

# Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee

## General Meeting Minutes, July 9th, 2024

A video of this meeting is available at:

<https://youtu.be/j8Q1JQFDSSU>

Meeting called to order at 7:01.

### Members present

Lynn Edwards (Chair), Rolando Park  
Bob Scott, (Vice Chair) Rolando  
John Hogan, (Treasurer), Redwood Village  
Alex Zukas, El Cerrito  
Bettina Rausa, Member at Large  
Emily Perez, Rolando  
Kristen Hurst, Webster  
Laura Riebau, El Cerrito  
Sonia Lang, Rolando Park

### Members of the public present

*Online*

Elida Chavez, Oak Park; Jen Eastman, Webster; Richard Diaz, Oak Park

**Absent:** Andy Huelskamp, Oak Park

**Quorum:** Yes

### Chair's Welcome

- Chair informed board members that have not yet taken the Community Orientation Workshop that they need to attend the training and complete the quiz or they become ineligible to serve on the board.

**Adoption of Agenda or Agenda Changes:** Adopted without objections

### Communication from the Public on Non-Agenda Items

- Cesar Sanchez – Concerned about permitted ceramic business kiln causing water and air pollution in Oak Park near Chollas Creek.
- Becky Rapp – Reported that the Mayor and Council cut the Socially Equitable Cannabis Program out of the budget, allowing money to be spent on more pressing and important community issues. Foster and Moreno, Council members, stated that they plan to revisit the ordinance. Ms. Rapp also reported on a recent LA Times article entitled *How Dirty is Your Weed?* and said that the article stated that most pot products sold in permitted pot shops are not safe. After testing dozens of products at private labs the Times found that out of 42 products tested 25 had concentrations of pesticides above current state levels.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/newsletter/2024-06-17/cannabis-investigation-la-times-weedweek-toxic-pot-essential-california>

- Laura Riebau – Reported Larry Turner is going to have a get together on July 30th at the College/Rolando Library at 5:30pm. She also reported that the top 10 issues of the Blueprint San Diego subcommittee for the CPC have been put together in a one-page form and will be given to the EACPC Chair to share with the board. Blueprint issues will be presented to the City Council on July 23rd and the public is encouraged to attend and comment.
- Renee Jones – Gave a shout out to Jennifer Bennett from Redwood Village, who came to the coffee meet up for the new Redwood Village Neighborhood Watch.
- John Hogan – Reported his dismay about the lack of progress on Chollas Parkway regarding the removal of storage bins. He also feels like the clean-up of the creek and removal of unsheltered neighbors has been ignored even though over a year ago City officials said the problem would be resolved.
- Oliver Walker – Block captain of Neighborhood Watch in Redwood Village wanted to introduce himself and say hello. He would like to synergize efforts to improve the community and welcomed any feedback.

### **City, County, and State Representatives' Report**

- Kate Needham-Cano – Community Representative/Military and Veterans Liaison for Congresswoman Sarah Jacobs.
  - Congresswoman Jen Kiggins introduced bipartisan legislation which is going to support the co collocation of military Child Care Facilities within affordable housing for military members
  - Senator Weiden introduced the student loan servicers accountability act which examines student loan servicers role in hurting borrowers credit ratings and ensures additional strict performance standards and harm reductive contract terms.
  - If you need any help with a federal agency like the VA or IRS please contact the office or visit the website
  - Kate will be running service Academy nominations for her office again, students in grades 9 through 12 who are interested can apply. Kate can help mentor them through that process
- Karen Montufar-Federico – Community Representative for County Supervisor Monica Montgomery-Steppe
  - District 4 has 13 vacancies on their boards and commissions that need district representation and they are accepting applications on a rolling basis to fill the vacancies
  - funding is available for two grant programs: \$1 million for community enhancement and \$ 2 million for neighborhood reinvestment.
  - The county is looking into putting in sleeping cabins in Lemon Grove, next door to EACPC boundaries. The upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting will have a discussion about what can potentially happen at the site (Troy Street and Sweetwater Road). The office will be hosting a community forum to share more information about the Board of Supervisors meeting.
- Roberto Marin – Community Representative, District 9, Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera
  - Addressed John Hogan's concern and shared that the Council Member has met regularly with the SDPD Chief and has flagged to the Chief about nefarious activities, the shooting death , and they continue to flag it to the Chief and to the SDPD Captain of the Mid-City Division. They have also been working with the Mayor's Office, but share the frustration that it is not enough
  - There will be a couple of University Avenue cleanups. City Heights CDC is taking over the MAD in the area so while it doesn't directly affect the Eastern Area it kind of does

because it goes all the way up to 54th on University. The whole office is going to be participating for four weeks straight starting tomorrow from 9:00 am to 11:00 cleaning up graffiti, picking up trash, and doing weed abatement.

### **Action Items**

1. Action: Update Operating Procedures for virtual meetings
  - Chair suggested tabling the action item until next month, allowing time to draft language for the ideas everyone has regarding the action item. Laura Riebau made the motion to table the action item until next month, Alex Zukas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Action: Infrastructure priorities for FY 26-30, list for community surveys
  - Chair offered to create a survey and send the links as well as adding it to the EACPC website
  - Community members can go on the EACPC website homepage and there'll be a link for each community. From there, they can access the Google form for their specific community and respondents can rank projects as well as add their own. Chair made the motion to submit CIP projects to her by July 23rd to make a survey and Laura Riebau seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Review, Correction, and Approval of Minutes (April, Laura; June, Lynn)**

- April Minutes: Under Roberto's report correction to the spelling of alleys. Bob Scott made the motion to approve as amended. Seconded by Sonia Lang. The motion passed unanimously.
- June Minutes: Page 1 under attendees Roberto was missing an "o". Bettina Rausa made the motion to approve as amended. Seconded by Bob Scott. The motion passed unanimously. Laura abstained due to absence.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- Community updates
  - Alex: Community walk thru of the PATH Villas El Cerrito building has been delayed. Contact Alex for updates. Someone from the City will be speaking with the El Cerrito community about Measure B (City wants to charge for trash collection at single family residences).
  - Jen Eastman commented on an article that was written regarding the proposed fire station on Fairmount and said that community members were not quoted well. She is writing an op-ed piece to clear up misunderstandings.
  - Chair commented that Rolando Park and Redwood Village have some community cleanups coming up this month.
- University Ave Tree Canopy – Bob
  - We've done what we can do and the City is only willing to put in 10 trees on University Avenue.
- Parks & Recreation – Daniele Laman
  - Daniele shared updated information about the Rangers' report that was given to the Park and Rec board. Slide show was sent to the Chair and she will share the email with the rest of the board.
  - All city pools are going to get more money to fix more things that are breaking

- List of all summer movies in the park can be found on the Parks & Recreation website.
- CPC June Meeting – Laura
  - Reported on infrastructure prioritization and the timeline
  - Possible increase amount of reimbursement funds for CPC's due to all the different requirements now by the city
  - Issues with short-term vacation rentals
- Mid-City Community Plan Update – Lynn
  - Chair thanked all that attended the meeting. The City was surprised how many people attended and are interested in the Mid-City Community Plan Update.
  - Chair recommended people go through the information for the Mid-City Community Plan Update and that the appendices are now available.
  - Chair mentioned that Mid-City Community Plan meetings are also on Zoom and encouraged everyone to weigh in and make comments during the public comment section, especially during September because parks will be discussed and there are big concerns over how park points are being handled.

**For the Good of the Order and Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.