UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Meeting Minutes
Hybrid Meeting
July 14, 2026
6:00 PM
Meeting held at the Terranova Conference Room, third floor of Alexandria's GradLabs building.

Directors present, directors absent:

Chris Nielsen (CN) (Chair), Neil de Ramos (NR), Joann Selleck (JS), Daren Esposito (DE), Jon Arenz (JA), Anu Delouri (AD), **Kristin Camper (KC), Carol Uribe (CU),** Georgia Kayser (GK), **Karen Martien (KM), Andrew Wiese (AW),** Fay Arvin (FA), **Anna Bryan (AB),** Apolo Madrigal (AM), Emma Chavez (EC), **Josh Kenchel (JK),** Sasha Treadup (ST), **Sasan Asadyari (SA),** Dan Wagner (DW), **Jay Gima (JG),** Suchi Lukes (SL-City of SD Planning). 12 voting members present, 18 voting members possible, 10 required for a quorum.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order: Chris Nielsen, Chair.** Chair CN at 6:00 pm.

2. **Agenda: Call for additions / deletions: Adoption.**

   CN: Call for adoption: DE moved adoption with AW seconding. Approved unanimously.

3. **Approval of Minutes.**

   CN: Call for approval of the June 9, 2026, minutes. Without changes, JK moved for approval with JG seconding. Passed unanimously.

4. **Announcements: Chair's Report, CPC Report**

   CN: Described tonight's agenda.

5. **Information Item: Col. Erik Herrmann, MCAS Miramar Base Commander, will give an update on Miramar operations and answer questions from the community. Kristin Camper and Col. Erik Herrmann, presenting.**

   Col. Herrmann discussed fire prevention measures including goat grazing and increased brush management along specific fence lines, particularly west of the golf course and near Miramar Road. He explained that a previous brush management hand crew was disbanded due to low participation and retraining requirements, but they are now increasing training with San Diego Fire Department and planning a pre-controlled burn ahead of the air show (Friday September 25 to Sunday September 27). The air

show will feature the MAGTF demo practices on Wednesday and Thursday September 23 and 24), with Blue Angels performing as the final act each day from Friday to Sunday, though no nighttime show is planned for the 250th anniversary event.

6. **Public Comment: Comments on items not on the agenda but within the scope of the UCPG. Two-minute limit.**

   Public comments were provided by Jeff Dosick regarding bicycle infrastructure recommendations from a San Diego grand jury report, Becky Rapp on a new city ordinance regulating marijuana delivery businesses, and Kathleen on concerns about city policies and public restroom closures.

   A UC resident raised the issue of the new Irvine Co. apartment development at Genesee and Executive Drive, with concerns raised about its alignment with the 2024 University Community Plan's mixed-use vision. He specifically recommended retail activation of the ground floor of the proposed housing that was specified in the community plan.

7. **Information Item: Capital Improvement Project- La Jolla Improv 1, with multiple locations. Janice Jaro, the Senior Civil Engineer for Design for the project, and other members of the project team will give an update on the project segment along Villa La Jolla Drive from Gilman Drive to La Jolla Village Drive. Janice Jaro, Nabil Batta, Santiago Crespo, and Yousif Marrow, presenting.**

   Janice Jaro presented the Capital Improvement Project in La Jolla, which involves replacing approximately 8,860 linear feet of asbestos cement water pipe with PVC pipe. The project is currently under construction, with water replacement along Via Capri and La Jolla Scenic Drive completed, and remaining work focused on installing a 30-inch by 16-inch T intersection at La Jolla Village Drive and Villa La Jolla. The construction team, led by resident engineer Yousef Mauro, aims to complete the work in August before UCSD's fall semester, though specific dates are pending material lead times and final approval from the Public Utilities Department. Joanne raised concerns about notifying the Veterans Administration Hospital about traffic impacts and detour information, which Janice agreed to follow up on with the construction team.

8. **Information Item: UC Fire Safe Council update to its 2024 report regarding the UC brush density survey. Tom Cartier, UC FSC, presenting.**

   Tom Cartier presented a vegetation density survey for Rose Canyon conducted by Merkle & Associates using drones and GIS mapping. The survey identified areas with severe brush density (red), moderate density (yellow), and acceptable density (green), with the south rim showing greater fire hazard potential due to wind patterns. Tom explained the new Zone 0 requirement, which mandates no combustibles within 5 feet of structures, and noted that state law requires a maintained 100-foot defensible space area around structures.

   Tom explained that property owners are responsible for managing brush on their own property up to 100 feet, while the city handles brush management on open space. Joann raised concerns about brush density in Rose Canyon and questioned how to address it, to which Tom responded that defensible space around structures and MSCP land limitations affect what can be done. Deborah Knight emphasized the importance of home hardening in preventing house fires from embers, noting that Mexican fan palms are particularly flammable and that proper brush management is crucial for fire safety.

9. **Information Item: Pure Water Project. The Pure Water construction team will present its monthly update on the project. Ivette Gonzalez-Mendez, Marisa Cesare, presenting.**

   Ivette presented progress on completed and ongoing work, including median construction along Genesee Avenue, base repair and paving, and the reopening of Marian Bear Park. Current work includes pipeline installation at the I-805 tunnel and Executive Drive, with final paving and striping scheduled to begin in July. The project will implement new bike lanes and street parking removals, though bike boxes at the Governor and Genesee intersection were not approved due to the Governor Drive bike lane project being canceled.

10. **Presentations**

    - Zach Burton, CM Lee's office

      Zach provided updates on new public comment guidelines and encouraged community members to participate in City Council meetings.

11. **Action Item: UCPG CIP list for FY 2028. The CIP list for FY 2028 would be discussed using the current FY 2027 list as a starting point. We would have a final list approved at the July 14 UCPG meeting. Chris Nielsen and Georgia Kayser, presenting.**

    The UCPG needs to review and update a list of capital improvement projects for funding consideration. Chris presented several existing projects including Vistal La Jolla streetlights, Rose Canyon Overlook Park, Regents Linear Overlook Park, Stanley Recreation Center modernization, and UC Gardens parking improvements. An addition to the list, presented as a public safety project, would be removal of the large eucalyptus trees adjacent to UC Gardens Park with replacement by Coastal Live Oak. The public safety component is a wildfire risk reduction due to removal of highly flammable eucalyptus trees.

    CN moved with DE seconding to keep non-completed existing CIP projects including Bill Beck's Vista La Jolla streetlights and Governor Genesee safe crossing modifications, while adding a new CIP for eucalyptus tree removal at University Gardens Park to address fire safety concerns. **Vote 9 Yes, 0 No, Chair not voting.**

12. **Adjournment:** ***Next Meeting will be on September 8, 2026*****, located at Alexandria's GradLabs, 9880 Campus Point Drive, 6PM, third floor Terranova conference room.** ***This will be a hybrid meeting using Zoom.***