

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 1, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Khoury
Bob Byrnes
Candice Bowman
Kelly Clemshaw, alternate
Maggie Brown
Phillip Mao, alternate
Jeremy Blakespear
Jennifer Disser
Julie Klein
Karen Lare, alternate
Peter Shapiro
Jim Smith
Jeff Barnouw
Bob Dudley
Bill Adelson

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
California Native Plant Society
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Del Dios Town Council
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Lomas Serenas Property Owners
San Diego Bicycle Coalition
San Diego Mountain Biking Assoc.
San Diego Trails Alliance
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Coastal Property Owner
San Pasqual Property Owner
Eastern Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson
Dewanda Vandermost
Nathan Lacy
PJ Lynch

San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
Lake Hodges resident

Roll Call and Introductions

Chair Khoury called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.

The guest introduced was a Lake Hodges resident, PJ Lynch. The alternate member representatives introduced and welcomed were Karen Lare, Phillip Mao and Kelly Clemshaw.

Approval of Minutes-8-2-24

Jeff Barnouw moved to approve the minutes of August 2, 2024 and Maggie Brown seconded the motion.

All members were in favor.

Abstain: Peter Shapiro

Chair's Report – Chair Khoury announced that the August JPA meeting was cancelled. Chair Khoury reported that during the September JPA Board meeting, there was a special tribute created by the JPA staff to honor Board Member Dwight Worden, who is retiring from the Del Mar City Council, in recognition of his many years of service and support. He reported that the JPA adopted the CAC's recommended changes to the CAC Bylaws clarifying alternate appointment procedure and approved property owner alternate Paul Bernstein.

Chair Khoury reported that the Lake Hodges lake level is scheduled as an agenda item for the November 15th, 2024 JPA Board meeting. However, the City of San Diego Public Utilities staff will not be attending.

Chair Khoury mentioned the new scaffolding downstream of the Lake Hodges Dam spillway. Executive Director Anderson reported that the scaffolding is related to the City's ongoing dam repairs. Chair Khoury also highlighted the September 30, 2024 W-19 Project opening ceremony and the Dave Kreitzer memorial walk.

Executive Director's Report –

Executive Director Anderson reported on the following:

- CA Senator Blakespear's visit with JPA staff for status update on CTC Trail
- County Grant Award for SDRP Electric Outdoor Equity Vehicle
- Sikes Adobe Pavilion Grant Award from The Escondido Community Foundation
- New SDRP storefront at North County Mall
- Recognition of JPA by High Tech High
- Success of California Native Plant Society native plant sale at Sikes Adobe
- SDRP Volunteer Training
- David Kreitzer Memorial Walk
- W-19 ribbon cutting
- Tidal Trail guided hike November 3rd

Public Comment –

Eastern Property Owner, Bill Adelson, reported his attendance at the recent ceremony celebrating the renaming of Luelf Pond Trail to Degenfelder Trail. The renaming honors the significant contributions of the Degenfelder family to the Ramona trails system.

Karen Lare, representing the San Dieguito Lagoon Committee, promoted the sandiequitolagoon.org website that offers educational material that increases awareness and understanding of the Lagoon and River Valley.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Draft Feasibility Study Results for East San Pasqual Segment of Coast to Crest Trail –

Director Anderson presented the CAC with a summary of trail alignment alternatives shown in the Draft Feasibility Study for the East San Pasqual Segment of the Coast to Crest Trail. The study evaluates three trail alignments considering cost, constructability, environmental impacts, and design and permitting.

The trail segment starts at the San Pasqual staging area at Bandy Canyon and Highway 78, ending at the Boden Canyon trailhead, connecting to the Lower Santa Ysabel Trail CTC segment. A crossing of Highway 78 is required to connect to the next trail segment at Boden Canyon. All properties crossed by the alternative alignments are public (no private) and include City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Boden Canyon).

Key findings from the study include:

Three Trail Alignments Evaluated:

- North Alignment: Located north of Highway 78, adjacent to the river and orchards.
- South Alignment (and South Option): Positioned south of Highway 78 along the slopes.
- Crossover Alignment: A hybrid of the north and south alignments, utilizing an existing culvert under Highway 78.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Cost: Financial implications of each alignment.
- Constructability: Feasibility of construction for each route.
- Environmental Impacts: Potential effects on the surrounding environment.
- Design and Permitting: Requirements for design and necessary permits.

Environmental impacts for each alignment include:

- **North Alignment:** Potential impacts on riparian habitats and water quality, and possible disruption to wildlife corridors and habitats.
- **South Alignment:** Risks of erosion and landslides due to construction on slopes, and disturbance to native plant communities with potential loss of vegetation.
- **Crossover Alignment:** Minimal additional environmental impact as it utilizes existing infrastructure, with potential cumulative effects from both north and south alignments.

Proposed mitigation measures include:

- **Erosion Control:** Implementing techniques such as silt fences, straw wattles, and erosion control blankets to stabilize slopes and prevent sediment runoff.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Restoring disturbed areas with native vegetation to enhance habitat quality and support local wildlife.
- **Wildlife Protection:** Designing wildlife crossings and buffer zones to minimize disruption to wildlife corridors and habitats.
- **Water Quality Protection:** Installing sediment basins and biofiltration systems to protect water quality in nearby rivers and streams.
- **Minimizing Vegetation Disturbance:** Carefully planning construction activities to avoid sensitive plant communities and reduce the footprint of the trail.

Objective: To identify a preferred trail alignment for further refinement and detailed design.

Next Steps: The draft study will be available for stakeholder review. A presentation of the feasibility study results will be given at the JPA meeting. Detailed trail plans will be prepared for the preferred alignment only. Comments on the feasibility study have also been requested from County and City staff.

The CAC members discussed various considerations for the trail alignment including long-term maintenance costs of the bridge, trail user experience, elevation profile and difficulty level, complexity, timeline, environmental impact, funding strategies and stakeholder's preference. The CAC agreed that the CAC's Trails Committee should review the trail alignments at their next meeting and report back to the CAC in time for the December meeting if possible. Director Anderson also reported that she is scheduled to present the feasibility study results at the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy's board meeting on November 20th.

No action was taken.

2. Committee Reports

- a. **Project Review Committee** – Maggie Brown provided a summary of the Project Review Committee's activities. The committee is currently studying the Surf Cup Sports Complex, with a presentation by the project consultant tentatively scheduled for November. They are also monitoring the status of the El Camino Real Assisted Living project. Additionally, the committee has planned an assessment and site visit for the Rancho Guejito Winery modification in December.
- b. **Trails Committee** – Candice Bowman reported that they walked the Tidal Trail. She mentioned that the committee will be discussing the next trail survey and an E-bike policy for the trails. The committee will discuss the East San Pasqual Trail alignment at their next meeting on December 10th.
- c. **Interpretation Committee** – No report.

INFORMATION

Horsepark Trail Repairs (oral report) – Director Anderson reported that there is a meeting scheduled with the 22nd Agricultural District's attorney but that no timeline has been set for the repairs.

Osuna Trail Segment of CTC Trail (oral) - Director Anderson reported that the project site development permit was approved and the Joint Use Agreement with the OMWD was finalized and approved by OMWD and JPA. She also reported that the final bridge engineering with a new engineer has started, and that Nathan has been working on the wetland permitting for the project.

Correspondence – N/A

Chair Khoury adjourned the meeting at 12:25 pm.