



**OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK (OVRP)
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**

**March 2, 2017
2:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

- ◆ Meeting called to order at 2:32 pm by John Vogel.

Public Comments

- None

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 MINUTES – Mark Kukuchek, 2nd Ben Vallejos
ALL IN FAVOR – 15-0-0

AGENDA ITEM

1. NEW CAC APPOINTMENTS – Welcome
 - Blair Crossman works for Wildcoast
 - Kim Peterson is a resident of San Diego
2. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CAC CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR
 - Nominations
 - Chair: John Vogel, nominated by Jack Bransford
 - Vice chair: Jack Bransford, nominated by Mark KuKuchek
 - Motion to elect John Vogel as Chair and Jack Bransford as Vice chair for 2017 by Joan Schneider, 2nd Michael McCoy (13-0-0)
3. CITY OF SAN DIEGO STORMWATER MITIGATION PROJECT – City of San Diego Stormwater Department, presented by Catherine Rom

The City is proposing to use the Reed parcel (which is Rec Area #7 and part of Rec Area #6) as a mitigation site for the Nestor Creek channels/Otay watershed. Of the 15.6 acre parcel approximately half would be needed for riparian mitigation, specifically southern willow scrub and non-riparian freshwater marsh. The proposal is still pending approval from various agencies.

CAC discussed potential impacts caused by the proposal with the presenter, and requested an update on this proposal at the next CAC meeting.

4. PARKSIDE AT DENNERY RANCH PARK – City of San Diego and Applicant

A brief presentation was given on the recreation development proposal for Rec Area #8, known as Parkside at Dennery Ranch. The proposal is a 9 acre neighborhood park consisting of a 3 acre lawn area with trails, overlook seating, transitional space around the edges, drought tolerant/native plants, dog park, and shade structures. There are 75 parking stalls, 2 half court basketball courts, a skate park, and a central plaza area with barbecues, bike racks, and a water fountain proposed. In addition, a fitness station in the north of the park will have views of OVRP, two age appropriate tot lots (2-5 years old and 5-12 years old) a bicycle playground agility course pump track and a trailhead connection to OVRP trails would also be included in the project.

This project has gone before the local rec council, and will be presented to the City of San Diego Parks Advisory Board in the near future, date has yet to be determined.

CAC and staff provided comments on the design and impacts to OVRP to the consultant, developer and staff present:

- Omar Sanchez: Will there be a large pathway that can accommodate strollers?
 - ◆ Yes, leisurely paths will traverse throughout the site, and the main outside exercise loop is 10 feet wide. The smaller paths will be 6 feet wide.
- Mark KuKuchek: Trailhead needs a barrier, such as a step over/horse gate so motorized vehicles do not access the trails. Gate should have OVRP keys, for Ranger maintenance needs.
- Omar Sanchez: Who will be in charge of maintenance and cleanup?
 - ◆ The City of San Diego, Park and Rec Community Parks Division.
- Jose Galaz: It is huge for the biking community to have a biking playground; it is a perfect location for children to practice their bike skills in a safe environment.
- Kim Peterson: There is no restroom proposed, which is an issue for this type of proposal.
- Carlos Rodriguez: Restrooms were considered early on but the public expressed concerns at a public workshop including homeless overtaking the restrooms
- OVRP Staff noted that there are currently no night time issues with homeless using the OVRP restrooms due to security measures in place.
- John Vogel: Does the design conform to design specifications in concept plan for building parks in this jurisdiction?
 - ◆ Carlos Rodriguez: Yes everything will conform
- Joan Schneider: Will the lawn areas be irrigated with recycled water?
- Timeframe: Construction is anticipated to begin late 2018 with the park opening anticipated for late 2019/early 2020 for opening of the park

Motion to recommend approval of the Dennery Ranch Park concept plan with addition of a restroom in the park, with use of recycled water as feasible, 1st Mark KuKuchek, 2nd Jack Bransford (13-0-0)

Per JS request the City of San Diego will notify OVRP CAC members when the Park and Rec Advisory Board meeting will occur.

5. STATUS REPORT ON PROJECTS WITHIN THE OVRP – Joint Staff

a) Heritage Bridge Replacement Project

City of Chula Vista Joint Staff Michael Walker noted the environmental document for this project began circulation last week, and has an open 30 day public comment period with a deadline of March 27, 2017.

CAC provided the following verbal comments on the Heritage Bridge Replacement project:

- ◆ Mark KuKuchek: trail undergrade both sides of the river north and south

Motion that a part of the Heritage bridge design should have an undergrade trail to be underneath Heritage bridge on both the north and south sides of the river, can be seasonal, with access down into the valley from Heritage Road, connections between them when possible, 1st Mark KuKuchek, 2nd Jack Bransford (13-0-0)

b) I-805 to Heritage Road Trail Segment

Scheduled trail tour for the north side of the trail, tomorrow (March 3) 9am-12am meeting at Kohl's shopping center, and will traverse to Heritage Road. Staff and some CAC trails subcommittee members will attend.

c) Priority Project List Distribution

Joint Staff presented a priority project list, which included all items from the recently updated OVRP Concept Plan. This list will serve as a guide for prioritizing future development within OVRP.

d) Grants

Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant

Funded by State Parks, \$500,000 maximum grant request, applications due in the summer. JS is looking into habitat restoration, trail improvement potential

- ◆ Kim Peterson: Used for outdoor classroom? Amphitheatre?
 - John Vogel: amphitheater planned in Rec Area #3 and interpretive center. Revisit this.
- ◆ Omar Sanchez: Who is the grant for?
 - Any jurisdiction can lead grant or a non-profit with letter of support from jurisdiction can lead the application
- ◆ Application would have to be specific as to where the money would go to

Urban Greening Grant Program

Funded by CA Climate Investments, no minimum or maximum amount, applications due spring or summer 2017.

- ◆ John Vogel: Could it help restore area of rec #3?
 - Application is limited to defined disadvantaged communities, areas identified as applicable include:
 - Westernmost pocket of OVRP by I-5 would apply, near Hollister Pond area

6. FRIENDS OF OVRP REPORT

- None

Ranger Reports

Western OVRP Ranger Shimada

- ◆ Working on enforcement to provide public safety, ranger patrols
- ◆ Targeting homeless encampments
 - No homeless camps, part in due to inclement weather
 - Good clean up progress, in a really good position
- ◆ Graffiti/vandalism decreased dramatically
 - Otay loco 13 - 2 incidents this month
- ◆ First kids newsletter
 - Started a kids program in January (ages 7-12), free programs for kids once a month
 - John Vogel: distribute newsletters at Swiss Park club
- ◆ Send letter with minutes
- ◆ Joan Schneider: Do you have a docent program?
 - Yes, through Mission Trails Regional Park docent training is provided. It starts in January ends in end of March/ beginning of April. Allows citizen to be a docent in the City of San Diego.

Eastern OVRP Ranger Raduc

- ◆ Lower Otay dam, 10am Monday spillway was opened and overflowed a lot. Media and a large number of visitors have attended, so focusing on keeping people safe while enjoying views
- ◆ Working with Project Wildlife, program in January and on March 18th
 - Released 6 adult raccoons in park that were nursed back to health
- ◆ Mountain lion program postponed due to storms
- ◆ Arborist come out regularly to examine trees in park for public safety

CAC Chair Comments

- None

CAC Vice Chair Comments

- None

Subcommittee Reports

- A. Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee
- a) Election of Chair – done within committee

Motion to add Kim Peterson to Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee, 1st
Omar Sanchez, 2nd Ben Vallejos (13-0-0)

B. Trails Subcommittee – Chairman, Jack Bransford

No report

C. Community Outreach and Youth Involvement Subcommittee (COYIS)

a) Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary – done within committee

Motion to add Blair Crossman and Kim Peterson to COYIS, 1st Robert Miller, 2nd Vinit Jensen (13-0-0)

b) OVRP Day Report Out

- ◆ June 17, Rios Staging area 9am-12pm
- ◆ 16 exhibitors planned to attend
- ◆ 2 hikes planned
- ◆ Advertising on kiosk

D. Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee

No report

Committee Member Comments

Request to bring OVRP maps to future meetings

ADJOURNMENT – 4:05 pm

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES

Vinit Jensen
Ben Vallejos
Jose Galaz
John Vogel
John Zarem

Omar Sanchez
Natalie DeCarli
Joan Schneider
Kim Peterson
Robert Miller

Alfredo Perez
Jack Bransford
Mark KuKuchek
Michael McCoy
Blair Crossman

STAFF PRESENT

Melanie Tylke
Lauren Raduc

Laura Ball
Mike Shimada

Michael Walker

OTHER ATTENDEES

Chris Morrow
Rawsom Salha

Gerardo Ramirez
Cat Rom

Anne Jarque
Travis Whitney