



North County Group  
Sierra Club San Diego  
P.O. Box 2141  
Escondido, CA 92033

December 7, 2020

Planning Commission  
City of Escondido  
Via Email

**RE: Sierra Club NCG Sierra Club NCG recommendations for Planning Commission By-Laws**

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Sierra Club North County Group appreciates the opportunity to comment and make recommendations to improve the By-Laws governing the operation of the Escondido Planning Commission. We request your consideration of the following:

1. Provide a direct means, such as individual official email that the City Council employs, for the public to effectively use to communicate with Planning Commissioners. The current practice of lumping all communications into one huge scan, often of questionable legibility, does a huge disservice to the public who wishes to participate and communicate with the Commissioners in their important role. A simple and effective remedy would be to provide each Commissioner their own @escondido.org email. This would significantly improve the public's ability to interface with the Commission.
2. Given that 'final approval' is given by the Planning Commission in some actions, representation is critically important. Therefore, we recommend the following Planning Commission seats to be designated, or added, for residents in the following categories:
  - a. Resident from an environmental justice community as defined by any census tract with a 50% or higher cumulative burden impact score on the California Enviroscreen.
  - b. Regional representative representing one of the local tribal communities.
  - c. Representative of an affordable housing organization working in the region.
3. Regarding agenda item placement, we recommend the requirement be reduced to allow one single Commissioner to place an item on the agenda. (Article IV. A)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura Hunter".

Laura Hunter, Chair  
NCG Conservation Committee