



**OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK (OVRP)
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
September 27, 2018
2:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 2:36 pm by CAC Vice Chair – John Zarem

Public Comments

- None

MOTION TO APPROVE JUNE 28, 2018 MINUTES with minor edits – Joan Schneider, 2nd John Swanson

ALL IN FAVOR – 12-0-0

AGENDA ITEM

1. OTAY RIVER ESTUARY RESTORATION PROJECT – USFWS

Andy Yuen from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) presented on the Otay River Estuary Restoration Project. The project is a large excavation of the Pond 20 and moving what is excavated to Pond 15 to raise its elevation for creation of salt marsh habitat. The project will temporarily reroute the Saturn bike path onto one of the existing trails in the OVRP during the construction period (which will be a two-year period beginning Fall 2019). A complication with timing has been due to the Port of San Diego also conducting restoration to the south of this project; the Port of San Diego will probably use similar accesses for the sediment they take. USFWS is requesting a right-of-entry permit from the City of San Diego, and will also present this to the OVRP Policy Committee in November. USFWS also seeks to improve the surface for the Saturn bike path for road bike compatibility and assured the group that the main Bayshore Bikeway will not be affected.

2. WESTERN OVRP NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (NRMP) UPDATE – City of San Diego

Sarah Allen, MSCP Biologist for the City of San Diego, presented an update to the Western OVRP NRMP. The City of SD Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP) was adopted in 1997, which requires area specific management directives through natural resource management plans. The goal of the new NRMP is to serve as an operational management

plan for Western OVRP. Allen shared a draft of the NRMP Boundary and Parcels, including some preliminary plant and wildlife findings. Allen reported the timeline of the project, in which biological surveys are currently in progress, and coordination with the City of Chula Vista and County of San Diego are in progress and will be constant throughout the timeline. A first draft will hopefully be completed in Summer 2019; second draft by Spring 2020; and final completion by Fall 2020.

Committee Member McCoy inquired about implementation of the MSCP and if cities are steadfast in not manipulating the boundaries protected by the MSCP. Allen replied that boundary adjustments are made on a case by case basis, through a stringent process, and require approval by the wildlife agencies.

Committee Member Kim Peterson inquired about the use of iNaturalist data and benefits to the data collection aspect of the WOVRP NRMP. Allen responded that these types of data sets are also useful additional information to the ongoing monthly bird surveys staff have been conducting throughout the boundary.

3. STATUS REPORTS

- a) Otay Lakes Campground. County staff member Josh Bugiel presented a brief update on the Otay Lakes County Park Primitive Campground. The Board of Supervisors approved an Exclusive Right to Lease Agreement with the Boy Scouts on June 26, 2018. Bugiel shared a map of the main campground area and day use area, spanning 69 acres. The Boy Scouts are responsible for completing the design, environmental reviews, and construction improvements themselves. Proposed amenities, upon environmental approval, may include an amphitheater, archery area, zip line, and group camp areas with fire rings. The Boy Scouts would provide ongoing maintenance as well. The County will have access and availability to use when the Boy Scouts are not using the site.

Committee Member Joan Schneider asked if “primitive” means no buildings, and Bugiel confirmed that barring some foundations in place for a flag pole, there would be no structures other than existing park facilities. The site is about a half-mile from the main camping area.

Committee Member Jose Galaz asked if this would affect the trail. Bugiel stated that once the Eastern trails are complete, the trails will stay where they are, unaffected by the Scouts’ area. Committee Member Schneider followed up with asking what would stop the Boy Scouts from closing part of the trail. Bugiel affirmed that there are details similar to this that will be worked out through the lease agreement and that public access to the OVRP trail system would not be impacted by this project.

Committee Member John Swanson asked if the County would use the area for camping, when available. Bugiel confirmed the area would be used for organized group camping.

- b) Potential Bike Skills Development. County staff member Chelsea Jander presented the OVRP Bike Park Concept Plan Overview Map. The most viable area for this project is Recreation Area 6, as outlined in the OVRP Concept Plan. The project has been allotted \$500k by the County and is in the preliminary planning stages. The actual location is owned by the City of Chula Vista, but is within jurisdiction of the

City of San Diego. The City of Chula Vista has started a community needs assessment survey. Jander emphasized that the Bike Park will be part of the rec area, not the entire rec area. Jander also stated that a design subcommittee will be recruited and hopefully formed at the next CAC meeting.

Committee Member Schneider inquired to as to what age group the Bike Park would be considered for. Jander answered a wide range. At Sweetwater, the County has designed a progressive park in Bonita. The OVRP Bike Park would be approximately 2-2.5 acres (the entire active rec area is more than 6 acres). Jander also stated there would be no staff to actively manage or maintain the Bike Park. As far as programming, City of Chula Vista would be responsible for that.

Committee Member Jose Galaz mentioned that the San Diego Mountain Biking Association (SDMBA) is very interested in this project and are available to assist, including potential demos and instructional courses once the park is built.

Committee Member Kim Peterson asked how long it would take to build a bike park. Jander stated the schedule has not been determined at this time, as the first Bike Park (in Sweetwater) has not yet been built. It could be nine months to a year depending on what is wanted/needed for the park.

- c) Grants. Staff Member Melanie Tylke reported that the City of Chula Vista is submitting a concept proposal for the River Parkways Prop 68 grant. The application will be submitted today, for potential acquisition of a property within the OVRP boundary but still in private ownership. CAC Member Peterson brought this property to the attention of JS. There are no other grants being applied for at this time.

4. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CAC CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

- a) Today is last CAC meeting for the year, so elections should be held before the end of calendar year. The CAC assessed who is eligible, and Tylke reviewed the bylaws.
- b) Committee Member Jack Bransford nominated John Vogel for re-election to Chair & John Zarem for re-election to Vice-Chair; Committee Member Joan Schneider seconded.

MOTION TO APPROVE ELECTION OF CAC CHAIR AS JOHN VOGEL & CAC VICE-CHAIR AS JOHN ZAREM – Jack Bransford, Joan Schneider 2nd

ALL IN FAVOR – 12-0-0

- c) Appointment of Parliamentarian
Committee Member Joan Schneider was appointed as CAC Parliamentarian.

5. REVIEW OF OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK FINAL GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT DESIGN AND COMMUNITY INPUT FOR PROPOSED OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

Staff Member Tylke provided a refresher, materials were provided electronically to the CAC prior to this meeting. A subcommittee for the bike skills park will be appointed during the first meeting of 2019.

6. CAC MEETING LOCATION DISCUSSION

Staff Member Laura Ball commented that there had been a suggestion to hold meetings at the Chula Vista City Council Chambers. CAC members had some concerns. Committee Member Peterson suggested the library across the street, but Committee Member John

Swanson mentioned it would also require set-up/tear-down. The CAC will defer to staff to decide.

Ranger Reports

Western OVRP Ranger Shimada

Adventure Passport – IT team is trying to create weblinks for digital passports. First event is being held this Saturday, a fishing clinic at the Lower Otay Reservoir.

The latest newsletter is out. Once links are set, a digital copy will be sent out.

Eastern OVRP Ranger Raduc

Movies in the Park will be on October 20th, showing Hotel Transylvania and hosting Halloween activities such as pumpkin decorating.

October has been declared “Hawktober”, and a ranger will come to the park on October 6th for a hawk presentation at 10am.

Ranger Raduc visited 4 schools for the Discovery Program educating kids about nature, in which the students then come visit the park in person.

CAC Chair Comments

Chairman Vogel gave his thanks for re-election. If interested in serving in subcommittees, please let him know or ask him for more information. The Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee has an action now for NRMP. The Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee focuses on projects outside our boundaries, such as Village 13 and Village 14. Chairman Vogel would like to call a special meeting in October to review Village 13 and 14; Staff Member Tylke will ask Recon on OTAS.

It was announced that a staff member, Maria Mendoza, passed away. The CAC committed to send their condolences.

CAC Vice Chair Comments

None

Subcommittee Reports

- A. Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee
 - None
- B. Trails Subcommittee Status Report
 - Chairman Jack Bransford suggested a new Chair will be needed for this subcommittee, and requested nomination of a new chairman at the next CAC meeting.
- C. Community Outreach and Youth Involvement Subcommittee
 - None
- D. Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Joan Schneider, Mike McCoy 2nd
ALL IN FAVOR – 12-0-0

ADJOURNMENT – 3:57 pm

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES

John Vogel	John Zarem	Vinit Jensen
Robert Miller	Mike McCoy	Joan Schneider
Emma Reese	Jose Galaz	Natalie Roberts-DeCarli
Kim Peterson	Jack Bransford	John Swanson

STAFF PRESENT

Melanie Tylke	Lauren Raduc	Mika Shimada
Laura Ball	Joanne Emerick	Chelsea Jander
Josh Bugiel	Sara Allen	

OTHER ATTENDEES

Mark Kukuchek	Andy Yuen
---------------	-----------