

February 20, 2026

Ms. Victoria LaBruzzo  
Scripps Ranch Planning Group, Chair  
Community Planners' Committee, Chair

RE: "A Seat at the Table" CPC letter

Dear CPC Chair Labruzzo,

This correspondence responds to your letter dated Jan. 29, 2026, requesting designated community presentation time at City Decision-Making Hearings. Thank you for notifying myself and other City officials of the CPC vote requesting time for organized presentations at public hearings. DSD oversees the Hearing Officer and Planning Commission and thus, my response is specific to those public hearings for discretionary decision-making.

The Permanent Rules of the Planning Commission ("Rules") establish the procedures for Commission Meetings. Public comment is addressed in Section 2.5 of the Rules, which states:

**2.1. Procedure for Docket Items:** The following guidelines may be used in considering any item and may be modified at the discretion of the Commission Chair or by a majority vote of the Commission setting different time limits:

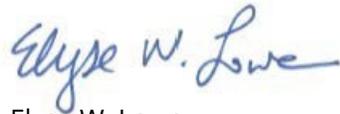
- (c) Testimony by members of the public regarding the item (maximum of three minutes each or as the Chair determines appropriate).

The Rules establish **equal time for all public participants**, including applicants, appellants, community planning group members, and other members of the public. Any organized presentation, regardless of affiliation, is allowed for up to 15 minutes and requires the requisite number of individuals to be present in the hearing room. No individual or organization is authorized to speak beyond the maximum timeframe established for all individuals by the Chair during the hearing. **The Rules ensure equitable participation at the Planning Commission.**

Further, staff reports and presentations address the recommendations provided by the recognized Community Planning Group, when applicable.

The existing Planning Commission Rules ensure a balanced dialogue among its members, staff, and the public.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elyse W. Lowe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elyse W. Lowe  
Director, Development Services Department

Cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria  
Honorable Council President and Members of the City Council  
Casey Smith, Chief Housing & Community Development Officer, Office of the Mayor  
Chris Ackerman-Avila, Sr Policy Advisor, Office of the Mayor  
Heidi VonBlum, Director, City Planning Department  
Diana Fuentes, City Clerk  
Council Offices Chiefs of Staff  
Saige Gonzales Walding, Chair  
Chollas Valley Community Planning Group