



**Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board**  
 PO Box 270831, San Diego, CA 92198  
[www.rbplanningboard.com](http://www.rbplanningboard.com)

**February 18, 2016 Minutes**

7:00 PM, @ RB Swim & Tennis Club, Club 21 Room  
 16955 Bernardo Oaks Drive

<b><u>2015 RB PLANNING BOARD</u></b>									
<b>P = present</b>		<b>A = absent</b>			<b>ARC = arrived after roll call</b>				
Don Gragg	<b>A</b>	Scott Hall	<b>P</b>	Michael Combe	<b>P</b>	Ruth Coddington	<b>P</b>	Mike Lutz	<b>P</b>
Robin Kaufman	<b>P</b>	Bettyann Pernice	<b>P</b>	Sherry Guthrie	<b>P</b>	Jim Denton	<b>P</b>	Vicki Touchstone	<b>P</b>
Rebecca Weide	<b>P</b>								
								Total Seated	<b>11</b>
								Total in Attendance	<b>10</b>

- ITEM #1**      **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – REGULAR MEETING:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mike Lutz, Chair. A quorum was met with 10 out of 11 members present.
- ITEM #2**      **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- ITEM #3**      **CHAIRS REMARKS:** Mike Lutz noted the City approved the Planning Board’s Bylaws. Approved RBCPB Bylaws are posted on the Board’s website. Bernardo Bicas missed 4 meetings within the 12-month period and, consistent with the RBCPB Bylaws, is no longer seated as a Board member.
- ITEM #4**      **MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA / ADOPT DRAFT AGENDA:** Motion Robin Kaufman, second Rebecca Weide to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 10-0-0.
- ITEM #5**      **GOVERNMENT LIAISON REPORT:** Garrett Hager, Councilmember Kersey’s representative, distributed Councilman Kersey’s newsletter and updated the Board on the following:
- 1) 6 arrests were made February 18, 2016 related to recent Rancho Bernardo burglary/home invasions.
  - 2) Work on the raised median at the intersection of Rancho Bernardo Road and West Bernardo Drive should be completed by the end of the month.
  - 3) Mark Kersey’s office is now utilizing nextdoor.com as another communication tool.
  - 4) Short Term Vacation Rentals issue has not been presented to the Council. Member Touchstone indicated the RB Planning Board wrote a letter to Councilman Kersey requesting his support to ensure this matter goes before the City’s Planning Commission for review prior to being presented to the Council for action. Garrett will research status and notify the Board.
  - 5) Garrett responded to Member Touchstone’s question as to whether a new stadium for the Chargers is part of the Infrastructure Financing funds indicating it was his understanding these funds are for existing infrastructure and would not include a new stadium. He will confirm this information and notify the Board.
- ITEM #6**      **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**
- Review and approve January 21, 2016 meeting minutes:** Motion Bettyann Pernice, second Robin Kaufman to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed 8-0-2 with Sherry Guthrie and Ruth Coddington abstaining as they were not present at the January meeting.
- Review and approve January 2016 Treasurer’s report:** Treasurer Bettyann Pernice reported we have \$117.23 in our account. Motion Bettyann Pernice, second Rebecca Weide to accept the report as presented. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0-0.

**ITEM #7**      **SANDAG FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN:** SANDAG is moving forward with the implementation of San Diego Forward which the Board unanimously adopted in October 2015. Phil Trom from SANDAG distributed the San Diego Forward Quick Guide and reviewed planned projects for the area and how projects are funded.

**ITEM #8**      **BMR ROAD WIDENING OF RANCHO BERNARDO RD. WEST OF BERNARDO CENTER DRIVE INTERSECTION:** This project is in the RB Community Plan and the RB Financing Plan. It is also in the Black Mountain Ranch (BMR) Financing Plan and the BMR Transportation Phasing Plan, which implements the BMR EIR. As such, the BMR developer is required by the City to complete the project before moving on to the next phase in their development. If the Board does not agree with the project as it stands, the RB Community Plan will need to be amended and the BMR Transportation Phasing Plan revised as well. Following a presentation by Marina Wurst, motions were made as follows:

Motion Mike Lutz, second Bettyann Pernice to approve the project as presented: The motion failed 5-5-0 with Ruth Coddington, Jim Denton, Sherry Guthrie, Scott Hall, and Robin Kaufman voting no.

Motion Rebecca Weide, second Robin Kaufman to request a focused amendment to the Rancho Bernardo Community Plan addressing traffic modifications in the community. Motion passed unanimously 10-0-0.

Board members expressed concern that the City did not allow the Planning Board the opportunity to review and provide input on this project as stated in the existing Community Plan (page 37). The Board has previously communicated their concerns about the importance of participating in the review of projects within the community and the need to update the Community Plan first adopted by the City in 1978.

**ITEM #9**      **AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT TRAFFIC CALMING & AIR POLLUTION:** Kathleen Keehan, Air Quality Specialist for San Diego County Air Pollution Control District presented a power point program and provided handouts to the Board offering techniques and strategies to improve neighborhood traffic that included "Walkability Checklist", "Taming Neighborhood Traffic", and Questions Community Planners Can Ask to Encourage Good Development." Ms. Keehan expressed the County Air Pollution Control District's desire to partner with the community to improve air quality and requested members of the Board contact her if they have questions. Member Touchstone requested Ms. Keehan's support in participating in seeking the modification to the State's 85<sup>th</sup> percentile policy relating to increasing speed limits on streets in communities in order for them to be radar enforceable. This policy is an ongoing issue that the Board's Traffic Committee has been dealing with.

**ITEM #10**      **CITY OF SAN DIEGO DRAFT URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN:** The final draft Urban Forest Management Action Plan (dated 1/15/16) was released in early January 2016 for public review and comment. The plan outlines the objective and actions needed to sustain, protect, and enhance community trees in the City of San Diego. Vicki Touchstone indicated the Regional Issues Committee developed comments and recommendations that were provided to the Board for review.

Motion Vicki Touchstone, second Rebecca Weide to forward a letter to the City of San Diego with the following comments/recommendations. The motion passed unanimously 10-0-0:

- Indicate the support of the concept of an Urban Forest Management Action Plan for the City.
- As drafted, the plan provides no financial commitment from the City for protecting trees. The plan does not provide adequate information regarding how the proposed actions will be financed and if various affected department budgets are currently adequate to address tree inventory and monitoring, tree removal, tree purchase and installation, and long-term care and maintenance of the City's tree inventory.
- The objectives and actions require better timelines for achieving the various objectives and implementing the corresponding list of actions.
- The plan's focus should be expanded to include additional objectives and actions related to the care and protection of trees on private lands, as well as requirements, rather than encouragement and incentives, for protecting existing trees and including adequate tree coverage within all new development areas, as well as for redevelopment projects.
- Only one objective in the plan is the limited discussion regarding the care and maintenance of existing trees, including those on private lands. The plan should address the special needs of trees during drought and address best methods for ensuring that street trees, including those in center medians, do not become overly stressed when irrigation is limited. The plan also needs to address requirements for ensuring the trees planted in accordance with approved landscaping plans for permitted commercial and industrial

developments are adequately maintained throughout the life of the project and ensure there is timely and appropriate replacement of new trees when existing trees die or are removed.

- The plan should require rebate programs for installing drought tolerant plants to ensure the existing trees are protected and adequate irrigation (e.g., bubblers, drip irrigation) is provided to ensure their long term health.
- Actions should include engaging the public in tree planting, but more importantly, in the long-term care of existing and recently planted trees. The partnership objective should be expanded to include corporate partnerships as these partnerships can bring much needed funding for new trees and more importantly for long-term tree care and maintenance.
- Trees should be viewed as part of the City’s infrastructure with costs for maintenance and replacement included in annual and long-term budgets.
- We do not support the recommended changes in the plan related to the brush management. There is no guarantee that landowners are properly maintaining and caring for the trees on their property, as a result a stressed or dying tree located adjacent to a structure would represent a significant fire threat.
- Objectives related to public education regarding trees should not be restricted to street trees. Information should be provided to assist homeowners in selecting appropriate tree species for planting around their homes, as well as information on the proper care, watering, pruning, and control of pests and diseases for those trees.
- The plan should prohibit the planting of invasive tree species through the City not just adjacent to natural areas.

**ITEM #11**      **HATS OFF TO VOLUNTEERS:** A member of the Board is nominated and approved to receive the annual Hats Off to Volunteers award for outstanding volunteerism this year on the Board. The community wide event will take place April 16, 2016. Motion Robin Kaufman, second Vicki Touchstone to nominate Don Gragg to represent the Board. Motion carried unanimously 10-0-0.

**ITEM #12**      **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**  
Bylaws Ad-Hoc..... Don Gragg: City approved the Bylaws February 1, 2016. The newly approved RBCPB Bylaws are posted on the Board’s website.

Development Review..... Vicki Touchstone: Remington and Silvergate representatives attended the January meeting. CEQA has not been completed so representatives for these projects may postpone attending the February meeting. An agenda will be posted once confirmation has been received by the applicants.

Publicity/Elections/Nominating..... Rebecca Weide/Scott Hall: Nine candidate applications have been received as follows:

District A: 3 vacancies, applications received from Sonya “Sonny” Goggins and Robin Kaufman

District B: 1 vacancy, application received from Phil Corn

District C: 2 vacancies, application received from Don Grobbie

District D: 4 vacancies, applications received from Michael Combe and Sherry Guthrie

District E: 1 vacancy, no candidates

District F: 3 vacancies, applications received from Jim Denton and Vicki Touchstone

District G: 2 vacancies, 1 application received from Mike Lutz

Mail in ballots are available upon request and must be received by the Election Committee no later than March 12, 2016. Voting will commence between 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 17, 2016 prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting at the RB Swim & Tennis Club, and results will be announced at the regular March meeting.

Regional Issues..... Vicki Touchstone: None.

Traffic & Transportation..... Robin Kaufman: no meeting is planned at this time. Beginning in April meetings will be held at 6:00 PM the first Monday of the month.

**ITEM #13**      **LIAISON REPORTS**  
Community Council..... Robin Kaufman: see attached report.  
Community Planners Committee (CPC)..... Mike Lutz: Habitat Conservation Plan will be reviewed at upcoming meeting.

SANDAG..... Robin Kaufman: None  
San Dieguito River Park ..... Don Gragg/Robin Kaufman: None  
San Pasqual/Lake Hodges Planning Group...No report.  
Commercial Representative ..... Jim Denton: Attended the RBBA Mixer. Scott Lawn is current President. He will approach their board about potential representative to participate on the RB Planning Board. Jim Dent will be preparing a draft description of the commercial representative definition of what their role is on the Board.

**ITEM #14**      **OLD BUSINESS:** None

**ITEM #15**      **NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion Vicki Touchstone, second Scott Hall to adjourn at 9:17 pm. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by Sherry G. Guthrie

**STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Administrative Committee**

6:00 PM - Monday, 10 days prior to Board meeting  
RB Swim & Tennis Club - Ceramics Room

**Publicity/Election Committee**

TBA

**Development Review Committee**

6:00 PM – last Tuesday of the month  
RB Swim & Tennis Club – Ceramics Room

**Regional Issues Committee**

7:00 PM – last Tuesday of the month  
RB Swim & Tennis Club – Ceramics Room

**Traffic & Transportation Committee**

6:00 PM – 4th Monday of month  
Beginning in April 2016 meetings will be held 6:00 PM 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month  
RB Swim & Tennis Club – Ceramics Room

**RB Community Council Summary Report**

**February, 2016**

- the full board approved a letter of support presented by the Government Relations/Utilities Committee on Ramona Airport: U.S. Forestry Service firefighting aircraft to be authorized to operate from the Ramona airport (KRNM) in San Diego County during our critical fire seasons;
- the full board approved a letter of support presented by the Government Relations/Utilities Committee the City's Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pertaining to single plastic bag usage in the City of San Diego;
- the full board approved an amendment to the bylaws in regard to the student members. The bylaws neglected to state how long a student must be a resident before applying for the position;
- the board approved financial reimbursement for holiday ornaments which will adorn trees on the RB Rd median next year;
- the board was given a debriefing on the first annual community wide holiday event;
- the Public Safety Committee hosted a community wide safety meeting with 114 residents in attendance. This was organized after several home robberies and one home invasion in the community;
- through the request of the RB Community Council three years ago, a new concrete median, replacing orange pylons, is being installed on West Bernardo Drive north of the Rancho Bernardo Rd. intersection.  
Construction should be completed by the end of the month.