

## UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

### Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

September 14, 2021, at 6:00 pm.

**Directors present**, directors absent:

**Chris Nielsen (CN) (Chair), Roger Cavanaugh (RC) (Vice Chair), Meagan Beale (MB), Neil de Ramos (NdR), Nancy Groves (NG), Caryl Lees Witte (CW), Joann Selleck (JS), Isabelle Kay (IK), Ash Nasserri (AN), Rebecca Robinson Wood (RRW), Jon Arenz (JA), Amber Ter-Vrugt (ATV), Jason Moorhead (JM), Anu Delouri (AD), Kristie Miller (KM), Michael Leavenworth (ML), Kristin Camper (KC), Petr Krysl (PK), Carol Uribe (CU), Georgia Kayser (GK), Katie Witherspoon (KW-City of SD Planning), Phillip Belzeski (PB-UCSD)**

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** Chris Nielsen 6:04pm.
2. **Agenda:** Approved – Adoption by acclamation
3. **Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2021.**  
CN-asked if there were any corrections? Approved by acclamation
4. **Announcements: Chair's Report: Chris Nielsen**
  - Bike safety - October 12 meeting. Katie Witherspoon has details, to be attended by a city staff member.
  - RRW dev-land Gilman Drive. RRW will be filing forms for a CPA soon. Then she will present an info item at UCPG -getting community input. Action item will follow to request UCPG's recommendation.
  - No info on south UC lot split project (Robins Way); no PTS change in 4-5 months.
  - Torrey Pines utility/ADA improvements project – Debbie Waldecker will call when ready to present.
  - CN to contact BIOMED group for next steps, DEIR in draft.
  - No word from Seritage – east end of UTC.
  - Meagan Beale will leave the board; October is her last meeting. CN inviting members of the board and public to nominate a replacement residential member from UCPG area 1. Send nominations to CN or bring them to the October UCPG meeting.
5. **Presentations:**
  - a. **SANDAG/Mid Coast Trolley** – John Dorrow – Trolley is on budget and on schedule. 11/21/21 is the grand opening!  
Update as follows:
    - VA stop: working on landscaping
    - UCSD Central Trolley stop – in progress with installation of track fencing
    - Voigt Dr. Bridge is back open
    - Executive Dr. Trolley station and Pedestrian bridge in progress
    - UTC Trolley and Parking Structure going very well

-Testing along the tracks – People can watch the red trolley cars but not ride yet.  
Community member – Jeff Dosick – Voigt station is great with respect to bike patterns and boxes. UTC station doesn't have same bike infrastructure, why? Genesee bike lanes need to be as before. Jeff was told that it would be restored.  
John Dorrow – UCSD built Voigt. Bike lane striping along Genesee northbound between Nobel and Decoro?  
Jeff Dosick – Yes, it was removed due to construction but needs to be restored.  
John – will check on it.  
KM – Bikes? Are they welcome on the trolley?  
John – Yes bikes are welcome to be taken on and off the trolley.

**b. Councilmember Joe LaCava** –Kaitlyn Willoughby reported:

1. City Council back from legislative recess.
2. Pure water – starts at Eastgate Mall and Judicial are extended to 06/22
3. CIP projects use the city ranking process by UCPG and project completeness

**c. Membership Report** – AD reported:

All memberships are permanent. If you are interested in running for office, let CN know as we are virtual and don't have a physical sign-up sheet.

**d. Plan Update Subcommittee** – Andy Wiese will present later

**e. Planning Department**—**Katie Witherspoon** will give Andy's report

- 9/21 is next subcommittee meeting at a new time of 6:30 pm
- Link for online engagement platform. Review the 5 focus areas
- Community Engagement survey will run one month.
- Planning – Robbins/ lot split project under review at Planning and other depts.
- Bike review passing a list of recommendations – IK is spearheading  
Evert Houser is the manager of bike program for city

**f. Mayor Todd Gloria**

**g. Assembly Member Chris Ward** – Ansermio Estrada update

Legislative session wrapped up Friday 9 pm. Majority whip is a new role for Assembly member Ward. Budget wins for SD: \$8.4 million for OB Pier and \$3.7 million to redo Casa del Prado

Community member – Barry Bernstein Time to Vote on SB 9&10?

Ans: passed in the Assy and Senate heading to Governor

**h. Senator Toni Atkins** – Cole Reed not present.

**i. Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer** – Amanda Barry update:

- wants to welcome David Castro-Pena.
- RC – update CIP projects moving forward (2 weeks)
- Housing – proud that housing package was passed with new and easier way to build low-income housing where we need it for low cost.
- Fires – advance Alert San Diego – Fire Maps
- Redistricting – every 10 years with census -> County has its Independent Redistricting Commission

**j. UC San Diego** – Alyssa Helper – AD giving the update tonight

- Community Planning Team –
- 9/20 Fall Quarter begins
- UCSD – LRT on time and budget – exciting opening Voigt and VA trolley stops

-IK – Heavy trucks removing soil from UCSD using Gillman Dr. They are driving very fast and lining up on Gilman. It is scary.

AD – She will share with the Project Mgr. Really good getting back to community Comments. We are trying to dig and then dump more on UCSD campus.

**k. Capital Improvements** – RC: (including comments from beginning of the meeting) City sent back 5-year fiscal year proposal – Rankings include William Beck’s Project Contact RC with any questions.

William Beck – 5 years?

RC – 5-year projected plan includes your project. Joe LaCava stated that they are ranked because if they are doable then we can shepherd them.

**l. CN – Notice of UCPG** – Meagan Beale (MB) leaving our board in October. She is District 1 – Residential Seat 1A

Community member – Ruth DeSantis, UCCF: seat should be vacant until election – UCPG needs to review.

CN – Process is in the bylaws: when one seat becomes vacant, UCPG board chooses a replacement.

#### **6. Public Comment: Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit)**

a. Barry Bernstein – Oktoberfest is happening, 10/9/22. Meagan Beale’s replacement should come to UCCA meeting because they are representing all residents. Speaker this month is Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer.

Katie Witherspoon will go over the online process for Plan Update Survey.

c. Bill Beck – giving Diane Ahern’s public comment – CWPP approved by SD County Fire Dept. and Cal Fire. CWPP will host public zoom meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in Sept. at 6:30 pm, along with a booth at Oktoberfest 10/9/21.

c. Ruth DeSantis – Several South UC community members are requesting a skate park or dog park at the west end of Governor Dr. as part of CPU.

d. Philip Belzeski introduced himself as the UCSD Student representative.

#### **7. Information Item: Blueprint San Diego – new approach to community planning. Katie Witherspoon Sn. Planner, Planning Dept. and Seth Litchney, Program Mgr. Planning Dept. presenting:**

Timeline for community outreach by Planning: DEIR will be complete by late Spring.

Hearing process – end of 2022. UC Plan Update: a way that we can

stay on track with the land use plan and work with Climate Action Plan. Analyzing the Blueprint EIR: Workshops will be held 9/23 and 9/29, identical except for the time/date.

Community member – Neil Hyytinen – notice of preparation 2022. Does this mesh with UC

Plan? When does community get a idea of what the definition of a project is under Blueprint?

Seth – Densities and models will be coming out.

Neil – looking at mass building in downtown, will we be able to approve if it works with the Community Plan?

Community member - Debbie Knight – concerns that the models don’t work with low income housing. Propensity of transit riders – offer zero affordable housing for middle class.

More high income in this area, that the RHNA assessment says we need.

Seth – agree there is need for affordable housing densities that support transit usage.

PK – Question about climate change and blueprint. What about mass transit? All I hear is density.

Seth – Regional transit network plan: look at long term plan for transit/roads/bikes through 2050, along with ridership programs.

PK – Isn't this backwards? how do we support current and increasing densities?

Seth – Land use and density will use Blueprint to meet climate action goals.

PB – How is UCSD treated in the EIR? Will it change the direction for CPU?

KW – we are confident about densities around transit stations utilizing CPU as we have been planning for this transit density.

Seth – 2015 Climate Action Plan focused on walking and biking

Neil Hyytinen – need for work force housing – life science cluster is the best in the world and Blueprint should be taking high paying jobs into consideration.

IK – SANDAG Regional Transit Plan: how is this incorporated into the EIR?

Seth – Draft EIR released a few days ago, Couple of scenarios including parameters for environmentally sensitive land, for example.

IK – Housing near transit is wrong; it should be transit near business.

KW – Jobs/Housing balance -> high income areas

RRW – City of Villages – hoping city will consider all properties within the transit area

RC – comments:

1. Climate action goals – PGs go back and forth with developers and climate gets put to the wayside. Costa Verde was silver not platinum or gold
2. Jobs, jobs, jobs – we need investments of these jobs and need to pay attention to quality of life.

Debbie - where is the money coming from for bike infrastructure. DIF funds or other?

## **8. Information Item: Creation of the Office of Evaluation, Performance and Analytics (OEPA).**

This new office will guide and inform policy and budget decisions to be more effective, more equitable and more focused on delivering the best outcomes for all San Diegans. David Castro, County of San Diego presenting.

David – office of evaluation and analytics evidence based policy making – info., evidence and data – what investment is best for different communities. When programs are not designed correctly to produce results.

CN – which area are you targeting first?

David – hiring the Chief Evaluator now

GK- Who determines where to start? Politicians, taxpayers, or Chief Evaluator?

David – Best practice uses randomized trials – innovative approaches

PB – From where are you getting data?

David – This is first thing we are figuring out. County collects data but not working with it. Evaluator will work through it.

IK – How do you handle programs? Directions for land use and environment?

David – An example is training over wages – collect data on the money.

**9. Information Item: The Coast, Canyons, and Trails Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan. Manuel Rivas, Byrne Communications, on behalf of SANDAG and Caltrans presenting.**

Manuel Rivas for SANDAG/Caltrans: this is a public input survey with comments and questions.

5 big moves

1. Complete corridors
2. Flexible fleets – share autos and scooters
3. Transit
4. Next OS
5. Mobility Hubs

Coast – La Jolla to Santee utilizing the 52 and the 67 and North and South Routes and highways.

Connects East to UC / Kearney Mesa

-Freeway Ramps, Roads, Transit, Active transportation, Mobility Hubs.

Andy Wiess – comments:

1. Focus along Hwy 52 connects residences to residences, not residence to business.
2. Community based project – Coastal Rail Trail. The map has the wrong coastal trail and needs to be corrected.
3. In Open Space Parks, unpaved trails are appropriate so multimodal paved and lit trails are not compatible.

MSCP criteria needs to be followed.

Community member – Brent Banta – 4 highway lanes to 7 highway lanes along the 52.

Manuel – using internal lanes in the median as managed lanes, with a few areas to widen 52.

Debbie Knight – 4 lanes to 7 lanes, you cannot add 3 lanes to the middle as there is no room so you will have to expand this project. The OSP will be totally disturbed.

The city is lead agency for the Coastal Rail Trail – SANDAG needs to get it right!

PK – reiterated – set of proposals will have devastating impacts. Unacceptable to the community.

The bike plan that community has already agreed to is the Gilman project.  
with protected bike lanes.

**10. Action Item: PTS 651935, Campus Point NDP, Process 2, 4242 Campus Point Rd, proposing an increase in the existing approved development intensity of combined sites from 1,673,633 sq ft to 1,901,913 sq ft. Steve Pomeranke Alexandria Real Estate, presenting.**

Steve -Campus Point NDP – from the info item in February 2021. Asking for approval.

SEE Presentation ->

-Using Voigt Trolley Station for transportation.

- Received Diamond Award for excellence in commute programs
- Modifying work hours to keep people off freeways during traffic hours
- Pathways all around the campus

-Landscape -> using biodiversity, pulling ecosystems into the campus

Public comment – Sean – Union organizer – apprenticeship programs – urging local hire and local large developers to hire union great wages. We work on Pure Water.

Sean Silva – “Seed San Diego equitable footprint” every effort will be made to have safe environment.

Eli Gonzalez – Iron Workers Union 229 – sustainable construction project, hire

local workers to build community. Local workers fair wages.

Andy Wiess – thank you for great presentation. Mobility, walking paths to Genesee, Qualcomm, and Scripps.

Steve – working on this in parallel with the ARE transportation initiative.

Andy – what is your % landscape to hardscape. Surface parking- what stays??

Steve -- 45 acres landscape and 87 acres total.

Andy – congratulations!

Debbie Knight – high amount of parking spaces – Are you going to charge people to park? Urge you to lower the amount of parking spaces. We know when you lease buildings parking is required.

Chris Clement – yes, we are charging in the lease.

Steve – We would like to not, but we are at 2.57 up from 2.5.1.

IK – Native plants don't arrange themselves in perfect lines. They need to be part of the community.

Steve – We are planning to build plant ecosystems.

IK – Will there be solar in the parking lots?

Steve – Only solar on roofs not in the parking lots.

IK – Ridges are where butterflies live

Steve – we went through the plan for landscape to support the ecosystems

Debbie Knight – what about bird strike?

Steve – We have bird strike prevention glass, with no glass boxes (buildings)!

JA – Parking structures?

Steve – P1 and P2 are internal

Motion to Approve –

CN moved that the UCPG should recommend approval for this project

RRW seconded.

Vote: Yes – 8, No – 0, Recuse -2 (JA, JM), Abstain – 1 (NdR)

Recusals are due to relationship with ARE.

The project is recommended for approved by the city.

**11. Adjournment:** adjourned at 9:17 pm. Next meeting will be October 12, 2021, via zoom.

Thank you, CN