Meeting: October 8, 2019 tentatively will be cancelled due to lack of urgent agenda items.

**ADJOURNMENT: 9:25 P.M.**