

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MISSION VALLEY PLANNING GROUP**

August 4, 2021

Via Zoom/Electronic Meeting

Members Present:

Steve Abbo, Cameron Bucher, Ken Callaway, Kaye Durant, Rachel Erwin, Johnathan Frankel, Alan Grant, Derek Hulse, Elizabeth Leventhal, Kathy McSherry, Andrew Michajlenko, Keith Pittsford, Marco Sessa, Michael Sherman, Colton Speas, and Josh Weiselberg.

Members Absent: Michele Addington, Marissa Feliciano, Matthew Guillory, John La Raia, Pete Shearer,

City/Government Staff: Nancy Graham, Off. David Gibson, Ariel Gibbs, Jawad Al Bahgdadi, Anthony Hackett, Councilmember Raul Campillo, Jennifer Nelson and Christopher Ackerman Avila.

Guests:

See list at end of minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Jonathan Frankel called the regular meeting of the Mission Valley Planning Group (MVPG) to order at 12:01p.m. via Zoom.

Verify Quorum: 14 members were present, constituting a quorum. Steve Abbo joined at Item E.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – None.

C. INTRODUCTIONS / OPENING REMARKS/REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Jonathan Frankel welcomed everyone to the meeting.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Derek Hulse moved to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2021 regular meeting; Michael Sherman seconded the motion. Minutes were approved 11-0-3 with, Cameron Bucher, Johnathan Frankel, Alan Grant, Derek Hulse, Kathy McSherry, Andrew Michajlenko, Keith Pittsford, Marco Sessa, Michael Sherman, Colton Speas, and Josh Weiselberg voting yes, and, Ken Callaway, Kaye Durant, and Rachel Erwin abstaining.

E. Public Input – Non-Agenda Items but within the scope of authority of the planning group.

Officer David Gibson provided an overview of crime statistics for Mission Valley for the month of July. Question was asked about active shooter situation, which resolved with

suspect in custody. Question asked about cannabis-related business and associated crime statistics.

Ariel Gibbs of Assemblywoman Weber's office provided updates: Member is in the district currently, working on return to school COVID-related guidelines, provided an update on budget opportunities current and future, and reminded MVPG about backpack giveaway August 14 from 10am to 1pm at Horace Mann Middle School.

Christopher Ackerman-Avila of Mayor's office provided update on Homelessness and Housing. Director of homeless strategies office hired and starting in the coming weeks. City going to be taking compassionate but firm stance on homeless, including progressive enforcement. Update on Homes For All initiative and related city policies on housing.

Jawad Al-Baghdadi from Congresswoman Sara Jacob's office provided update on funding for central mobility hub, funding for child-care related businesses and funding for local libraries and update on bi-partisan infrastructure bill.

Rob Hutsel of the San Diego River Park Foundation updated on current homeless encampment count (33) and increase in trash from encampments. Foundation is seeking additional funding to address increased refuse issue, particularly in area between the 805 Freeway and Postal Service facility.

**Relevant links and additional contacts from public input speakers are located at the end of these minutes.*

F. Membership Committee – Michele Addington (provided by Jonathan Frankel and Cameron Bucher)

1. Open positions on the MVPG Board

Membership: 3 Vacancies, 1 each in Property Owner; Property Tax Payer; Resident categories. All interested are welcome to apply.

G. Treasurer's Report – Elizabeth Leventhal (provided by Jonathan Frankel)

1. Reported that the balance remains the same; \$1,344.16.

H. Information Items

1. Budget Update & Hate Crime Prevention Presentation – Councilmember Raul Campillo & Deputy City Attorney Jennifer Nelson

Description: Update on outcome of FY 2022 budget process related to Mission Valley priorities and presentation on hate crime prevention efforts from the City Attorney's office.

Councilmember provided an update and overview of current city-wide and district-based issues and achievements including securing additional funding for the City library system to maintain longer hours and staffing, additional funding for City arts and culture programs and new office of Child and Youth success to coordinate city-wide programs

focused on child and youth development. Adding new mid-block street lights on Friars Road between Via Las Cumbres and Fashion Valley Road and funding for trail systems in the SD River. Voted in favor of new Home Depot in Mission Valley at old Scottish Rite center. Update on Hazard Center Rd. work and encouraged project proponent to provide update to MVPG. Update on SDSU MV stadium topping off ceremony.

Jennifer Nelson is Chief deputy attorney prosecuting hate crimes (among other), Provided overview and definition of hate crime and prosecutorial perspective of prosecuting such crimes. All witnesses and victims of hate crimes or crimes that may be hate crimes encouraged to report them immediately as such may help prosecutors in prosecuting such crimes. Question was asked about whether homelessness and crimes against homeless persons may be hate crimes; generally, such category (homeless) is not covered.

2. Civita Apartment Substantial Conformance Review – Marco Sessa

Description: Informational presentation on a forthcoming apartment community located in Civita.

Alan Grant offered to recuse during this item, but Jonathan Frankel reminded the MVPG that this is an informational item only. Marco Sessa provided an overview of the project and its consistency with the Quarry Falls Specific Plan. Parcel is NW of Civic Center and North of the school site which will be named in the coming future. The project density is proposed at 65.7 units per acre, which is nearly half of the density permitted. The project is not triggering two major improvements (HWY 163/Friars improvements and the I15 and Friars improvements), but those are being contributed to and/or made in concurrently as the thresholds for the improvements are nearing. Overview of the project architecture and elevations was provided, including the building height being 60' when nearly 100' tall buildings are permissible. Building employs a wrap concept with parking structure in the center and living units constructed around the perimeter. Additional onsite parking was provided given lack of parking on Via Altana. Andrew Michajlenko commended the project as well-executed, but was concerned about exposure of parking garage (and lighting from vehicles and structure illumination) spilling out to the viewshed from the north as well as trash bins along Via Altana. The project architect clarified the trash bins were located inside the garage and the items depicted as trash bins were in fact electrical transformer boxes that can be screened. Jonathan Frankel asked about remaining for-sale projects to which Marco Sessa indicated that additional for-sale products were expected in the future.

I. Action Items

1. None.

J. Committee/Community Reports:

1. Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Standing Committees:

- 1) Design Advisory Board – normally meets the Monday prior to the MVPG meeting at 3:30 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library- Andrew Michajlenko

No prior or planned meeting; meetings to be scheduled as needed.

b. Ad Hoc Committees

1) Public Health, Safety and Welfare – Elizabeth Leventhal

No update.

2) MV Stadium Redevelopment - Kaye Durant

Attended the Topping Off ceremony and signed the beam (along with other government officials and stakeholders) on behalf of the Mission Valley Planning Group.

1. Community Reports

a. San Diego River Coalition – Alan Grant-Normally meets the third Friday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library.

Meetings intended to resume in September with dates and times to be announced later.

b. Community Planning Chairs Meeting –Michele Addington/Jonathan Frankel

No update.

2. Miscellaneous Mail/Items-For the Good of the Order –

Reminder re: mayor’s office presentation.

K. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:21 P.M. Next Regular Meeting Date – September 1st at noon with location likely to be electronic (Zoom).

Cameron Bucher, Secretary

Ariel Gibbs, Field Representative

ariel.gibbs@asm.ca.gov

(619) 531-7913

Virtual Back to School Forum Viewing -<https://a79.asmdc.org/>

Backpack Giveaway Registration- <https://a79.asmdc.org/event/20210814-79th-assembly-district-annual-backpack-giveaway-vaccination-clinic>

Christopher Ackerman-Avila

Community Representative – Mayor’s Office

CAckermanAvi@sandiego.gov

Code Update Workshops - <https://www.sandiego.gov/ldc-updates>

Today, Aug. 4th, at 2pm is to provide feedback, and on Aug. 16th give refined ideas

Blueprint San Diego Workshop - <https://www.sandiego.gov/blueprint-sd> - you can register for the workshops using this link.

- o THURSDAY August 5, 2021 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. - Public Scoping Meeting for the Blueprint San Diego Notice of Preparation

- o THURSDAY Sept. 23, 2021, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. - Community Forums for Blueprint San Diego

- o WEDNESDAY Sept. 29, 2021, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. - Community Forums for Blueprint San Diego

Jawad.AIBaghdadi@mail.house.gov

<https://sarajacobs.house.gov/forms/emailsignup/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RepSaraJacobs/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5Gy8SJB1vY>