

Campo/Lake Morena Calendar

February 26th Campo/Lake Morena Sponsor Group 7 PM Campo Community Center

March 7th Lake Morena Village Council 7 PM Lake Morena Fire Station

March 12th Campo/Lake Morena Sponsor Group 7 PM Pavilion John Lyons Park, Lake Morena

March 19th Campo Fire & Rescue 7:30 PM Campo Fire Station

March 26th Campo/Lake Morena Sponsor Group 7 PM Campo Community Center

Campo Homemakers Thrift Shop Thursday 12:30 to 3:00 Saturday 11:00 to 3:00

Mountain Empire Historical Society Museum 11:00 to 4:00 Saturday and Sunday

Campo Seniors Meeting and Potluck Dinner 5 PM on the third Monday in the month, Pancake Breakfast 7 AM to 10 AM on the second and fourth Saturday in the month



M E R I T
Post Office Box 665
Campo, CA 91906

***SPONSOR GROUP MEETING
February 26th at 7:00 PM Campo
Community Center -***

POSTAL PATRON

CAMPO, CA 91906

MERIT

Mountain Empire Resources Information Taskforce
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Campo, CA 91906-3106
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Newsletter #11 - 18 January 200

JANUARY 22ND MEETING AND LOCATION FOR CAMPO/LAKE MORENA SPONSOR GROUP

Our electric outage canceled the January 8th meeting. The January 22nd meeting will convene at the Campo Community Center at 7PM. The January 8th agenda has been carried forward to this coming Monday. The agenda is repeated for your review. One of three major discussion items for GP2020 will be the location of Commercial and Industrial areas. The proposed GP2020 map does not envision any Industrial areas and the community has approved of this land use guideline. The map has sited three Commercial areas. They are the core areas of the three existing business areas - Cameron Corners, Lake Morena and Campo. Requests to modify these decisions on commercial and industrial areas will be presented for discussion and denial/approval.

The Trails Committee will make a report on their recommendations and the new Trails Maps prepared by the County will be reviewed. A representative from the County (Parks and Recreation and DPLU) is scheduled to be at the January 22nd meeting to coordinate existing efforts by the County on trails with the GP2020 process.

The other major discussion will be on the Circulation (roads and traffic) element of GP2020. Additional discussions on GP2020 will include the question of adopting a moratorium, unique policies dealing with watershed protection and drought, and policies dealing with the preservation of viewsheds and ridgelines. In addition, there is always the opportunity for any member of the public to bring forward any ideas and concerns residents have. There are new faces at every meeting and the fact that seven candidates ran for four offices shows the interest the community has in the issues.

Finally representatives from St. Vincent de Paul will be available to answer questions about water, groundwater and land use issues for their PromiseLand Ranch project at Tom Dyke Ranch. Many questions came up during their presentation at the December 11th meeting.

PROMISELAND RANCH LAND USE PLANNING MEETING January 13th - Larry Plaster and Father Metzdorf invited 34 people to meet at the site to conduct a land use planning session. They selected 17 who they decided were in favor of the project and 17 who were not in favor. This 50/50 split does not represent the current sentiment of the community. They also invited the Land Use Aide to Supervisor Dianne Jacob, who will be voting on this project, and City of San Diego Councilwoman Valerie Stallings. They decided to bypass the Sponsor Group and the community at large to conduct this planning and land use session. Most of those who live in the vicinity of the project and who would be most affected did not receive an invitation.

MERIT protested this exclusion of the community and neighbors and 1) asked for postponement of the scheduled meeting, 2) asked for the meeting to be opened to the entire community, 3) asked for the meeting to be conducted by an impartial outside mediator and offered to underwrite half the cost, and 4) offered to rent Campo Community Center to ensure ample room for the meeting. SVDP refused to do this. After a number of complaints from neighbors who felt they were disenfranchised, three days before the meeting SVDP opened the meeting to anyone who wanted to come. Unfortunately that invitation was not announced to the community. A number of MERIT members did attend and participate in the discussions. In our opinion some common ideas were heard and repeated during the meeting. The project is too large, the project will use far too much water, the implementation of the project, if it were approved, should be phased in over a number of years, very large portions of the site (wetlands, oak woodlands, riparian areas, rock outcroppings, and alkali meadows) all must be preserved as permanent open space easements, and buildings should be low, not on hillsides or ridgelines, hidden from neighbors and with some clustering to minimize impact. There were also a wide diversion of ideas on how many and what types of other buildings should be constructed. On one hand some wanted a new community center, programs for seniors including a pool and a lot of development while others wanted no additional buildings on site and with the children going to local schools, using local services and being integrated in to the community and learning to live in a normal family environment.

There needs to be many more meetings and SVDP has said there would be. MERIT has adopted a policy that they will not attend future meetings unless they are open to the community and adequately noticed so all who wish to participate may do so.

CAMPO FIRE & RESCUE - This newsletter does not have enough space for a detailed discussion of the information at the January 15 meeting. A complete report will be given in the next newsletter. However, one exciting event will be the early February delivery of a desperately needed piece of equipment, a completely rebuilt water tender. This approximately \$29,000 purchase is being paid for by funds generated from Building Permit Fees from the Campo area. Each year about \$2500 is deposited to a Fire Mitigation Fund to be used for this type of purchase. Over a number of years the monies have accumulated and, supplemented by a \$2,000 contribution from Doug Brock, a volunteer who lives in Yuma, the unit will be brought online next month. The other item is the roof of the station is seriously deteriorated and must be replaced now. Volunteers and roofing experts are needed.