

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

Via Zoom

Otay Mesa Planning Group, Vice-Chair, Mr. Ted Shaw called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Introductions are made across the Zoom meeting screen.

<b>Members present:</b>	<b>Members absent:</b>
Allen Kashani	Tom Simmons
Chris Holder	Jason Wells
Diane Kirma	Jorge Goytortua
Felipe Nuno	Rob Hixson, <b>Chair</b>
Jimmy Ayala	
Logan Swanson	
Ronnie Taylor	
Seth Dorros	
Tony Blas	
Ted Shaw, <b>Vice-chair</b>	
J. Hernandez	

**Approval of minutes:**

January 2025

- **Vote:** A motion was made by A. Kashani seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed (11-0-0-0)  
**Yes:** J. Hernandez, C. Holder, L. Swanson, J. Ayala, T. Blas, R. Taylor, S. Dorros, T. Shaw & D. Kirma.
- **Recusal:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Vote No:** None
- **Comments:** None

**Public Input/Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda**

- [Tony Blas, Otay Mesa Planning Group](#) – With the recent rains, there has been some flooding in the channels. I have a solution to prevent channel clogging during heavy rains. I propose installing conveyors at points where channels enter bridges or freeways to collect debris. This would be automated, with no personnel involved, and is a cost-effective solution to prevent future flooding. If there's anybody from the city who would be willing to listen to me to chat a little bit about it – Thank you.

**Chairman's Report:** (Ted Shaw)

- No report to provided.

**Government Liaison Reports**

**A. COUNCILMEMBER MORENO'S OFFICE:** Victor Caymaris – Shared via email.

➤ **Recent relevant Council actions:**

Monday, February 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025	Item 200	Affordable Housing Preservation Ordinance
Regarding the approval on an affordable housing preservation ordinance in San Diego, supported by the SDHC, which would require properties with deed-restricted homes to notify the City of any intent to sell and provide the opportunity for those properties to be purchased by affordable housing developers or entities to extend and preserve their affordable status. Status: Passed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – CM vote : Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Monday, February 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025	Item 202	Nakano Project – Project No. PRJ-1076302
Regarding the approval of a long-awaited 200+ homes development by TriPointe Homes in District 8 that includes the annexation of a parcel from the City of Chula Vista by the City of San Diego. Status: Passed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – CM vote : Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Monday, January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Item S400	Proposed Parking Meter Fee Increase
Regarding the approval of a parking meter fee increase by 100% in the City of San Diego to mitigate the current budget deficit, projected to generate \$9.6 million in additional cost recovery revenue. Status: Passed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – CM vote : No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

➤ **Otay Mesa updates:**

- We are finalizing a Memo to the Mayor to ask for the creation of a Siempre Viva Working Group, it is under review today by the policy team and should be signed and submitted before the end of the week. We will share this document with you as soon as it is signed/official.

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

Via Zoom

- I scheduled two drive throughs in the past month to submit over 60 Get it Done reports in Otay Mesa > mostly illegal dumping and encampments (lived in RVs) but also some graffiti and potholes. As always, we rely on your support and assistance in flagging issues for us so we may follow-up and attend to them.
- Street resurfacing in Otay Mesa in February (please see the complete list below)

The latest work as part of **Slurry Seal Project 2522** will be in construction, weather permitting, through the month of February. The following roads will be resurfaced:

Marconi Drive	Avenida Costa Norte
Avenida Costa Blanca	Avenida Costa Sur
Progressive Avenue	Hollister Street
Innovative Drive	Del Sol Boulevard
Avenida De La Fuente	Beyer Boulevard
Kerns Street	Firethorn Street
Drucker Lane	Palm Avenue
Siempre Viva Road	Twining Avenue
Avenida Costa Brava	Manya Circle
La Media Road	Manya Street
Corporate Center Drive	Blackshaw Lane
Del Sol Boulevard	Isla De La Gaita
Avenida Costa Del Sol	Peterlynn Court
Marzo Street	Layla Court

The community of Otay Mesa will soon have improved streets, thanks to the continued efforts of the City of San Diego's slurry seal program, part of an overall effort to repair and resurface roads citywide. Work will begin tomorrow, Feb. 1, for this slurry seal project focused on Otay Mesa roads. Slurry seal is used to prevent street deterioration, which is vital to improving the overall condition of San Diego's network of roads. It reduces the need for a more costly asphalt overlay and reconstruction for badly deteriorated streets. Information about different types of street repair can be found on the City's Transportation webpage. Slurry seal is often completed in phases over several days or weeks. Multiple slurry seal projects are happening across the city simultaneously and are often coupled with other upgrades to increase safety and mobility for all modes of transportation.

**B. MAYOR'S OFFICE: Report submitted electronically – Lucero Maganda**

➤ **Mayor Gloria Enacts Operational Efficiencies and Reductions to Save Taxpayer Dollars and Preserve City Services:**

- Mayor Todd Gloria announced today a series of operational efficiencies, consolidations and spending reductions that will save millions in taxpayer dollars now and preserve services for residents.
- Mayor Gloria Assuming the Role and Responsibilities of City Manager, thus, eliminating the City's Chief Operating Officer position effective today.
  - The City's Executive Team will now report directly to the mayor.
- The Office of the Mayor and the Office of the Chief Operating Officer will merge and will include within it the Department of Government Affairs and the Office of Boards and Commissions.
  - These actions result in the reduction of five unclassified positions and an annual savings of over \$925,000.

➤ **The Sustainability and Mobility Department will transfer their work to the following departments:** City Planning, Transportation, General Services, and Engineering and Capital Projects.

- This action results in the reduction of seven vacant positions and an annual savings of over \$914,000.
- The incredible work accomplished by the Department of Race and Equity has laid a strong foundation and engrained an equity lens into the City's operations. This work will now be transferred to the Department of Human Resources, where the Department's works and training will continue.
  - This transfer of staff and reduction of two vacant positions will yield an annual savings of over \$460,000.
- The Office of Child and Youth Success will move to the Youth and Family Services Division in the Library Department.

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**  
**Via Zoom**

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- This action results in the reduction of one vacant unclassified Executive Director position and an annual savings of over \$265,000.
- The Department of Cultural Affairs will transfer into a division of the Economic Development Department, where the robust grant activity of Cultural Affairs will synergize with the work already being done in this regard by the Economic Development Department.
- The mayor is eliminating an additional 16 vacant unclassified management positions, which were located in various departments.
  - This action will yield an annual savings of \$2.8 million.
- In total, the operational efficiencies enacted today result in a reduction of 31 positions and will yield an annual savings of \$5.3 million.

➤ **New Shelter Opening with the San Diego Housing Commission and Catholic Charities in Downtown:**

- As part of its continued efforts to reduce homelessness, the City of San Diego is planning to fund operations at a new 210-bed facility in Downtown in partnership with Catholic Charities and the San Diego Housing Commission.
- This shelter will serve women, families, and seniors.
- The 210-bed facility would have a similar name, proposed as the Rachel's Promise Center for Women and Children.
- Services for shelter residents will include meals, clothing, access to showers, laundry, housing-focused case management, care coordination, referrals and support for enrollment in healthcare resources, individual therapy, life skills classes and assistance applying for public benefits.
- Currently, the City funds approximately 1,630 traditional shelter beds across nearly two dozen programs, up to 770 tent spaces in the [Safe Sleeping Program](#), and 210 spaces for vehicles in the Safe Parking Program with more than a dozen RV trailers specifically for family use.
- This spring, the City will nearly double capacity of the Safe Parking Program with an overnight-only facility expected to open off Harbor Drive near the San Diego Airport.

➤ **Mayor Gloria Issues Statement on City Council's Unanimous Vote to Advance New Shelter Options:**

- Mayor Gloria thanked the Council for their vote to move forward our critically important effort to expand shelter and help people come off the streets and get connected to assistance and housing.
- The City Council's vote specifically directed City staff to further explore creating a long-term shelter at a private property on Second Ave, expand the number of beds at the Veterans Village site in the Midway area, and to take steps to initiate the redevelopment of the former Central Library on E Street in East Village.
- As reminder that Mayor Gloria also announced that the City would no longer pursue the Hope @ Vine shelter campus and hence presented the City Council with three alternative locations: the City's Operations Building, the Old Central Library, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave property.

➤ **Parking Meter Rates Increase in the City of San Diego:**

- Parking meters will cost \$2.50 effective January 31, 2025.
- There are 5,332 parking metered spaces in the city, located in the neighborhoods of Downtown, Uptown, Mid-City and Pacific Beach
- Meter fees help fund maintenance of transportation infrastructure like streets, sidewalks and streetlights in areas with parking meters.
- It's been at least 20 years since parking meter fees have been increased in the City of San Diego.
- Even with the rate increase, San Diego's parking meter fees remain among the lowest in the state of California. Oakland's parking meters cost up to \$4 an hour, Los Angeles charges up to \$6 an hour, and San Francisco's meters cost up to \$11.
- Rates will not change for waterfront parking meters operated by the Port of San Diego, which are already set at \$2.50 an hour.

**C. ASSEMBLY MEMBER WEBER'S OFFICE:** *No report was provided.*

**D. SUPERVISOR VARGAS' OFFICE:** *No report was provided.*

**E. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DAVID ALVAREZ OFFICE:** *Liliana Barba*

Liliana Barba – Field Representative [Liliana.Barba@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Liliana.Barba@asm.ca.gov)

➤ **First Time Homebuyer Workshop**

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

Via Zoom

- Free event, Saturday, February 22, 2025; 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center located at 140 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, National City, CA 91950. For questions, please contact: [assemblymember.alvarez@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.alvarez@assembly.ca.gov) or (619) 498 8580. RSVP required.

➤ **Legislative Updates**

- Assemblymember David Alvarez introduced Assembly Bill 30 (AB 30) to require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt a regulation authorizing transportation fuel blends of up to 15% ethanol (E15) by July 1, 2025. If CARB fails to meet the deadline, then AB 30 makes E15 legal for sale and use in California.
- Assemblymember Alvarez introduced Assembly Bill 358 (AB 358) to allow law enforcement to examine devices belonging to deceased victims in order to investigate their death. AB 358 will also allow law enforcement to examine devices used by stalkers and criminals to spy on others. The San Diego District Attorney is sponsoring this bill.
- To sign up as an official supporter of a bill, please submit a letter of support online at <https://a80.asmdc.org/2025-legislation>
- Support letter templates will be available on the Assemblymember's website as bills are introduced.

**F. SENATOR PADILLA'S OFFICE:** *Rosanna Javier*

➤ **Senator Padilla is in partnership with Golden State opportunity and drinks for change will be hosting a tacos and taxes event**

- Saturday, February 22, 2025, from 9am-12pm at the Border View Family YMCA.
- Features: Free tax preparation services, resource fair with organizations such as EDD, IRS, and free tacos.
- Tax preparation appointments are reserved, but walk-in appointments may be available. Proper documentation is required.

➤ **Resource Fair**

- Open to anyone interested in attending
- Organizations tabling include EDD, IRS, City, Cedar, health, and many more; 619-409-7690 (San Diego County Office).

➤ **Legislation**

- Senator Padilla introduced 13 bills as of today.
- Highlighted bills - SB 388: Establishes California Latino commission to improve economic well-being and social mobility of Latinos and SB 420: Creates California AI Bill of Rights to balance innovation with consumer protections.

**G. POLICE DEPARTMENT & CODE COMPLIANCE:** *Carlos LaCarra*

➤ **Recent promotions within the San Diego police department:**

- 15 sergeants promoted.
- 25 officers promoted to active duty.
- Brian Gaines was an acting detective at the Southern division, he was promoted to the detective, and he went to the gang's unit as a full-fledged detective.

➤ **New personnel:**

- A new full-fledged detective joined the Southern division.
- A supervisor was added to the team.

➤ **Budget cuts:**

- The police department was asked to cut 5% from its budget.
- Overtime has been rearranged to help reduce costs.
- Attention is being paid to overtime to bring hours down and help with the budget.

**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 Reports:**

**A. CPC- (Jimmy Ayala)**

The CBC agenda for January included two main items:

- The first item was an informational update regarding the mobility master plan, which aimed to update the city's master plan for transportation and mobility. This is a topic that has been presented to various groups and communities in the city.

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**  
**Via Zoom**

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- The second item was an action request to impose a building moratorium in very high fire zones within the city of San Diego.
  - The request was made by the chairperson of the Normal Heights Community Planning Group, who wanted the city to halt all permits and building in high fire zones until the city upgraded its infrastructure.
  - This action item received support from the majority of community planning groups, with only two exceptions: Old Town Mesa and Mission Valley.
  - The supporters of the action item plan to take it to the City Planning Department and the Mayor's Office for further discussion and consideration.
  - These two items were the main topics of discussion at the January 2025 meeting of the Community Planners Committee Board (CPCB).

**B. Southwest Village Committee – (Felipe Nuno)**

- We don't have much to report this month, but we are concerned about the impact of budget cuts on future projects. These budget cuts might have a significant impact on various projects going forward. Particularly, we are concerned about the impact on the new project on Beyer Boulevard, which is scheduled to open this summer.

**C. Border Transportation – (Alejandra Mier y Teran)**

➤ **Northbound Cargo Wait Times: Key Factors and Implications**

- Increased wait times on the cargo side: The wait times for northbound cargo have been escalating due to several factors, resulting in significant delays and potential disruptions to supply chains.
- Implementation of Mexican military checks: As part of the agreement between the US and Mexican governments, Mexican soldiers are now conducting checks on the Mexican side of the border for fentanyl and other illicit substances. This new security measure aims to enhance border security and combat the opioid crisis.
- Collaboration with US authorities: The collaboration between Mexican and US authorities, facilitated by the agreement with Presidents Trump and Sheinbaum, is expected to continue, potentially leading to more efficient and effective border management systems.
- Potential impact on northbound cargo: The increased security checks and collaboration between authorities may have a significant impact on northbound cargo, including:
  - Delays: Longer wait times for cargo to clear customs and border inspections.
  - Supply chain disruptions: Potential disruptions to supply chains, including delayed deliveries, stockouts, and impacts on just-in-time inventory management.
  - Tariff implications: The ongoing trade tensions and potential tariffs imposed by the US government may further exacerbate the challenges faced by northbound cargo, including increased costs, reduced competitiveness, and potential trade restrictions.

**D. La Media Truck Route – (David Wick)**

- The city/TC construction has made significant progress in Otay Mesa, with major construction projects nearing completion.
- The TC construction is expected to finish all roadway work by the end of April 2025.
- The only potential delay is the westbound Airway Road from La Media Road, which may require additional time due to its complexity. This segment in question is the westbound road leading to the college, which may take longer to complete than the other projects.

**E. San Diego Airport Advisory Committee – No report was provided.**

**F. Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce – (Alejandra Mier y Teran)**

- [Join us](#) for a webinar on Artificial Intelligence (AI) next Tuesday, featuring expert insights and discussions on the latest trends and applications.
- We [invite](#) you to a member breakfast on March 26<sup>th</sup>, with San Ysidro and Otay Mesa Port Directors.
- [Mark your calendars](#) for our annual golf tournament on Friday, May 2, at Singing Hills Golf Course, a fun-filled event for members to connect and build relationships.

**G. East Otay Mesa Property Owner's Association Update – (David Wick)**

➤ **Update on Homeless Encampments**

- Homeless individuals have been setting up camps in the right of way and on certain roads in the industrial zone.

**OTAY MESA PLANNING GROUP**  
**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**  
**Via Zoom**

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- Contacted the Sheriff's department and provided photos to address the issue. Sheriff assured assistance in relocating the individuals to other areas of the county, avoiding the city portion of Otay.

➤ **Update on Owners Group Organization**

- Tracy Morgan Hollingsworth, responsible for organizing the owner's group, passed away a few months ago.
- Efforts are being made to pick up the pieces and re-establish the group.
- Seeking a volunteer to take on the role of organizing meetings, taking minutes, and inviting representatives to discuss issues impacting the communities of City of San Diego/Otay Mesa or the unincorporated area of Otay Mesa.

**H. La Media West Wetlands - No report was provided.**

**I. Informational Item -**

**A. Urban Forestry - Ready, Set, Grow San Diego (CoSD) | Grant Agreement Number, 24-DG-11052021-228 | Amy Nonaka & Karen Valdizno-Amps, City of San Diego**

Ready, Set, Grow San Diego is a \$10M federal grant program funded by the U.S. Forest Service for a five-year tree planting program. The project goals are to plant 5,000 new trees in specific census tracts of Bay Terraces, City Heights, Encanto, Linda Vista, Oak Park, Otay Mesa/Nestor, and Paradise Hills.

**J. Action Item:**

**A. Epoca Neighborhood H NDP | PRJ-1115147 | Emilie Colwell, T&B Planning**

The project is a Process 2, Staff Decision, Neighborhood Development Permit (NDP) request which tiers off of the Otay Mesa Community Plan and Central Village Specific Plan (CVSP.) It is known as Neighborhood H and has long been a part of the CVSP planning. This is the next project NDP proposed within the CVSP and by ColRich. The site is located at west of Cactus Road, is 2.97 acres, and proposes to build 82 condominiums totaling 183,599 SF.

**Presented by: Emilie Cowell**

A motion was made by J. Ayala seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed **(11-0-0-0)**

**Yes:** J. Hernandez, C. Holder, L. Swanson, A. Kashani, T. Blas, R. Taylor, S. Dorros, T. Shaw & D. Kirma.

**Recusal:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Vote No:** None

**B. Epoca Neighborhood K NDP | PRJ-1117421**

The project is a Process 2, Staff Decision, Neighborhood Development Permit (NDP) request which tiers off of the Otay Mesa Community Plan and Central Village Specific Plan (CVSP.) It is known as Neighborhood K and has long been a part of the CVSP planning. This is the next project NDP proposed within the CVSP and by ColRich. The site is located south of Saguaro Street, is 2.7 acres, and proposes to build 74 condominiums totaling 164,872 SF.

**Presented by: Emilie Colwell, T&B Planning**

A motion was made by J. Ayala seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed **(11-0-0-0)**

**Yes:** J. Hernandez, C. Holder, L. Swanson, A. Kashani, T. Blas, R. Taylor, S. Dorros, T. Shaw & D. Kirma.

**Recusal:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Vote No:** None

**C. Epoca Martinez Club NDP | PRJ-1101002**

The project is a Process 2, Staff Decision, Neighborhood Development Permit (NDP) request which tiers off of the Otay Mesa Community Plan and Central Village Specific Plan (CVSP.) It is known as the Martinez Club and has long been a part of the CVSP planning and is an accessory use to the surrounding residential neighborhoods. This is the next project NDP proposed within the CVSP and by ColRich. The site is located south of Secano Street, is 0.72 acre, and proposes to build a private recreation center totaling 8,637 SF.

**Presented by: Emilie Colwell, T&B Planning**

A motion was made by J. Ayala seconded by F. Nuno. Motion passed **(11-0-0-0)**

**Yes:** J. Hernandez, C. Holder, L. Swanson, A. Kashani, T. Blas, R. Taylor, S. Dorros, T. Shaw & D. Kirma.

**Recusal:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Vote No:** None

**K. Closing remarks - Thank you.**

**L. Old Business - No old business.**

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**MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 19, 2025**  
**Via Zoom**

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*The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 pm by Ted Shaw, Vice-Chair of the Otay Mesa Planning Group.*