

ANTELOPE VALLEY

Regional Planning Advisory Committee

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Draft minutes AV RPAC
March 6, 2025 AV Community Center, 6pm

RPAC members attending: Katy Buell, Debie Bush, Mark Langner, Don Morris, Jim Ricks, Bruce Woodworth,
RPAC members absent: Sally Rosen, John Vannoy.
Mono Co Staff attending: Wendy Sugimura, Phil Moores, Erin Bauer, Aaron Washco (via Zoom).
Other agencies attending: SM Carey Wells (USMC), Sharon Smith (California Department of Insurance, via Zoom).
Public attending: one in person and one via Zoom.

Public comment (for items not on agenda): none

Appoint a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

Motion: Morris for Chair (Bush/Woodworth) approved by all.

Motion: Ricks for Vice-chair (Langner/Woodworth) approved by all.

Motion: Woodworth for Secretary (Morris/Buell) approved by all.

Approve Minutes from November 7, 2024

Motion to approve (Bush/Buell) approved by all.

Approve Certificate of Appreciation for resigning member Eric Edgerton

Motion to approve (Woodworth/Ricks) approved by all.

Reconsider meeting format: in-person only or hybrid in-person/digital

Wendy reviewed the regulations and procedures involved with Zoom meetings.

Motion to adopt in-person and hybrid/Zoom format for AV RPAC meetings (Woodworth/Bush) approved by all.

Informational/Discussion items

Housing Insurance Update with Sharon Smith of the California Department of Insurance.

Smith discussed the background of the current insurance crisis, the lack of affordable insurance, tips for finding insurance, the FAIR plan, the rate review process, old regulations and the work happening to revise them with the Sustainable Insurance Strategy and other topics in a AV presentation. Buell discussed the impact of high insurance rates on housing affordability. Bush discussed the high cost of FAIR insurance. Woodworth discussed the need for assessing local conditions when determining rates. Langner discussed the issue of the continued building of homes in highly hazardous areas and how this will perpetuate the crisis.

Solid Waste Update (Karyn Spears): Spears did not attend.

Unmet Transit Needs (Phil Moores and Aaron Washco):

Moores and Washco discussed Transit issues including schedules, equipment and staffing. Moores said that ridership is back to pre-covid levels. Bush asked that buses be required to actually stop for people who are waiting at the bus stop (some people without reservations have been bypassed); Moores said he would speak to the driver. Bush reported that the Dial-a-Ride program is greatly improved lately and offered to host a south bound bus stop on the Walker General Store property.

Monthly Reports

RPAC member reports/comments:

Bush asked about the status of the Fire Safe Counsel. Buell discussed the Trail Angel program to assist PCT hikers being set up by Steve at the Andrus Hotel. Woodworth commented on the clean-up work being done by unknown parties at Mountain Gate Park. Langner requested that the USFS be contacted and asked to participate in our meetings via Zoom if not in person.

MCMWTC Update:

SM Wells reported on base activities.

USFS update (Aaron Coogan): Coogan did not attend.

Supervisor's Report (John Peters): Peters did not attend.

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Planning update: Sugimura introduced Erin Bauer who will be the Planning Department representative for the AV RPAC. Wendy discussed local planning issues including a use permit for construction storage in Walker, permitting a existing private campground on 108, and others. She said that work is continuing on changes to short term rental policy. Someone requested that the county examine the lot west of the old propane business in Walker - it is in a state of significant disarray.

Submitted by Langner, Acting Secretary