



## Bird Rock Community Council

**Agenda for the June 4, 2024 Bird Rock Community Council Community and Meeting**

**6:00-7:30 PM**

**Bird Rock Elementary School Auditorium**

**(Enter from La Jolla Hermosa at the south end gate.)**

**Zoom access at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83840159169?pwd=hVd3wBahPiAATdQHkKjapNAF57afbD.1>

### **1. Welcome, Board Member Introductions, Remarks**

Joe Terry – President

Joe Parker – Vice President

Jennifer Van Galder – Secretary

Barbara Dunbar – Treasurer, MAD

Representative and BR Newsletter Editor

Kristin Barret

Craig Bender – Merchants' Group

Representative

Janet Gentile

Marco Gentile

Eric Kleinbub

Lake Price– Web Administer

Janette Williams

### **2. Brief Updates from the Representatives of Elected Officials**

#### In person:

- Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov Congressman Scott Peters, [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov), 858 455 5550
- Mariah Kallhoff, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, 77th Assembly District, [Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov), (760) 434-7605, with Andres Geurts-Barreto, the new Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Tasha Boerner

#### Via Zoom:

- Emily Lynch, Community Representative, Office of Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava, [erlynch@sandiego.gov](mailto:erlynch@sandiego.gov), 619-236-6159

Please see Appendix A for written updates.

### **3. Public Announcements (2 minutes each on non-agenda topics)**

### **4. Updates on BRCC Projects and Activities**

If you have any questions or comments about the following projects, please email them to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org),

#### **a. Blvd Lighting Project**

The lighting project for the Bird Rock commercial district will benefit residents, merchants and visitors by providing increased community aesthetics, greater public safety and an enhanced commercial identity for the Bird Rock commercial district.

Thanks to all who came to the successful tree lighting demonstration on April 10 and May 30. The first demo provided an unattractive example of tree wrap lighting, examples of up lighting that could meet the aesthetic objective and examples of down lighting that could meet the increased night safety objective. The second demo provided an attractive example of tree wrap lighting.

This project has been well publicized at BRCC Community Meetings, in emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org), in articles in the Bird Rock Newsletter, and in articles by the La Jolla press corps.

We would like to identify a preferred option, solicit cost proposals for that option and submit that option to the City for approval.

What additional input do you want to provide tonight to help us do that?

#### **b. Bird Rock Signage/Monument Project**

As noted in a May 29 email to those on the BRCC email list, seven BRCC Board members had an onsite discussion of the siting options for signage (i.e., a rock etc.) in or near the Colima and Camino de la Costa roundabouts. A mock rock that we placed at several sites was a very useful visual aid for that discussion. Although they had different opinions about the best site before that discussion, those seven Board members agreed that the tentatively preferred sites are in the median about 6 to 12 feet past the first MAD crosswalk as you enter Bird Rock from the north or south (see photos below). This would put them about 34 to 40 feet before the Colima and Camino de la Costa roundabouts. Here are the principal advantages of those sites.

1. A rock etc. at those sites would not block the line of sight or be a distraction for drivers in the roundabouts.
2. A rock etc. at those sites would not block the drivers' views of pedestrians as the drivers approach those cross walks at a higher speed as they enter Bird Rock.

3. A rock etc. at those sites would not compete with the roundabouts or be diminished by being in a roundabout. This is a point Matt Sheredy of Integrated Sign Associates also made the previous week.
4. Unlike the roundabouts, these sites in the median do not have traffic signs that would distract from the rock etc.
5. People would be able to admire, take pictures of and otherwise enjoy the rock etc. from the safety of the part of the crosswalk in the median.
6. Gary Pence, Senior Traffic Engineer, said that a monument in the median presents significantly less of a concern since there is not an oncoming traffic issue.
7. The approvable total height of the rock with pelicans on it is probably greater in the median.
8. A rock etc. at those sites would not block view to the ocean from either La Jolla Blvd or the cross streets.
9. Reckless drivers are less likely to damage a rock etc. at those sites.
10. They are Bird Rock bookend sites, which most seem to prefer to a single monument in the median of the 5600 block of La Jolla Blvd.



Colima



Camino de la Costa

Ignoring the tree and traffic signs, here is one idea of what the rock and pelicans might look like.



This project has been well publicized at BRCC Community Meetings, in emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org), in articles in the Bird Rock Newsletter, and in articles by the La Jolla press corps.

At its meeting last week, the BRCC Board voted to solicit cost proposals for the following:

1. Two large rocks (one at each of the sites mentioned above);
2. One larger rock in the median at about the middle of the 5600 block of La Jolla Blvd;
3. Bird Rock etched into each rock; and
4. A few pelicans on each rock.

The traffic clearance requirements identified by City traffic engineers will influence the size of the rocks. The inclusion of the mid-block rock does not indicate that the Board has approved it as part of the project. A preliminary cost estimate for the two large rocks is about \$10,500, excluding the cost of pelicans and permits. We do not have a preliminary cost estimate for the one larger rock. Depending on what permitting process is required, permitting could take more than a year.

An extremely generous \$25,000 donation from Dennis Bender, a Bird Rock resident, has helped ensure we will have adequate funding for this project. We just need to sort out the final details so we can request cost proposals and start the approval process.

What additional input do you want to provide tonight to help us do that?

**c. Pedestrian Crossing Signal Project**

There is no update on this project

**e. I Love a Clean San Diego, Adopt-A-Beach Program**

The next beach cleanup will be Saturday, June 29 from 9 am to noon. Please watch for emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) with info about the June beach cleanup.

If you have questions or suggestions or are willing to help in any way, please send an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org).

**f. Highlight the History of Bird Rock Project**

There is nothing to report on this project.

**g. Happy Hours Project**

There was a successful Bird Rock community happy hour Wednesday, May 15 at Beaumont's. Watch for an email from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) with info about the next happy hour.

**5. Other Events**

**a. BirdStock**

The BRCC is providing additional support for the BirdStock Committee, which is organizing BirdStock 2024. The BirdStock Festival will be Saturday, October 19, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**b. Beaumont 4th of July Parade 2024**

- The theme is Super Heroes and Everyday Heroes.
- Motorized vehicles such as golf carts are not permitted along the parade route.
- Registration begins at 9:15 am at the SW corner of Camino de la Costa & Beaumont Avenue
- Family donation of \$40-\$250 is requested
- Parade starts at 10:00 am
- Beaumont Avenue residents – it would be great to see your wonderful home and yard decorations again
- After party celebration at the cul-de-sac behind the LJ Methodist Church where the judges will award the following prizes:

- 1st Place – Uncle Sam Award for the entry making the biggest impact
- 2nd Place – The Silver Bowl for the entry with the most creative interpretation of the theme
- 3rd Place – Best Runner-up entry
- 4th of July Spirit Award – The Murfey Cup for the best dressed house on Beaumont Avenue
- QUESTIONS? CONTACT Jason Hill (858-822-8126) / [jason@hillproperties.net](mailto:jason@hillproperties.net)

## **6. Updates from Bird Rock Working Groups**

### **a. Neighborhood Watch**

If you have any questions about the Bird Rock Neighborhood Watch or want to volunteer, send an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org).

### **b. Ad hoc Bird Rock Coastal Committee (Don Schmidt, Mary Lynn Hyde)**

Coming soon.

### **c. Bird Rock Merchants District (Craig Bender and Ron Fineman)**

Thanks to the participating Bird Rock merchants and to the others who contributed to the successful launch of the BR PERKS app. Currently, the app provides 32 discounts by 29 Bird Rock merchants to BRCC members. If you are a BRCC member or become one, look for an email from [no-reply@realperks.com](mailto:no-reply@realperks.com) for info on how to install the app on your smartphone. You can find more info about the app and how to become a BRCC member at <https://www.birdrockcc.org/>.

The merchants group is helping the BRCC to move the lighting and signage projects forward.

The next merchant group meeting will be in June, with the date and location TBD.

## **7. Next BRCC Community Meeting**

Please join us in person on Tuesday, September 10 at the Bird Rock Elementary School Auditorium. There will be limited Zoom access. Zoom details will be available at <https://www.birdrockcc.org>.

As noted last month, we will reduce the number of monthly BRCC Community Meetings to six per year, including the December holiday meeting.

## **8. Adjournment**

### **Appendix A**

#### **Written Updates from the Representatives of Elected Officials**

- 1. Codi Vierra, Field Representative, [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov), 858-455-5550**

## Update from the Office of Congressman Scott Peters

Bird Rock Community Council, 06/04/2024

### Updates from Washington, D.C.

- In early May, Rep. Peters led a [bipartisan request](#) with Rep. Escobar (TX-16) and 8 of their colleagues for **\$278 million for the International Boundary and Water Commission's (IBWC) construction budget** in the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 25) Appropriations bill. This represents a \$200 million increase over the President's request and is in addition to the \$156 million Rep. Peters already secured in the FY 24 appropriations bill. The IBWC is the federal agency tasked with operating and maintaining the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP), which has fallen into disrepair and is at the center of the cross-border sewage crisis on the American side of the border.
  - The members also requested language to allow other federal agencies and non-federal entities, such as state and local governments and non-profit organizations, to transfer money to the IBWC and \$89.3 million for the IBWC's Salaries and Expenses account, which is a \$20 million increase over the President's request. The total funding request, if enacted, would be enough for IBWC to fix and upgrade SBIWTP to treat 50 million gallons of wastewater per day. This will significantly reduce the amount of pollution reaching San Diego beaches, and in combination with actions taken by Mexico, will decrease the number of days beaches are closed and the toxic fumes that people in San Diego, Imperial Beach, and elsewhere breathe.
  - At a mid-May House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee Hearing on the Fiscal Year EPA Budget, EPA Administrator Michael Regan thanked Rep. Peters for securing the \$156 million in FY24 funding for the South Bay Water Treatment Plan. He also confirmed that they are prepared to provide the remaining \$290 million in funding for the expansion needed, stating that this past January, the EPA and IBWC finalized an Interagency Agreement to transfer the USMCA funds to the IBWC for treatment expansion projects. The \$290 million referred to is what is remaining from the funds secured from the USMCA in 2020, which will be used to fund a portion of the contract which IBWC says they plan to execute this summer.
- In Mid-May, Rep. Peters [voted to pass the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024](#) to maintain American leadership in aviation safety and aerospace innovation, help fund improvements at airports nationwide, strengthen and diversify the U.S. aviation workforce, make groundbreaking investments in sustainability and climate resiliency, and improve consumer protections and accessibility for travelers with disabilities.
  - **"Thanks to this bipartisan legislation, passengers can look forward to more convenient airport terminals, reduced airport noise levels, the ability to sit next to young family members at no additional cost, and long-term investments in our nation's aviation workforce,"** said Rep. Peters. **"I look forward to the President signing this bill into law to create good-paying aviation jobs in San Diego, ensure aviation safety, and enhance the passenger experience for travelers across the country."**
    - **Of significance to San Diego, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 includes:**
  - \$4 billion for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) to fund critical airport projects around the country, including a portion to San Diego International Airport's new Terminal 1.

- \$350 million to replace cancer-causing PFAS-containing firefighting foam at airports, including at San Diego International Airport.
- Immediate cash refunds for travelers on flights that are canceled or significantly delayed, even with non-refundable tickets.
- At least \$150 million annually in AIP funds to reduce noise and carbon emissions and improve climate resiliency.
- Strengthens the FAA's Community Collaboration Program by streamlining the process to update noise standards, which must include input from airports, flyers, local community groups, and individuals living near airports.

### **Updates from San Diego**

#### **• Congressman Peters recently had a productive District Work Period in San Diego this past month, including the following:**

- For Endangered Species Day, Congressman Peters and our staff visited the Rhino Rescue Center and the Frozen Zoo, learning more about the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance's conservation efforts.
  - Congressman Peters met with a 103-year-old WWII veteran ahead of his visit to Normandy with other veterans to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day.
  - Congressman Peters attended the annual Fiesta de los Peñasquitos and Escondido Spring Street Festival, talking to constituents and community groups, including the Vietnam Veterans Association.
- Congressman Peters met with the Downtown San Diego Partnership and visited the O Lot Safe Sleeping Site, learning more about their work on addressing homelessness in San Diego and hearing what support they need.
- Congressman Peters attended multiple ceremonies commemorating Memorial Day in San Diego.
- Congressman Peters participated in a press conference with the U.S. Coast Guard as they announced having seized over 33,000 pounds of illegal narcotics in international waters from seven suspected drug smuggling vessel interdictions/events from February and March, highlighting the importance of interagency cooperation to combatting transnational criminal organizations and the illicit drug market.
- Congressmembers Peters and Jacobs held a press conference on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> [highlighting funding wins](#) for San Diego military bases and families included in this fiscal year's spending bills. This includes significant allocations that will help military families, bolster on-base medical services, increase childcare options, and bring jobs to the region.
- On Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, Congressman Peters spoke at the monthly meeting of the San Diegans for Gun Violence Prevention, focusing on National Gun Violence Awareness Month and highlighting bills that he has cosponsored in the U.S. House of Representatives to address gun violence.
- Congressman Peters and our staff also met with numerous constituents, community groups, and businesses.

#### **• Congressional Art Competition**

- Our office held a reception on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the San Diego History Center in Balboa Park for high students who participated in our Congressional Art Competition. The History Center will continue to host an exhibit with all the submitted artwork



through the summer. The winner as chosen by our panel of community judges will continue to have their artwork proudly displayed in our nation's Capitol for one year.

- More details can be found at <https://scottpeters.house.gov/art-competition>.

• **Congressional App Competition**

- The Congressional App Challenge officially launched on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Students are now eligible to register and may start submitting their full applications. Applications will close on **October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, at 9:00 AM Pacific Time.
- The competition is open to students who reside or attend school in California's 50th Congressional District and who will be enrolled in middle or high school in the fall of 2024. Students may compete in teams of up to four. Individuals submitting on behalf of teams must meet the eligibility requirements for individual contestants.
- A winner will be announced in early December 2024. Every spring, winning individuals or teams are invited to Capitol Hill where they demo their apps to their Representatives at a celebration called #HouseOfCode. It's the most prestigious demo day in student STEM — the new national science fair. At #HouseOfCode students get to see their apps displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building, meet their Representatives, and connect with other coders from around the country!
- More information is available at <https://scottpeters.house.gov/app-challenge>. For questions, please call our office at (858) 455-5550 or email [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov).

**2. Mariah Kallhoff, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, 77th Assembly District, Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov, (760) 434-7605**

**Assemblymember Tasha Boerner – AD 77  
June 2024 Updates**

**Asm. Boerner's Bills Introduced in the 2024 Session:**

1. [AB-1992](#): Blue Carbon Projects in Coastal Developments
  - This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to add blue carbon demonstration projects to the suite of factors it considers for potential mitigation when approving coastal development permits, where feasible.
  - Status: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
2. [AB-2043](#): Medi-Cal Transportation Reimbursement
  - This bill would require Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCP) to ensure that the fiscal burden of nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) or nonmedical transportation (NMT) is not unfairly placed on public paratransit service operators.
  - Status: Senate Committee on Health
3. [AB-2234](#): E-Bike Safety Training
  - This bill would authorize the County of San Diego to establish a pilot program banning e bikes for anyone under the age of 12.
  - Status: Pending Referral – Senate
4. [AB-2259](#): Bike Smart Handbook

- This bill would direct the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) to develop and distribute, on or before September 1, 2025, the Bike Smart Handbook, a bicyclist and e-bike safety handbook based on evidence-based practices and emerging trends.

- Status: Senate Committee on Transportation

5. [AB-2564](#): Senior and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement Fund

- This bill would secure a permanent funding source for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program, supplementing the collections of existing PTP accounts.

- Status: Pending Referral – Senate

6. [AB 2666](#) – Refunding Excess IOU Profits

- This bill would direct the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to require an electrical or gas corporation, if the CPUC determines that an electrical or gas corporation has received revenues from its ratepayers that are in excess of its authorized rate of return for a prior year, to refund any excess revenues from a prior year to its ratepayers.

- Status: Pending Referral – Senate

7. [AB-2715](#): Ralph M. Brown Act: Closed Sessions

- This bill would allow matters of cybersecurity to be discussed by a legislative body of a local agency during closed session, provided that any action taken on those matters is done in open session

- Status: Senate Committee on Local Government

8. [AB-2756](#): Preventive Postpartum Pelvic Floor & Core Conditioning Exercises · This bill would authorize a three-year pilot program in the county of San Diego for preventive pelvic floor and core conditioning group exercises within the six to twelve week postpartum window to help birthing people rebuild their pelvic floor after pregnancy.

- Status: Pending Referral – Senate

**Upcoming Events with the Assemblymember:**

**California Community Climate Action Day**

Event Description: Join us in caring for our community green spaces. We'll be planting, mulching, and removing invasive species. Free lunch and resource fair to follow projects!

Time/Date: Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 11am-3pm

Location: San Dieguito County Park (1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Del Mar, 92014) For more information: [Community Climate Action Days | California](#)

[Volunteers](#)

**2024 Legislative Deadlines:**

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>: **Budget Bill must be passed by midnight PST**

Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment

Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>: Legislature reconvenes

Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>– August 31<sup>st</sup>: **Floor Session only**

Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>: Last day to amend bills on the Floor

Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup>: Last day for each house to pass bills // **Final Recess** upon

adjournment Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>: Last day for the **Governor to sign or veto bills** passed by the Legislature

3. **More coming soon.**