

Fall 2015

# ROLANDO PARK REPORTER

A publication for the residents, workers, and businesses of Rolando Park and their supporters



Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month ♦ 7 pm ♦ Rolando Park Elementary School Auditorium ♦ 6620 Marlowe Drive

## Transition Streets – RPCC September 14 Meeting

Sustainability, resilience, community building, and the survival of our species. These things matter to **Jamie Edmonds**, the guest speaker for our September 14 meeting. Jamie started the first San Diego group of Transition Streets earlier this year. San Diego is currently one of 12 pilot programs in the U.S. with a nationwide rollout scheduled for later this year.

Transition Streets started as a community response to climate change, resource depletion, and economic instability in the United Kingdom in 2005 and since then, has spread to more than 1200 communities and 44 countries.

Jamie will discuss the Transition Streets movement, his experience in starting the San Diego group, and how neighbors in Rolando Park can start their own Transition Streets program.

Transition Streets is a neighborhood carbon reduction program. This program provides a curriculum for neighbors to come together during planned community meetings to learn about and take action in five areas: food, energy, water, transportation, and waste. The focus is on low- or no-cost actions that result in lowering both expenses and carbon footprint.

Transition Streets is based on grassroots community initiatives. It differs from other sustainability and environmental groups by engaging small groups of motivated individuals within communities in home-grown, citizen-led education, action, and multi-stakeholder planning to increase local self-reliance and resilience.

### About the speaker

Jamie Edmonds wants to live in a world where humanity lives gently and sustainably on this pale blue dot in harmony with all of our fellow creatures.

As a professional Firefighter/Paramedic for over 22 years, he retired early in 2015 to devote himself full time toward realizing that goal. Jamie is the founder of [Transition San Diego](#), bringing the global Transition Movement, and other concepts and techniques related to sustainability, resilience, and permaculture to San Diego County.

When he's not speaking on the need to transition to a more sustainable, lower energy lifestyle, you can find him working on expanding his urban permaculture homestead near his childhood home (and alma mater, SDSU).

## RPCC wants YOU for the 2016 Board



*Do you love your neighborhood and want to keep it great or even make it better? Do you want to be more involved with your community?*

*The RPCC has openings for four positions on the 2016 Board: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Members-At-Large.*

Sounds like the 2015 Board members are all leaving doesn't it? They are not, but positions are shifting and Betty White's two-year term as President is coming to an end. Betty, Lynn, Sonia, and Fiona have all committed to continuing to serve in some manner. They will be there to help the new board members.

The slate of candidates will be announced in October, voting will take place in November, and the new Board will begin to serve in January 2016.

Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. You may contact either **Gerrie Flaven** or **Sonia Fleischman** who are on the Nominating Committee by private message on Nextdoor or email RPCC at [rpcc2003@gmail.com](mailto:rpcc2003@gmail.com).

### Options for participating on the Board

Volunteer as an individual to run for President, Vice President, Secretary, or Member-At-Large, or you and one of your household members or neighbors can volunteer to run as a team for President, Vice President, or Secretary. You would share the time commitment and attendance at meetings. Your team would have one vote on the Board.

Board members attend the RPCC general meetings, 7 pm on the second Monday of the month, September through June (2 hours per meeting) at Rolando Park Elementary School. They also attend ten monthly evening Board meetings (2 hours per meeting). Additional time is spent completing Board responsibilities as described in the RPCC By-laws.

- **President** – Serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Council and presides at all meetings of the Council and Executive Board.
- **Vice President** – Presides at meetings in the absence of the President and serves as the program chairperson.
- **Secretary** – Keeps records of all Council and Board meetings and maintains historical records.
- **Member-at-Large** – Voting member who takes a lead position on a task or project related to the overall interests of the RPCC.

**2015 RPCC Board**

**President**

Betty White  
[betty@rolandopark.org](mailto:betty@rolandopark.org)  
 619-542-9968

**Vice President**

Sonia Lang  
[sonia@rolandopark.org](mailto:sonia@rolandopark.org)

**Treasurer**

Lynn Edwards  
[lynn@rolandopark.org](mailto:lynn@rolandopark.org)  
 619-665-3535

**Secretary**

Vacant

**Members-at-Large**

Laura Sechrist-Molenda  
[laura@rolandopark.org](mailto:laura@rolandopark.org)  
 619-300-1747

Fiona Maguire

[Fiona@rolandopark.org](mailto:Fiona@rolandopark.org)  
 619-840-7149

**Rolando Park Community Council Launches New Website!**

In July, RPCC enthusiastically introduced a new and improved website at [www.rolandopark.org](http://www.rolandopark.org).

The new RPCC website serves as both a one-stop resource for current Rolando Park neighbors and presents the pride of Rolando Park to newcomers, community leaders, and local businesses.

Chock full of information, neighbors can visit the site to learn about upcoming RPCC events, become an RPCC member, get details about city projects affecting the neighborhood, find important resource links, and get involved with one of RPCC’s ongoing projects.

For several months, a dedicated group of neighbors convened to help bring the new website to fruition. The San Diego Foundation’s Ariel W. Coggeshall discretionary fund provided financing for a website theme template and professional photography for the graphic homepage. The budget-conscious website team also took advantage of RPCC’s non-profit status, researching and securing free website hosting with non-profit partners GuideStar, Grassroots.org, and Bluehost.

[Rolandopark.org](http://Rolandopark.org) will be updated continually with current happenings to promote community awareness and involvement *and* to celebrate our neighborhood successes!

Many thanks to The San Diego Foundation’s Ariel W. Coggeshall discretionary fund for providing the financing for the site. Big thanks to **Gerrie Flaven** and the website team: **Heather Erwin, Kathryn Kern, Laura Sechrist Molenda, and Betty White**. Extra thanks to **Brad Molenda** for the technical assistance he provided along the way.

Stay up-to-date on the latest Rolando Park news and events at [www.rolandopark.org](http://www.rolandopark.org).

**Board updates**



**LaVern Olberding** served as Treasurer on the RPCC board from 2010–2014. In 2015, LaVern began to serve as Member-at-Large. LaVern also facilitated the Zena Canyon Cleanup, delivered the Rolando Park Reporter to the route walkers, and walked her own route bringing Reporters to neighbors’ homes.

**Julie Fawley** served as Member-at-Large from 2012–2015. She worked with LaVern to facilitate the Zena Canyon Cleanup, deliver the Reporters to route walkers, and walked her own route to bring Reporters to neighbors.

Both LaVern and Julie have found their schedules too full to continue on the board, but they will continue to deliver Reporters to neighbors on their route.

**Fiona Maguire** has transitioned from Secretary to Member-at-Large.

We thank everyone for their service.

**What is a Little Free Library?**



It’s a “take a book, return a book” gathering place where neighbors share their favorite literature and stories. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share. You can too! Let’s build and install a Little Free Library in Rolando Park.

If you would like to donate your time, talent, or the cost of materials toward this project, please

let us know at [rpcc2003@gmail.com](mailto:rpcc2003@gmail.com).

**Zena Canyon Cleanup**

The next Zena Canyon cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, September 19**, from 9 am to noon. The event is part of the Creek-to-Bay Cleanup sponsored by I Love A Clean San Diego. The canyon is on Zena Drive between Meridian and Billman.

Please bring gloves, hat, bucket, and pickers. A limited amount of gloves and pickers are provided. Snacks, water, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, and trash bags are provided.

A dumpster is provided for the event. If you have large items (no hazardous waste or tires) that you want to dump, please bring them to the site between noon and 1pm that Saturday.

Sign up at [cleanupday.org](http://cleanupday.org); it’s not required, but it helps us know how many plan to attend and you can complete the waiver in advance.

## Zena Canyon Fence

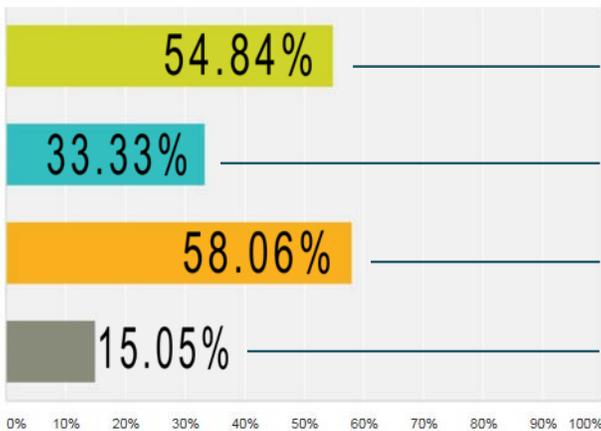
In 2015, as part of a hoped for larger project, RPCC sought to have attractive fencing at the Zena Canyon opening on Zena Drive. Although the larger project did not work out, we began dialogues with the City of San Diego, which owns the land where the proposed fence would be erected, and the San Diego Unified School District, which owns the bulk of the land in the Canyon. Both agreed that fencing would be a good idea.

Councilmember Myrtle Cole’s office pursued funding and in June, a decorative fence was erected at the entrance to Zena Canyon. It is the hope of Rolando Park residents that this fence will discourage illegal dumping in our beautiful canyon as well as creating a finished look to the canyon opening.



## University Avenue Improvement Group Survey: What do residents have to say about Rolando Park?

In July 2015, residents were surveyed about the development of Rolando Park. Analysis of the survey showed that the survey takers would like Rolando Park to have:



A **family character** with businesses like yogurt shops, coffee shops, gyms with day care options, gymnastic programs, martial arts programs, indoor playgrounds/trampoline/rock climbing places, etc.

An **artistic character** with businesses like art galleries, craft supply shops, consignment stores, coffee shops, ceramic shops, etc.

A **young professionals character** with businesses like wine bars, specialty shops, boutiques, locally owned restaurants, craft beer establishments, etc.

A **mainstream character** with popular chain stores and restaurants such as Target, Walmart, Denny’s, Starbucks, Chili’s, etc.

Analysis of the survey also showed:

- Roughly 50% of surveyed residents have lived in Rolando Park for more than 10 years; 21% for 5-10 years, and 17% for 1-3 years.
- If our surveyors couldn’t live in Rolando Park, they would choose to live in Kensington, Mission Hills, and in College/Rolando Village.
- The three top places Rolando Park residents like to visit are North Park, Downtown, and Hillcrest.
- People prefer to shop at locally-owned specialty shops.
- The majority of residents have been to one or two businesses on University Avenue or by Rolando Park, but usually shop elsewhere.
- Surveyors *want* and *would shop at* places in the Rolando Park area that had the following: music equipment, upscale pool halls, local craft breweries, wine bars, gastro-pubs, locally-owned cafes/bakeries/sandwich shops, locally-owned/independent farm-to-table restaurants, ethnic foods/restaurants, local coffee, yogurt shops, and juice bars (all eateries hosting live music), ceramics, new/used books, crafting, bicycles, art, photography, boutiques, natural food stores and specialty groceries like Trader Joes, Whole Foods, and Sprouts, vintage items/antiques, men/women/kids clothing, consignment shops, pharmaceuticals, cards/accessories, home décor, metaphysical/spiritual supplies, reading rooms, gardening and hardware supplies, computers and supplies, specialty education/skill training, and charter schools.

Next steps include attracting new businesses to our area by letting them know who we are and what our vision is.

**Community Numbers & Links**

**San Diego Police Department**  
24-hour non-emergency issues  
(619) 531-2000

**Community Liaison Officer**  
Terry Hoskins  
(619) 516-3091  
[thoskins@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:thoskins@pd.sandiego.gov)

**Report graffiti**  
Graffiti hotline  
(619) 527-7500  
[Graffiti online complaint form](#)

**Councilmember MyrtleCole**  
(619) 236-6644  
[myrtlecole@sandiego.gov](mailto:myrtlecole@sandiego.gov)

**Broken water lines and leaks**  
619-515-3525  
[www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water)

**Report water waste**  
(619) 533-5271  
[waterwaste@sandiego.gov](mailto:waterwaste@sandiego.gov)

**Broken streetlights, signs, and potholes**  
619-527-7500  
[www.sandiego.gov/street-div](http://www.sandiego.gov/street-div)

**Service request**  
[Map method](#)  
[Text method](#)

**Missed trash collection**  
858-694-7000  
[Service request](#)

**Loose dogs**  
619-236-4250  
<http://www.sddac.com/>

**Community Calendar**

**Rolando Park Community Council Events**

- **Rolando Park Community Council Meetings**  
September 14, 7 pm  
*Transition Streets*– Jamie Edmonds  
October 12, 7 pm  
*Neighborhood Watch Development* – Maurize Rios  
November 9, 7 pm  
*Joining the Nextdoor Community* – The Basics  
December 14, 7 pm  
*Bring a Neighbor Holiday Social*
- **Zena Canyon Cleanup**  
September 19, 9 am to noon  
Zena Drive between Meridian and Billman

**Other Community Events**

- **Lean and Clean**  
Sept 5, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5 – Saturday, 8 am to 10 am  
Meet at the pocket park, corner of College and College Grove (SE corner, across from Chase Bank), 8 am.  
Contact Audrey, [audreyj99@cox.net](mailto:audreyj99@cox.net), for more information.

**Support Our Local Business Community**

2015 #4

**Rolando Park Community Council Membership**

Membership dues are \$12.00 per **calendar** year, per household. You may pay by check or cash at a general meeting, through PayPal (additional \$1 service charge) at [rolandopark.org](http://rolandopark.org), or by mailing a check made out to RPCC along with this form, to RPCC, PO Box 152352, San Diego, CA 92195.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ \$12 dues only or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation + \$12 dues.



RPCC is funded in part by a grant from the Ariel W Coggeshall Discretionary fund of The San Diego Foundation.