



# City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

## **Street Addresses**

## **The Address Group (TAG) Update**

**City Council Meeting  
October 7, 2025**



# The Address Group

Goal: do the research to enable a better-informed decision by City Council

- Kevin Ruess
- Nancy Twomey
- Paula Hazdovac
- Bob Delves
- Emily Garay, Administrative Analyst



# A Six Month Effort

- ☐ United States Postal Service
- ☐ Address Prototype Development
- ☐ First Responders
- ☐ Utilities
- ☐ County of Monterey
- ☐ Community Forums



# United States Postal Service

## USPS Does Two Things

### 1. Delivers the Mail

- In the City, USPS delivers to PO Boxes, which will NOT change.
- Thousands of communities/millions of people have the same situation of PO Box-only deliver.
  - ❑ Centralized Delivery to PO Boxes is not unique to Carmel-by-the-Sea.

### 2. Owns/Maintains the Address Management System (AMS)

- The national safe source for Address Verification.
- Our existing Traditional numbering system is not compliant with AMS.
  - In this we are unique as all other communities have AMS compatible physical addresses.



# Address Prototype Development

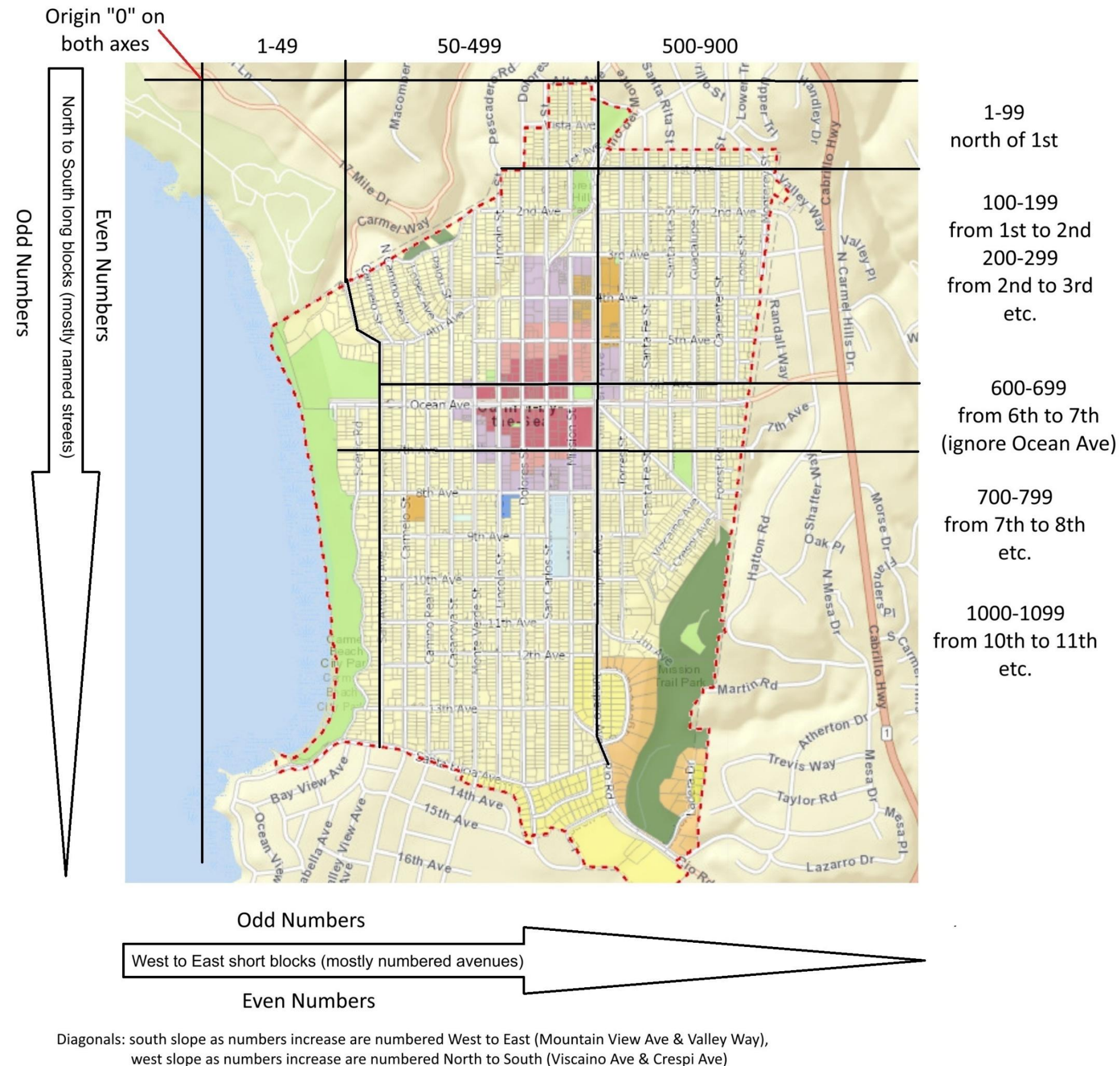
## Address Design Prototype of AMS Compatible Premise Identification

- TAG tested many variations of our existing Traditional premise identification numbers – Not AMS Compatible
- AMS Compatible Options Considered:
  - ☐ Continuation of County numbers from Carmel Woods
  - ☐ Quadrants – Junipero and Ocean as 0/0
  - ☐ Consecutive Numbering
  - ☐ Alignment with Streets → **Selected for Prototype**





# Prototype Numbering Explained





# First Responders

## Emergency Response Challenges

### ☐ Translation Delays

- Carmel-By-The-Sea dispatchers must translate addresses when calling County dispatch –a necessary step that may add time to total response time

### ☐ Outside Unit Unfamiliarity

- When local units are unavailable, crews responding from elsewhere often struggle to locate non-standard addresses

### ☐ On-Site Search

- Reported response times often don't reflect the additional time spent searching for the correct house after initial onsite arrival (especially challenging in the dark)



# Insight From First Responders

- ☐ The Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department supports the implementation of Address Identification in the City to improve public safety and response time on calls for service
- ☐ The City of Monterey Fire Department, which provides fire, and will soon also provide ambulance service, to the City supports the implementation of Address Identification in the City to improve public safety and response time on calls for service





# Legal Analysis

## City Attorney, Brian Pierik

### Findings

- ❑ The City's traditional addressing does not comply with the legal requirements of the California Building Code, California Fire Code, or California Residential Code.
- ❑ In order for the City to comply with the California Building Code requirements for address identification, the City should adopt an ordinance to repeal Section 15.55.100 of the City Municipal Code which would then mean that the City would be required to comply with the address identification requirements of the California Building Code as set forth in this Resolution.



# Utilities Service Providers

**Utilities welcome continued collaboration with our City team on transitioning to Standard Addresses for increased point-of-service accuracy and customer engagement**

- ☐ Met with PG&E, Cal-Am, Comcast, and AT&T
- ☐ Billing addresses for customer accounts will remain unchanged
- ☐ Utilities that often struggle to locate buildings are very supportive of having AMS-compatible “premise identification numbers” in their systems to improve findability, especially in emergency/outage situations
- ☐ All efforts will be made to update Carmel-By-The-Sea accounts in “batch” mode with minimal disruption to customers

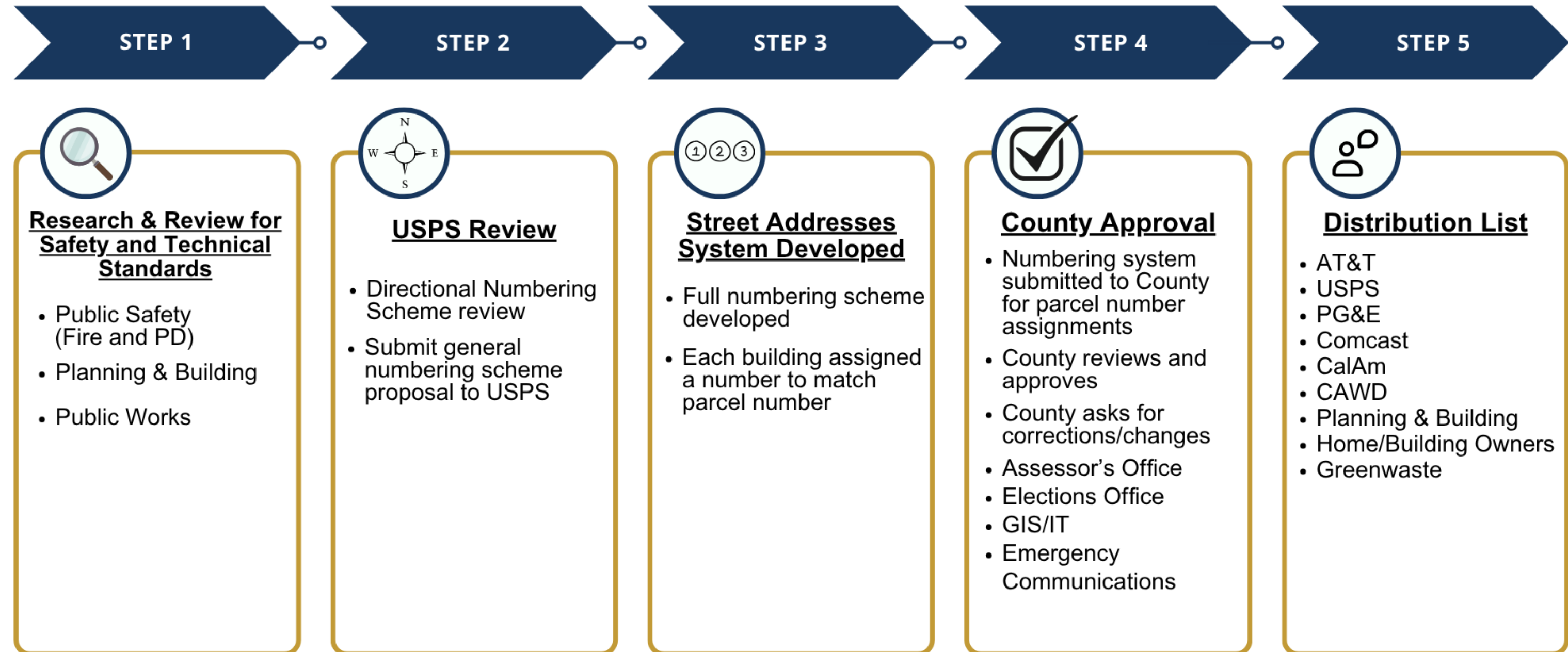


# Confirmation with County of Monterey

The Address Group met with County personnel and confirmed alignment with the County's expectations and process for addresses integration



## Process Development Overview





# Community Workshops

## ☐ **August 27, 2025**

➤ 70-80 in attendance

## ☐ **September 4, 2025**

➤ 15-20 in attendance

**Community members were engaged and provided meaningful feedback through questions, concerns, and suggestions**



# What Changes and What Stays the Same

## Preserved Traditions

- ☐ Mail delivery to PO Boxes
- ☐ Post Office operations unchanged
- ☐ Free PO Box eligibility maintained
- ☐ No need to change billing address

## New Requirements

- ☐ AMS-compatible physical address for deliveries and emergencies
- ☐ 4 inch tall numbers visible from the street
- ☐ Flexible design and placement on fence, gate, house, or other appropriate placement
- ☐ AMS-compatible system integration





# Standard Numbers Address Example

**Before**



**After**







# Timeline and Next Steps

## ☐ **October 2025**

- City Council Update, decision to proceed (Resolution)

## ☐ **November 2025**

- Ordinance - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

## ☐ **December 2025**

- Ordinance - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

## ☐ **Q1/Q2 2026**

- 3-6 month implementation and change management project



# Top 5 Questions

## Questions received via email and at the Community Workshops

- 1. How much will this cost?**
- 2. How can we ensure delivery if sender uses physical address instead of PO Box for packages routed through USPS?**
- 3. How much effort will be required by the individual property/business?**
- 4. What about using an App instead?**
- 5. Will the address posting requirement be enforced?**