

- Eddie Lain (community) wanted to know when the new dark sky compliant lights will be installed. There is no timeline, as these lights will be installed once the shopping center is completed.

2. Crime Suppression Team Update, Lt. Tingley, Valley Center Sheriff (5 mins)

- Lieutenant Tingley was invited by Mr. Barber to speak about traffic.
- Lt. Tingley shared that staffing for the Valley Center Station is improving. The crime suppression team has seized drugs and drug money. They were able to make felony arrests. They were able to catch a package thief. On January 30, 2026, a narcotics dealer was caught and the case was turned over to the FBI.
- Chair Rattray asked about how the crime team is addressing teenagers throwing parties in vacant homes. Lt. Tingley has not seen this problem within Valley Center yet, but it has occurred in Rainbow and Fallbrook.
- Mr. Littlejohn asked about how the sheriff addresses large parties with loud music that usually ends at 10 p.m. There was discussion about how to contact the sheriff about loud music and noise complaints.
- The non-emergency number to contact the Valley Center Sheriff substation is **858-484-3154**. This number will help dispatchers better direct calls and avoid long wait times.

3. Traffic Statistics and Update, Officer Fullmer, California Highway Patrol (5 mins)

- Officer Fullmer was invited by Mr. Barber to speak about traffic data. Officer Fullmer shared that traffic issues are most often taken care of by the California Highway Patrol. The front desk for CHP is **760-643-3400**.
- Kevin Smith (audience) asked a question about the number of DUI arrests in the area. There was discussion about DUI checkpoints.

4. Public Service Announcement and introduction “Slow Down VC,” Eddie Lain (5 mins)

- Eddie Lain shared two potential public safety videos. One safety video was comical, while the other was a serious take on the issue of traffic safety.
- **“SLOW DOWN VALLEY CENTER”** is a potential campaign with the goal to put a spotlight on the issues and behaviors that are leading to unsafe driving habits.
- There was discussion about the majority of the people stopped by CHP are usually local or semi-local residents. Dr. Matthews asked how often motorcycles are pulled over. Officer Fullmer commented that only a handful of motorcycles receive traffic citations each month.

5. Cole Grade Road Expansion - Phase 1, Ryan Lau and Bill Morgan, Project Managers, Department of Public Works, Capital Improvement Program, County of San Diego.

- Bill Morgan provided a recap and an update about the next steps of this project. Ryan Lau shared an online presentation with details about the Project Schedule for Phase 1, which should begin in late summer.

- Project information is found here:
https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/roads/Cole_grade_road.html
- Ryan Lau will share this slide deck with Chair Rattray. Mr. Littlejohn made a comment to the community that he will work hard to share concerns with the County when this project begins over the summer.
- The County has hired a public relations firm and will announce the project for bids in the next few months.

Public Comments:

- Kathleen Lippitt (Zoom audience) shared information about the risks of cannabis. The toxins in the plant are much higher than when the original study was done in the 1990s.
- Christine Carmichael (audience) shared information about Willow Creek, a wedding venue. She provided positive details about the owners of Willow Creek and the property.
- Ginny Martineau (audience) provided information about Willow Creek and its positive impact for the community of Valley Center. Willow Creek employs high schoolers and it has never caused any traffic issues.
- Kevin Smith (audience) made comments about cannabis. He expects the government to enforce the present laws that regulate cannabis. Chair Rattray explained that it was not about the substance, but about land use.
- Michael Cullen (audience) shared that he has a number of noise concerns about the music that is played at Willow Creek. He lives nearby and feels that the Willow Creek venue has noise levels that are higher than urban areas.
- Robert Cullen (audience) shared that he has dealt with noise issues for twenty years. He believes that the permit only allows a maximum of ten weddings a year.

E. Action items: (VCCPG advisory vote may be taken on the following items)

1. Verizon is proposing a Major Use Permit within the Yuima Water District in Pauma Valley, near Harrah's Casino, to build a stealth monopine which is 50 feet tall vs the zoning restriction of 35 feet. Delores Chavez Harmes

- This project was cancelled.

2. Oak Tree Removal, 30046, 32135 & 32137 Lilac Rd, Nicole Worley, County of San Diego, Dept. of Public Works.

- There was discussion about cutting the tree down. This vote was cancelled, as members requested more information about cutting down all three trees.

3. Project Summary Reports, a current list of all projects proposed for Valley Center, Dori Rattray, Chair

- The VCBA has gotten permission from the owners to clean up the Circle K property. Mrs. ChavezHarmes shared that this project has been in litigation now for over four years.

- Mr. Barber shared that there is a proposed gas station at the intersection of Woods Valley Rd and Valley Center Rd.

F. Subcommittee Reports:

Cannabis: Dr. Matthews

- Dr. Matthews, based on his understanding of the Schedule 3 law, shared that a pharmacist can legally prescribe this type of compound through a pharmacy. He believes that the THC compound will eventually be available only by prescription. Chair Rattray shared that the community needs to voice their concerns before the Board of Supervisors. The County is providing small business grants to people in the cannabis industry. Land use is the biggest issue related to cannabis and the community of Valley Center.

Enhancement: Ms. Lieber

- Ms. Lieber shared that she is working to find out who owns the utility box near Valley Center Elementary school in order to have graffiti removed.

Energy: Mr. Littlejohn

- Mr. Littlejohn is attempting to acquire a map.

Parks, Rec & Trails: Mrs. Hodson

- There is an event on March 15 to introduce Star Valley Park to the community.

Community Plan Update - Mr. Ciupitu

- No update.

Emergency Evacuation: Mrs. ChavezHarmes

- A brief update was shared.

Mobility: Mr. Barber

- **Motion: To nominate Mary Hodson and Eddie Lain to serve on the Mobility Subcommittee.**
- **Maker/Second:** Norwood/Hutchison
- **Motion VOTE 15-0-0 (Y-N-Ab)**
- Information was presented about traffic at the beginning of the meeting. Lieutenant Tingley and Officer Fullmer were invited by Mr. Barber to speak to the community during public comments.

Water: Ms. Fajardo & Dr. Matthews

- Ms. Fajardo shared information about a 621 day project that was approved. A report is in the works to share how the Valley Center Water Department determines water rates in different regions of the County. The second phase of this two-year project will begin sometime in the Spring and will cost around ten million dollars.

G. Additional Reports:

Association of Planning: Mr. Hutchison

- The APG met with SANDAG officials and Caltrans to make the case for a voting voice on the SANDAG Board. The Planning Group currently has a seat at the table, but not a vote. The agenda is usually focused on urban instead of rural areas of the County.

Design Review Board: Mrs. Bothof

- No update.

Nominations: Mrs. ChavezHarmes

- No update.

Revitalization: Mr. Barber

- No update.

Board of Supervisors (Liaison): Ms. Norwood

- Ms. Norwood shared a brief update.

Government: Mr. Stinson

- The Mileage Tax is being studied by the legislature. This new tax proposal would impact the rural community more than urban areas. There was discussion about how the California government could enforce the mileage tax proposal.
- There was a discussion about property insurance and the Fair Plan. Property owners in Park Circle are now getting dropped by insurance companies and acquiring insurance through the Fair Plan.

Quarterly Chair CPG Update: Chair Rattray

- No update.

Tribal: Mrs. Rattray

- A real estate agent is actively trying to market the former Rite Aid building. There was discussion about tribal trust lands.

H. Adjournment:

- Next regular meeting of VCCPG: **March 9, 2026 at 7 p.m.**
- **The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.**
- **Minutes were approved on March 9, 2026.**

James Garritson, Secretary