



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

**April 18, 2018
2:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 2:08 pm by CAC Vice Chair John Zarem

Public Comments

- None

**MOTION TO APPROVE DECEMBER 6, 2018 MINUTES: Joan Schneider, 2nd Carrie Schneider
ALL IN FAVOR – 13-0-0**

AGENDA ITEM

1. OTAY LAKES SEWER PRESENTATION

County Staff Member Emily Hubbard, new Parks Project Manager, presented on the project. This project is led by the County, but is located within the OVRP, at Otay Lakes Regional Park. The Otay Lakes Sewer project is currently in concept development and needed in order to replace the existing aging septic system and accommodate future uses at the park. Future uses include the property being used as a campground run by Boy Scouts of America.

A Feasibility Study identified three potential sewer alignments that would connect to the existing Chula Vista Salt Creek sewer line. The County is working closely with the City of Chula Vista to ensure the project meets all applicable requirements. Environmental and geotechnical studies are currently underway to ensure feasibility of the selected alignment. The project team hopes to break ground on the project at the end of the year. The selected alignment follows current access roads and future OVRP trails, which will reduce the environmental impacts of the project.

Committee Member Joan Schneider questioned if the Boy Scouts were helping to pay the cost of the updates. OVRP Joint Staff member Melanie Tylke explained that there was a previous facility assessment that determined the current septic system is not to standard and needs to be replaced. Supervisor Cox approved and funded the sewer project because the update is necessary for overall park operations, not just for the future campground.

2. OVRP BIKE SKILLS PARK UPDATE

County Staff Member Chelsea Jander, Parks Project Manager, presented an update on the proposed Bike Skills Park located at Active Rec Area 6, next to Rios Staging Area. The Bike Skills park will be in the eastern portion of Active Rec Area 6, as the western portion is reserved for future City of Chula Vista recreational amenities. Staff and the consultant team are working on a concept plan to be revealed on OVRP Day, Saturday May 18. All are encouraged to attend and provide feedback to inform the design of the park. The County coordinated with Chula Vista to ensure land allocations meet the needs outlined in the City's Park Master Plan.

Chula Vista Park staff brought up parking concerns due to the limited amount of parking currently available. Chelsea Jander responded that the size and design of the bike park is focused on bringing people from the neighborhood, so parking isn't anticipated to be an issue. OVRP Joint Staff Michael Walker also indicated that street parking is available and the church in the area has allowed users to use their parking lot with no negative impact reported.

Committee Member Zarem asked when the Kohl's staging area east of I-805 will be completed. Staff member Michael Walker replied that they are working with the property owner on a shared parking agreement and the trails staff is still working on assembling trail segments east of I-805. Committee Member Zarem also noted the homeless problem in the same area and warned the other members about the issue if they are in the area.

3. CITY OF SAN DIEGO FUNDING PRIORITY LIST PRESENTATION

Ranger Mika Shimada, Senior Park Ranger at OVRP, presented on behalf of OVRP Joint Staff member Laura Ball. Ranger Shimada handed out a draft Priority Project List, as applicable to City of San Diego ownership and management from March 2019. The highest priority area was identified as "Area A Trail Improvement" of drainage improvements to existing trails where they cross the river. The next priority includes the restoration of the Eucalyptus Grove listed as Rec Area 7.

Ranger Mika and Laura Ball will be defining improvements (including any potential permits), identifying specific areas, and preparing cost estimates for these priority projects.

Committee Members had questions about Rec Area 2 and its status. Previously, it was a driving range which is no longer operational, and the property is now listed as vacant. Committee Member Swanson also serves on the Otay-Nestor Community Planning Group (CPG) and shared that the land owner presented to the CPG for the potential development of apartment buildings on this land – and the CPG was in favor of the proposal.

OVRP Joint Staff member Melanie Tylke clarified the staff perspective on the above-mentioned apartment development project. The project would be located in the City of San Diego and the project was presented early to the CPG by the applicant. The applicant has not formally applied to the City yet and must go through the entire planning and discretionary process to get the project approved. There is plenty of time to review and add comments regarding this project on behalf of OVRP. This would be good to add as an item for the Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee.

4. SHINOHARA BURN SITE REMEDIATION PROJECT UPDATE

OVRP Joint Staff member Michael Walker spoke of the restoration efforts from the burn site where ash was dumped years ago. Remediation is complete and native plants have been installed as part of the 5-year restoration plan to have natural vegetation established. There is currently a plan to water the area based on biologists' review, which could be supported by water trucks to establish the restoration area.

5. OVRP DAY – MAY 18TH

Ranger Mika will send out digital version of flyer to all volunteers and exhibitors involved in this event, which will be held on Saturday May 18, from 8am-1pm. The event information is posted on www.nationalparktrust.org, as it coincides with national *Kids to Parks Day*. On the day of the event, CAC members and non-profit organizations will be leading outdoor activities throughout the entire regional park.

Partners were asked to help get the word out and distribute the flyer on social media (Facebook/Nextdoor). Regular media distributions will be added through the County website and social media platforms, but it is always nice to be shared by CAC members as a personal touch. The main goal is to increase attendance and public awareness of this event.

6. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Committee Member C. Schneider let the group know that the Habitat Restoration Subcommittee is trying to apply for Prop 68 grant funding. The Subcommittee will be working with the City on project scope, budget estimate and what is needed to form an eligible project that can be submitted for grant funding.

County Staff Member Tylke mentioned that Prop 68 funding is becoming more available for recreation-oriented amenities. She said if anyone would like to assist and write applications, it would be greatly appreciated. OVRP Bike Park is a likely candidate to apply for funding to help build up OVRP.

7. CAC SUBCOMMITTEE ROSTER

Roster passed around for members to sign up for CAC Subcommittees. CAC Chair John Vogel will update the roster and subcommittee lists before the next meeting, for appropriate Chair nominations to be filled as needed.

8. RANGER REPORT

- Mika Shimada, City of San Diego, Western OVRP
 - New Ranger Wesley Giubialto (replacing Araceli Dominguez) hired on March 10 and he will be introduced at the next PC-CAC meeting.
 - For years there has been a large homeless population at OVRP, and Ranger Shimada is requesting park visitors and residents to report to Chula Vista PD or San Diego PD if they see such issues while in the Park. It is important to report activity through “Get It Done” app in San Diego area, and “See-Click-Fix” for Chula Vista. This active reporting is needed to ensure that issues are tracked and addressed.

- Visioning Open House Workshop for City of San Diego Park Master Plan, requested that the members attend workshops and voice their opinions at this event. Committee Member C. Schneider noted that requests in these plans help ensure amenities are funded and constructed in the future, she encouraged CAC members to get more involved and advocate for OVRP during this process.
- Lauren Raduc, County of San Diego, Eastern OVRP
 - Two weeks ago, the 2nd Annual Breakfast with the Bunny was held at Otay Lakes County Park and more than 300 people attended. Photos of the event will be shared at PC-CAC.
 - April 27 is I Love a Clean San Diego's Creek to Bay Day, teaming up with City of San Diego Ranger Wesley.
 - Movies in the Park is kicking off with a showing of The Sandlot on June 14.
 - Otay Lakes County Park is very popular for Easter weekend and it has been the busiest time of the year so far.

9. CAC CHAIR COMMENTS

CAC Chairman Vogel thanked all members for staying active, keeping CAC informed of things that are happening and for questions that drive plans into action.

10. CAC VICE CHAIR COMMENTS

CAC Vice Chairman Zarem referred to Committee Member Peterson to announce addressing that this was her last meeting, she is moving to North Dakota and has notified ranger and City staff. She thanked members for letting her be a part of this and the group thanked her for her service.

CAC Vice Chairman Zarem commented on the Rock House Trail/ Mother Miguel Trail, which is not within the OVRP, but he hiked it after the recent reroutes and it was excellent.

11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee
 - ◆ None
- Trails Subcommittee
 - ◆ Nomination of Chair
 - ◆ Mark Kukuchek nominated Jose Galaz, Jose Galaz then nominated Mark Kukuchek. Kukuchek declined the nomination.
 - ◆ Subcommittee members voted: 3-0-1 – Jose Galaz APPROVED for Trails Subcommittee Chair
- COYIS
 - ◆ None
- Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee
 - ◆ None

12. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Committee Member J. Schneider, 2nd CAC Vice Chairman Zarem
ALL IN FAVOR – 13-0-0

ADJOURNMENT – 3:44 pm

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES

John Vogel

Robert Miller

Emma Reese

Kim Peterson

Mark Kukuchek

John Zarem

Mike McCoy

Jose Galaz

Vinit Jensen

Alfredo Perez

John Swanson

Joan Schneider

Darin Gray

Carrie Schneider

STAFF PRESENT

Melanie Tylke

Lauren Raduc

Josh Bugiel

Chelsea Jander

Emily Hubbard

Michael Walker

Harold Phelps

Mark Caro

Patricia Ferman

Mika Shimada

Gerardo Ramirez