



**OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK (OVRP)
JOINT POLICY-CITIZEN'S ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 8, 2018
2:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order at 2:05 pm by Policy Member Cox.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) Member Kim Peterson inquired about the overlap of planning documents regarding Dennery Canyon Road. The original Otay Mesa Community Plan had a road extending through Dennery Canyon, but now this land is part of the OVRP. Peterson would like to know when two plans overlap, who is the final decision maker? City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Open Space Deputy Director Jeannette DeAngelis advised Peterson to contact the City of San Diego Planning Department. Peterson affirmed she did contact them, and their response was that the road is not scheduled for improvement until 2034. However, Bond O has passed now, which gives money to that road, which is Peterson's concern. Jeannette advised Peterson to contact Alyssa Muto, who is the new Planning Deputy Director.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 19, 2018
MOTION TO APPROVE JULY 19, 2018 MINUTES – Policy Member Diaz, 2nd Policy Member Cox
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0

2. ADOPTION OF 2019 OVRP CALENDAR
MOTION TO APPROVE 2019 OVRP CALENDAR – Policy Member Diaz, 2nd Policy Member Cox
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0

3. CAC MEMBERSHIP
 - Vacancies (County of San Diego-1, City of San Diego-2, City of Chula Vista-1)
 - ◆ County of San Diego has no nominations for this meeting. Will have one for the next meeting.
 - ◆ City of Chula Vista nominates Cesar Castro.
MOTION TO APPROVE – Policy Member Diaz, 2nd Policy Member Cox
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0
 - ◆ City of San Diego nominates Carrie Schneider and David Corrales
MOTION TO APPROVE – Policy Member Cox, 2nd Policy Member Diaz
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0

- Re-Appointments (County of San Diego-1, City of San Diego-1, City of Chula Vista-2)
 - ◆ City of San Diego nominates Natalie Roberts-DeCarli to a second term
MOTION TO APPROVE – Policy Member Cox, 2nd Policy Member Diaz
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0
 - ◆ City of Chula Vista nominates Ben Vallejos and Jose Galaz to second terms
MOTION TO APPROVE – Policy Member Diaz, 2nd Policy Member Cox
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0
 - ◆ County of San Diego nominates Alfredo Perez to a second term
MOTION TO APPROVE – Policy Member Cox, 2nd Policy Member Diaz
ALL IN FAVOR – 2-0-0
- Recognition of Service
 - ◆ CAC Member Omar Sanchez has chosen not to serve another term after 3 years of service.
 - ◆ CAC Member Jack Bransford has termed out after more than 6 years of service, including Chair of Trails Subcommittee.
 - ◆ Certificates of Recognition were presented to both Sanchez and Bransford.

Policy Member Cox thanked everyone for their interest and encouraged former members to continue attending meetings as members of the public. Cox also commended Policy Committee Member David Alvarez's service on the Policy Committee and his dedication and support for OVRP over the years, as his term on City Council in San Diego has come to an end.

4. SHINOHARA REMEDIATION AND RESTORATION PROJECT – Chula Vista

Cheryl Goddard of the City of Chula Vista Development Services Department presented an update on the Shinohara Remediation and Restoration Project. The project lies east of the I-805, north of the City of San Diego jurisdiction boundary within OVRP. The project covers 5.5 acres over two parcels owned by the Shinohara Trust and the City of Chula Vista. Upon completion of the project, Shinohara will transfer the title to the City of Chula Vista.

The project will remove burned ash from the river bank and be placed on the top deck. Clean soil will be placed over the burned ash to cap the area. Capping will be followed by revegetation with native plants including coastal sage scrub. The river bank will be restored to riparian habitat. City of Chula Vista is working with CalRecycle on this effort. Goddard shared photos of the progress from October. Capping should be done by end of 2018, then revegetation can take place after that.

5. EAST OTAY REGIONAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT STUDY PRESENTATION – County of San Diego

County Staff member Melanie Tylke, Project Manager for the Otay Regional Trail Alignment Study, presented an update on the study. The last update focused on the trail planning process – staff have since reviewed public comments from the workshops and follow-up comment period and are now verifying the feasibility of trail suggestions based on the public input. The next steps are to finalize alignments and conduct the CEQA study, then finalize the environmental document and trail planning document. The study's participant committee

is meeting November 9 to finalize the proposed alignments for environmental analysis.

CAC Member Dr. Michael McCoy asked if public input will be requested prior to the finalization of the environmental document. Tylke confirmed yes, there will be opportunity for public input through the CEQA process. Tylke will keep the group informed regarding next steps for the project and public comment opportunities.

County staff member Brian Albright commented that the November 9 meeting with all agencies will confirm the final trail alignment. It is expected to go through on concurrence and will be posted on the County's website at sdsparks.org.

Policy Member Cox asked if there will be another public meeting in the future. Albright said no, not until the CEQA study is complete and funding requested. Policy Member Diaz asked if the "Trails Under Consideration" map is online – it is posted at sdsparks.org.

6. OVRP BIKE SKILLS PARK UPDATE – County of San Diego

County staff member Chelsea Jander, Park Project Manager overseeing the OVRP Bike Skills Park, presented on the bike park envisioned in OVRP. Jander explained that a bike skills park is defined as designated land for mountain biking of all skills and levels. Typical bike park elements include pump tracks, dirt jumps, and skills elements (obstacles). The County is partnering with the OVRP-CAC, City of Chula Vista, City of San Diego and the San Diego Mountain Biking Association (SDMBA) on this project. The City of Chula Vista identified the bike park location, which will be in Active Recreation Area 6 next to the Rios staging area. This will be a gateway to future trail connections between the I-805 and Heritage Road. Jander shared a Conceptual Use Zone map, which shows the bike park within City of San Diego jurisdiction but in the City of Chula Vista maintenance responsibility area. Constraints are being analyzed so that project design and implementation are agreeable to the three agencies. There is no set timeline at this time as planning is in its very early phases.

Policy Member Cox commended this project as a great coordinated effort between all three agencies. It is a great example of collaboration amongst governments. Policy Member Diaz commended the County's leadership on this project and thanked the County for the funding, without which the project would not be possible. Susie Murphy, member of the public and SDMBA Director, thanked all who are involved. The group is excited to be part of the project.

7. RANGER REPORTS

- Mika Shimada, City of San Diego, Western OVRP
August 26th, the SDCounty Bike Coalition hosted the annual "Bike the Bay" ride, where a new 8 mile gravel loop option through OVRP was available. Over 200 bikers rode through OVRP for first time, spanning 33 miles of trails. SDMBA provided a great team of volunteers, and it was a great time for rangers to do public outreach and increase awareness about OVRP.

Season 2019 Bird Nest Box Project kicked off on September 8th. Hawking STEAM Charter School came and built 8 nest boxes. A volunteer from Audubon Society taught 8 children and families how to build the nest boxes. The children will be invited back to

install their boxes in April 2019.

Adventure Passport began again, with 8 events running Sept 18-May 19. The first site for September was a Fishing Day at Otay Reservoir. Children were taught survival skills, including building fishing rods and cleaning water for drinking. In October we held a Halloween Mountain Biking Day, themed with Dia de los Muertos and Monarch Butterflies. Students from High Tech High attended and received the newly designed shirt for the Adventure Passport program, which also includes a graphic for "Discover OVRP Day".

Outdoor Explorer Program is a new outreach program led by the Audubon Society, running in October through March. Four elementary schools will be part of the Outdoor Explorer Programs.

There has been progress on non-native Myoporum management within OVRP. Rangers cleaned 1000 cubic yards of Myoporum in approximately 180 acres of the park since July. Clean-up will complete this month.

Susie Murphy announced that SDMBA presented their Ranger of the Year award to Ranger Shimada. Policy Member Diaz thanked Ranger Shimada for her passion and excitement.

- Lauren Raduc, County of San Diego, Eastern OVRP
The OVRP website has been updated through sdparks.org. It now provides the OVRP CAC calendar, agenda and minutes.

Staff provided a Nature Booth & Environmental Education at the 20th Anniversary Event for Casillas Elementary School. The event was coordinated with the Boy Scouts and hosted 400 parents and children, educating them about future events and trails.

Coastal Cleanup Day was September 15th at the Otay Reservoir. Fifteen volunteers cleaned up 100 pounds of trash.

Otay Lakes Hawk-tober was a success – throughout the month of October, a ranger gave presentations on birds of prey at different locations including Otay Lakes. Forty visitors participated in Hawk-tober; all but two visitors were new to OVRP.

Nature touch tables, Sunday hikes, and Movies in the Park continued. The Movie in the Park for Halloween included pumpkin decorating and costume contests. These events brought more than 200 people to the park.

Maintenance Reports: The County of San Diego is improving roads so that it is easier for emergency vehicles to access and for rangers to do patrols.

New event: Holidays at the Lake, December 15th from 9:30am-12:30pm. The event will include a light breakfast, photo opportunities, crafts, games, and Santa.

According to reports, OVRP is up 18% in reservations from last year.

8. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

CAC Chairman John Vogel announced he has been re-elected as Chairman for one more year. John Zarem has also been re-elected as Vice-Chair.

There are developments proposed for Otay Ranch Village 13 and 14 that the CAC received presentations on, and they have asked Joint Staff to have a special meeting in December to go over a presentation with the County at that time. A Special Meeting will be held December 6th from 2-4pm at Chula Vista Offices.

CAC Members toured some of the restoration work in Eastern OVRP in September. Vice-Chair Zarem said there were about 17-20 tour participants who got to see the restoration progress – where they removed non-native plants, input irrigation and the new river crossing. The group was impressed with the work done so far.

At last CAC meeting, Andy Yuen from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) briefed the CAC on the temporary closing of the Saturn Road Trail and utilization of the Swiss Park Trail in OVRP by the Otay River Estuary as USFWS conducts habitat restoration on the salt ponds. This will have no impact to the Bay Shore Bikeway other than increased traffic.

9. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

- Policy Member Cox asked about observed vandalism at the ranger station, specifically the building windows. Ranger Shimada commented it happened in June, and they have had custom-made windows installed. They are waiting for a security screen to prevent future vandalism.
- Policy Member Cox acknowledged Policy Member Diaz and the Chula Vista City Council regarding the Boy Scouts campground. While the Boy Scouts are responsible for raising the money, the campground will be open to other groups to use. Restrooms in the area will be tied to the City of Chula Vista sewer line – it is an expensive project but necessary. Staff Member Albright commented that there is no exact timeline on the sewer extension project, but will include an overall update at the next meeting.
- Policy Member Cox acknowledged John Holder, a former CAC member who will now be joining the County as a planner in the Resource Management Division at Parks and Recreation.
- CAC Member Ben McCue apologized for his absence as he was not included in the distribution list. Outdoor Outreach is working with many agencies receiving Proposition 68 funding. Coastal Conservancy is looking at stand-alone projects, and it would be great to find out how to fund some programs within OVRP.

10. REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Boy Scouts Campground
- Next meeting is on January 24th, 2019

ADJOURNMENT – 3:15 pm

OVRP PC MEMBER ATTENDEES

Supervisor Cox

Councilman Diaz

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES

Jack Bransford
John Zarem
Kim Peterson
Ben Vallejos
Alfredo Perez

Robert Miller
Vinit Jensen
Omar Sanchez
Jose Galaz
John Vogel

Natalie Roberts-Decarli
Michael McCoy
Emma Reese
Joan Schneider
John Swanson

STAFF PRESENT

Brian Albright
Mika Shimada
Laura Ball
Victor Avina

Melanie Tylke
Michael Walker
Jeannette DeAngelis
Chelsea Jander

Lauren Raduc
Joanne Emerick
Cheryl Goddard
Josh Bugiel

PUBLIC ATTENDEES

Mark Kukuček
Susie Murphy

David Corrales

Carrie Schneider