

EDITORIALS & LETTERS

Campo Planning Group votes to go BIG

On Monday night, Jan 25th, the HOPE supported Planning Group members paid back their sponsors by handing them a major victory. The super majority of five HOPE sponsored members voted to allow as many as 740 new homes to be built in the Cameron Corners area. The opposition members could do nothing and the majority carried the vote.

By a vote of 5 to 3 the newly revised General Plan Update was approved despite numerous calls for more public review. The subcommittee that was heavily dominated by community members seen as "development friendly," had put together a complete rewrite of the General Plan Update. They were handpicked by Kristi Kor, the Chairperson, whose family owns the Cameron Corners Circle K and previous subcommittee members were excluded. Kristi allowed only two members of the nine to be from the opposition to give some illusion of impartiality. Star Ranch staff attended most subcommittee meetings,

presented plans and directed much of the revisions. There was no chance that this update would not be exactly what Star Ranch wanted, needed and demanded. HOPE's founder was at every subcommittee meeting and sat in the front row directly in front of his Planning Group members when the vote was called.

This heavily biased group created a document that opens the door and throws out the welcome mat for any developer. This plan is the future for Campo and Lake Morena and will be used to guide development in our area. As many as 740 new homes (three times as many as Campo Hills) are now to be allowed in Cameron Corners (up from 50 in the previous plan). This critically important document was "made public" for just the 72 hours required by law before being rushed to the Planning Group for vote. Kristi Kor stated she did send email copies to the 65 community members who requested them, but most of the community was not made aware of this crucial

topic or vote. There was no real public review.

Each of the five HOPE sponsored Planning Group members voted yes to approving this document without any review other than correcting a few typos. Kristi Kor, Brandon Will, Paige McAlister, Rick Northcote and Mitch Sanchez might well be said to have paid their supporters back in full for the thousands of dollars spent to get them elected. This incredibly development friendly document will transform our town with Campo Hills style developments.

Most of you reading this will see the results of this vote, not right away, but during your lifetimes and surely your children will have to deal with it. They may come to you and ask how this was allowed to happen. They may ask you what you did about it, how you allowed our beautiful community to transition into a mini Chula Vista.

If they ask you what will you say?

Joe Carmody

Campo resident ashamed of some Planning Group members

Dear Editor,

I am a resident of Lake Morena and I attend the Community Planning Board meetings. I am appalled and ashamed at the way our elected officials act.

Mr. Slaff is an embarrassment in the way he handles himself in public. He shouts, rolls his eyes, mumbles racist remarks, interrupts speakers and is disrespectful. All

because things are not going his way. He also has verbally insulted people after the meetings.

As the board stands it is going to be 5 against 4 until the next election. This makes these 4 board members very angry and miserable people. They let everyone know with the same type of actions as Mr. Slaff. Some people in the audience are no better, they also have no respect for the

board members.

Someone voted for the other 5 members or they wouldn't be in office. Where are they? It is wrong to cast your vote for someone and then never show up at the meetings to support them. Everyone who would like to go to a circus should attend the next Community Planning Board Meeting.

Thank You,
Laura from Lake Morena

Congress is threatening Medicare and health care for seniors

Congress is considering a 21% cut in Medicare payments, after already cutting payment levels in the past. This will adversely affect the lives of millions of senior citizens beginning in March 2010. In recent months many hospitals, including the Mayo Clinic in Arizona, have already stopped accepting Medicare patients.

Senior citizens should be concerned over possible cuts by the health care industry because of disastrous cuts in Medicare payments to doctors and hospitals. Many doctors and hospitals are no longer taking Medicare patients. Many doctors have stated that they are going to stop taking Medicare patients. They can't afford to take those patients because of increased overhead just to administer the program. If doctors refuse to take Medicare patients, it will affect everybody that's over 65 and is on Medicare.

A Texas Cancer Clinic, squeezed by reductions in Medicare reimbursements, has shut down and filed for bankruptcy liquidation. Texas Cancer Clinic's demise is part of what

health care professionals say is a disturbing trend because of falling Medicare reimbursements for treatments.

With Congress allowing the annual threat of decreasing the fees paid to Medicare providers to continue and thereby impacting the accessibility of medical care to Seniors, this becomes nothing short of elderly abuse of the total senior citizen community by the Congress of the United States. We've had all kinds of assurances in the past that health care programs will not be impacted by Congress. Those in the White House and the Congress who we have met with have promised us, and promised us, and promised us, that they will take care of this problem and protect seniors from health care disaster. This sounds familiar to those of us that remember these promises and how Congress has defaulted on them over and over again.

Seniors and their families must start getting serious about writing repeatedly to the only people who can stop these actions that are eroding our health care and those people are our members of Congress. We all must send a Medicare

letter to our elected officials protesting these repeated cuts in Medicare reimbursement payments. Unless Congress acts now, millions of seniors risk having their doctors stop seeing them.

We must act to reverse the 21% payment cut and preserve essential health care access for millions of seniors.

Letters should state that you strongly urge Congress to act immediately to stop the 21% cut in Medicare payments to doctors that is now scheduled to take place in March 2010. You will find EMail and faxes are acceptable and are received by the elected officials much faster.

If anyone is in doubt who their Senators or Representatives are, or if you need their address, phone number, email address, etc. please contact Fred Langston at fglangston@yahoo.com. (or call 619-766-9109 and leave a message). Please provide your nine digit ZIP Code.

Sincerely,
Fred Langston,
Boulevard, CA 91905

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Jacob CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

the cost of rooftop solar electric systems over 20 years on their property tax bill. Similarly, we sponsored State legislation signed into law in October to compensate solar customers for surplus solar energy.

The new County Operations Center will meet the U.S. Green Building Council LEED standards. It will be the largest LEED campus anywhere in the County, public or private.

We adopted an ordinance mandating waterwise and firewise landscaping on all new development.

To top it off, we won the 2009 "Organizational Excellence SANDEE" award from the California

Center for Sustainable Energy and beat out all other governments in the region for the highest honor of the night.

• The Finest Quality of Life

We debuted the Lakeside Baseball Park in a community that really needed something to boost its spirits. It's got classic ballpark architecture and state-of-the-art turf on its diamonds.

We secured a State historic landmark designation for Camp Lockett, the WWII Army base in Campo that was the last home of the famed Buffalo Soldiers.

We broke ground on replacement libraries for

Ramona and Fallbrook.

We're in talks with Mayor Sanders to explore funding options for a new Chargers stadium. I need to stress that any deal will have to be a good deal for taxpayers.

Finally, in 2009, we added nearly 1000 acres of public parkland. It will have riding and hiking trails so that San Diego families can get out there and take in the natural wonders of our great County!

Dianne Jacob represents the Second District on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors which encompasses all of East County including Julian, Ramona and the City of Poway.

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