

RANCHO BERNARDO COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD

Annual Report for 2009

In 2009 an accomplishment of note should include the efforts of the RBCPB to address the issue of Substantial Conformance Review. Although our efforts to revise the City policy as it relates to raising the level of (permit) review were not successful, the Guidelines were revised to include mention of the importance of complying with individual community plans. Also, as addressed in the adopted General Plan for the City, community character should also be a consideration in all SCRs.

It should also be noted that in September the board revised the *Election Procedures* of our current adopted Bylaws . Throughout the history of the planning board we have always held our elections in conjunction with the City's (RB) Recreation Council and the local Community Council. This policy of conducting a community Tri Council Election had to be revised to reflect the fact that both groups made the decision to separate themselves from the (planning board)community elections and elect their members during a yearly community street fair . In making the changes to our Bylaws as it relates to elections the board revised the language to open the process further to include any group in the community that wanted to join us in our 'community elections'.

Administration matters: The RBCPB has 20 resident members elected from the seven(7) geographic areas in the community. In addition we also appoint individuals working in the community that we identify to represent the Commercial, Industrial and Development communities. As a reflection of the current economic times we were unable to recruit representatives from either the Industrial or Development perspective during 2009. Both 'seats' were voted to be declared 'vacant' for the current year. However, our appointed Commercial Representative has experience in each of these areas and has kept the board up to date on relevant information.

There were four(4) total vacancies that occurred in 2009. Three (3) were for personal reasons, ie: moved out of area, etc... and one was a declared vacancy after a member had missed three(3) consecutive meetings(per Bylaws). With the assistance of the Publicity & Election Committee and the cooperation of the local news all were filled after proper notice.

January 15: The RBCPB voted to affirm the basic concept as presented by the Development Review Committee to **establish a planning board Meritorious Awards Program.**

As members of the Miramar Community Leaders Forum our liaison(s) participated in the on- site viewing of the Squad aircraft.

February 19: The RBCPB voted to continue the matter of the **Proposed Name Change for the Joslyn Center** until next month. The senior center is located in the Rancho Bernardo Community Park and is under the 'watch' of the RB Recreation Council. The continuance would allow the Rec Council to take a position on the proposed name change to *The Ed Brown Center at Rancho Bernardo.*

March 19: **The proposed name change for the Joslyn Center** was pulled from the agenda due to the City determining that this 'project' was not under the purview of the RBCPB.

The **special meeting** to elect the Board officers for 2009/2010 was held:

Chair: Ellen Willis, Vice Chair: George Leitner, Treasurer: Joe Dirks, Secretary: Teri Denlinger

April 16: In addition to filling an **open seat** on the board and voting on **subcommittee Chairs**, to secure representation of the community on outside groups/agencies **liaison appointments** were made to:

CPC, San Pasqual/Lake Hodges Planning Group, SANDAG/Compact, Code Compliance, Miramar Leaders Forum, San Dieguito River Valley Park

May 21: To be in compliance with Council Policy 600-24 and the Brown Act, the RBCPB removed the deviation allowing non-members to represent a (Traffic) Committee majority by **amending/correcting the Bylaws , Article VI, Sec1(b)Subcommittees**. In addition to **appointing** a member to attend the RB Maintenance Assessment District meetings and report activities back to the group, the board voted to continue participating in the annual **RB Alive Event** to promote the planning board. Led by the Chair of the Regional Issues Committee the group had a brief discussion on **recycled water**.

June 18: The original vote to approve the **Lake Hodges Pedestrian Bridge** several years ago allowed the **Phase 2** construction provisions to include safe access to the bridge from the parking/staging area. The RBCPB voted to approve the cantilevered walkway that will be built from the bridge west along the lake to a point where it can be connected with the walk that ends at the signal into the park as presented by the San Dieguito River Park/JPA. There are several grants available to cover the cost of \$1.2m and this will allow for safe access to the bridge from the parking/staging area.

July 16: The agenda item to discuss/vote on the installation of speed humps on Callor Road was withdrawn. Residents in the Seven Oaks community had been working via the **City's Traffic Calming Program** but has not yet achieved the required number of signatures to proceed.

August meeting was adjourned

September 17: At the request of the RBCPB(members) Andy Field/Director, Park & Rec gave a presentation on the **Rancho Bernardo Maintenance Assessment District**. Some of the concerns raised by the members included: why the RBMAD operates under the umbrella of a non recognized community group and allows for residents not paying into the assessment to vote on expenditures? Why isn't compliance with the Brown Act mandatory? Mr. Field answered all questions and provided the group with a copy of the (latest) Engineers Report and explained the history of the RB MAD.

October 15: Two wireless projects requesting to place antennas were approved:

NextG/Project#180444-Canfield&Escala, NextG/Project#180538-Escala&Fernando. The RBCPB voted to support the City's proposed changes to the **Environmentally Sensitive Lands Regulations** with the following exception:

The board would **not** support changes to the regulations to include trails in the list of Essential Public Projects as trails should be designed to: 1) be sustainable, which is not possible if they are constructed in wetlands; and 2) avoid impacts to sensitive resources, so the resources will be available for trail uses to experience and enjoy.

November 3: Special Meeting of the RBCPB/Regional Issues to address the **(proposed) California High Speed Rail Project**. To accommodate the deadline of 11/20 to provide a response to the Notice of Preparation(NOP) and hearing the concerns of the community, the RBCPB voted to create a sub/ad hoc committee to draft our response and present it for approval at the next regular board meeting of 11/19.

November 19: As directed at the 11/3 special meeting of the RBCPB, a subcommittee met to update the previous comments sent by the board in 2004 and presented a letter to be sent regarding the **California High Speed Rail Project**. The approved letter which details the community concerns including: construction, location, eminent domain issues, noise, etc..... added a provision that the RBCPB be afforded the opportunity for further input and comment when the project is 15%+ designed.

December 17: Update on Awards program: The Development Review Committee will present the program that will recognize meritorious projects in the community at the January 2010 meeting.

The petition by residents in the Seven Oaks area have reached the 75% required number of signatures to install **road humps** on **Callado Road**. The humps as recommended by the City were approved by the board with the added request that the least number of humps required to achieve the traffic calming be installed. Comments and concerns raised by residents and members were forwarded to the City staff.