

Committee Members

Carl Hillendahl
Joann Horton
Larry Patterson
Randy Pesses
Erik Peterson
Bob Smart
Meredith Stirling



DIAMOND SPRINGS AND EL DORADO
COMMUNITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Diamond Springs Fire Station
501 Main Street
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

AGENDA
August 17, 2017

PLACE: Diamond Springs Fire Station
501 Main Street
Diamond Springs, CA 95916

TIME: 6 P.M.

POSTED:

For purposes of the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2 (a)), the numbered items on this agenda give a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed.

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ADOPT AGENDA

APPROVE 6-15-17 DRAFT MINUTES-Attachment 1

OPEN FORUM

Public testimony will be received on each agenda item as it is called. Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Open Forum. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Committee reserves the right to waive said rules by majority vote.

CORRESPONDENCE-8/3/17 Letter to Supervisor Veerkamp-undergrounding utilities-Attachment 2

TOPICS

Workshop – Discussion on how current and future park needs of a portion of the Diamond Springs-El Dorado Community Region might be met. Vickie Sanders/Roger Trout/CJ Freeland.

The focus will be the area bounded by Highway 49 on west-Pleasant Valley Road to Pearl Place on the south-and Weber Creek on the north. This area is targeted for high and very high density in our general plan and current residents have no parks.

Coming Events

Committee Reports

Adjourn

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 6-15-17 Draft Minutes

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DIAMOND SPRINGS AND EL DORADO
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ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Diamond Springs Fire Station
501 Main Street
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

DRAFT MINUTES

June 15, 2017

PLACE: Diamond Springs Fire Station
501 Main Street
Diamond Springs, CA 95916

TIME: 6 P.M.

POSTED:

For purposes of the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2 (a), the numbered items on this agenda give a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed.

ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order by Chairman Smart at 6:00 pm

Peterson, Hillendahl, Patterson, Smart, Horton, Pesses, Stirling present.

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Hillendahl

ADOPT AGENDA: Moved to accept by Stirling, 2nd by Horton, passed unanimously.

APPROVE 4-20-17 DRAFT MINUTES: Moved-Horton, 2nd-Pesses, passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Public testimony will be received on each agenda item as it is called. Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Open Forum. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Committee reserves the right to waive said rules by majority vote.

-Kris Payne, advises that a stack of old railroad rails will be moved from Old Depot Road to the end of Industrial Road, near the tracks, next Monday thru Thursday. He is advising the committee, because we may see this kind of activity ongoing in the near future. Also, The EDC Community Planning / Economic Development should see some increased activity.

-Dianne Murillo, asks for feedback on a recent Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting regarding development on Black Rice Road, Piedmont Oaks and other development that was held, and she requests the committee provide a parcel map of our region to be on hand at committee meetings. Hillendahl gave a brief report on his attendance at that meeting and that he shared the committee's concerns about increased traffic and pedestrians on Racquet way and Pleasant Valley Road.

CORRESPONDENCE:

TOPICS –

- Undergrounding of utilities in Diamond Springs - Randy Pesses, Meredith Stirling, JoAnn Horton and Dustin Harrington

Consideration of an action to formally request that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to take the necessary steps to establish an underground utility district(District) within historic downtown Diamond Springs. The District would include all properties fronting on Main Street (Hwy 49) from the intersection with Fowler Lane to the intersection with Missouri Flat Road. It is understood that no undergrounding project is pending at this time, but the formal establishment of an Underground District in Diamond Springs would allow for the physical undergrounding of utilities in conjunction with a future road improvement project on Hwy 49 through downtown Diamond Springs.

-Pesses brought copies of PG&E Electric Rule No. 20 for all committee members program and provided an overview explanation as he learned after meeting with a PG&E representative.

There is a PG&E account for EDC with approximately 16 million dollars. Funds can only be used in a formally adopted Underground District. This must be done formally by the El Dorado County BOS. BOS conducts a hearing and votes on the District formation and boundaries. He believes the District can be established without having any projects currently planned or scheduled, and it can be formed and then be in place when any future projects come within the District boundary.

-Advised we should move forward with an Underground Utilities District prior to any future roadwork projects that CalTrans may have planned for the future in the historical Diamond Springs area and along the Hwy 49 corridor from DS to El Dorado town. Wonders about any unintended consequences to property owners within the District. Discussion ensued about the area to be covered.

-Pesses made a motion that we make a formal request to the BOS to direct DOT staff to take the necessary steps to establish an underground utility District starting at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Mother Lode Drive, easterly along Pleasant Valley Road, to Canyon Valley Road, and the Missouri Flat corridor from Hwy 49, north to the existing southern boundary of the DS Parkway Underground Utility District (DSPUD), and Hwy 49 from the southern boundary of the El Dorado townsite, northeast to the southern boundary of the DSPUD. Motion seconded by Hillendahl; after discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

2. Representation at Community Pedestrian-Bike Workshop on 6-23-17 at Herbert Green School, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This workshop will feature our Missouri Flat area and be discussing the transportation needs for pedestrians and bikes. It is open to the public. See attachment 3.

Hillendahl and Stirling will attempt to attend.

- **POWER MART/GAS STATION RE-IMAGE**

DR 17-0002 - POWER MART/GAS STATION RE-IMAGE (Tower Energy Group/Thomas Tona/Sign Designs Inc.): A Design Review Revision request to re-image a gas station including a replacement of free standing sign, wall sign changes, and color and sign additions to the canopy as detailed in the proposed plans. The property, identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers 329-280-18 and 329-280-12, consisting of 1.659 acres, and is located on the east side of Pleasant Valley Road north of the intersection with Patterson Drive, in the Diamond Springs and El Dorado Community Region area.

-Doug Smith, with Sign Designs (Modesto, CA), presented a proposal to change the pole sign at the Tower Mart, and change it to a Chevron Sign, using the existing poles existing Tower Mart would become Power Mart with neon green letters for the P and the M. - Another contractor is also putting in a new canopy at the location.

-The letters "P" and "M" in Power Mart that is on the building in two locations appeared to look neon green, and the committee thinks that neon is not appropriate for the area. Doug showed how the neon appears that way only on a computer overlay on the pictures.

He then showed us a color palate and the green is not neon or fluorescent color, but appears to be a darker, forest green.

-Committee had discussion regarding the belief that the project falls within the Diamond Springs Historic Overlay guidelines and is within a Design Control overlay and the applicant appeared to have not been advised of this.

-This committee would like to see the gas price pole sign enhanced to reflect more of a historic design criteria and consistent with the designations of this area, which the current design does not meet.

-Doug advised the committee that he will submit some alternative designs directly to this committee for our feedback, and we will get him timely feedback.

-Doug believes that he was never advised by the county that this project falls within a design control overlay area.

Coming Events:

On 6-23-17, Community Pedestrian-Bike Workshop at Herbert Green School, 11am-3pm

Committee Reports: *None*

Directors items:

-Patterson requests that we resubmit our prior February 17, 2017, letter regarding the Piedmont Oaks Project, as it relates to the Diamond Springs Parkway and protecting any future possible extension or realignment, and send it to each of the Planning Commissioners, with Cc: to Supervisor Veerkamp and Roger Trout.

-Patterson brought up inconsistencies that he has found with doing parcel reviews on the Tower Mart parcels and the lack of Historical Design Overlay showing at the County's parcel data computer program.

-Patterson asks whether or not the Historical Overlay actually adopted approved by the Board of Supervisors, as we had previously been advised would happen by Shawna Purvines. If it was, then why isn't it reflected as such on the computer program the County uses when parcels within the Historical Design overlay are examined. There is concern that this could provide significant issues for existing property owners and potential property owners by not being fully knowledgeable about zoning conditions and controls on parcels.

-Pesses reflected on Supervisor Veerkamp's Town Hall meeting in El Dorado, in April. He commented on the similar conversation he has heard at town hall meetings he has attended over many years in this county. If a community wants to get something done, then it is important to form assessment Districts, and create funding for whatever the goal of creating the District.

Adjourn: *Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm*

**Attachment 2 8/3/17 Letter to Supervisor Veerkamp-
undergrounding utilities**



**DIAMOND SPRINGS AND EL DORADO
COMMUNITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

August 3, 2017

District III Supervisor Brian Veerkamp
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Underground Utility District for Diamond Springs and El Dorado

Dear Supervisor Veerkamp;

At the June meeting of our committee, it was unanimously decided to request that an underground utility district be established for downtown Diamond Springs and Downtown El Dorado.

The committee's background research on this issue revealed that PG&E is obligated under PUC regulations to provide for the undergrounding of utilities in the various jurisdictions within their service area, and the funds are generated through an amount charged to everyone's utility bills. The program (Rule 20A) is to provide funds to pay for the undergrounding of utilities in town centers, historic areas, and commercial districts. For the funds to be utilized, an Undergrounding District for the specific area of interest must first be formally established by the jurisdiction's legislative body. The Rule 20a funds are finite, and the account for El Dorado County has a balance of approximately \$16 million.

These types of projects are typically done in conjunction with a larger road improvement project, and therefore, an undergrounding district appears to be something initiated by DOT as an incidental part of one of their projects. The concern of this committee is that the historic downtown areas of Diamond Springs and El Dorado are predominately within Caltrans jurisdiction, and would therefore not be something on which DOT would take the lead.

We have been advised by Transportation Commission staff that Caltrans does have road improvement projects planned for these areas, and this Committee feels that it is extremely important that

Undergrounding Districts be established in these historic areas so that this work can be accomplished in conjunction with any upcoming Caltrans projects.

We are therefore requesting that your office place an item on the next available Board of Supervisor's agenda to direct DOT staff to take the necessary steps to establish undergrounding districts in these two locations. Our committee members have the technical expertise and are ready and willing to assist DOT staff in establishing these districts.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Smart, Jr. Chairman

wrp

Attachments:

cc: Matt Smeltzer, DOT
Dustin Harrington DOT