Regular Meeting Call to Order: 5:05 pm

x Steve Bardwell _x_ David Fick Pat Flanagan (prior notice)

x Sarah Kennington

x Meg Foley

___ Ruth Rieman (prior notice) _x_ Claudia Sall _x_ Seth Shteir _x_ Laraine Turk _x_ Marina West

Introduction of Guests, Board Directors, and Advisory Members

Rebecca Unger, JT Chamber of Commerce, requested speaking under Community Reports.

Agenda Input and Approval

LT #8 Conservation Issues: Dark Sky update. SK /CS Outreach Report: MBCA letter of support to Standing Rock Tribe against the oil pipeline easement

Approval of Minutes from November 8, 2016

Minutes approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

SB presented the Treasurer's Report stating there is a total of \$50,645.60 and further reported that he received two new business memberships with additional donations by several long term members. A summary of the "Gathering of Tribes" event at the 29 Palms Oasis in November.

Treasurer's Report accepted as presented.

Capacity Building & Organizational Issues

1) Finance Committee report: annual budget; etc. – SB, MW

SB and MW will meet before the January meeting to prepare a 2017 Budget. There was further discussion regarding the proposed "fiscal sponsorship policy" and "ethics" policy. With regards to the "fiscal sponsorship", the Board discussed what it meant to be a fiscal sponsor, exactly what written policy is needed, where does liability exist, what is the connection to our mission, should there be limits.

2) D&O insurance status – SB

SB reported that we were awaiting the website launch and then will pursue quote.

3) Grant status: Rose "Indigenous Place, Space, & Presence" - SB

CS reported on the distribution of funds during the event and reported the event was a great success with many young folks attending. SB distributed a poster showing where the attendees traveled from and further stated that the tribes are really motivated to continue with events such as this. CS further reviewed the information that was distributed during the event and hopes that a copy can be preserved in the MBCA library.

4) Grants status: DWL / AWAC & Edison grants – CS & committee

No new information to report.

5) Pilot Project – RR

No new information to report.

6) Nominations Committee (RR, MF, SK) & recruitment packets (LT/CS) & BOA

CS presented the "Overview of Board Duties" and Board activities that could be tailored to MBCA and made available to prospective Director Candidates. Nominations are not being presented in 2016 since the BOD is fully seated.

The BOA's gathering was removed from the January 28th Annual Meeting schedule and will be considered at a later date.

7) End-of-year membership & donation appeal – SK

LT/ SK E-blast resulted in some new memberships, renewals and other donations.

Outreach / Communication

1) mbconservation.org – LT

LT reported that the new website features are near completion and the next step is a "beta test" with a select group of people and asked for additional names to be considered both "high end" and "low end" users. She requested some streamlining of event titles for consistency and photos of events.

2) MBCA 2017 Annual Meeting & Program; date & other plans – DWL committee

SK confirmed the date of January 28, 2016 and her goal to recognize long-term volunteers like Cathy Z. This was followed by a discussion of a gift of appreciation and how that would be viewed by others, not wanting to upset any of our volunteers but recognizing the "warriors". MW gave a broad overview of the speakers, format and content, confirmed moderator Stacy Moore, and other minor details.

3) Ruth Denision scholarship: publicity, application, award –SB, LT, MW

LT and SB are still committed to visiting the schools to introduce our scholarship opportunity in the near future.

Conservation Issues

1) Eagle Crest final EA / BLM Eagle Mt. segregation – SS

SS reported that the Transmission Line Environmental Assessment comment period has concluded and the next step is to receive the federal finding which he believes will be a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). He further speculates that a FONSI decision would be legally challenged. SS also reported on the transfer of lands into the National Park Service. The comment period for the Segregation/Withdrawal (two elements: NPS boundary study and then subsequent withdrawal of those lands from further development) ends February 16, 2017. This is separate from the Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project. SS volunteered to draft a comment letter on behalf of MBCA. There was further discussion and clarification regarding which "Option" had been proposed as the preferred. SS clarified it is Option C.

SS had forwarded the final Eagle Crest comment letter to the BOD and it was part of the November minutes.

2) Altamira gated housing project: CEQA lawsuit by JT 105 Alliance – DF

DF reported that "service" has occurred to the County and proponent. He further reported on the "GoFundMe" effort underway.

3) Solar project updates: Soda Mountain; Palen Solar; JT Airport

DF reported that a hearing has been scheduled on the JT Airport suit. He believes the next hearing is in scheduled for Feb/Mar 2017. He further reported that NextEra is trying to sell the project. A fence has been erected at the site and he noted they left open trench around the entire perimeter for several weeks. A "cease and desist" order has been issued to the County which seems to have finally halted work at the site.

4) Basin solar installers list & report - SB

SB reported that he is continuing his effort to compile a list of solar installers within a reasonable distance to the Morongo Basin. It was noted that MB solar installers reported that business is down 20% this year and that SCE is making changes in peak power costs which will negatively affect solar users.

5) Community Plan Workshops #2: Pioneertown & Morongo Valley – report

CS reported that the Pioneertown event was well attended however issues with the format have not changed. CS will be sending written comments and suggesting an "Open Space Overlay" which would assist the properties outside of the "Pioneertown Plan Map" (Section 19). She noted many from outside the Section attended but are not really represented in this Plan.

6) CCA update: SD Co. cities investigating – SK

SK gave the report that San Diego County is looking into CCA's. CS pointed out that many counties and cities across the state are moving in this direction.

7) CA. cities required to set 15% goal to reduce greenhouse gases by 2020 - SK

SK interested in polling the City of 29 and the Town of Yucca Valley regarding their progress on this requirement. SB volunteered to investigate. SK further reported on the SDSU SAGE

project which utilizes the UN Tool-Kit for climate action plans and developing a plan with the City of Lemon Grove.

8) MBCA Letter of Support to the Standing Rock Tribe, N. Dakota – CS

CS suggested that a letter from MBCA be sent to the Tribe expressing our support for their cause against the development of an oil pipeline across tribal land in North Dakota. CS will draft the letter.

9) CoSB Night Sky Committee – LT

LT reported on the latest meeting of the County Committee on the Dark Sky's issue. Noting that Ron Smith from the MUSD reported on their efforts to reduce the glare from the lights beneath the new solar panels. She further reported on the background and experience of the CoSB Code Enforcement Lead Officer (Andy Wingert), response time to complaints, and an update on potential educational programs in conjunction with Southern California Edison (Jennifer Cuzak). SS added comments regarding the language of the Ordinance and Development Code. CS added input from when she participated in a similar effort years ago. LT added that the Committee has to do more discovery about how far the CoSB is willing to go in drafting an Ordinance. LT clarified that enforcement is the biggest issue.

LT noted that Sandra Maravilla from the 3rd District Office attended the meeting and that she was impressed with Sandra's attention to the group and acknowledgment of the uniqueness of the Morongo Basin as well as the hi desert region.

Community Reports & Events

DWL Landscape Tour – April 23-24, 2017

Rebecca Unger, JT Chamber of Commerce. CoC is looking to outreach to the community. Joining with another group is a suggestion. CoC is suggesting that they hold a "CoC gathering" during the Desert Wise Living Tour – April 2017. SK opened discussion regarding the suggestion. CS suggested the week prior or as a "pre-event" exposure opportunity. Rebecca inquired about advertising and LT clarified our outreach methods. More discussion about how to orchestrate the ticket sales, coordinate registration, and thoughts on what would be the best synergy with the tour guests. In the end, all were open to a DWL Tour pre-tour event sponsored by the JT CoC.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017 5:00 PM / YV Community Center

APPROVEE: January 12, 2017 MGCA BOALED MEETING (Mediasoday, Det 7, 2016 (mease strongers and strong contains (101-1-100 Ft.) Vyers Verse Versey Contains)

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Next Rejuins Westing Threshold, Arrives (2017) 5,000 Physics Physics and



December 7, 2016

Assets –	Total	Checking CD	\$29,000.84 <u>\$21,644.76</u> \$50,645.60
Deposits:		memberships (individual) memberships (business-Polumbo, Celebrezze) Donations- (Turk \$100, Riemans \$75, McCourt \$5, P olumbo-business \$50 , Harwin \$75, Tanner \$85,	\$270.00 \$100.00
	Total	Celebrezze \$50) Interest checking	\$440.00 <u>\$1.24</u> \$811.24
Expenditures	- not Total	including gathering of tribes see below Quickbooks US Bank for checks PayPal fees	\$15.00 \$27.45 \$18.63 \$61.08
Income-Gath	erina c	of Tribes (Pending final accounting)	
income-Gain	8	The Cultural Conservancy (gathering grant) Native American Land Conservancy (gathering grant) Twentynine Palms Band of Indians (gathering grant) Rupert Costo (yet to be received) Rose Foundation Grant (gathering grant)	\$2,678.00 \$2,000.00 \$4,000.00
	Total		\$10,578.00
Expenditures	-Gathe	ering of Tribes (<i>Pending Final Accounting</i>) Motel 6 lodging 29 Palms Inn Cash check (For Honoraria for Gathering singers) Vickie Waite (For graphic design) Dickeys BBQ City of 29 Palms for liability insurance Valley Independent Printing Phil Klasky	\$2,908.66 \$1,658.49 \$3,100.00 \$50.00 \$700.00 \$107.40 \$209.95 <u>\$103.75</u> \$8,841.25
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POST OFFICE BOX 24, JOSHUA TREE, CALIFORNIA 92252 email: <u>INFO@MBCONSERVATION.ORG</u> WWW.MBCONSERVATION.ORG

MBCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit, community based, all volunteer organization



A Gathering of Tribes on the Oasis of Mara

November 12-13, 2016

29 Palms Inn 73950 Inn Avenue Twentynine Palms, CA 92277 www.29palmsinn.com 760-367-3505

Painting: After the Storm, Oasis of Mara by Chuck Caplinger, Desert Art Studio

12:00–1:00 p.m.	10:20 a.m12:00 p.m.	Pro 10:10 a.m.	8:00–10:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	A Saturday, Nov
Hosted Lunch and Poster Session The solar micro-grid energy project at the Chemehuevi Tribal Community Center is available to all tribes in Southern California through grants from the major utility companies. Alfredo A. Martinez-Morales, Ph.D., Managing Director of the Southern California Research Initiative for Solar Energy (SC-RISE), University of California, Riverside, will be there to explain the project and answer your questions.	 Songs of Power and Places James Ramos, Moderator, Chair of San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors James Ramos, "Bighorn Sheep Song," San Manuel Indian Tribe Matthew Leivas and Philip M. Klasky, M.A., American Indian Studies, San Francisco State University, "Salt Song Project, Ward Valley, and Old Woman Mountain Preserve" 	 Proceed to the 29 Palms Community Center at 74325 Joe Davis Drive Convene the Conference Matthew Leivas, Sr. Tribal Council Member, Chemehuevi Indian Tribe 	 Sign in at the 29 Palms Inn Hosted Coffee and Breakfast Buffet Henry Vasquez, Indian Flute Walk the Oasis, Visit the Garden and the Indian Cemetery Opening Circle and Prayer 29 Palms Inn on the Lawn by the Oasis Pond Welcome David Smith, Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park Daniel Mintz, Mayor, City of Twentynine Palms Paul Smith, Owner, 29 Palms Inn Clifford Trafzer, Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs, University of California, Riverside 	A Gathering of Tribes on the Oasis of Mara Saturday, November 12, 2016
Sunday, Nove 9:00–10:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Midnight	3:15–4:00 p.m. 4:00–4:20 p.m.	1:00–3:15 p.m.	to
Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:00–10:30 a.m. Gathering at the Oasis of Mara 29 Palms Inn Hosted Coffee and Breakfast Buffet Matthew Leivas, Sr., Moderator Salt Song Singers, "Singing to the Oasis of Mara" Walk the Oasis, Visit the Garden and the Indian Cemetery	Hosted Dinner at 29 Palms Inn Salt Songs at the Oasis of Mara 29 Palms Inn on the Lawn by the Oasis Pond Cake Song Cake and Coffee 29 Palms Inn	Future Gatherings David Harper, Moderator Audience Wrap-Up: Completing a Circle Matthew Leivas. Sr., Moderator Audience	 Culture, Land, and Indigenous Rights under Threat David Harper, Moderator, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Colorado River Indian Tribes David Harper, "Report from Standing Rock and Its Implication to Tribes" Nora McDowell, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe and Project Manager, "Topock Remediation Project" Dr. Beth Rose Middleton, Associate Professor of Native American Studies, University of California, Davis, "Native American Land Trusts" Audience: Consultation on Important Matters Including Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Project (DRECP) and West Mojave Plan (WEMO) 	Honoring the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service

Thank You to our Sponsors



The Rose Foundation California Wildlands Grassroots Fund National Parks Centennial Celebration

Rupert C. Costo Foundation Native American Education Program University of California, Riverside





Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians



Tortoise Rock Casino



CONSERVANCY The Cultural Conservancy

Native American Land Conservancy



MBCA

Morongo Basin Conservation Association



C.Coplinger_

Chuck Caplinger Desert Art Studio



City of Twentynine Palms



Joshua Tree National Park Celebrating 100 Years of the National Park Service

Gathering of Tribes Oasis of Mara ~ 29 Palms Inn November 11-13, 2016 Salt Song Trail Map of Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute) Sacred Landscapes, Culture Areas and Bands



This map shows Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute) holy lands spanning ocean and desert, mountains and rivers and across four states. These landmarks are described in the Nuwuvi Salt Songs and represent ancient villages, gathering sites for sal and medicinal herbs, trading routes, historic sites, sacred areas, ancestral lands and pilgrimages in a physical and spiritual landscape of stories and songs. The Salt Songs are a cultural and spiritual bond between the Nuwuvi and the land, and represent a renewal and healing of a Nuwuvi's spiritual journey.

The Salt Songs are sung at memorial ceremonies and follow a trail that begins at Avi Nava/Ting-ui-ay (Rock House), the sacred cave at the Bill Williams River, and travels to the Colorado River north to the Colorado Plateau, west to Nuva Kaiv (Mt. Charleston), through mountain passes to the Pacific Ocean and then back east through the desert to the Colorado Placeau de the test the same of paint River and to its place of origin.

The Trail visits the fourteen bands of Nuwuvi people including: Cedar City, Chemehuevi Valley, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Indian Peak, Kaibab, Kanosh, Kawaiisu, Kaiparowits, Las Vegas, Moapa, Koosharem, Pahrump, San Juan, Shivwits, and Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians.

For more information, copies of this poster and the film The Salt Song Fuil contact Philip M. Klasky, director of The Storyscape Project of The Cultural Conservance or www.natiseland.org, (415) 561-6591; Salt Song Trail directors Matthew Leivas, Sr. (760) 858-4049 and Vivienne Jake (928) 614-7210. the Sale Song had Project 5, 2009 all rights reserved Design by Data F. Smith and Phylor M. Klasky



ural Conse Department

Bands

CITIES

STATES

Thank you for making this event a success.





This map shows *Nuwuvi* (Southern Paiute) holy lands spanning ocean and desert, mountains and rivers and across four states. These landmarks are described in the *Nuwuvi* Salt Songs and represent ancient villages, gathering sites for salt and medicinal herbs, trading routes, historic sites, sacred areas, ancestral lands and pilgrimages in a physical and spiritual landscape of stories and songs. The Salt Songs are a cultural and spiritual bond between the *Nuwuvi* and the land, and represent a renewal and healing of a *Nuwuvi's* spiritual journey.



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Thank you for making this event a success.

~Pat Flanagan and Morongo Basin Conservation Association



COUNTYWIDE PLAN

FACT SHEET

What is a Community Plan?

The purpose of a **Community Plan** is to guide the future use, character and independent identity of a community. Community plans currently identify land use goals and policies unique to each community. They outline how the County of San Bernardino will manage and address growth issues while recognizing the special attributes unique to each unincorporated community. The County has 14 Community Plans currently in use, which were adopted in 2007, except for Oak Hills, which was adopted in 2013.

How can I get involved in my Community Plan?

The public is encouraged to engage in the planning process by attending outreach events and staying connected through the website: **www.countywideplan.com/cp**. On this site, the County will have information on meetings and links to provide your input through surveys, social media, photographs, and email.

Have more questions? Send an email to CommunityPlans@lus.sbcounty.gov. You can also visit the website to get on your community's email list to be notified when the planning process will begin.

Don't we already have a Community Plan?

The Community Plans currently in use will be updated to provide a higher level of community specificity, which is needed to effectively address issues at the community level, due to the County's geographic diversity and complexity. By working with local residents to identify community aspirations and actions, the new Community Plans will become more action-oriented and will serve as a guide to better assist communities as they consider growth and change to meet the community's future needs.

How can I help my community obtain improvements?

The Community Plans will include a **Community Development Toolkit** to help residents engage in self-help and/or partnership activities that will facilitate the changes they would like to see in their community. Toolkits will include guidance and information links on a wide range of community improvement and development issues, such as:

- How to create a nonprofit community development corporation
- Guidelines for organizing a farmers market
- Methods, tools and process for establishing and maintaining a community park
- Process for creating a special district for landscaping, street lights, roads, etc.

Get Involved & Stay Connected

countywideplan.com CountywidePlan@lus.sbcounty.gov countywideplan.com/cp CommunityPlans@lus.sbcounty.gov



@CountywidePlan facebook.com/countywideplan

What is the Community Plans Continuum?

The **Community Plans Continuum (CPC)** is an all-new system of community planning that will guide local expectations for County services and set a clear direction for the future of each unincorporated community. It will consist of updates to existing plans and the addition of new plans, all of which will be web-based, living documents that will be refined regularly to reflect progress and change.

The CPC will provide planning and implementation guidance for all unincorporated communities as they pursue their own unique lifestyle choices and goals. The CPC will include a hierarchy of plan-types (see below) that will ensure that planning details, tools, and resources match the conditions and needs of each community:

- Detailed Plans. Applies to communities that contain, or have the potential for, a variety of housing
 opportunities and supporting uses, such as commercial and industrial businesses, schools, a library, parks and
 recreation facilities, and religious and civic organizations.
- Framework Plans. Applies to communities that are primarily characterized by single-family residential properties and a limited number of supporting uses, such as a school, post office, and commercial businesses.
- Foundation Plans. Applies to communities that are primarily characterized by single-family residential properties. Residents of these communities typically drive to nearby towns or cities for employment, shopping, entertainment, education, and recreation opportunities.
- **Fundamental Plans**. Applies to communities that are primarily characterized by open space or farmland with a scattering of residential homes and/or highway commercial uses, or an area where growth is constrained by adjacent land ownership, such as federal lands and state park lands.

How do the Community Plans relate to the Countywide Plan?

Driven by the **Countywide Vision**, the **Countywide Plan** is a comprehensive strategic plan that will guide the County's future. One component of the Countywide Plan is an update and expansion of the County's existing General Plan and Community Plans for the unincorporated areas.

The **Community Plans Continuum** will update and replace the existing Community Plans, with a greater focus on action and implementation. The policy direction found in the existing Community Plans will be placed into the overall County Policy Plan. Both the Policy Plan and Community Plans Continuum will be web-based, allowing for policy direction and implementation to be applied at multiple scales (e.g., Valley Region and Bloomington), and topics (e.g., land use, mobility, and health and wellness).

Questions? Want more information?

countywideplan.com CountywidePlan@lus.sbcounty.gov countywideplan.com/cp CommunityPlans@lus.sbcounty.gov



@CountywidePlan facebook.com/countywideplan

Homestead Valley Communities, San Bernardino County

Community Profile

Overview

The community profile is a summary of the social, cultural, economic, and historic dimensions of the community. It is a gathering of objective data collected through secondary sources meant to inform and help facilitate discussion during the community meetings. The profile, together with future studies and information gathered from residents during the community meetings, will highlight essential facets and "tell the story" of the Homestead Valley communities of Landers, Flamingo Heights, Johnson Valley, and Yucca Mesa.

History



Archaeological finds indicate that the Serrano tribe traveled through the Homestead Valley region, occupying the region intermittently. Cattle grazing began in the 1880s and the Rock Corral was constructed. In 1909, Albert Swarthout established Old Woman Springs Ranch, where cattle grazed during the winter and were driven to the mountains for the summer. By the 1940s and 1950s, Homestead Valley saw some growth with 5-acre homesteader lots and in 1963, the Twentynine Palms Highway opened the area to further development. The Giant Rock was a sacred meeting place for California Native Americans and since the 1950s it has become a popular site for those interested in natural land forms and spiritual beliefs. In 1992, Landers had a magnitude 7.3 earthquake, the largest earthquake to have occurred in the contiguous United States in 40 years.

Source(s): Wikipedia; Johnson Valley, California Community Website; 2007 Homestead Valley Community Plan

Location & Geography

The Homestead Valley communities are located near San Bernardino County's southern border in the foothills of the San Bernardino National Forest. Surrounding communities include Pioneertown, Yucca Valley, and Joshua Tree to the south and Rimrock to the west. According to the US Census Bureau, Homestead Valley encompasses a total land area of 33.9 square miles.

Source(s): US Census Bureau; Wikipedia; ESRI



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Figure 1: Homestead Valley Location Source(s): ESRI; San Bernardino County LUS

Homestead Valley Communities, San Bernardino Community Profile

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Key Census Data

Category	Homestead Valley Communities		San Bernardino County		California		United States		
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	
Population									
Total Population	6,9	24	2,078	,586	38,066	,920	314,107,	,084	
2020 Population Forecast		6,891 (-0.99%)		2,227,066 (+7.1%)		40,619,346 (+6.7%)		334,503,000 (+6.5%)	
Total Households	2,9	2,951		607,604		12,617,280		116,211,092	
Average Household Size	2.3	5	3.34		2.95		2.63		
Median Age	48	48.2		32.2		35.6		37.4	
Education							See Reality		
High School Diploma	992	19.4%	330,613	26.3%	5,153,257	20.7%	58,440,600	27.9%	
Education Past High School	836	16.3%	417,953	33.3%	7,400,714	29.8%	60,821,634	29.1%	
Bachelor Degree or Higher	254	5.0%	336,315	26.8%	7,708,909	31.0%	61,206,147	29.3%	
Housing									
Total Dwelling Units	4,906	n/a	703,737	n/a	13,781,929	n/a	132,741,033	n/a	
Homeowner-Occupied Units	2,156	43.9%	370,032	52.6%	6,908,925	50.1%	74,787,460	56.3%	
Renter-Occupied Units	795	16.2%	237,572	33.8%	5,708,355	41.4%	41,423,632	32.2%	
Vacancy*	1,955	39.8%	96,133	13.7%	1,164,649	8.5%	16,529,941	12.5%	
Median Year Structure Built	1964	n/a	1976	n/a	1974	n/a	1976	n/a	
Income									
Median Household Income	\$29,637	n/a	\$54,100	n/a	\$61,489	n/a	\$53,482	n/a	
Persons Below Poverty Level	654	12.8%	199,451	12.7%	3,354,518	11.2%	26,235,361	10.6%	
Employed	951	83.6%	812,707	86.1%	16,890,442	89.0%	143,435,233	90.2%	
Unemployed	186	16.4%	131,293	13.9%	2,084,564	12.3%	14,504,781	9.2%	
Note: N/A indicates that the data is not a		icates that th	e category is no	t applicable					
*This figure may include seasonal house	nolds	de la composition	and a second	a la martina			in the second		

Table 1: Key Census Data

Source(s): 2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; ESRI

Homestead Valley Communities, San Bernardino Community Profile

Community Structure (Physical Characteristics)

The Homestead Valley communities consist primarily of single-family dwellings on large lots ranging from 14,000 square feet to 40 acres. Homes are generally one story and set far back from the street, with property lines delineated by a fence. There is a large amount of open space between each home, and most yards are not landscaped. A large portion of the community area is designated as Resource Conservation, in which the natural landscape, which consists of Joshua trees and desert, are preserved. There are small commercial uses along Old Woman Spring Highway (SR-247), consisting of one-story buildings with surface parking in front and large amounts of open space between uses.

The primary roadways in the community area are a major highway (SR-247), Aberdeen Drive, and Avalon Avenue. All major roadways are paved with two lanes. Most local roads are unpaved and lack pedestrian facilities. A truck route runs along Old Woman Springs Road. Only a few major roads in this community are maintained by the County. Most roads are privately maintained.

The Walk Score rating for Homestead Valley ranges from 0 to 5, indicating that the community area is cardependent and requires almost all errands to be done with a vehicle. In addition, there are no bicycle facilities within the area. Public transportation is provided on the weekdays through the Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) Route 21 (Landers Loop), which also connects the community area to the Yucca Valley Transit Center.

Source(s): Google Earth; County of San Bernardino Zoning Map; Walkscore.com; Morongo Basin Transit Authority; County of San Bernardino Existing Conditions Report, January 2016; 2007 Homestead Valley Community Plan

Topics Important to Quality of Life

Common issues noted in the community include:

- Land Use Issues: rural, animal density issues
- Housing Issues: demolition/rehabilitation issues, vacant homes
- Public Nuisances: illegal dumping
- Recreational Activity: off-highway vehicles (popular riding areas)

Source(s): San Bernardino County Code Enforcement

Community Amenities

Recreation opportunities near Homestead Valley are designated areas of the BLM lands for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use at the Johnson Valley OHV park, wildlife viewing, hiking, rockhounding, etc., in nearby wilderness areas. The closest hospital is Hi-Desert Medical Center and the closest police station is the Sheriff's Department Morongo Basin Station in Joshua Tree. Services in Homestead Valley include:

Hospitals	Hi-Desert Medical Center	
Fire Protection	San Bernardino County Fire	
	Station #19, response time is 10	
	minutes if staffed; San	
	Bernardino County Fire Station	
	#42, response time is 9 minutes,	
	4 seconds	
Police	San Bernardino County Sheriff's	
	Department Morongo Basin	
	Station	
Schools	Yucca Mesa Elementary School,	
	Landers Elementary School	

Table 2: Community Services

Source(s): Google Maps; San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department; San Bernardino County Fire & Rescue Station Map; 2007 Homestead Valley Community Plan; Yucca Valley General Plan Update EIR

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Homestead Valley	Flamingo Heights	Johnson Valley Improvement	Yucca Mesa Improvement
Community Council	Community Association	Association	Association
http://www.hvccsite.org/	http://www.flamingohts.com/	http://www.johnsonvalley.com	http://www.yuccamesa.org
index	index.html	/jvia.html	1

Community Development Organizations

Table 3: Community Groups

Business Services

A 2016 ESRI Community Analyst report showed that Homestead Valley has approximately 91 businesses in 12 different industries. The majority of businesses fall into the categories of services (33 percent), other (24 percent), retail trade (19 percent), construction (16 percent), and wholesale trade (8 percent).



Source(s): 2016 ESRI Community Analyst



Land Use Services Department (909) 387-8311

http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Home.aspx

Homestead Valley Communities, San Bernardino Community Profile

Community Events

Many events take place in various areas of the community. Events include a community cleanup in Landers and the King of the Hammers extreme off-road competition. Other regularly scheduled events are listed below and can be found at: *http://www.hvccsite.org/calendar.*

Entertainment:

• Landers Bingo

• Yucca Mesa Community Gardening Days Food:

- Johnson Valley Breakfast and Dinner
- Yucca Mesa Improvement Association Potluck

Source(s): Z107.7 FM Community Radio for the California Hi Desert; Homestead Valley Community Council Calendar of Events

Public Health Indicators

Several key indicators point to potential issues in Homestead Valley in terms of residents' overall health. Heart disease and cancer are the top chronic illness concerns. Residents' rates of hospitalization and emergency room for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are higher than the median rates for residents of the county overall. Additionally, Homestead Valley residents have poor access to and availability of healthy food.

Source(s): 2016 Healthy San Bernardino County Report; Modified Retail Food Environment Index Score Map Homestead Valley Communities, San Bernardino County

Week One Workshop Summary

Overview

The first Homestead Valley Communities Workshop for the San Bernardino Community Plans Continuum took place on September 12, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Johnson Valley Improvement Association Community Center. The meeting consisted of an informational PowerPoint presentation by San Bernardino County Land Use Services (LUS) and Michael Baker International, and several interactive exercises, including a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis, a Values and Aspirations discussion, and the drafting of preliminary Goals and Objectives. The SWOT and Values and Aspirations are presented as written by workshop attendees. Changes were made to remove specific names, titles or inappropriate comments or to simplify a comment.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Neighbors
- We live here
- Engaged
- Strong community
- That we have a community plan
- Rural setting quiet
- Clean air
- Open spaces
- Peace & quiet
- Scenic
- View shed
- Immediate access to recreation opportunities
- Dark skies
- Wildlife
- OHV opportunities
- Freedom
- Saturday breakfast for residents & visitors
- Community center volunteers
- Formal line of communication
- Airport
- Rural area normally quiet
- Wildlife
- Close community
- Scenery
- Open vistas
- Starry nights



COUNTYWIDE PLAN Itomestead Valley Communities Plan

- Wildflowers & formal desert garden
- Scenic Highway 247
- Dynamite views
- Night Skies
- No piped water!
- Historic places
- OHV recreation opportunities
- Home brew
- People are independent and for the most part secure in life without government assistance
- Self-reliance
- Strong neighbor loyalty
- Limited dependence on government
- Native American
- Historic sites & places of significance
- Historical Archive of Johnson Valley
- Johnson Valley improvement association
- Old Woman Springs & ranching history
- We are over-regulated with our kitchen
- Building codes are out of touch
- Home of our local school board present
- Landers Elementary School
- Landers Post Office
- Open spaces
- Dark skies
- Sunsets & rises
- Landers has water

- Affordability
- 10% cooler than Palm Springs
- Dark skies get rid of so called "personal security" white lights
- Sunsets & sunrises
- Wildlife
- Solitude
- Keep bikers safe on community roads
- Proximity to Joshua Tree National Park, sand to snow mountain and Pioneertown Mountains Preserver
- People
- Scenic 247
- Activities: Giant rock, integration, Johnson Valley OHV area
- Rural lifestyle
- Artistic culture
- Culture
- Nature/environment
- Night sky
- Clean air
- Quiet
- Small business locally owned & operated

Weaknesses

- No voice with County
- County not paying attention to our needs
- Outside Politics: County, State, Feds
- Severely disadvantage no aware they have a voice
- Small community
- Small voice
- Roads CSA
- No adequate networks, media, etc.
- Slow police response time
- More emergency such as Fire and Sheriff's Department
- Robberies
- Dumping
- No disposal plan
- No enforcement
- Illegal dumping



COUNTYWIDE PLAN

- Need Scenic Highway designation for SR 247
- Aging community with limited local resources
- Current government policies make the desert less attractive to the next generation of potential residents
- Lack of rural standards •
- Government enforces "city codes"
- Misguided hauled water policy
- Insufficiently staff code enforcement •
- Bring back the fire truck to Joshua Valley •
- . Lower our fire insurance
- Unmanned Fire State #43
- Misguided hauled water policy
- Sheriff's response time
- Fire response time
- Current misguided hauled water policy that do not allow personal property) el improvement
- Drugs pot meth vandals
- Johnson Valley no pressurized water
- Inadequate response time for sheriff's/fire
- Lack of street signs
- Inadequate coverage from Sheriff's department 45 minutes to 1 1/2 hour response time
- Illegal dumping code enforcement (slow)
- Inadequate roads and poor at suggestions
- Illegal dumping
- Inadequate roads
 - No more constant grading 0
 - Need repair 0
 - Need improvement 0
 - \$ don't make sense, okay to pay but to fix not just grade

Slow & expensive internet

- Water: expensive, not service to all
- Electric power outages
- Poor secondary road maintenance
- No independent revenue sources
- Zoning and permits for new business is challenging

- Lack of good restaurants
- No identity of Homestead Valley outside of area
- Residential vs. commercial zoning
- Remodeling permits from County 2 days per week
- County zoning requirements inappropriate for area

Opportunities

- Tourism
- Hiking
- New National Monument Sand to Snow
- Renewed investment in real estate (fixing properties)
- Weekender recreation
- Point-of-use solar renewable energy
- Partial manning of fire station
- Less restrictions, and fees
- More law enforcement
- Small independent business opportunity
- Lower taxes, fees and licenses for the community associations so they can remain the center & heart of community
- Scenic Highway 247
- Protect the area's open use designation
- Gun store
- Neighborhood watch
- Paved airport
- Solar on rooftops
- Free recyclable
- Develop and build a "Brand" identity
- Need signage showing Homestead Valley one at south end of 247 one at north of 247
- Something to be a leader in:
- Encourage cultural events & activities
- Capitalize on Giant Rock (UFO's) and integration
- Outdoor events "concerts in the park" etc.
- Tours of area museum to show the whole Homestead concept
- Encourage some small business:
 - $\circ \quad \text{Good food} \quad$
 - Hardware

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

COUNTYWIDE PLAN Homestead Valley Communities Plan

- Off road related
- Celebrate the environment
- Improve Homestead Park

Threats

- Subdivision
- Too many Airbnb vacation homes
- No phone service in some areas internet
- Light pollution
- Expanding Marine Base (Officers' quarters)
- DRECP
- Solar farms
- County deciding where solar goes not community
- Industrial scale solar variances over community plan
- Industrial projects
- Rattlesnakes Mojave Green Diamondback
- Flash floods
- Access to medical services
- Off roaders on private land
- Drugs Marijuana & others (meth)
- Off road vehicles
- County putting signs on private property OHV
- Illegal dumping
- Big box stores
- Industrial renewable energy
- Exporting local resources
- Too many government mandated burdens
- Local government has limited interest in the wants, needs & input from residents
- Burglars
- Too much government regulations
- Resistance to understanding of the importance of open recreation areas.
- Hiking OHV geology exploration
- Government does not outreach to HVCC for critical community decisions
- Development we do not have the water
- County increased cost
- Sneaky solar
- Powerline & windmills
- Inappropriate off-roading

- Open spaces
- No people
- Industrial solar farms
- Large commercial project i.e. solar farms
- Annexation and taxation of Yucca Valley (especially Yucca Mesa and Flamingo Heights)
- Littering and disrespect
- Weekenders disrespect area

- Uncoordinated and hodgepodge commercialization along 247 corridor
- Outsized residential projects
- No C.O.P. or minimal
- Drug labsDrugs, squatters
- Squaters



Values and Aspirations

Values

- Rural living
- Open spaces
- Rural living/open space
- Peace & quiet
- I know my neighbors
- No traffic
- Live and let live
- Independence
- Freedom to live the way we want diversity
- We grade our own roads
- Dirt roads
- Off road opportunity
- We have wildlife
- Living close to/in nature
- Stewards of the environment
- Rural neighborliness
- Open spaces
- Beautiful sunrises & sunsets
- Beautiful views
- Night skies
- Clean air
- No smog
- Starry skies
- Soft feeling air
- Open space
- Conserving water always
- Exploring the desert
- Wise use of natural resources without government mandates
- Rugged individualism
- Peace & quiet
- Light traffic
- Not many people
- Simple living while being productive citizens
- Independence
- Peacefulness
- Privacy
- Value our vets!
- Protecting the American dream
- We value our 2nd Amendment rights
- Our freedom



COUNTYWIDE PLAN

- Rodeo
- Privacy
- Community center
- Resourceful
- Horizon views
- Community gateways
- No CC&R's
- Freedom
- Friendly people
- Space
- Variety of economic abilities
- Artistic culture
- Maintain individuality
- Helpful people
- Alternative lifestyle "any lifestyle"
- Ability to "live off the grid"

Aspirations

- To keep it rural
- Keep it quiet
- Keep dirt roads
- 247 Scenic Highway
- No expansion of 247
- Public transportation at some level for Johnson Valley
- Want population to continue to decline
- More younger people to move in to keep the community going
- DG not industrial re: road map
- Hauled water
- Protection of our water sources
- County code should agree with State law
- Better relationship with BLM
- Better internet service
- To be President of Johnson Valley Jim Hanley
- Rooftop solar for every home
- Open the firehouse in Johnson Valley
- Preserve our rural way of life
- Retain our rural character
- Transportation for seniors to Yucca Valley
- Care system to keep seniors at home

- County consultant community plan before ok permits for real estate
- Energy efficiency for community center
- To be able to hike the trails at 90 years old
- Water co-op to replace bureaucratic waste of the larger water agencies
- Regulations appropriate to the size & scope of the community & community centers
- Attracting more residents with same values
- More familiar with kids
- Return of the cooling center
- More local presentation
- More effective road solution
- State Route 247 at scenic highway
- Jobs
- Get rid of or cleanup unsightly cabins, etc.

- Attract like-minded people to area
- Scenic 247!!!
- Community event(s) to cleanup specific areas
- More community organizations
- Natural outdoor amphitheater concerts, etc.
- Better relationship with marines
- More identity of Homestead Valley outside of immediate area
- Scenic Highway 247 architecture
- Reduce litter
- Amphitheater
- Rest area with picnic tables
- Restrooms & information kiosk



Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Retain Rural Lifestyle.

- Objective: Adopt rural standards.
- Objective: Retain existing minimum lot size.
- Objective: Protect dark skies.
- Objective: Accountability to community policies.

Goal 2: Better Access to Medical Services.

- Objective: Transportation to medical facilities.
- Objective: Local medical services.

Goal 3: Allow Hauled Water.

Goal 4: Better Communication with County.

- Objective: Access to information (i.e. BLM website).
- Objective: Utilize MAC & HVCC.
- Objective: Information dissemination to local groups.
- Objective: Education on how County functions.
- Objective: Commitment from County to better communicate.

Goal _: Stop Industrial Scale Centralized Solar Wind Projects within the Community.

- Objective: Designated Highway 247 as a Scenic Highway.
- Objective: County should embrace point of use renewable energy paradigm.
- Objective: Quit CUP's. Abide by the current zoning.

Goal _: Maintain our Rural Life Style.

- Objective: Reverse the unwritten discriminatory hauled water policy.
- Adopt localized rural standards.
- Remove/fight SRA tax.
- SRA tax refer to Howard Harris comments.

Goal _: Elderly & Adult Transportation Services.

• Objective: MBTA add a transit line to Johnson Valley.

Goal _: Internet Services.

Goal _: Better Emergency Response Time.

- Objective: Update roads in GIS/GPS.
- Objective: Street signs.
- Objective: Better road surfaces (dirt)
- Objective: Addressing properties.

Goal _: Educate Residents (new/old) on Lifestyle.

- Objective: Outdoor lighting.
- Objective: Off road etiquette.
- Objective: Respecting the environment.



- Goal _: Spring Cleanup (regular).
- Goal _: Advocate for Codes and Standards that are more befitting the Desert Community.
- Goal _: Better Communication and Relationship with San Bernardino County.
- Goal_: Organize Regular/Bi-Annual Community Clean-up Days.
- Goal _: Create a brand identity for Homestead Valley.
- Goal _: Maintain rural, desert lifestyle.
- Goal _: Make it affordable to develop in Homestead Valley.
- Goal _: Promote the unique artistic culture of the area.







SDG&E'S PLAN TO LOBBY ON COMMUNITY CHOICE IS SUSPENDED

January 3, 2017/in San Diego /by News Article Repost

San Diego Gas & Electric's plan to lobby on the alternative energy program called community choice aggregation <u>was approved in August 2016</u>, but now <u>has been suspended</u> because it does not comply with state directions.

Under <u>state law</u>, the utility is prohibited from <u>lobbying or marketing on community choice</u> unless it forms an independent district that's funded by shareholders, not ratepayers.

That's what SDG&E and its parent company, Sempra Energy, did. They submitted plans for how the independent district would be run to the California Public Utilities Commission, which approved the plans last summer.

But now the state commission says SDG&E is not following all of its directions. It sent <u>a letter to</u> <u>SDG&E</u> on Dec. 27 laying out the reasons.

The letter does not say what will happen next for SDG&E's independent district, and representatives from the CPUC were not available for comment. Allison Torres, a spokeswoman for SDG&E, said the utility would provide more information to the CPUC this month.

"While SDG&E believes the advice letter and compliance plan provided enough detail, the commission is asking for more information," she wrote in an email. "We plan to file an advice letter in January."

The CPUC is tasked with ensuring the utility's independent marketing district is truly separate from SDG&E. The commission said SDG&E needed to provide updates on some of its plans for how the independent district would be run, and that those updates do not have enough information to show the district is independent enough.

For example, SDG&E has to "conduct training for all its employees and agents, including contractors and consultants" to ensure they follow state laws about marketing and lobbying on community choice, the CPUC wrote. While the utility trained its employees, it hasn't demonstrated it will train contractors and consultants, according to the CPUC's letter.

SDG&E formed the independent marketing district to have a voice in the conversation about whether cities in San Diego County should switch from the current system, where residents and businesses buy energy from the utility; to community choice aggregation, where the cities would make those purchasing decisions and set rates, giving them control over where the energy comes from and how much it costs.

That district, called Clean Energy Advisors, <u>created a flier</u> about community choice it has distributed to some residents and elected officials in the county.

"Our goal is to provide a balanced and fact-based perspective regarding California's changing energy landscape," the flier reads. "It is our intention to engage in a realistic conversation to ensure that all electricity customers in San Diego continue to have access to clean, affordable power."

Environmentalists such as Nicole Capretz, the director of the nonprofit <u>Climate Action</u> <u>Campaign</u>, say community choice is the only way cities can reach 100 percent renewable energy — a goal laid out in San Diego's Climate Action Plan.

Capretz said the suspension of SDG&E's independent district was "a surprise and a really big deal."

"Because they refused to conform with the state's requirements, they are no longer authorized to approach elected officials or an institution or an organization in San Diego or a community leader and discuss community choice energy," she said.

Several North County cities <u>are also considering switching</u> to community choice, and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors will take up the issue later this month. <u>SDG&E's Plan to Lobby on Community Choice Is Suspended</u>, by Claire Trageser, *KPBS*, January 3, 2017. Sempra

CLEAN ENERGY ADVISORS Helping Achieve San Diego's Climate Action Plan Goals

Who We Are

Clean Energy Advisors is a separate entity from San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) whose mission is to begin an ongoing and candid dialogue about how we can collectively pursue a cleaner energy future for San Diego. Our goal is to provide a balanced and fact-based perspective regarding California's changing energy landscape. It is our intention to engage in a realistic conversation to ensure that all electricity customers in San Diego continue to have access to clean, affordable power.

CleanEnergyAdvisors.org

"California's energy landscape is changing rapidly. Now more than ever, we need to begin a comprehensive dialogue about San Diegans' energy options."

-Frank Urtasun Clean Energy Advisors

Primary Contributors to Greenhouse Gas Emissions in San Diego



A Path to a Clean Energy Future

San Diego is at the forefront of California's energy future, promoting some of the most progressive and comprehensive energy goals in the country. The region's current utility and energy provider is a leader in this effort, promoting renewable energy use that exceeds California's current renewables portfolio standard. While this is quite an accomplishment, we recognize the need to pursue even greater reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and the need for a comprehensive conversation that ensures all stakeholders weigh in and are wellinformed about all of their energy options.

Clean Energy Advisors' vision is a future in which the modern grid and new customer-owned technologies operate as a network in ways that reduce emissions, minimize costs and empower customers with new options, while ensuring that all customers have access to affordable low-carbon energy alternatives. In order to achieve these goals, we must begin thoughtful and collaborative conversations about our energy options and how we best achieve our common goals.

Next Steps

As a separate entity from SDG&E, Clean Energy Advisors was formed by Sempra Services Corporation to begin an important dialogue with San Diegans about our shared energy future. It is critical that community members, stakeholders, elected officials and energy providers take part in the energy conversation and become a part of the greater clean energy solution for San Diego. Through open forums, dialogue and collaboration, we believe reaching and exceeding these energy goals is possible. We look forward to engaging in this dialogue and appreciate the opportunity to participate in the conversation in a fact-based manner.

A Shared Vision: Questions & Answers

With newly adopted goals for renewable energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions reductions, California's energy landscape is changing rapidly. In order to ascertain our shared goal for a cleaner energy future for San Diego, we must answer a few important questions about where we are and how we can collaboratively work toward more impactful energy solutions.

1. What are some of the energy issues facing San Diego?

San Diego is one of the most energy progressive regions in all of the United States. Like many other metropolitan areas throughout the country, however, there are ways we can improve in order to make more efficient and informed energy use decisions. It is critical that we collectively discuss our need for greater clean energy options, infrastructure, storage and procurement. Ultimately, we must begin developing collaborative solutions that support our overall shared goals: reduce emissions, minimize costs and empower choice, while providing all stakeholders with clean, affordable energy. Clean Energy Advisors will start a dialogue about how to best address these issues and how to secure a clean energy future for San Diego.

2. What is being done countywide to increase renewables and decrease greenhouse gas emissions?

The County and City of San Diego have begun conducting comprehensive studies that look at achieving attainable reductions in greenhouse gases through different sustainability measures. In December 2015, the City of San Diego published its Climate Action Plan, which identified different measures for limiting greenhouse gas emissions. These include improving energy, building and water efficiency in non-residential and residential buildings; obtaining greater renewable energy resources; implementing greener transportation strategies; limiting waste; and maintaining flexibility and resiliency in future planning moving forward. These measures are a great



first step in achieving our shared goals. We must, however, continue to explore all of our options and new technologies, how to execute these measures in the most efficient way and outline the most appropriate path moving forward, so that all San Diegans have access to clean, affordable power.

3. What are my energy consumption options as a San Diego consumer?

It is important to consult your current energy provider to understand your options as a San Diego energy consumer. Due to the rapidly changing energy environment in California, energy consumption options are growing and becoming more refined. Many regions and cities are exploring options like community choice aggregation (CCA), direct access service and distributed generation (DG) in order to vet the most clean and cost effective means of energy procurement. We strongly support green energy options and customer choice, and encourage decision makers and residents to consider the fiscal and legal ramifications associated with such programs when evaluating their energy options. We also encourage stakeholders to work with their current electricity provider to develop new alternatives that can best meet customer needs.

If you have questions about how we collectively secure a clean energy future for San Diego or would like to learn more about Clean Energy Advisors, please contact **Frank Urtasun** by phone at **(619) 696-2233** or by email at **furtasun@SempraServices.com**.



Clean Energy Advisors is an independent group formed by Sempra Services Corporation. Clean Energy Advisors and Sempra Services Corporation are not the same companies as the California utilities, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) or Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), and Clean Energy Advisors and Sempra Services Corporation are not regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission.