

OTAY MESA-NESTOR COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

Robert Egger, Sr. - South Bay Recreation Center

September 11th, 2024

Members Present:

District 1 Edgar Garfias
District 2 Mary Lou Tarobal
District 3 Robert Broomfield
District 6 Johnny E. Swanson
District 9 Albert Estrada
District 10 Bob Mikloski
District 12 Carlos Sanchez
District 13 Brian McGonagill
District 14 Augie Hernandez
District 15 Gary McGrath
District 16 Bobby Hicks

Members Absent:

District 7 Rosie Montaña
District 8 Steve Egger
District 11 Albert Velasquez

Vacant District Seats:

District 4
District 5

1. **Call to Order/Introduction of Members:** Bobby Hicks, Vice Chair of the Otay Mesa Nestor Community Planning Group (OMNCPG), called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He welcomed all Board members and members of the community to the meeting.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** The draft minutes of the August 14th OMNCPG meeting were approved unanimously with some additional details to be added for clarification.
3. **Non-Agenda Public Comments:** (2-minute limit per speaker).
 - a. Brian McGonagill reminded us of 9/11
 - b. Augie Hernandez shared that the County has created a Title Fraud website to inform people when a title submission is submitted. Flier was passed around.
 - c. Residents spoke about 9/11 and about the possibility of joining.
4. **San Diego Police Department Report:** SDPD Officer Carlos Edington, 619-424-0412, cedington@pd.sandiego.gov
 - a. News release on 2 days of threats against schools in SD
 - b. No credible threats at this time but added officers to ensure security all taken seriously and investigated.
5. **Council District 8 Report:** Robert Broomfield, Council Representative, 619-236-6688, rbroomfield@sandiego.gov
 - a. Residential Project – Block 8R Utilities Undergrounding Program
 - i. New Reliable underground electrical, telephone, and broadband service utilities will serve 294 properties, will install or replace 52 curb ramps and will install 54 new streetlights in the western portion of District 8 (Palm Ave before crossing over to Imperial Beach) over 36-54 months, with actual construction starting in early Summer 2025.
 - b. Parks & Rec
 - i. Phase 1 of Beyer Park construction officially launched this week and inauguration expected in 2026.
 - ii. Riviera del Sol Park Inauguration delayed, Engineering Dept discovered line under the playground is cracked. Waiting on contractor to provide schedule for repairs.
 - iii. Eggers Sr. South Bay Park construction continues, scheduled to be finished in winter and inauguration expected in Jan 2025.
 - c. Tijuana River Valley

- i. Un Mar de Colores, Institute for Public Strategies, and Surfrider Foundation organized Pollution and Public Health in the Tijuana River Valley conference held during August in San Ysidro and Otay Mesa.
 - ii. San Antonio de los Buenos plant construction Will be done in the next few weeks, operational by December 2024/ January 2025.
- d. District 8 Upcoming Events
 - i. Bailando in the Barrio – September 21st Event at Memorial Park
 - ii. Dumpster Drop Off Events will continue at various parks within the district
 - iii. Arts, Culture, and Community Festivals City Council Allocation
 - 1. Funds derived from TOT funds, City Council Offices award to nonprofit organizations to promote local arts and culture.
 - 2. Application period open until midnight on Friday, September 13, 2024.
 - iv. Vivian Moreno Town Hall at Casa Familiar in San Ysidro on October 16, 2024.
- e. Bob Mikloski asked whether mattresses and electronics are okay for the dumpster drop off. No hazardous materials or electronics.
 - i. Albert Estrada asked about location of dumpster drop off.
- f. Resident asked about if spending in the South Bay is proportional to the taxes being generated in the South Bay.
 - i. Mary Lou Tarobal asked what the revenue amount of the area is and whether we can do the maintenance that’s necessary in the district.
 - ii. Resident suggested speaking to smart border coalition about revenue being generated.
- g. Robert Broomfield mentioned that multiple reports through the Get It Done app help council offices to boost cases for repairs/maintenance.
 - i. Johnny Swanson mentioned that members should patrol their community and get people involved.
 - ii. Bob Mikloski asked about a change about residential sidewalks and becoming the resident’s responsibility to repair and maintain.

6. **City of San Diego, Office of the Mayor:** Lucero Maganda, Community Representative, LMaganda@sandiego.gov
 a. No report

7. **80th District Report:** Mayra Hernandez, Field Representative, 619-338-8090, mayra.hernandez@asm.ca.gov
 a. Representative was not present, but emailed report was read.
 b. AJR 12: Last week the Assemblymember held a press conference in Imperial Beach addressing the Assembly Joint Resolution that calls on the Federal Gov’t to take immediate action to focus on the cross border pollution as well as the beach closures in San Diego. More details on that effort to come.
 c. AB 2501 – Cutting the Green Tape

- i. It will authorize the State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards to accept funds from both State and Local public agencies.
- ii. In the existing Law - The Water Boards administer federal Clean Water Act programs and adopts, reviews, and oversees water quality permit implementation. For climate change adaptation and ecosystem restoration projects, the Water Boards must participate in the planning and permitting processes associated with these projects to ensure the protection of water quality and ecosystems.
- iii. This bill will provide the ability to receive additional funds from these public agencies would allow the Water Boards to review permit applications more efficiently for projects which address climate change adaptation and ecosystem restoration projects.

8. **52th District Report:** Valery Gomez, District Aide, Valery.Gomez@mail.house.gov

- a. 9/9 Letter sent to Newsom and Biden for Federal State of Emergency regarding the Tijuana River Valley.
 - i. Robert Broomfield asked about studies being done for people with exposure
 - ii. Bobby Hicks asked about any responses from presidential candidates
 - iii. Albert Estrada brought up the two chemical compounds with elevated levels present in the Tijuana River Valley: Hydrogen Sulfide and Hydrogen Cyanide and the associated health concerns due to exposure.
 - iv. Gary McGrath asked about plans for rehabbing land if issues resolved.
 - 1. Sediment has also been part of the issue.
 - 2. While there is some mitigation in place, Mexico mitigation is still sending sediment to the river.
 - v. Johnny Swanson mentioned that air monitors were setup.
 - 1. Victor Caymaris, District 8 Community Rep, mentioned that an air pollution study is being conducted.
 - vi. Mary Lou Tarobal asked whether the governor has visited the valley.
 - vii. Board and Residents about options to work on this issue, what the hold up was, and why is it not being treated as important.
 - 1. Per State, existing act does not allow for the declaration of a state emergency.
 - a. Letter was set on August 28th with additional flows identified by SDSU.
- b. 9/12 Service Academy Night at Southwestern College
- c. 9/20 Civic Center Library – Passport Night

9. **Sub-Committee Reports:**

- a. Volunteer Code Compliance, Project Review, By-Laws, and Parks and Recreation subcommittees.
- b. Election-Subcommittee
 - i. Omar Araiza and Alexis Gonzalez are eligible for election.
 - ii. District Seats 4 and 5 are Vacant.
 - iii. Both candidates were elected onto the board unanimously.
- c. Reminder: Complete the Annual CPG Training by watching training video and completing questionnaire found <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community-plans/planning-group-resources>. Forward completed questionnaire to SDPlanningGroups@sandiego.gov

10. **Informational Item:** Stop the Stink - What's the Answer to stopping the Mexican Sewage Problem
Leon Benham of the C4CC will present how Best Practices of River Management and the latest technology can solve our border sewage problem. Leon Benham, leonbenham59@gmail.com

- a. Johnny Swanson asked what happens to pollution if it gets flushed out.
- b. Albert Estrada asked about how he would go about pushing for the river route restoration.

11. **Action Item: Letter to New Police Chief**

Letter to invite new police chief to attend meeting requested by OMNCPG member.

- a. Bob Mikloski made a motion to approve, Albert Estrada seconded, passed unanimously.

12. **Chair's Report:** Albert Velasquez, OMNCPG Chair

- a. No report.

13. **Meeting was adjournment at 8:15pm**