



Issam Najm, President; Susan Gorman-Chang, Vice President; Gabriel Khanlian, Secretary;
Andrew Krowne, Treasurer; David Balen, Signer;
Asaad Alnajjar; Jason Hector; Alex Kim; Becky Leveque; Hassan Memarian, Jennifer Milbauer

**Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC)
General Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Porter Ranch Community School (PRCS)
12450 Mason Avenue, Porter Ranch 91326**

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
(Pending Board Approval)**

1. Meeting call to order
 - President Issam Najm called the meeting to order at 6.28PM.
2. Welcome
 - President Issam Najm welcomed over thirty stakeholders, along with ten board members.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
 - Jennifer Milbauer led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Roll Call
 - Gabriel Khanlian performed the roll call, ten board members were present, and a quorum was declared.

Here (10)	Asaad Alnajjar, David Balen, Susan Gorman-Chang, Gabriel Khanlian, Alex Kim, Andrew Krowne, Becky Leveque, Hassan Memarian, Jennifer Milbauer, and Issam Najm
Absent (1)	Jason Hector

5. Motion to Approve the December 2017 PRNC Meeting Minutes
 - Susan Gorman-Chang made a motion to approve this agenda item; David Balen seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (9)	Alnajjar, Balen, Gorman-Chang, Khanlian, Kim, Krowne, Memarian, Milbauer, and Najm
Abstain (1)	Leveque
Absent (1)	Hector

6. Treasurer's Report

Budget Amount		\$69,506.35
Expenses to Date	Funding Requests	6,853.60
	Credit Card	8,513.27
Total Outstanding	Commitments	0.00
	Pending Payments	1,861.74
Net Available		\$52,277.74
Cash Balance		\$54,139.48

- Treasurer Andrew Krowne reported that all bills in the queue have been paid, except the Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) for the Friends of Oakridge (FOO). In response to David Balen's query, the FOO have not yet been contacted but Andrew will take the action of contacting them. The city has been approving NPGs for trees, so this NPG should be approved ASAP.

7. Presentation from Budget Advocates

- Budget Advocate Deidre Greenway reported that the annual budget day would be held throughout the city on Saturday, January 20. The regional valley meeting will be at the Marvin Braude Building, 6262 Van Nuys Boulevard. This will include a presentation and discussion of the budget advocates initial white paper. Board members, budget representatives, and community members are welcome. It is requested that attendees complete an online survey before and after the meeting. This survey can be found at <http://ncbala.com/>

8. Presentations from Representatives of Elected Officials and Government Agencies

- Tanaz Golshan from Mayor Garcetti's office is the new west valley field representative, replacing Kevin Taylor. She did not have much to report as she just started; however, she has been in contact with Andrew Krowne. Tanaz offered her apologies for the absence of a west valley representative from the mayor's office. She is currently reviewing the Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) concerning the new Hidden Creek Development, and will update the board as it develops.
- Lane Semper asked if PRNC could have an extension of the EIRs; Tanaz will research that. Tanaz asked if anyone has submitted anything from the Land Use and/or Sustainability Committees. Issam Najm replied that the city extended the PRNC's option for public comment. Lane asked if the city could consider windmills if the Hidden Creek Development does not get approved.
- Susan Gorman-Chang asked Tanaz about Mayor Garcetti's position on Aliso Canyon; is he getting closer to shutting it down? Tanaz reported that the mayor's position has not changed from the negative.
- Leeor Alpern, Senior Public Information Specialist from South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) works in the legislative/media relation's area and recommended that people call 800-CUT-SMOG to report gas leaks. This past month, SCAQMD received fifteen calls concerning violations by So Cal Gas. Someone asked if those fifteen calls had any influence; Leeor answered in the affirmative. Issam Najm asked how many notices of violations could So Cal Gas receive prior to doing anything. It was remarked that the leakage from December was nowhere near as severe as the October 2015 leak.
- Andrew Krowne told Leeor that the patience of the people of Porter Ranch is rightfully razor thin.
- Gabriel Khanlian mentioned that a skunk-like odor seems to happen between 1AM and 3AM; the odor leaks into the house, yet dissipates within twenty-minutes. When AQMD arrives, the smell already has dissipated but yet, the smell is in the house. AQMD is not allowed to make a report if they do not smell it outside and wanted what action can AQMD take to smell this odor most of the residents report.
- Hassan Mesmarian asked about a potential method of collecting air samples.
- Hassan Mesmarian asked if SCAQMD has the technology to develop a permanent fence-line around the perimeter of Porter Ranch.
- A stakeholder expressed concern about the current air quality. He recommended that everyone go outside during the break, breathe the air, and determine if they notice anything.
- Issam asked if the flipcharts might be available from the December 14 meeting. Leeor responded in the affirmative, and will forward them onto Issam for posting on the PRNC website.

- Stakeholder Jim Summers seemed anxious to receive the most recent gas leak information. He recommended that SCAQMD also attend [related] landfill meetings. The government agencies work so slowly that it has taken over twenty years yet the landfill team has not done a health study.
 - A stakeholder mentioned that she recently went to Florida for three weeks and did not have to take any of her medication. When she returned home to Porter Ranch, her chest pains returned. Her doctor told her she looks good, but her internal plumbing is a mess and the doctor recommended that she move away. She hopes to sell her Porter Ranch home within four months and leave the community.
 - Leeor replied that he is not being evasive, yet SCAQMD does not have the authority to shut down Aliso Canyon; their job is to monitor the air. Stakeholders will have to go to the state to shut down Aliso Canyon.
 - Stakeholder Christine asked how Leeor is reaching people for the SCAQMD meetings. She noticed many people at the December 14 meeting were from an agency, rather than from the neighborhood. However, this meeting was scheduled during the holiday season which made it difficult for people to attend.
 - Leeor replied that the December 14th meeting was planned with merely a week's notice; he hopes that the next meeting would alert the people of Porter Ranch via PRNC's email list and website.
 - A stakeholder asked, as there are many studies being done, perhaps all the research could be coordinated via the multiple law firms. Leeor replied that many law firms reach out to SCAQMD; hence they all receive the same information.
9. General Public Comments on matters that are not on the Agenda
- Stakeholder Jim Summers from the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) came to this evening's meeting to discuss agenda item 12. However, he recommends that PRNC have brief public comment at the beginning and end of each meeting (as they do at GHSNC). This has resulted in great response during GHSNC meetings.
 - David Garringer introduced himself as the vice principal at Castlebay Lane Elementary School. He has been with the LAUSD for eighteen-years.
 - Stakeholder Craig mentioned that the Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC) plans to host a town hall meeting with Dr. Nordella, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 29. He urges the PRNC to participate in this town hall meeting.
 - Stakeholder Lane Semper reported that the Sustainability Committee is planning an Earth Day event for Saturday April 14. Additional information will be discussing during agenda items 11 and 16.
10. Presentation from [and Q&A with] Ms. Alin Sahagian, City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecutor for the Devonshire Area
- Devonshire's Neighborhood Prosecutor Alin Sahagian has resided in Porter Ranch for over twenty years. She works alongside the six Senior Lead Officers (SLO) in vertical prosecution (meaning she handled all issues from arrest to conviction) in the areas of transportation and vice in prostitution abatement, reining in massage parlor abuse, illegal hookah lounges, unlicensed marijuana dispensaries, etc.
 - Alin also works alongside the Building and Safety Department on graffiti-covered and/or boarded-up vacant buildings. They penalize the building's owner for permitting anything that results in visual blight and a decrease in property values. If you see a location that attracts squatters, with late-night visitors, please reach out to SLO Del Valle and Alin so they may research this property, and go after the owners (especially if it is bank-owned property). Becky Leveque thanked Alin for the work the

LAPD did in cleaning up the junk that was in front of house on Marion Avenue; this extra effort made that entire neighborhood safer.

- Lane Semper mentioned that gas-powered leaf blowers have been illegal for several years; Alin requested specific addresses so that the LAPD can investigate.
- Stakeholder Garry thought it was legal for a pedestrian to cross at an intersection; however, cars along Parthenia, Superior, and Lassen Streets ignore the pedestrian’s right of way. What can be done? Alin requested that Garry email his concerns to Alin, and she will pass this information along to the LAPD’s traffic officer(s).
- Issam Najm mentioned that Reseda Boulevard, between Rinaldi and Sesnon Boulevards, is over a mile without any stop signs or traffic lights. It is impossible to expect a pedestrian to venture over a half-mile to the nearest intersection.
- Someone asked if it is illegal for a homeless person to stay in the library all day. Alin replied that being homeless is not a crime. They can use the library [and its rest room] all day. If they are interrupting the workflow [or something beyond that] then that is illegal.
- Treasurer Andrew Krowne mentioned that the former treasurer of PRNC had some transgressions, yet PRNC has not received an update for nearly a year. A stakeholder asked if the previous treasurer conducted criminal activity. Alin replied that she is not at liberty to discuss that issue. The person who handles neighborhood council disputes may provide information.
- Street racing has been another issue in Porter Ranch; if this occurs during one particular night, please report this to Alin and SLO DeValle.
- Tuesday, February 13, at 6PM, City Attorney Mike Feuer will attend a meeting at the Granada Hills Women’s Club, 10666 White Oak Avenue; Alin will forward an email announcement to the PRNC.

BREAK

11. Committee Updates and Board Member Comments/Statements

- David Balen from the Land Use Committee reported that the meeting with Frank Su, Vice President of Operations for Toll Brothers, has been postponed indefinitely. They hoped to meet to work on the Hidden Creek’s Development’s EIR, agenda item 12.
- Susan Gorman-Chang reported that Thursday, January 25, at 4PM, the Homeless Outreach Committee, accompanied by Laura from Sisters of the Streets, would meet on Rinaldi Street and walk through the Limekiln Canyon Park. They have a wagon that they use to distribute food, water, TAP cards, and guidance cards (instruction cards that provide resources) to the homeless. This will be the 3rd time they have provided this service. They previously met two people in the canyon, and several people in the parking lot of Whole Foods Market. There is a skittish homeless lady who lives near the 118 freeway, but they were unable to approach her.
- Susan also reported that the Sustainability Committee would meet at Starbucks, 19759 Rinaldi Street on Tuesday, January 16, at 6.30PM to discuss their plans for the Earth Day Events scheduled for Saturday, April 14.
- Alex Kim reported that the Beautification Committee meets on the last Tuesday of each month at the Porter Ranch Library; they hope to finalize the plans for the Tampa Avenue medians.
- Alex wondered where the government representatives are. It has been several months since we have seen someone from the offices of Assemblyman Acosta, State Senator Stern, Councilman Englander, and Congressman Sherman. Issam mentioned that he emailed Ron Rubine of Councilman Englander’s office, as well as Jarrod DeGonia from Supervisor Kathryn Barger’s office, and Kevin Taylor, who’s the district representative for Senator Stern. Mr. De Gonia noted that he

- will not be able to attend. Mr. Taylor said that he could not make it, but he attended the Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee meeting.
- Becky Leveque congratulated the PRNC and everyone involved with the awesome holiday party that was held at the Castlebay School on Wednesday, December 20.
 - Safety and Transportation Committee Chairman Asaad Alnajjar mentioned that they made progress with the traffic signs and flags. However, several were damaged or blew away. There has not been any progress with the new traffic lights and [potential] speed bumps. Perhaps PRNC can spend money [during this fiscal year] for a new monitor.
 - Issam created several graphs comparing expenditures versus budgets. There were several expenditures that did not happen, such as \$10k for solar panels in the park. Office expenditures are low, yet outreach expenditures are on target. Alex mentioned that the Tampa Avenue median might be a potential expenditure.
 - Webmaster Wendy Moore will update the PRNC website; she may request updates from the committee chairs.
 - A stakeholder recommended sending any extra funds to the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). Treasurer Andrew Krowne replied that the PRNC could not financially support the LAFD. If the captains can coordinate with a non-profit, perhaps this non-profit can submit an NPG to the PRNC.
12. Discussion and possible action to submit comments, if possible, on the Draft EIR for the Hidden Creeks Development project
- Jim Summers of Granada Hills opposes this EIR and the city's incorporation of the area.
 - Thursday, January 11, there will be meeting to further discuss this EIR.
 - The Land Use Committee, including Jason Hector and David Balen, will write a letter to the city.
 - Jennifer Milbauer recommended coordinating this with the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (who submitted disapproving comments). However, Councilman Englander approved this development, based on the approval of the previous PRNC.
 - A stakeholder recommended that we get statements from schools, LAFD, etc.
13. Motion to approve the submittal of a "Thank You" Letter to Castlebay Lane Elementary School for hosting the PRNC Holiday Party
- Issam Najm mentioned that he has a bucket of sodas and waters to bring to the next PRNC meeting.
 - Asaad Alnajjar, David Balen, Hassan Memarian, and Jennifer Milbauer thanked Issam for all his extra effort in all these thank you letters. In addition, Jennifer recommended cc:ing LAUSD School Superintendent Scott Schmerelson.
 - David Balen made a motion to approve this agenda item; Becky Leveque seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
14. Discussion and possible action to schedule a Special Meeting on January 25, 2018, to hear back from the SCAQMD as a follow-up to their community meeting of December 2017 regarding the community health study
- Thursday, January 25th is no longer a good day, this may be postponed until Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, January 29th, 30th or 31st.
 - Andrew Krowne and stakeholder Craig recommended that this be an SCAQMD meeting rather than a PRNC meeting; board members are restricted in what they state at a PRNC meeting; they can speak more freely at SCAQMD meetings.
 - Jennifer Milbauer added that PRNC did not do roll call at Dr. Nordella's meeting.



- Issam Najm recommended that PRNC call a special meeting, adjourn that meeting, and then turn it over to the SCAQMD.
- Becky Leveque and stakeholder Brian recommended consulting the city attorney, if the city attorney approves, then the meeting will go forward.
- Issam Najm made a motion to call this special PRNC meeting, and then turn it over to the SCAQMD pending approval by the City attorney; Hassan Hermarian seconded the motion, and it passed.

Here (8)	Alnajjar, Balen, Khanlian, Kim, Leveque, Memarian, Milbauer, and Najm
No (1)	Krowne
Absent (2)	Gorman-Chang and Hector

15. Discussion and possible action to submit four letters

- A. A letter to the California Energy Commission (CEC) inquiring about the status of the plan for the closure of the Aliso Canyon Facility as requested by Governor Brown
 - B. A letter to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) urging them to partner with the CEC on the development and implementation of a closure plan for the Aliso Canyon gas facility
 - C. A letter to the SCAQMD regarding the gas releases from the Aliso Canyon facility in December 2017, and requesting specific actions
 - D. A letter to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) asking that they reinstall the online methane and benzene monitors in the community
- Jennifer Milbauer loved all the letters, yet recommended adding underscore or bolding, especially in the following two sentences in the letter to Dr. Weisenmiller (attachment E):
 - Last sentence of the 2nd paragraph: “Regardless of where one stands on this issue, this catastrophic event clearly demonstrated that these underground facilities are not compatible with urban environments, especially in the most seismically active region of the country”.
 - Second to the last sentence of the 4th paragraph: “Furthermore, while this comparison is focused on methane because it is the only measurable gas component using these sensing instruments, we should not forget that this plume included countless harmful chemicals, many of which So Cal Gas refuses to identify”.
 - Lane Semper fully supports all four letters.
 - Jennifer Milbauer made a motion to approve this agenda item, with the bolding or underscore added to the letter addressed to Dr. Weisenmiller; Gabriel Khanlian seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

16. Discussion and possible action to plan for and hold a Community Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 14 in partnership with CD12 and the NWNC. The Celebration will be held from noon until 4PM at a local park

- Susan Gorman-Chang anticipates having a budget by the February PRNC meeting, and hopes that this event takes place at the Holleigh Bernson Memorial Park, 11200-11299 Porter Ranch Drive.
- Jennifer Milbauer asked if Susan chatted with CD12; Mitchell Englander’s assistant told Susan that they would support this activity.
- Stakeholder Lane Semper also fully supports this action.
- Susan Gorman-Chang made a motion to authorize the Sustainability Committee to plan and create a budget for the April 14th Earth Day Celebration; Jennifer Milbauer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.



17. Discussion and possible action to upgrade the storage room to a 10' x 5' room for \$133/month
- PRNC's current storeroom is at full capacity on the second floor. PRNC hopes to have a larger storeroom (to organize everything and hold the new popcorn maker and spinner) located on the 1st floor (for easier access).
 - Issam Najm requested a modification to the motion to add that he can sign the contract for this rental space.
 - Gabriel Khanlian made a motion to approve this agenda item, and add the caveat authorizing Issam Najm to sign the contract for this rental space; Becky Leveque seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

18. Motion to approve a Board Member Reimbursement for Susan Gorman-Chang in the amount of \$43.33
- Susan Gorman-Chang personally incurred the following PRNC expenditures

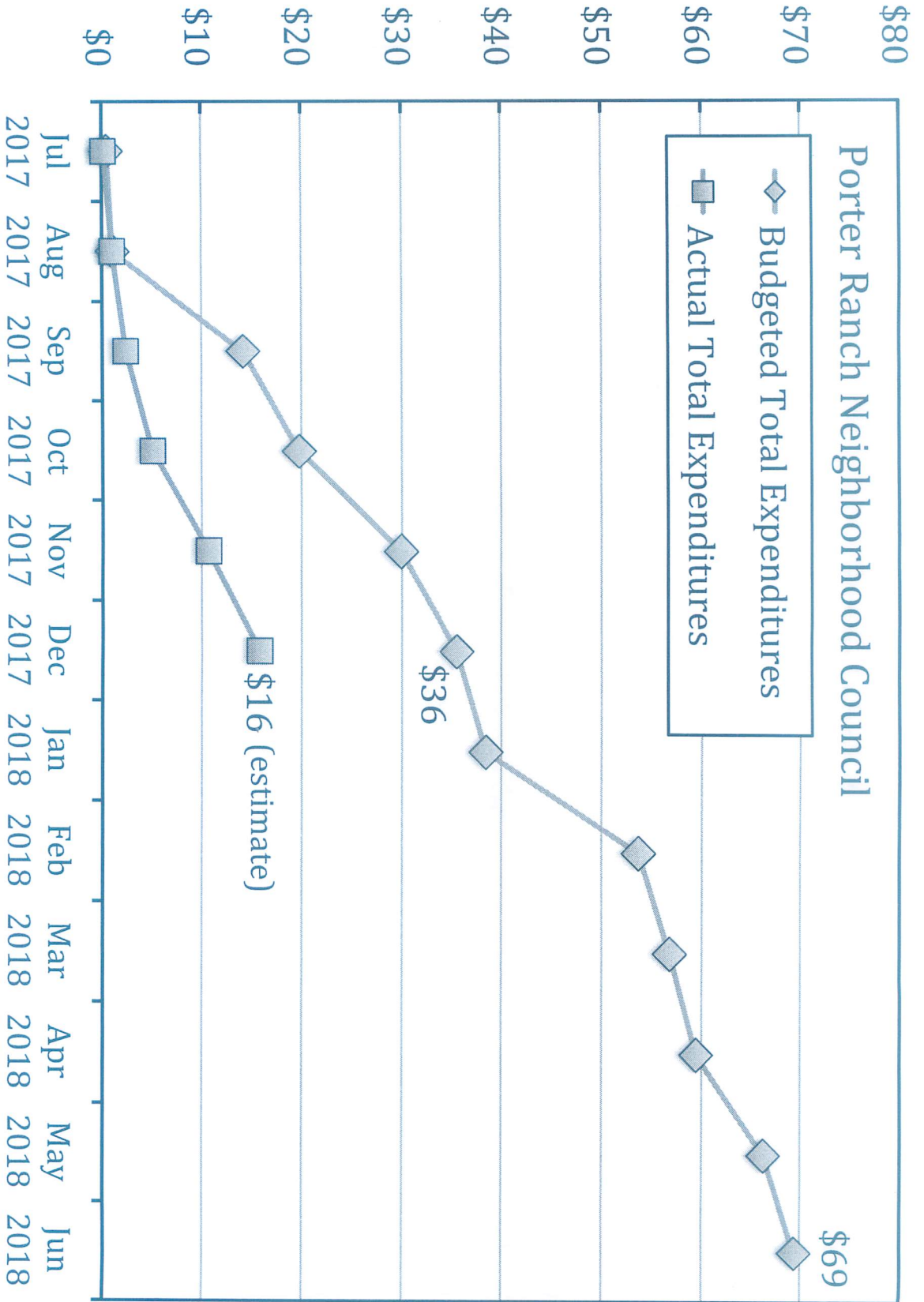
Date	Vendor	Amount
October 31	Starbucks	27.38
November 30	Dollar Tree Stores Inc.	15.95
		43.33

- Susan Gorman-Chang made a motion to approve this agenda item; Jennifer Milbauer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

19. Meeting Adjournment

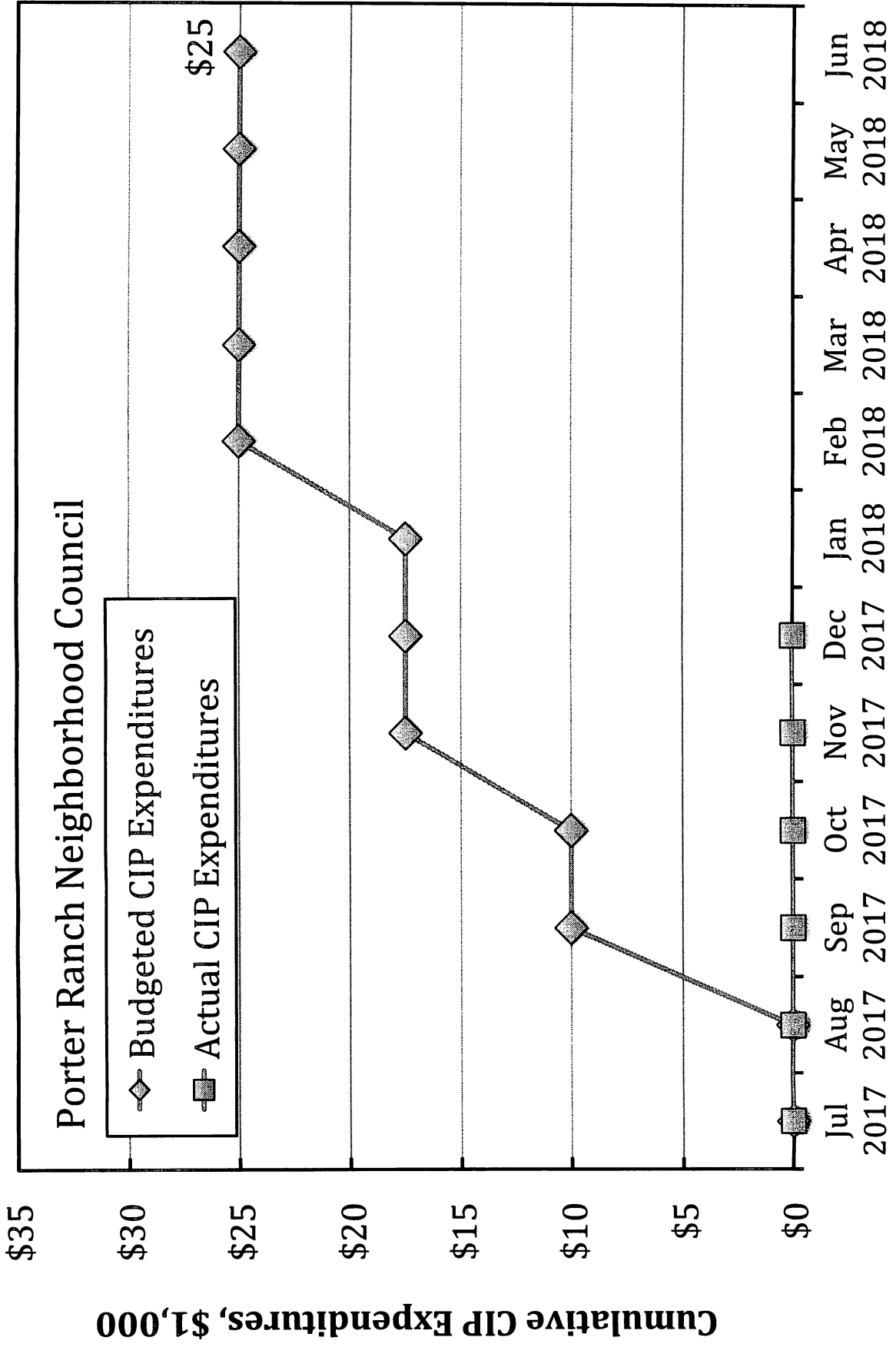
- Issam Najm adjourned the meeting at 9.05PM.

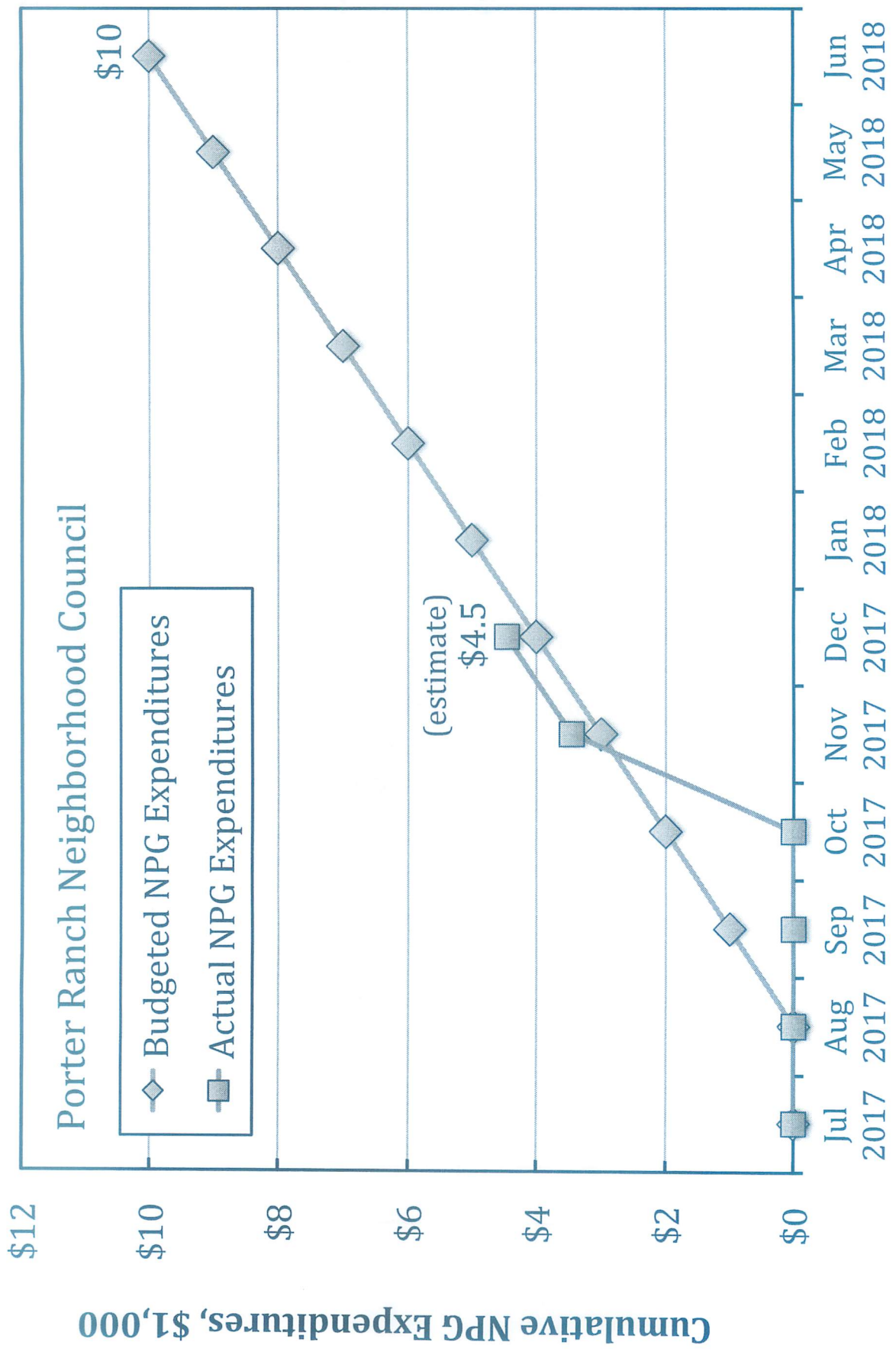
Cumulative Total Expenditures, \$1,000

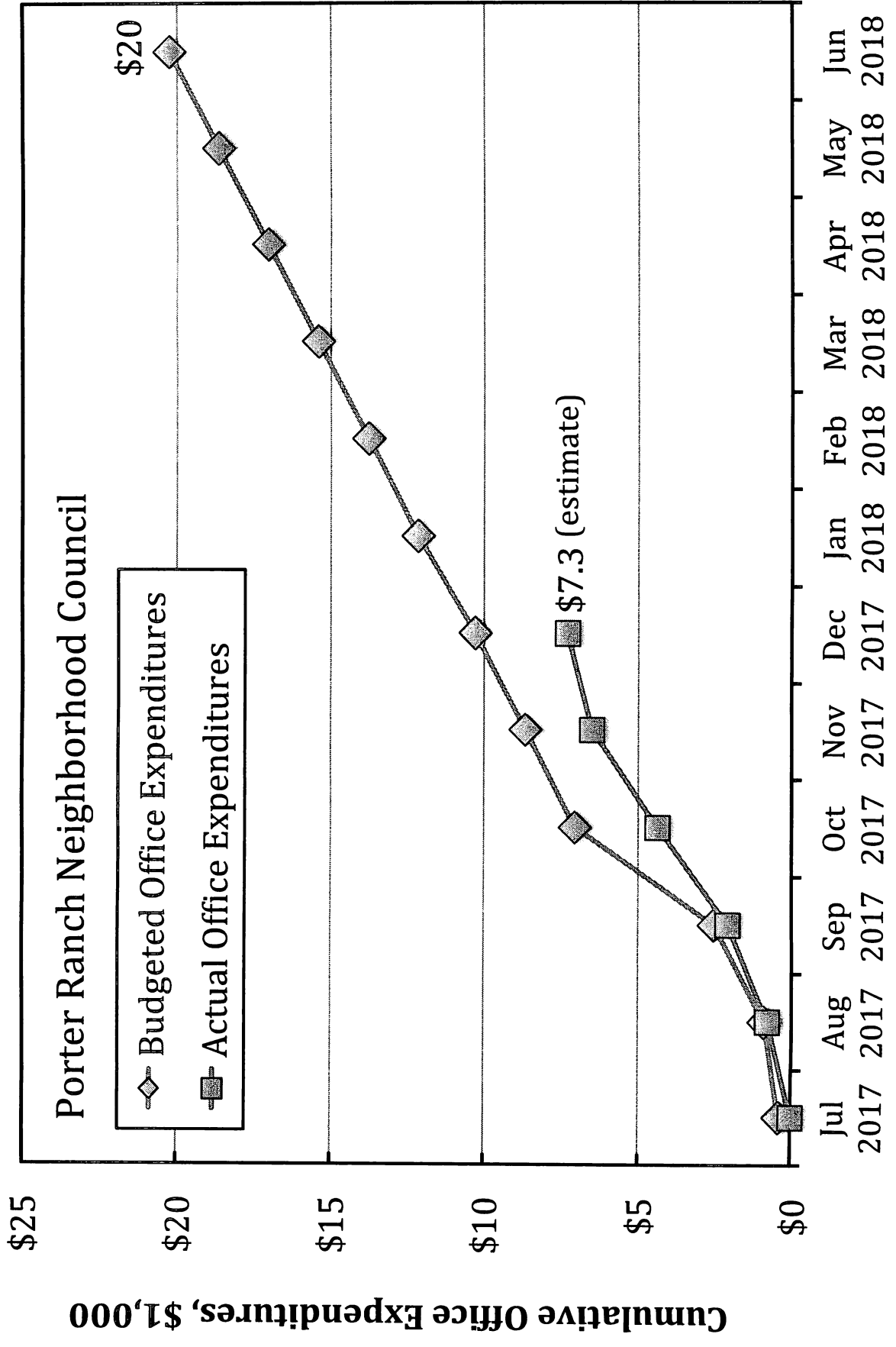


Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

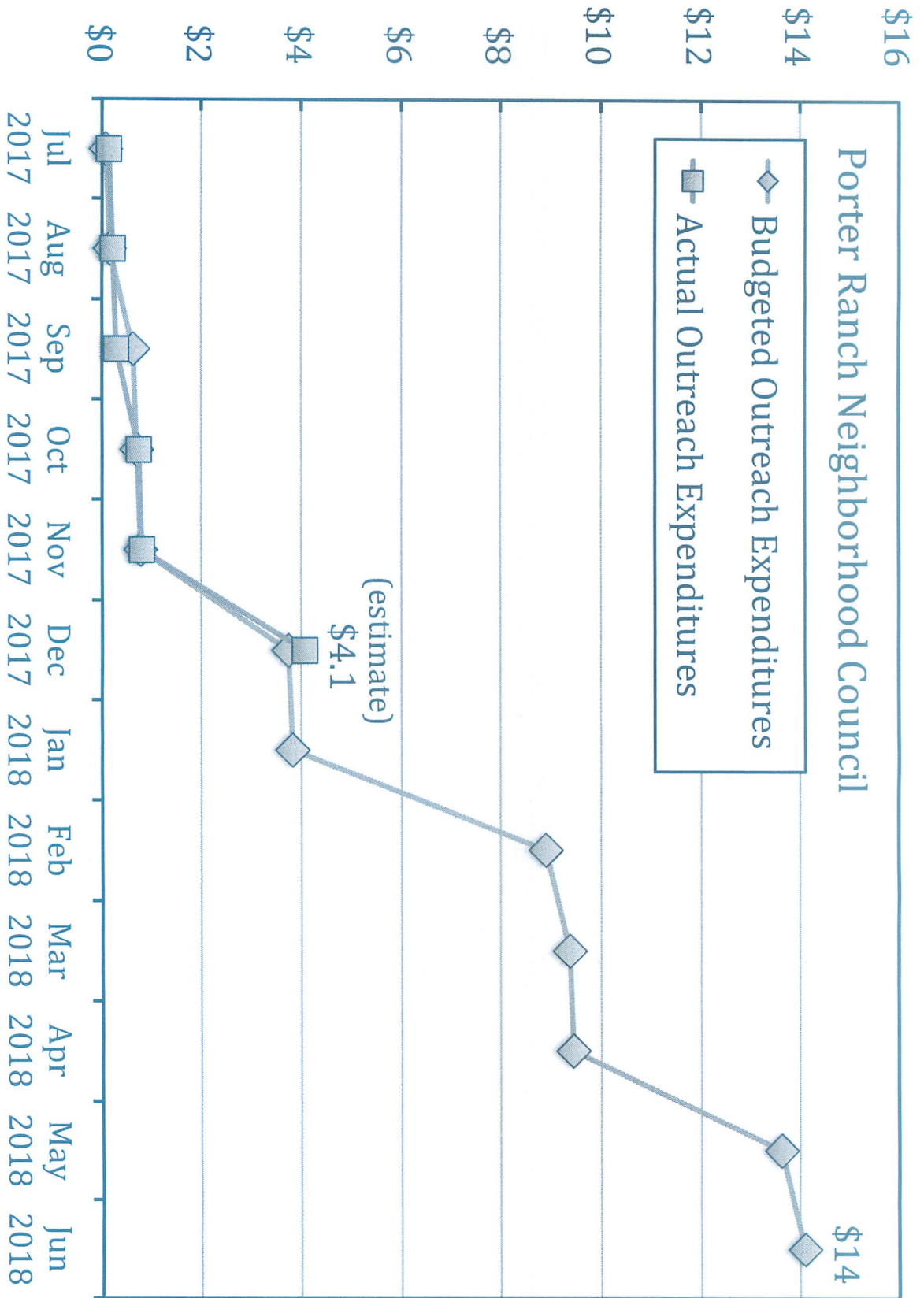
◆ Budgeted CIP Expenditures
 ■ Actual CIP Expenditures







Cumulative Outreach Expenditures, \$1,000





Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Neighborhood Cou...

Budget Amount

\$69,506.35

Budget: \$42,000.00

Adjustments: \$27,506.35



Expense-to-Date

\$15,366.87

Funding Requests: \$6,853.60

Credit Card: \$8,513.27



Total Outstanding

\$1,861.74

Commitments: \$0.00

Pending Payments: \$1,861.74



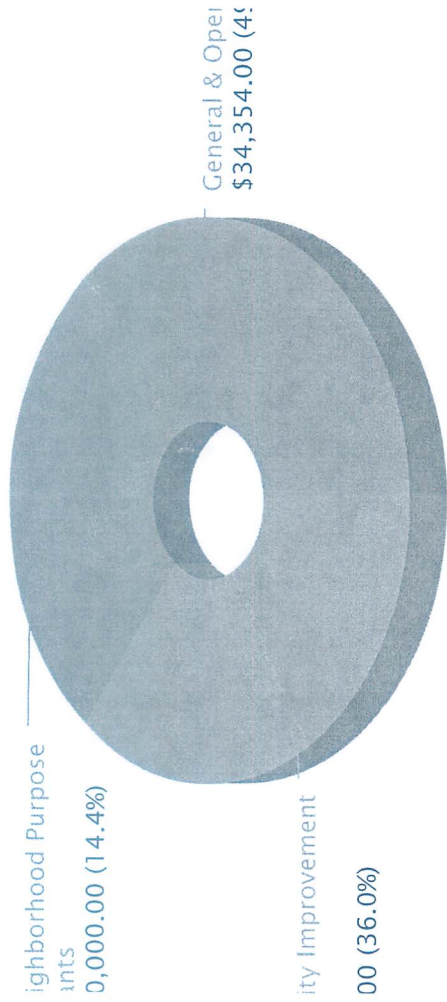
Net Available

\$52,277.74

Cash Balance: \$54,139.48



Budget Allocation



Expenditures-to-Date by Category

