

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING MISSION VALLEY PLANNING GROUP

June 7, 2023

Mission Valley Library 2123 Fenton Parkway

## Members Present for Quorum:

Michele Addington, Ken Callaway, David Doyle, Kaye Durant, Rachel Erwin, Derek Hulse, Elizabeth Leventhal, Kathy McSherry, Andrew Michajlenko, Phil Ouellette, Narayanan Perumal, Keith Pittsford, Mark Radelow, Michael Sherman, Joseph Tinglof.

## Additional Members Present (arrival noted in the body of the minutes):

Steve Abbo, Ryley Webb.

## Members Absent:

Johnathan Frankel, Cory Hazlewood, Darshan Patel, Pete Shearer, Colton Speas, Josh Weiselberg.

## City / Government Staff:

Malik Thornton (Councilmember Whitburn's Office), Miles Noel (Councilmember Campillo's Office), Jeffrey Nguyen (Councilmember Elo-Rivera's Office), Officer Salvador Laurel Torres (San Diego Police Dept.).

**Guests:** See sign-in sheet

## ITEM #1. Opening

### a. Call to Order

Michele Addington called the regular meeting of the Mission Valley Planning Group (MVPG) to order at 12:04 pm

Quorum Verified:

- 15 members in attendance

### b. Opening Remarks/Introductions/Report of the Chair

**Michele Addington** provided the following comments:

- SB 10 will be presented to the City in August instead of June.
- June 13 is the presentation of Unauthorized Camping Ordinance to the city.

## ITEM #2. Approval of the May 2, 2023, Meeting Minutes

**Motion to approve** the minutes of the **May 2, 2023**, Regular Meeting was made by **Ken Callaway**, seconded by **Derek Hulse**, and approved 11 / 0 with 4 abstentions.

**For:** Addington, Callaway, Doyle, Erwin, Hulse, Leventhal, Michajlenko, Ouellette, Pittsford, Radelow, Tinglof.

**Against:** none

**Abstain:** Durant, McSherry, Perumal, Sherman.

**Members Steve Abbo** and **Riley Webb** arrived during the following Agenda item.

## ITEM #3. Non-Agenda Public Comment (within the jurisdiction of the MVPG, but not on the agenda)

**Malik Thornton (Councilman Whitburn's Office)** – provided the following update:

- Unsafe Camping Ordinance will make amendments and additions to the San Diego Municipal Code to prohibit tent encampments citywide.
  - Goes to City Council at 1:00 pm June 13 – public invited to share thoughts.
  - Would prohibit camping on the streets if shelter space is available.
  - will prohibit unauthorized tent encampments (regardless of shelter availability) at locations considered to be high risk to public health and safety, including:
    - within two blocks of K-12 schools or a shelter;
    - along trolley tracks and transportation hubs;
    - City parks; canyons; and waterways like the San Diego river
  - 20<sup>th</sup> and V lot will open in July in conjunction with ordinance beginning.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> lot scheduled to open in October.
  - Collective lots should hold up to 500 spaces with access to facilities and services.

**Becky Rapp** – a community member spoke regarding concerns around the city’s Marijuana ordinance.

- Planning Commission on June 8<sup>th</sup> presenting the SEED (Social Equity E? D?) – the social equity component to marijuana ordinance.
- She is concerned that it doesn’t represent all sides of the issue – asking for additional information to be presented in this process.
- Looking to increase the number of dispensaries – removing distance requirements from certain sensitive public places.

**Jeffrey Nguyen (Councilman Elo-Rivera’s Office)** – provided the following update:

- The city budget process is wrapping up – June 12 voting on the budget.
- Tenant protection ordinance – passed and will take effect June 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Addresses Renters evicted through no fault of their own.

**Elizabeth Leventhal (MVPG member)** – has concerns about the Anti-Camping ordinance.

- Seems to be criminalizing homelessness.
- Encourages people to attend the meeting.

**Mark Radelow (MVPG member)** – The City employees have challenge policy enforcement issues.

- does Anti-Camping ordinance come with any funding for enforcement.
- **Malik Thornton** – Mayor believes there are sufficient existing resources to address enforcement needs.
  - Enforcement is tied to availability of shelters.

**Derek Hulse (MVPG member)** – How will homelessness in Mission Valley be addressed by Anti-Camping ordinance.

- **Malik Thornton** – Ordinance includes transportation resources.

ITEM #4. **Membership Committee** – David Doyle

**David Doyle** reported:

- 1 vacancy in “Resident” category.

ITEM #5. **Treasurer’s Report – Ryley Web**

**Ryley Web** reported:

- The current balance of \$1,344.16 - remains unchanged.
- **Ken Callaway** – point of information – shouldn’t we 1<sup>st</sup> be using funds available from the city?
- **Michele Addington** – City requires funds to be dispensed as reimbursements.

**ACTION ITEMS**

ITEM #6. **Vacate the July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Meeting.**

**Description:** July 5<sup>th</sup> falls the day after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Should the Mission Valley Planning Group “Vacate” their July 5, 2023, Meeting?

No discussion on the topic

**Motion to approve** vacating the **July 5, 2023, Regular Meeting** was made by **Ken Callaway**, seconded by **Kaye Durante**, and approved unanimously.

**For:** Abbo, Addington, Callaway, Doyle, Durant, Erwin, Hulse, Leventhal, McSherry, Michajlenko, Ouellette, Perumal, Pittsford, Radelow, Sherman, Tinglof, Webb.

**Against:** none

**Abstain:** none

ITEM #7. **Homeless Sub-Committee formation**

**Description:** Should the Mission Valley Planning Group form a “Homeless sub-committee”?

**Michele Addington** explained that this Item came to the agenda at the request of a couple of committee members asking for additional focus / information on this topic:

- No member present spoke to adding this topic to the agenda.
- **Elizabeth Leventhal** – believes the **Public Health, Safety and Welfare** subcommittee has already been formed to address this topic.
- Requests from the floor that concerned individuals work with this subcommittee to provide additional information going forward.
  - Discussion around how to clarify charter for the committee.
  - Request to prepare Op Eds.
- Elizabeth committed to reaching out to concerned members and preparing updates.
  - Comment on possibly adding this as an information item in the next meeting.

No further action required; the Agenda item dropped.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

ITEM #8. **SANDAG REGIONAL PLAN 101**

**Description:** (Jennifer Williamson, Regional Planning Program Manager, SANDAG)

SANDAG will give an update on their Regional Transportation Plan as well as information about their Flexible Fleets pilot program.

**April De Jesus, Regional Planning Program Manager, SANDAG** delivered a prepared presentation:

Regional plan updated every 4 years.

Described 5 strategies used to achieve state mandated goals.

Explained Priority Projects and Key Initiatives currently underway.

Mobility Hubs

- Plan looks for smaller hubs to connect to larger network.
- High density targets

Pilot Projects using flexible fleets in Pacific Beach, Oceanside & SE San Diego

**Q:** The city is “geo-fenced” for electric scooters – is there any plan in place to address this? **A:** SANDAG coordinates regionally and promotes best practices. Email [pio@sandag.org](mailto:pio@sandag.org) for add'l contacts for this feedback.

**Q:** Are there Mission Valley targets? **A:** not certain.

#### ITEM #9. **Mission Valley Crime Report**

**Officer Salvador Laurel Torres, SDPD Eastern Division Community Relations Officer** provided his report.

Included property from I-5 to the 15 in his presentation.

Provided Crime Stats for the area (291 cases not including radio calls) with breakdown.

- Vandalism – trying to deter by holding parties financially responsible for cleaning.
  - Car racing is a bad issue.
- Shopping malls are locations of a lot of the cases.
- Riverbed is an area of concern – City Rangers patrol / clear out camps.
  - It's an apparent destination for perpetrators.
- Petty theft is through the roof, but general trends are holding steady.

Provided add'l detail on firearm related incidents.

**Q:** Staffing levels and moral of the department? **A:** Moral is improving but staffing levels are still low – can't hire enough personnel.

#### ITEM #10. **Reports:**

##### **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Design Advisory Board** – Andrew Michajlenko

**Andrew Michajlenko** reported:

- No meetings in the last period and nothing currently scheduled

##### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

b. **Public Health, Safety and Welfare** – Elizabeth Leventhal

**Elizabeth Leventhal** reported:

- Welcomes input at the City Council meeting on the upcoming Camping Ordinance

- Voice of San Diego article this morning is also voicing concerns.
  - Article included with the meeting notes.
- Regional task force is providing feedback

**c. Mission Valley Stadium Redevelopment – Kaye Durant**

**Kaye Durant** reported:

- Working on the riverside park - work can't progress in other areas until the park is done.
- An Initial Environmental Review (IER) is underway for the Fenton Park bridge.
  - Public comments on the IER are due by June 20.
- 1<sup>st</sup> 'Concert on the Grass' was last weekend.
  - Well received by concert goers, but not well received by the neighbors (noise complaints)
  - Considering adjusting the direction of future concerts

**d. Subcommittee on CP 600-24 – Michele Addington**

**Michele Addington** reported:

- All Mission Valley Planning Group Members have to attend the annual Community Planning Group Orientation Workshop (COW) - new member training scheduled for 6/12
  - Email was sent out to members.
  - Everyone must register.
  - Comments from membership on how late the email was received / limited notice.
- CIP process will be initiated by the planning department with July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for submitting.

**Community Reports**

**e. Community Planning Chairs (CPC) Meeting – Michele Addington**

No comments on this topic

**Mark Radelow** shared that the Summer Concert Series in Civita Park will begin this coming Sunday.

- Free concerts are offered monthly.

**ITEM #11. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm

Next Regular Meeting Date – **Wednesday, August 2, 2023**, at 12:00 pm at the Mission Valley Library.