

OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 16, 2021

Via ZOOM

Otay Mesa Planning Group Chair, Mr. Rob Hixson, called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Introductions are made via the zoom meeting screen.

Members present:	Members absent:
Rob Hixson - Chair	Tony Blas
Ted Shaw - Vice-Chair	Tom Simmons
Chris Holder	Tom Ricotta
Diane Kirma	Felipe Nuno
Clarissa Falcon	Mark Freed
Jimmy Ayala	James Street
Rita Mahoney	
Ronnie Taylor	
Scott Merry	
Alejandra Mier y Teran	
Rodolfo Jr. Lopez	

Approval of minutes:

May 2021

- **Vote:** A motion was made by T. Shaw and seconded by J. Ayala. Motion passed (11-0-0) **Yes:** R. Hixson, S. Merry, C. Holder, D. Kirma, A. Mier y Teran, C. Falcon, R. Taylor, R. Lopez & R. Mahoney.
- **Abstained:** None.
- **Vote No:** None.

Public Input/Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda:

None.

Chairman's Report:

Items received: *None.*

- I received a couple of items, but they are being forwarded to the group as I receive them.
- Strong activity in the market.
- Michael Prinz is no longer a Planner at the City. Please meet Alex Frost; he will be joining us moving forward as our Planner.

Government Liaison Reports

A. COUNCILMEMBER MORENO'S OFFICE: Gerardo Ramirez:

1. City of San Diego's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

- The City Council adopted the FY22 budget on Monday, June 14th, 2021.
- Highlights for CIP projects in Otay Mesa include:
 - \$9.5 million in Otay Mesa FBA funds to support several projects in the Otay Mesa Community including, Fire Station 49, Beyer Park, Dennery Ranch Neighborhood Park, Hidden Trails Neighborhood Park, & Rivera Del Sol Neighborhood Park.

2. Otay Mesa EIFD

- The Public Financing Authority will be hosting a meeting on Monday, June 28th at 10:00 am to discuss the operating and CIP budget for FY22.

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B. **MAYOR'S OFFICE:** *Stephanie Estrada:*

- In a 9-9-0 vote, Mayor Gloria won unanimous approval from the City Council for his "Back to Work SD "budget.
- The \$4.6 billion budget directs begins next month on July 1st, 2021 through June 30th, 2022.
- Despite a projected budget deficit of \$124 million after taking office in December, Mayor Gloria crafted a fiscally responsible and equitable budget that prioritizes working class families, improves neighborhoods and creates operational efficiencies.
- Federal funds
- The budget adoption followed several weeks of review by the public and the City Council.
- **Mayor Gloria's first budget highlights include:**
- Getting San Diegans "Back to Work"
 - \$10 million in non-profit and small business loans in hard-hit industries and owned by people of color
 - \$900,000 in discretionary grants to provide support to non-profits and small businesses
 - \$1 million investment in the Connect2Careers workforce development program to bolster youth employment
- Protecting core services and jobs through fiscal responsibility
 - \$10 million to build quality, complete "sexy" streets in historically underserved communities
 - New streetlights in underserved communities
 - Libraries to re-open seven days a week
- Investments to combat homelessness
 - Creation of a new Homelessness Strategies Department
 - More than \$7 million for new approaches to help people struggling with substance use and addictions to exit homelessness
 - \$1 million to expand the People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) Coordinated Street Outreach Program
- Equipping San Diegans for a better tomorrow
 - Creating a new "Summer for All of Us" program to help children take part in activities at libraries and recreation centers in historically underserved communities
 - \$500,000 to enhance summer library youth programming
 - Continuation and expansion of the "SDAccess4All" to increase internet and technology access
- Progress on police reform
 - Decrease to San Diego Police Department overtime, netting a savings of more than \$4 million annually
 - Implementing the new independent Commission on Police Practices
 - Continued funding for the "No Shots Fired" gang prevention program and additional community and youth-focused diversion programming
- Tackling climate change
 - Updates to the Climate Action Plan
 - Investing \$7 million into the new Climate Equity Fund
 - Building the first phase of the Pure Water recycling program
- The budget sets the City on a path toward structurally balancing its City finances over the next five years. The documents detailing this information can be found [here](#).

Parks Master Plan

- On June 3rd, Mayor Gloria launched the "Parks for All of Us" initiative in an effort to provide more equitable, accessible, and high-quality parks systems
- In researching the Parks Master Plan update, City staff recognized that many underused parks do not offer scheduled activities and programs. To encourage the development of programs, the new plan draft calls for public-private partnerships to create and facilitate programming for adults and youth.
- Mayor Gloria's "Parks for All of Us" initiative builds off the Parks Master Plan with a call for the City Council to take three additional actions:

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- formally designating the Chollas Creek watershed as a regional park
 - adding a recreation element to the City's land-use general plan,
 - and establishing a citywide impact fee paid by housing developers that will allow the City to fund park projects that have stalled under the current community-based fee.
 - **The current Parks Master Plan was created in 1956.** At the time, the City-owned 5,700 acres of parkland and 13 recreation centers across 38 communities.
 - **Today,** the City owns and maintains more than 42,000 acres of park assets across 54 communities. This includes 58 recreation centers, 13 aquatic complexes, three municipal golf courses, four visitor and nature centers, 10 skate parks, and 17 off-leash dog areas.
 - The plan is expected to go before the City Council for consideration this summer.
- C. Assemblymember Weber's OFFICE: *Mo Gabiles:***
- Two bills: AB 1207 and AB 914
 - AB 1207 establishes a task force to review the governmental actions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic and strategize how to better prepare for future pandemics. "The next one is a matter of 'when,' not 'if.'"
 - AB 914 requires each CSU campus to provide more significant data about admitted freshmen students and their progression over their first three semesters through English and math courses.
 - Member of the Committees on: Appropriations, Business and Professions, Communications and Conveyance, Higher Education, and Rules.
 - The 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget has been adopted today.
 - This budget represents a 2021-22 state fiscal plan that includes \$261.4 billion in total spending, \$195.5 billion from the General Fund.
 - \$200 million annually to support investments in local public health departments, including a three-year public health planning process to address the most pressing public health needs and eliminate health disparities
 - Appropriates \$1.5 billion one-time Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund for the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program, which provides grants to small businesses and non-profits. This brings the total investment in the program to \$4 billion, including a \$500 million initial investment in November 2020 and an additional \$2 billion expansion approved by the Legislature in February 2021.
 - Provides \$1 billion per year, ongoing, for flexible aid to local governments to combat homelessness.
- D. SUPERVISOR VARGAS' OFFICE: *Ryan Trabuco:***
- We are excited to let you know that the County has re-opened a new round of Small Business Stimulus Grants for small businesses. The only downside is those small business owners who had previously applied with the County will need to submit a new application.
 - County Small Business Stimulus Grant: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/stimulusgrant/>
 - This month, we're excited to see the success of our vaccine rollout, where 2.1 million San Diegans have received at least one dose of the vaccine – that surpasses our goal towards herd immunity. 83.9% of San Diegans are fully vaccinated.
 - Currently, we are preparing to finalize the new \$7 billion budget for the next fiscal year, where the County is making investments into Health and Human Services, Public Safety, and environmental justice measures.
- E. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LORENA GONZALEZ OFFICE: No report was provided.**
- F. SENATOR HUESOS' OFFICE: *Claudia Lopez:***
- Capital opened as of 6/15/21; visitors can now enter and enjoy.
 - Send small business nominations to Claudia Lopez, District Director to Senator Hueso. Senator Hueso selecting a small business that went above and beyond during the past year.
 - Record reserves for the state of CA. We have a total of \$25.2 billion in General Fund reserves, higher than any level in history.
- G. POLICE DEPARTMENT & CODE COMPLIANCE: *Officer Carlos LaCarra:***

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- Laid to rest two San Diego detectives
- Code Compliance meeting haven't been able to meet until hopefully tomorrow
- We are at a standstill with RVs because of COVID.

H. FIRE DEPARTMENT: No report was provided.

I. IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT: No report was provided.

J. CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: No report was provided.

Monthly Report:

A. CPC- *No report provided*

B. Southwest Village Committee - *(Jimmy Ayala, Business Representative)*

C. The next meeting could be held within 90-days; once the project is resubmitted.

D. Border Transportation – *(Alejandra Mier y Teran, Business Representative)*

- A lot of people without documents are trying to get to the port to process asylum through the land ports of entry. So, CBP has been reallocating resources sending inspectors to the queuing areas, which has caused extensive wait times at the border.
- The City of San Diego regarding the La Media Rd. flooding; they're working on it with the Otay Mesa Water District. They have now closed off La Media west of Airway and La Media Rd.

E. La Media Truck Route- *(David Wick, Business Representative)*

- The last meeting was on February 24th, in which the City provided a detailed update of the project; they have environmental clearance at this point. They will put the project out for bid in January 2022.
- The City is out acquiring the right of ways; they're having difficulty with a few or one property owner.

F. San Diego Airport Advisory Committee – *Clarissa Falcon*

- The NEPA approval is done. So, we've got our federal and so it just needs to do one more thing with the City.
- Looks like we may break ground this sometime this year.

G. Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce – *(Alejandra Mier y Teran, Business Representative)*

- We have another vaccination event, June 15th for truckers.
- We are well; we have three events, two webinars on trade-related issues, medical devices, and reconciliation, but you have a golf tournament that is not virtual on July 9th.

H. East Otay Mesa Property Owner's Association Update – *(David Wick, Business Representative)*

- Reconfiguration on the bridge, as it relates to northbound from Airway Road. Unfortunately, the southbound will not open until Amazon is finished with their project which hopefully will be August.
- Amazon is supposed to be opening its fulfillment center, I believe, in August.
- Mario Orso with Caltrans gave us a really good update of SR-11 in Otay, which is moving very quickly, and it's actually going faster than expected, and a lot of credit that goes to Mario and his team at Caltrans as well as SANDAG.

I. La Media West Wetlands - No report was provided.

J. Informational Items: No report was provided.

K. Action Items:

A. **Motion:** Del Sol Village - Project No. 690979

Presented by: Hedy Levine, REC Consultants, Inc.

- **Vote:** A motion was made by R. Mahoney and seconded by C. Falcon. Motion passed (10-1-0) **Yes:** R. Hixson, S. Merry, C. Holder, D. Kirma, A. Mier y Teran, R. Taylor, J. Ayala & R. Lopez.
- **Abstained:** T. Shaw
- **Vote No:** None.

B. **Motion:** St. Andrews Lots 4/5 Map Waiver - Project No. 686337 -

Presented by: Paul Geise, Hamann construction

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- **Abstained:** *R. Hixson*
- **Vote No:** *None.*

L. Closing remarks:

Thank you.

M. Old Business:

No old business.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m. by Rob Hixson, Planning Group Chair.