



SAVE THE DATES - Community Gatherings

August 22: Town Hall Meeting, 6pm at Park Ranger Station (MINAE)

September 14: Traditional Lanterns Kids Parade, 5:30pm at the PG School

October 31: 3rd annual Kids Halloween Bus (a PG Tradition), 5:30pm at Taco Star entrance

November 18: 2nd annual Friendsgiving (a Playa Grande Tradition), 4pm at the PG Children's Park

June 29, 2023

Greetings dear friends and families of Playa Grande,

This project report will inform you about what we- APGS (Asociación Playa Grande Sostenible), have been working on for the past 6 months. We started April 2022, with a small group of 5 neighbors, to solve our town's security situation mainly due to the "construction boom", hence developing the PG Private Security Program.

We strive to take action on the urgency of our mission at a pace that doesn't compromise engagement and care of people and place. This is why sustainability is part of APGS's name.

"Alone I go faster. Together we go farther."

Playa Grande has had residents for a long time yet this has been the first solid attempt in coming together as a community. Each one of us residents, visitors and business owners participate in initiatives that allow us to engage to serve the betterment of our town by keeping it beautiful, safe and clean. The fast infrastructural development has been a shock to many of us who have lived here all our lives and those more recent community additions who gravitated to Grande's sleepiness, yet it has also been the cause of this marvelous community building process. It is a beautiful stage to witness and for most of us to be a part of. I say "most of us" because truly, so many of you old and new neighbors have really been an active part of this process and sharing it together is the fuel that keeps us going. We are a community of mainly introverts; we love our privacy, space, quiet and connection to nature, yet when we unite for the greater good we are mighty! Our humanity comes to life when we engage for selfless reasons. When I've asked anybody in town for their support in one way or another, it has always been a "YES!". I thank you for that from the bottom of my heart.

That being said, all the work that you will read about below has been executed by a few volunteers in each of our 8 committees yet made possible by the rest of you - community-getting involved.



APGS MISSION (What we do?)

Hone a balance between coastal development, human wellbeing and environmental conservation.

CORE VALUES (How we do it?)

- Respect for all living beings
- Solidarity (we are in this together and we got each other's "backs")
- Honesty
- Integrity (wholesome, the conviction to keep all its parts in harmony, being inclusive: embrace diversity of identities, experiences, needs and thoughts)
- Belonging (creating roots, bringing back traditions, creating our own, making us feel a part of something greater than the individual existence, the feeling of wanting to call this place home)

FOUNDING PILLARS (Why do we do it?)

For Fellowship - Family - Community

May we serve our highest good. May we serve each other.

APGS NON-PROFIT (Who we are?)

All of our local businesses, volunteers, collaborating NGOs and YOU 🙏

***APGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

(Brooks Wilson, Julianne Baker, Juliana Gil, Eduardo Bonilla, Nadia Borysenko, Bettina del Rio, Felipe Volio & Mathew Laskowski)

***LEGAL ADVISORS**

(Oscar Venegas, Paola Retana & Fabrizio Venegas)

***MODERATORS & INSIGHT**

(Anne Roberts, Victoria Manes & Jonathan Yonkers)

***CONTENT / COMMUNICATION**

(Brooks Wilson)

***WEBSITE & LOGOS**

(Lisa Simpson)

***GRAPHIC DESIGN**



(Catalina Figeres)

***PHOTOGRAPHY & FILM**

(Gineth Miranda & Kenneth Gutierrez)

***SCHOOL ART**

(David Obando)

***SCHOOL LANDSCAPING DESIGN**

(Marcela Granados)

***SECURITY COMMITTEE**

(Anonymous rotating volunteers)

Please note: The PG Private Security Program is a service that takes up a lot of our time & energy yet we voluntarily offer to provide. Your payments to this program are not donations to APGS. You are paying for a service- community security.

- 3rd round collections: 89 neighbors contributing (1st round we had 114). Eight neighbors paid in well over the suggested amount, a few under the amount and the majority met it.
- We continue to collect for the service June to December. If we raise more than the amount needed to pay operation costs and ALTATEC, we can consider hiring an extra night patroller at a certain point or use it to extend the contract. As a contributor you help decide what we do with the surplus: we will always give you a vote through a survey.
- The security emergency phone number and personalized codes have been issued to each program contributor.

***FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

(Juliana Gil, Kim Freitas, Allison Brennan, Kristen Posada)

- Launch of 1% Community Fund: <https://www.playagrande.org/en/negocios>
- Funds raised:

EVENT	DATE	AMOUNT RAISED
Bingo Pinto Quemado (for big playground)	October 2022	\$1,800
Bingo Pinto Quemado (for PG School)	November	\$600
Friendsgiving (for Recyclable Materials Recovery Facility)	November 2022	\$2,700



Bingo Pinto Quemado (for PG School)	December 2022	\$400
Bingo Las Ventanas (for PG School)	January 2023	\$500
Bingo Hotel Las Tortugas (for PG School)	February 2023	\$250
Bingo El Huerto (for PG School)	April 2023	\$450
Anonymous donation for PG School	June 2023	\$2,000
SurfCycled raffle (for land Wildlife crossings/ speed bumps)	June 2023	\$750
Kid's night out (for land wildlife crossings/ speed bumps)	June 2023	\$550
Parent's night off / restaurants (for wildlife crossings/ speed bumps)	June 2023	\$417
Total		\$10,417

***EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

(Jodi Gallant, Bettina del Rio & Silvia Odio)

- Tierra de Niños program through Ania Org with Joaquin Leguia
- Hiring a volunteer assistant teacher through CEPIA with PG donors
- We have 2k collected from our first BINGO (October 2022) saved for the big playground. We will need to collect more for it and we are planning the whole school landscape before building or planting anything. Nonetheless the little kid's wooden playground was repaired.
- There is 1 teacher for 30 children, grades 1-6. An anonymous donor will be donating 7k to go towards paying the assistant teacher the remainder of this school year (CR calendar year ends in December)
- Main gate entrance drain and cemented entrance was a donation by Calle Uno (Portola Land Co.). We had nothing to do with the teacher's car port.
- Sherwin Williams, Jodi & Stuart, Bettina, Hojalateria la Bajura, Edgar, David Obando, Ventas De PG, Keith Clower, Montaña y Mar and several more have donated materials, labor, maintenance and repairs from the list below.
- Donated & raised funds (\$6,000) have been spent on:

\$900 delayed water payments for leakage (3 months)

\$1,000 leak repair

\$400 December 2022 responsibility videos (<https://www.playagrande.org/en/viviendo-aqui>)

\$350 school sign

\$100 hanging school sign

\$800 painting and fixing the roof



\$350 small playground materials
\$150 small playground labor
\$800 start of small court yard materials
\$400 mural materials
\$100 Pana trash pick up
\$209 AC unit repair
\$300 Fixed rusting metal

TOTAL: \$5,859

***FLORA & FAUNA COMMITTEE: THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM APGS TO ADE AMBIENTE PG.**

(Gineth Miranda, Gonzalo Ortuño, Paola Ramirez, Amber Burroff, Christian Diaz)

***WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM APGS TO ADE AMBIENTE PG.**

(Christian Diaz, Paola Ramirez, Diego Sancho, Nadia Borysenko, Nova Everson, Tim Roberts & Stuart Sheldon)

- Recyclable Materials Recovery Facility in design drawing stage. \$2,700 have been raised from FRIENDSGIVING through The Clean Wave for the building stage. Team: The Clean Wave, SINAC, PG ASADA, Costa Rica Regenerativa & Rossi Architect firm
- Roadside, rivers & beach clean ups
- Promoting waste separation & to consume / purchase only what is necessary- less packaged goods
- Letters to F&B companies, Municipality, Health Ministry, Education Ministry & local businesses to turn around the packaging industry into less waste and better the trash collection routes & schedules

***ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE**

(Anne Roberts & Victoria Manes)

- UCR student volunteers executed a mobility study
- In September we aim to receive UCR volunteers to plan a mobility design for PG (sidewalks & bike paths)
- Next year we will proceed to getting permits and then fundraise for the building stage

***CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

(Fernando Ortuño, Gonzalo Ortuño, Rodrigo Altman & Pablo Salazar)

- Construction companies WhatsApp communication group
- Launch of Certified Project: <https://www.playagrande.org/en/proyecto-certificado>




***CHILDREN’S PARK COMMITTEE**

(Mathew Laskowski, Pablo Salazar, Felipe Volio, Jake Van Steenburgen & Alex Bidorini)

- Permit process accomplished
- Fund collecting stage initiated
- Leveling ground in process

3 YEAR PLAN

	2023 COST	2024 COST	2025 COST
PITCH SHORT VIDEO	10,000		
OPERATIONAL COSTS	7,000	31,800	35,000
3 PATROL OFFICERS- ALTATEC	46,000	140,000	145,000
ANIMAL CROSSINGS, SIDEWALK & BIKE PATH PROJECT (2.8km)	12,000	256,000	
CHILDREN'S PARK- COMMUNITY RANCHO & RESTROOM	100,000	10,000	10,000
GREEN CURTAIN PROTECTION (PERIMETER & SIGNAGE)	\$5,000		
PG SCHOOL MAINTENANCE & TEACHER & IMPROVEMENTS	22,220	24,500	20,000
CONSTRUCTION OF PG RECICLABLE MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY		100,000	

2024 NON-PROFIT BUSINESS MODEL

We can now receive contributions through our BAC bank account in CR and USA tax deductible donations via Amigos de Costa Rica (<https://www.amigosofcostarica.org/affiliates/asociacion-playa-grande-sostenible>). Our website is being updated to receive funding via these channels in a more effective way. We want to prevent donor fatigue and have so much yet to accomplish for the next few years as we create communal infrastructure, optimize education, safety and preservation. Our strategy is to turn this Association into a non-profit business where we can offer certain services and charge commissions that will help pay for operational costs. Nonetheless we



will still need to fundraise. We are on the lookout for people who are invested in PG that can contribute to a “start up fund” to get the business model up and running and become part of our Honorary Board. For more information on our Honorary Board member packages please reach out to info@playagrande.org

We can only aim to accomplish the 3 year plan if seed funding for operational costs is attained by August 2023.

APGS COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

- ❤️ Playa Grande WhatsApp group- Not for publicity. Only to share community notifications, community initiatives, community engaging events- free of cost or by donation
- PlayaGrandeOrg InstaGram
- Website <https://www.playagrande.org/en> - Thank you Lisa!
- Email- Info@playagrande.org
- YouTube channel- Educational videos: <https://youtube.com/@playagrandeorg>

LOCAL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

- The Playa Grande Community FaceBook group- Thank you Jake!
- Somos Playa Grande Instagram- Publicity for local businesses
- SoSafe App (this platform is our primary community safety awareness channel for all of us to use and alert each other)- Security alerts, road work/accident, water service updates, lost & found): <https://links.sosafeapp.com/Fs19EV8bRR11Xt4s8>

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

- By participating in community initiatives (bingos, clean ups, school outreach, fundraising events, etc)
- If you own a business anywhere in the world and would like to be a part of our 1% Community Fund program: <https://www.playagrande.org/en/negocios>
- Join our Honorary Board and contribute to maintain APGS alive
- If you own a local business and would like to offer your space or service for a fundraiser please contact us: info@playagrande.org
- If you have a particular skill/profession that you see we could use your support with please reach out: info@playagrande.org
- In case you would like to volunteer check out the link below for specific tasks we need to fill:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/159UTy2SwFcilqsgayEuDdAJwIXHKDvw8zA987Xg4A_4/edit

Best to all,
Brooks