



San Dieguito River Park  
Joint Powers Authority  
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(858) 674-2270 Fax (858) 674-2280  
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**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair Jill MacDonald  
Solana Beach City Council

Vice-Chair Chris Khoury  
Citizens Advisory Committee

Joe LaCava  
San Diego City Council

Marni von Wilpert  
San Diego City Council

Joel Anderson  
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Terra Lawson-Remer  
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Terry Gaasterland  
Del Mar City Council

Consuelo Martinez  
Escondido City Council

Jenny Maeda  
Poway City Council

Dustin Fuller, Ex Officio  
22<sup>nd</sup> District Agricultural  
Association

Shawna Anderson  
Executive Director

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Friday, January 16, 2026  
County Administration Center  
1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego  
Room 302A**

Speaker slips will be available. Please fill out a slip and give it to the Chair prior to the meeting if you wish to speak about an item on the agenda. The Board may act on any item listed on the Consent or Action Agenda.

Introductions and Announcements

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Minutes of December 12, 2025 (Page 3-9)

Executive Director's Report

CAC Report

**Public Comment**

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board and not appearing on today's agenda. Comments relating to items on today's agenda are to be taken at the time the item is heard. Pursuant to the Brown Act, no action shall be taken by the Board on public comment items.

## DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. FY25-26 Q2 Budget Report (Page 10)
2. Budget Committee Appointment (Oral)
3. JPA Meeting Venue Changes (Page 11)

## INFORMATION

4. Project Status Updates
  - a. Osuna Segment of Coast to Crest Trail
  - b. Reach the Beach Fairgrounds Trail and Gateway
  - c. San Dieguito Lagoon Phase II Restoration (aka W-19)
  - d. CTC Trail - East San Pasqual and Sutherland Gaps Project
5. Coordination Reports (oral)
  - a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
  - b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
  - c. Volcan Mountain Foundation
  - d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
6. Jurisdictional Status Reports (oral)

An opportunity for the Board members to report on actions taken within their jurisdiction to further the park planning process.
7. Correspondence – None
8. Closed session with Legal Counsel: None

THE NEXT REGULAR JPA MEETING will be held on February 20, 2026 **in room #302A**. If you have any questions, please contact Dewanda Vandermost at [dewanda@sdrp.org](mailto:dewanda@sdrp.org) or (858)674-2270

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**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
Minutes of December 12, 2025**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jill MacDonald – Chair  
Chris Khoury – Vice Chair  
Andrew Hayes  
Brian Elliott  
Consuelo Martinez  
Jenny Maeda  
Dustin Fuller

**REPRESENTING**

City of Solana Beach  
Citizens Advisory Committee  
County of San Diego Dist. 2, Alt  
City of San Diego District 1, Alt  
City of Escondido  
City of Poway  
22nd Agricultural District, Ex Officio

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Terra Lawson-Remer  
Terry Gaasterland  
Marni von Wilpert

**REPRESENTING**

County of San Diego Dist. 3  
City of Del Mar  
County of San Diego Dist. 2

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Shawna Anderson  
Dewanda Vandermost  
Nathan Lacy  
Jason Lopez  
Wayne Brechtel  
Lizzy Bendrick  
Udo Wahn  
Jeff Carmel  
Jeremy Blakespear

**REPRESENTING**

San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA, General Counsel  
County Parks & Recreation Department  
City of Del Mar Lagoon Committee  
Friends of San Dieguito River Valley  
Citizens Advisory Committee Vice Chair

**Introduction and Announcements:**

Chair MacDonald convened the meeting at 11:01 a.m. and welcomed all attendees and confirmed a quorum with six board members present.

A special introduction was made for Jason Lopez, long-standing SDRP JPA staff member and Resources & Trails Manager.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Chair's Statement** – No Report

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**Approval of the Minutes of November 14, 2025**

No corrections or additions were noted for the November 14, 2025 minutes. Board Member Alt. Elliott moved to approve the minutes and Board Member Martinez seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Executive Director's Report –**

Executive Director Anderson reported that the Red Nose Run fundraiser will be held on December 13 in Del Mar, benefiting the San Dieguito River Park JPA and Semper Fi & America's Fund. Sponsored by the Del Mar Foundation, the event includes a festive walk/run with costume contests, and JPA staff will participate and manage a beach water station. Registration is still open, and the event was recently promoted on Fox 5 News.

She reported on a successful annual staff retreat held on December 11 at the Del Mar Powerhouse.

The first Harvest Tea event at Sikes Adobe was successfully hosted, with appreciation expressed to board member Consuelo Martinez for attending. Plans are underway to continue offering both Harvest and Valentine's teas in the future.

The JPA is working with the Escondido Police Department to address late-night parties and vandalism at the Sunset Drive staging area, which have resulted in trash and hazardous waste. The City has increased patrols in the area and prepared a site assessment report with suggestions to deter activities.

Improvements are being implemented by JPA rangers.

An update was provided on the Horse Park Bridge project. The trail detour agreement with HITS has been extended for two years to allow the Agricultural District to complete culvert repairs, which require permits and funding expected to be budgeted in 2027. It is recommended that bridge replacement be delayed until repairs are complete to avoid damage. Grant funding is being pursued by the DAA to accelerate the timeline.

**CAC Chair's Report –** Vice Chair Chris Khoury reported that the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on December 5, 2025 and received public comments from Paul Bernstein and Bob Dudley advocating for raising the level of Lake Hodges back to 293 feet. They shared letters from several organizations on the subject. Vice Chair Khoury said the topic would be added to the next CAC meeting agenda and the letters included in both upcoming CAC and JPA agendas.

Khoury reported that Shawna Anderson announced her 2026 retirement to the CAC. and that Jeff Barnouw, current CAC vice chair and former chair, announced he will not seek another CAC term after ten years of service.

The CAC unanimously elected Khoury for his third and final term as Chair subject to JPA Board approval, and Jeremy Blakespear as vice chair for 2026/27.

Jeremy Blakespear was invited to introduce himself to the JPA Board as the newly elected CAC vice chair. Jeremy noted his involvement with the San Dieguito River Park since 2009, including service as Trails Committee chair and volunteer with the mountain bike patrol. He previously worked as a park ranger in Yellowstone and Joshua Tree and expressed his passion for conservation and recreation. Professionally, he is a physician assistant in North County and looks forward to supporting the CAC and park mission.

**Public Comment** – None

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION**

### **1. FY25-26 Q1 Budget Report**

**Recommendation: None**

Executive Director Anderson reported that first-quarter revenues and expenses are tracking as expected, with no significant concerns. Some variances above 25% were noted but will be monitored. The Coast budget, funded by Southern California Edison, is also on track, and the 2026 Coast budget has been approved by SCE with a slight increase. Director Anderson mentioned that SCE has consistently expressed positive feedback with the JPA's management of the lagoon trails and surroundings. Annual reserve transfers for vehicle and equipment replacement were completed, bringing the reserve balance to approximately \$89,000. Discussion included future vehicle needs, including interest in an EV truck to be stationed at the Lagoon. Chris Khoury pledged \$20,000 toward the purchase of an EV truck, with potential for additional contributions. A cash balance and endowment report was provided, noting strong performance of the Del Mar Foundation's Edison Lagoon Restoration Endowment, now at \$1.5 million, and increases in other endowment funds.

**Public Comment** - None

### **2. Approve 2026-27 CAC Chair**

**Recommendation: Approval of CAC Chair**

The Board approved the reappointment of Chris Khoury as Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee, effective January 2026. The motion was made by board member alternate Hayes, seconded by board member Maeda, and passed unanimously by voice vote. Appreciation was expressed for Chris Khoury's leadership in improving CAC attendance and engagement.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Public Comment**- None

### **3. 2026 Board Officer Elections and Committee Appointments**

**Recommendation: Board motion and vote to elect Chair and Vice Chair for 2026 term and appoint board members to serve on ad-hoc committees.**

**Officer Elections:**

Chair MacDonald opened the discussion by expressing willingness to serve a second term and noted that the current Vice Chair, Chris Khoury, was also willing to continue. The Chair invited other nominations or discussion; none were presented. Board members voiced support for the Chair and Vice Chair continuing in their roles.

Board member alternate Elliott motioned to approve re-electing both Chair MacDonald and Vice-Chair Khoury to serve another term. Board member alternate Hayes seconded the motion.

The motion was discussed briefly, with members expressing appreciation for their service. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Budget Committee Appointments:**

The Board reviewed the ad-hoc Budget Committee membership. Current members are Chair MacDonald, and board members LaCava and Martinez. Chair MacDonald stated that board member LaCava requested that he not be reappointed to the committee. Chair MacDonald and Board member Martinez agreed to continue serving. At least one additional member was requested. Members discussed the committee's important role in preparing the next fiscal year budget and reviewing the four-year forecast. Meetings are typically virtual and limited to two or three sessions before May. Due to absent members, the Board agreed to revisit adding a third committee member at the January 2026 meeting.

Board member Martinez moved to appoint herself and Chair MacDonald to the Budget Committee and leave one vacancy to be filled in January: seconded by Chair MacDonald.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Officer Appointment Committee:**

The Board agreed to re-establish a committee, last active in 2022, to review Policy 95-1 regarding board officer elections for non-elected members or alternates. Volunteers included Board member LaCava, Vice Chair Khoury, and Chair MacDonald.

Board member alternate Hayes moved to appoint all three to the Officer Committee; seconded by board member Martinez.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Public Comment**- None

**4. Appoint Executive Director Recruitment Committee**

**Recommendation: Appoint Recruitment Committee to initiate and lead a recruitment process to replace retiring Executive Director.**

Director Anderson explained that board committees were appointed in the last two instances to direct and implement a recruitment process to fill ED positions with support from JPA General Counsel and Office Manager. The Board discussed forming a recruitment committee to initiate and lead the process of replacing retiring Executive Director Anderson, whose retirement is anticipated in June 2026. Chair MacDonald and Member LaCava (as represented by alternate Elliott) volunteered to serve on the committee. Vice Chair Khoury was recommended to join, and members agreed that a citizen perspective would be valuable. Additional volunteers were welcomed, provided the committee remains below a quorum. The committee will meet early January 2026 to begin planning, with support from General Counsel Wayne Brechtel and the JPA office manager.

Board member Martinez moved to appoint Chair MacDonald, Vice Chair Khoury, and Board member LaCava, and to the Executive Director Recruitment Committee; seconded by board member alternate Hayes.

All in favor.

Yes votes: MacDonald, Elliott (Alt), Maeda, Martinez, Khoury, Hayes (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer, Gaasterland, Von Wilpert

Abstain: None

**Public Comment-** None

**5. Board Meeting Venue**  
**Recommendation: None**

The Board discussed options for future meeting locations following positive feedback from the November meeting at Solana Beach City Hall. Members expressed interest in alternating between Solana Beach City Hall and the current venue at the County downtown location, either every other month or every six months, to provide convenience and variety. Key points included:

- Establishing a schedule in advance to avoid confusion and allow members to plan accordingly.
- Avoiding commuting conflicts during the Del Mar Fair and racing season.
- Ensuring availability and timely room reservations at both venues.

Staff confirmed that inquiries have been made regarding availability of Solana Beach council chambers. A proposed schedule, either alternating every other month or every six months, will be developed based on availability and presented at the January 2026 meeting.

**Public Comment-** None

**INFORMATION**

**6. Project Status Updates**

- a) **Osuna Segment of Coast to Crest Trail** – Director Anderson reported that the Osuna Segment has reached 60% design completion, and a construction permit application will be submitted to the City of San Diego in January. A meeting with Development Services leadership is scheduled to ensure a smooth permitting process and avoid delays. The updated engineer's construction cost estimate

places project construction at \$3.4 million, leaving a \$1 million shortfall compared to the previous estimate used in the grant and based on preliminary design. Anderson stated that additional funding will be pursued through state grants, including the Trails and Greenways grant cycle in 2026, and a request for additional contributions from the SDRV Conservancy. Fundraising will also be considered. Construction bidding is anticipated later next year.

- b) **Reach the Beach Fairgrounds Trail** – A meeting with the architect is scheduled next month to refine cost estimates. Grant funding will be divided between the Gateway project and the Del Mar Living Levee trail segment.
- c) **San Dieguito Lagoon Phase II Restoration (aka W-19)** – Easement amendments for access roads are being finalized with General Counsel.
- d) **CTC Trail – East San Pasqual and Sutherland Gaps Project** – Director Anderson reported ongoing work on the trail gap project including stakeholder meetings, CEQA, and other tasks.

## 5. **Coordination Reports (oral)**

- a. **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy** – No report
- b. **Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley** – No report
- c. **Volcan Mountain Foundation** – No report
- d. **San Dieguito Lagoon Committee** - Udo Wahn, newly appointed Chair of the City of Del Mar Lagoon Committee, provided an update. The committee is working toward improving signage to indicate where fishing is allowed or prohibited along the San Dieguito River. Existing signs between Grand Avenue Bridge and adjacent areas are outdated, unclear, and lack information on fines. The committee also recommended encouraging the fairgrounds to install signs on the north side of the river where fishing and clamming are common. Additionally, the state nonprofit MPA Collaborative is considering improvements to lagoon signage statewide, including the Grand Avenue overlook. Fewer complaints have been received recently regarding fishing off the bridge. These issues will be brought to the Del Mar City Council during future goal-setting sessions.

## 6. **Jurisdictional Status Reports** –

Chair MacDonald reported that the City of Solana Beach has scheduled a meeting with Surf Cup Sports (now Pioneer Sports) for January 21, with the Mayor, Chair MacDonald, and the City Manager attending. A follow-up report will be provided after the meeting.

Board member Martinez shared updates from recent community events, including participation in the Sikes Artisan Fair Market and planning for Earth Day Escondido, scheduled for Saturday, April 4. The event will feature booths at no cost, food vendors, and a new playground. Organizations are invited to participate, and Arbor Day activities will follow later in April.

Dustin Fuller from the 22nd Agricultural reported in response to Mr. Wahn's report, that new fishing signs will be installed along the river channel in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Installation is expected shortly if not already completed.

## 7. **Correspondence** – None

8. **Closed session with Legal Counsel:** None

Chair MacDonald adjourned the meeting at 12:03pm

DRAFT

# Agenda Item 1

## January 16, 2026

### SDRP JPA Operations Budget Summary FY 25-26 -2nd Quarter (July - December 2025)

	Thru 2nd Qtr received	2nd Qtr projected	2nd Qtr Actual% (target 50%)	Total Annual Budget
<b>Revenues</b>				
Member Agencies	1356997	1,356,996	100%	1,356,996
SCE Coast Transfer ( <i>*see Coast Budget below*</i> )	148430	148,430	50%	296,859
Habitat Mgmt. Endowments	13182	58,638	11%	117,275
Donations/Events/Other	13368	39,699	17%	79,398
OPS Endowment Distribution (SDF)	16008	16,098	50%	32,195
SDRVC OPS Endowment Contribution	25000	25,000	100%	25,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,572,984</b>	<b>1,644,860</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>1,907,723</b>

	Thru 2nd Qtr expended	2nd Qtr projected	2nd Qtr Actual% (target 50%)	Total Annual Budget
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Salaries & Benefits	716,712	779,897	46%	1,559,794
Trails Supplies & Services	44,171	35,225	63%	70,449
Liability Insurance/Volunteer Insurance	67,836	63,300	107%	63,300
Lagoon Ranger Station (Construction Loan)	22,152	22,181	50%	44,362
Office/Admin	20,258	19,422	52%	38,844
Professional Services	16,886	18,987	44%	37,974
Vehicle Maintenance & Fuel	22,884	15,050	76%	30,100
Habitat & Mitigation Management	20,839	11,000	95%	22,000
Sikes Adobe	10,556	10,500	50%	21,000
Education & Volunteer Support	2,800	4,500	31%	9,000
Other Expenses	4,057	4,700	43%	9,400
Vehicle Reserve Transfer	2,500	2,500	100%	2,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>951,651</b>	<b>984,762</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>1,908,723</b>

### Coast Budget Summary (*Operated on Calendar Year*) - Status through 4th Quarter (Jan -Dec. 2025)

	Thru 4th Qtr received	4th Qtr projected	4th Qtr Actual (target 100%)	Total Annual Budget
<b>Coast Fund Revenue</b>				
Southern Calif. Edison	362,559	362,559	100%	362,559
<b>Total Coast Revenue</b>	<b>362,559</b>	<b>362,559</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>362,559</b>

	Thru 4th Qtr expended	4th Qtr projected	4th Qtr Actual (target 100%)	Total Annual Budget
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Salaries & Benefits/Admin. ( <i>*see below*</i> )	296,859	296,859	100%	296,859
Operations	29,599	41,700	71%	41,700
Materials	11,090	11,000	101%	11,000
Vehicle Fuel & Maint	9,488	9,000	105%	9,000
Vehicle Reserve Transfer	4,000	4,000	100%	4,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>351,036</b>	<b>362,559</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>362,559</b>

(\*2.5 Ranger Salary/Benefits/Admin per Trail Mgmt Agreement)

## **Agenda Item 3**

### **January 16, 2026**

**TO:** JPA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Staff

**SUBJECT:** JPA Meeting Venue and Schedule for 2026

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Provide direction to staff on JPA board meeting venue and schedule for 2026.

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JPA Chair MacDonald offered to host the November 2025 JPA meeting at Solana Beach City Hall. Following the positive experience and strong attendance at this location, your Board directed Staff to explore the feasibility of holding additional JPA meetings there considering its proximity to the San Dieguito River Valley.

At the December 2025 JPA meeting, your Board discussed the possibility of designating Solana Beach City Hall as a recurring meeting venue. All members present expressed support for the idea. The suggested venue schedule was either to alternate months or change the venue at six-month intervals dependent on availability. Concerns were raised that meeting in Solana Beach during the Fair and racing seasons should be avoided due to heavy traffic in the area.

Staff confirmed that the Solana Beach council chambers are available on the third Friday of the month for JPA meetings from February to May 2026. Staff's proposed approach is to schedule meetings at Solana Beach from February through May, thereby avoiding the Fair and racing seasons, and at the County Administration Center from July through December 2026. Both venues have confirmed availability for these months, and Room 302A at the County Administration Center remains reserved for JPA meetings for the entire year, except for June 19, 2026.

Note this year that the June 19, 2026 meeting coincides with a county holiday (Juneteenth) and will require rescheduling or cancellation.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawna Anderson  
Executive Director