

From: [Don Christiansen](#)
To: [Growth Management Committee](#)
Subject: SAN DIEGO Community Power commits to 100% renewable energy by 2035
Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 11:49:59 AM

http://enewspaper.sandiegouniontribune.com/infinity/article_share.aspx?guid=83a88161-ed84-46be-8c83-d4a416896fb6

"The resolution didn't provide a detailed list of actions needed to meet that target. But San Diego Community Power spokesperson Jen LeBron said the agency has a purchase agreement with Viking Solar Energy Generation and Battery Storage Project in Imperial Valley and is reviewing proposals from other solar developers, with projects planned for 2026 through 2028. ***It is also pursuing infill and rooftop solar projects on warehouses and homes.***"

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Dear Committee Members,

We should do more in our final work product to address the concerns of numerous Carlsbad residents regarding the provision of a park at Ponto or preservation of the current open space in that area. Let me start by reiterating our committee mission below, which twice mentions **Quality of Life (QOL)** within it.

*The mission of the Carlsbad Tomorrow Growth Management Citizens Committee is to promote balanced consideration of a range of perspectives on issues affecting the future growth and **quality of life** in Carlsbad and to identify the key elements of a new plan to manage growth in Carlsbad **in a way that maintains an excellent quality of life** while also complying with state law.*

As committee members, an important purpose is to collectively ensure that we represent the residents of Carlsbad as we amend the existing growth management plan to comply with the law, all while placing a strong emphasis on maintaining and further enhancing our current QOL.

Despite hearing the comments of numerous Ponto Park advocates from the public in emails and at our meetings, and also being provided with copies of several thousand signed petitions advocating for such, the word “Ponto” only shows up once in our proposed final work product. This seems to ignore the commentary provided by a large subset of residents, especially since the southwest region of quadrant 4 clearly does not meet the specs for provision of parks in the current growth management plan.

During the meetings, it was stated it was not within our purview to address **specific** entities such as Ponto Park or open space in particular areas. I never completely understood the logic behind that position as this topic is a very important **general** QOL consideration for all residents and visitors. An important distinction is that the land on the east side of the Coast Highway between La Costa Avenue and the Cape Rey Hilton is one of the only remaining open space areas left on our coast.

As rightly acknowledged by committee members Jeff Segall, Fred Briggs, and Allen Manzano in their recently submitted joint statement related to Carlsbad beaches for the QOL memo, *“Essential to Carlsbad's civic identity is its seven miles of pristine coastline and beaches. The coast is Carlsbad's single most important defining character and is the heart to our quality of life for all who live, work and recreate here.”*

Anecdotally, I conducted my own straw poll asking over 100 residents from all four city quadrants what they would like to see happen with this coastal area moving forward. Not a single individual preferred to see commercial development preside over installation of a park there or just leaving the land the way it is now as natural open space.

If the City Council were to act now in favor of maintaining the natural scenic beauty of this land as opposed to supporting its commercial development, the QOL associated with this outcome could be preserved forever. To that end, I propose that our final work product to the City Council include this as one of our recommendations. The wording could be something like the below in either the Plan or QOL memo.

The committee strongly recommends that the City Council take aggressive and timely action toward maintaining the existing open space on the east side of the Coast Highway between La Costa Avenue and the Cape Rey Hilton by either: (1) providing a Ponto Park, or; (2) by leaving the area as natural open space. This enhancement to Carlsbad's future QOL, as opposed to allowing commercial

development of the area, would be highly desirable to residents from all quadrants as well as visitors to the area.

Thank you for your consideration,

Frank Caraglio
Council District 3 Primary Member