



CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA MINUTES

TIME: Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: City of Chula Vista Civic Center, Building C, Training Rooms 111/112
276 Fourth Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

CALL TO ORDER: CAC Chair Breny Aceituno called the meeting to order at 2:01pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CAC Member Hale Richardson announced an upcoming event on July 26, 2024 at the new Cota Vera public park, which recently opened close to OVRP. Joint staff member Juliette Orozco agreed to send out the meeting invitation to the group.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 14, 2024 (Action)

MOTION to APPROVE - Committee Member Hale Richardson 2nd Committee Member Charles Rili
ALL IN FAVOR – 7-0-0

AGENDA ITEMS

1. OVRP Connections Project update (*Green Infrastructure Consortium*) (*informational*)

Vicki Estrada, Co-founder of the Green Infrastructure Consortium presented on the Enhancing Connections and Restoration Project within OVRP. The presentation included: an overview of key stakeholders, an overview of the project site including history and photos, a project overview, an overview of the project location, an overview of project goals, participating organizations, an overview of progress to date and work completed, an overview of the two proposed concept plans, and questions and answers. Joel Kramer from the Resource Conservation District of the Greater San Diego Area offered to be available for questions and provided a project information flyer to the group.

CAC Member Cristina Santa Maria expressed her support for the project, and asked questions related to the historical context of the property. Member of the public, Joan Schneider, inquired as to how the project would impact local wildlife. Vicki Estrada let the group know that there will be an environmental analysis completed for the project and that, environmental surveys are currently underway. CAC Member Rick Richardson gave background regarding a similar restoration project in upper Otay lakes that the nearby community did not support because it took 8-9 years for vegetation to come in enough to be visually impactful. Vicki Estrada offered to look into phasing the project to avoid such a drastic change or to provide computer simulation. CAC Member Rick Richardson provided surrounding areas he thinks would benefit from public outreach efforts. CAC Chair Breny Aceituno expressed her support for focusing on safety, and asked how the project team would like support from the CAC. Vicki Estrada informed the CAC that the project team would be seeking a vote of approval on the concept plan at an upcoming CAC meeting.

2. Active Recreation Area 3 Project Update (County) (*informational*)

County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (County DPR) staff member Camille Wildburger provided an update on the County's Active Recreation Area 3 Project, including an overview of the outreach efforts to date, a call to action, and where members could find more information on the project. County Joint Staff Member Juliette Orozco expressed the need for CAC support in promoting the project survey. CAC Chair Breny Aceituno asked about how responses were being tracked. Member of the public, Joan Schneider, asked if the site was still planned to be utilized as active recreation, and whether it would have a community building onsite, which County DPR staff member Camille Wildburger affirmed.

3. 805-to-Heritage Trails and Staging Area Project Update (County) (*informational*)

County DPR staff member Camille Wildburger provided an update on the County's 805-to-Heritage Trails and Staging Area Project, including an overview of the outreach efforts to date, a call to action, and where members could find more information on the project. CAC Chair Breny Aceituno asked if there would be parking, which County DPR staff member Camille Wildburger affirmed.

RANGER REPORT

1. Western OVRP, City of San Diego

Western OVRP Ranger Wendy Miller provided an overview of upcoming events in OVRP, including the cancelled Padres Pedal the Cause due to flooded trails, the cancelled April 27th Neighborhood Promise Day, the unpermitted April 13th South Bay Brew Baix biking event, the upcoming August 24th Bike the Bay event, and the City of San Diego Rangers' and San Diego Coastkeeper's joint events -Earth Day cleanup and habitat enhancement project for cactus wrens. Ranger Miller also provided an overview of recent habitat conservation successes, including the sighting of Cactus Wren at Terra Bella Canyon, the sighting of Least Bell's Vireo throughout OVRP, the sighting of burrowing owls, the reproductive success of burrowing owls, and the reproductive success of the Great horned owl, who had two fledglings again this year.

2. Eastern OVRP, County of San Diego

Eastern OVRP Supervising Ranger Lauren Raduc announced her transition away from overseeing OVRP due to promoting to a Supervising Ranger. Supervising Ranger Raduc provided an overview of upcoming events in eastern OVRP, including the June 29th Otay Rocks event, the August 10th Movies in the Park event (*Barbie*), and the October 19th Movies in the Park event (*Hocus Pocus*). CAC members shared their support and congratulations for Supervising Ranger Raduc's promotion.

CHAIR COMMENTS

CAC Chair Breny Aceituno expressed her excitement and support for the upcoming projects that were presented during the meeting.

VICE CHAIR COMMENTS

None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

1. Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee

None

2. Trails Subcommittee

None

3. Community Outreach and Youth Involvement Subcommittee

None

4. Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee

CAC member Cristina Santa Maria expressed interest in revitalizing CAC interest in habitat restoration.

Member of the public, Joan Schneider, offered background on previous work that had been done regarding restoration of sites within OVRP.

ADJOURNMENT CAC Chair Breny Aceituno adjourned the meeting at 3:13pm.

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES:

Rick Richardson
Charles Rili
Ceasar Castro

Hale Richardson
Cristina Santa Maria
Marie Diaz

Breny Aceituno

STAFF:

Juliette Orozco
Laura Ball
Harold Phelps

Lauren Raduc
Charles Gailband
Camille Wildburger

Wendy Miller
Robert Broomfield

PUBLIC:

Joan Schneider
Vicki Estrada
Joel Kramer

