

## Notice of Public Meeting

### San Diego River Conservancy

A public meeting of the Governing Board of  
The San Diego River Conservancy  
will be held Thursday,

November 5, 2009  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

#### Meeting Location

CARLTON OAKS GOLF COURSE  
Acorn Room (Pool Area)  
9200 Inwood Drive  
Santee, CA 92071  
619-448-4242

Tele-Conference Location: 1416 Ninth Street  
Resources Agency Conference Room 1305 Sacramento, CA 95814  
(877) 287-0283 / Pass code 606349

Contact: Michael Nelson  
(619) 645-3183

#### Meeting Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Public Comment  
Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged.
4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report
5. Deputy Attorney General Report

## 6. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

- 2010 SDRC Meeting Schedule
- San Diego Natural History Museum - Habitat Journey Exhibit
- Proposition 40 Project Status
  - Riverford Road- San Diego River Trail
  - River Gorge Trail and Trailhead- San Diego River Trail
  - Invasives Control and Restoration  
(Supplemental Environmental Project – San Diego County Water Authority)

## 7. City of San Diego - San Diego State University Qualcomm Redevelopment Discussions

## 8. Intergovernmental Working Group: San Diego River Trail

- Mark Carpenter, KTU+A

## 9. San Diego River Invasive Non-native Plant Control and Riparian Restoration Program (Carlton Oaks Project)

- City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department  
Niki McGinnis  
Jeff Pasek
- San Diego River Conservancy, Consultants  
Ann Van Leer  
Jason Giessow
- U.S Geological Survey  
Barbara Kus
- San Diego State University Research Foundation  
Tom Zink  
John Crockett

## 10. Carlton Oaks Golf Course Site Visit and Demonstration

(The activities associated with this item will be located and conducted outside on the golf course and will include a demonstration of invasive removal techniques at the project site.)

Jason Giessow, SDRC Consultant  
Greg Amori, Agri Chemical and Supply, Inc.

## 11. Adjournment

### Accessibility

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Michael Nelson at 619-645-3183

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **2**

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
The Board will consider adoption of the **September 3, 2009** public meeting minutes.

PURPOSE: The minutes of the **September 3, 2009** Board Meeting are attached for your review.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes

**SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY (SDRC)  
Minutes of September 3, 2009 Public Meeting**

(Draft Minutes for Approval on November 5, 2009)

Chairperson Donna Frye called the September 3, 2009 meeting of the San Diego River Conservancy to order at approximately 9:34 a.m.

**1. Roll Call**

Members Present

Donna Frye, Chair	Council Member, City of San Diego
Ruth Hayward	Public at Large
Bryan Cash	Natural Resources Agency, Alternate Designee (via phone)
Toni Atkins	Public at Large
John Donnelly	Wildlife Conservation Board (via phone)
Anne Haddad	Public at Large (arrived at 10:20 a.m.)
Ronie Clark	Department of Parks and Recreation, Alternate Designee
Miriam Ingenito	Department of Finance, Alternate Designee (via phone)

Absent

Dianne Jacob	Supervisor, Second District, County of San Diego
Jerry Sanders	Mayor, City of San Diego
Ben Clay	Public at Large
Andrew Poat	Public at Large
David King	San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Staff Present

Michael Nelson	Executive Officer
Hayley Peterson	Deputy Attorney General
Julia Richards	Administrative Services Manager
Ann Van Leer	Consultant, San Diego River Conservancy
Jim King	Consultant, State Coastal Conservancy
Megan Johnson	State Coastal Conservancy
Jason Giessow	Consultant, San Diego River Conservancy

Other Attendees

Sherri Lightner	City Council Member, City of San Diego
Frieder Seible	University of California, San Diego
Bob Dameron	David Evans and Associates
Gernot Komar	David Evans and Associates
Chris Pearson	Council Member, Marti Emerald
Stacy LoMedico	City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation
Megan Hamilton	San Diego County, Parks and Recreation
Tale Halse	Supervisor Dianne Jacob
Robin Shifflet	City of San Diego, Park Designer

Scott Reese                      City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation  
Kathy Keehan                    San Diego Bicycle Coalition  
Mark Weston                      General Manager, Helix Water District  
Robin Rierdan                    Lakeside's River Park Conservancy

### 3. Public Comment

Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged.

**Stacy LoMedico** the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Director introduced Scott Reese the Department's new Assistant Park and Recreation Director. She stated that he was formerly the Superintendent of Neighborhood Services for the City of San Francisco and that he would act as a liaison for the City's Park and Recreation Department to the SDRC Board.

### 4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report

**Donna Frye** circulated "Frye Lights", which contained information about San Diego River dredging projects within the First San Diego River Improvement Project (FSDRIP).

### 5. Deputy Attorney General's Report

No Report

#### Update of General Obligation Bonds

**Bryan Cash, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Natural Resources Agency** provided an update on the status of General Obligation Bonds (GOB) and projects. He indicated that the State Treasurer's Office intended to pursue a bond sale in October and said that the conservancies and other GOB funded departments were developing a report of their cash needs for this year and upcoming years for existing projects, but also for the cash needs of new projects. He said that this action was a big step. The fact that the Treasurer's Office and the Department Finance were assessing the financial needs for not just approved projects, but also, new projects, represented a bit of good news.

**Mike Nelson** stated that SDRC utilizes two fund sources for capital projects: Proposition 40 for which all available funds had been encumbered and project agreements executed; and, secondly Proposition 84 funds in the Coastal Conservancy's budget that had been allocated to SDRC. He added that these funds would logically provide funding for SDRC's \$2million acquisition in Santee, the 1.4million trail beneath SR 163, as well, as trails from Ruffin Canyon or Normal Heights to the river. These projects would fall within the definition of new projects established by the Department of Finance.

### 6. San Diego Footbridge: Preliminary Concepts

#### Presentation:

Frieder Seible, Ph.D., P.E., Dean,  
Jacobs School of Engineering  
University of California, San Diego  
Gernot Komar, P.E., Senior Associate  
David Evans and Associates, Inc

**Donna Frye** introduced Council Member Sherri Lightner from District 1 who had just entered the room.

**Mike Nelson** stated that because of recent successful bond sales, some Coastal Conservancy's Prop 84 projects that had been previously approved had been restarted, one of them was the SDRC's Tributary Canyons Project. He added that the most compelling evidence of this action was Jim King's

presence today, and asked that Jim briefly update the Board and introduce our next guest, Frieder Seible, Dean of the Jacobs School of Engineering at University of California, San Diego.

**Jim King** reminded the Board that he would be restarting SDRC's project for the Coastal Conservancy, which was to conduct a feasibility assessment for a system of canyon trails connecting the river park with upland communities Serra Mesa and Normal Heights, north and south of the river. He added that one of the 5 components of the investigation was an evaluation of a footbridge in eastern Mission Valley. He further stated that a local company, Foothill Associates which had been hired to do a \$150,000 feasibility analysis had re-commenced its work and should be complete by early next year. He reminded the Board that their primary assignment was to review the two canyon systems and cross valley alignments. He recalled Dean Frieder's willingness to do some conceptual studies for a foot bridge and river crossing, who said that it was his intention to ask to ask David Evans and Associates to assist him. Jim then introduced Frieder Seible, Dean, Jacobs School of Engineering, University of California, San Diego as well as Gernot Komar and Robert Dameron of David Evans and Associates, Inc.

They conducted a power point presentation that identified several alignments in the project area and reviewed 5 possible concepts; preliminary construction cost estimates ranged between \$3–9 million.

<u>Concept A: Girder Bridge</u>	<u>Estimated Construction Cost</u>
Overall Length 540 ft	
3 Center Span 120 ft	\$3.0 Million (with \$400/sqft)
2 Side Spans 90 ft	\$3.8 Million (with \$500/sqft)
<u>Concept B: Stress Ribbon Bridge</u>	<u>Estimated Construction Cost</u>
Overall Length 540 ft	
Center Span 320 ft	\$5.3 Million (with \$700/sqft)
2 Side Spans 110 ft	
<u>Concept C: Extradosed Bridge</u>	<u>Estimated Construction Cost</u>
Overall Length 540 ft	
2 Center Span 180 ft	\$5.3 Million (with \$700/sqft)
2 Side Spans 90 ft	
<u>Concept D: Roundabout Bridge</u>	<u>Estimated Construction Cost</u>
Overall Length 1170 ft	\$6.6 Million (with \$400/sqft)
6 Center Span 150 ft	
3 Side Spans 90 ft	
<u>Concept E: Cable Stay Bridge Star</u>	<u>Estimated Construction Cost</u>
3 Main Spans 300 ft	\$8.8 Million (with \$700/sqft)
Overall Length 900 ft	

**Toni Atkins** asked questions about the cost of the bridge concepts and gave an example of a bridge that was estimated to cost \$11 million, but the final price was \$26 million. She wondered whether that might happen with these concepts.

**Frieder Sieble** replied that none of the concepts were what he would call "exotic bridges" that these bridge concepts are reasonable and economically, and therefore none of them should experience a cost escalation similar to the situation Toni Atkins described.

**Ruth Hayward** thanked Dean Seible and David Evans and associates for the time that they had invested. She said she loved the star bridge concept and observed that one pylon is less invasive in the river channel. She wondered if one of the legs was removed could the remaining pylons be fortified.

**Frieder Sieble** said that it could be done, that the pylon would be a completely different shape.

**Ruth Hayward** asked what would the maximum number of people the bridge could withstand at one time.

**Frieder Sieble** responded that he didn't know, but pedestrian studies could be done. However he said

a bridge like these which will be 5-6 feet wide and could hand large numbers of people.

**Kathy Keehan** asked whether bicycle traffic be could be allowed since the concepts only referred to a foot bridge.

**Frieder Sieble** suggested that it was a decision that must be made by the City of San Diego and the Conservancy, but it could be designed to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.

**Mike Nelson** asked it the cost of environmental compliance and permits would increase the cost by 35 or 50%.

**Donna Frye** suggested that though these concepts appeared reasonable, you should just double the construction cost estimates.

**Kathy Keehan** testified that consideration should be given to widening the overpass to ensure good bicycle accessibility. She added that a connection to the communities in the south would be fabulous.

**Donna Frye** announced that a quorum had been achieved because Miriam Ingenito had joined the meeting by telephone and that Ann Miller Haddad had joined the meeting in person.

**Ronie Clark** stated that she found it very interesting to look at these potential alternatives and agreed that project should be viewed as a landmark and, as a consequence, SDRC should look at examples that exist elsewhere. She said that landmark bridges in cities bring a lot of attention to a city. Visitors have a greatly enhanced experience because of the architectural beauty of a bridge. She agreed with concerns that were expressed about the number of pylons that may exist because it's not only a river channel, but is a flood plain that should remain open, that the design should focus on sensitive species and habitats.

**Megan Johnson** expressed that the primary reason for a bridge was to bring people to experience the river as they would cross it and asked whether the bridge's cables would disconnect people from being able to see and experience the river.

**Frieder Sieble** replied that he had hoped to accomplish just the opposite and added that the cables are in the middle of the bridge so you can walk on either side and look out without obstruction over the railing.

**Robin Rierdan** remarked that she also liked the design and wondered whether it might be possible to place educational displays around the central pylon.

**Frieder Sieble** said the space could be whatever the community wanted or could afford. He continued that the most extreme concept was the big circle; but the big circle could also be designed to include benches and display areas.

**Bryan Cash**, reminded the Board that on the San Diegueto River a 990ft stress ribbon bridge was constructed over Lake Hodges at a cost of \$10.5 million

**Mike Nelson** asked Robin Shiflett if she felt this project would be compatible or complimentary to the principles found in the City of San Diego's Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan, particularly since the plan identified Qualcomm and the surrounding area as a key location.

**Robin Shiflett** said that the draft master plan is all about access to the river and connections, so it was certainly complimentary to its goals.

**Donna Frye** suggested that the project should be consistent with the community plan for Mission Valley, which is presently being updated. Interestingly, a crossing is referenced in that plan which involves vehicles and is not as appealing as the concepts we have reviewed today.

**Toni Atkins** advised that if and when we approach the community it is important to have a number of

options and the costs. It will be interesting to see how people react to a signature design or prefer something with a lower profile. She added that she hopes we can move forward with these concepts and provide communities with information that provides them with a broad perspective.

**Ronie Clark** encouraged Mike Nelson to look at the Lake Hodges Bridge and how approval of the community was achieved for that project. She added that it would also be advisable to visit the bridge in Redding. She said that she had walked it and appreciated that the platform allowed sunlight to penetrate. She also stated that though there was initially public controversy, but today it has been overwhelmingly embraced by the community.

**Donna Frye** made the observation that there had because there had been and continues to be an awful lot of development in Mission Valley, which we should remember generates development impact fees, and that when community plans are updated, projects are identified for developer impact fees and mitigation for CEQA.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

Since a quorum was present **Toni Adkins** moved approval of the minutes for the July 7, 2009 meeting. **Ann Miller Haddad** seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

**Ann Miller Haddad** asked to abstain since she was not in attendance.

**Donna Frye** stated that the record should reflect that there was (1) one abstention and announced that she wanted to consider Item No. # 8.

## 8. San Diego River invasive Non-native Plant Control and Riparian Restoration Program

### (Consideration of Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration)

-Presentation and Report: **Ann Van Leer**, **Jason Giess**

-Resolution 09-08

**Ann Van Leer** and **Jason Giessow** gave a report concerning SDRC's Non-native Plant Control and Riparian Restoration Program and advised that SDRC was also seeking approval of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the program. She explained that the Initial Study and CEQA documents had been posted for 30 day public review and no comments were received. She testified that the program was modeled after other invasive programs in Southern California; the project is watershed based and programmatic. She said the goal is that any projects SDRC pursued would be handled consistent with the document that was included in the meeting materials. She said SDRC intends to follow this methodology and proceed with Prop 40 projects at Carlton Oaks Golf Course. She also advised that they were pursuing a Supplement Environmental Project with the San Diego County Water Authority and the Regional Water Quality Control Board that would allow SDRC to continue the project on private property adjacent to the City's land at the golf course.

**Robin Rierden** stated that she had not seen the documents that were posted and the copies that were distributed at the meeting were in black and white. She asked if we could provide her with color maps that clearly identified arundo in the tributary streams. She also added that she hoped that SDRC document would complement work she was doing with a Resource Conservation District.

**Ann Van Leer** responded that we would provide her with color copies and stated that they were posted on SDRC's web site and that the Initial Study focused on the watershed below El Capitan dam, so it would include the tributaries of interest to Lakeside's River Park Conservancy.

**Ronie Clark** stated that it had been her experience that when a programmatic document like this is done; it is necessary to conduct another CEQA review, when you get down to specific projects.

**Jason Giessow stated** that because invasive species are mapped on a watershed basis, the methodology is identical for all project implementations; so the USFWS, the ACOE, and the DFG permits are built around this unified approach, which means it won't be necessary to do new or additional document when funds become available.

**Donna Frye** assumed that another entity or agency which decided it wanted to do something similarly would have to go through their own CEQA analysis in order to participate.

**Jason Giessow** said that it depends on whether they have the San Diego River Conservancy as a partner in that project. There may be ways to involve SDRC and work under the Mitigated Negative Declaration, but it is very restrictive.

**Donna Frye said** that she thought that is what she was saying, that someone or entity could not just cannot just come in and assume they could use SDRC's permits.

**Ann Van Leer** stated that that was correct; the Initial Study indicated that there would be an annual process to identify projects and their status, which could include additional entities, but the SDRC would be held responsible for projects carried out using its MND and permits.

**Hayley Peterson** asked that clarification be provided regarding how the permits from the wildlife agencies work for different projects and different areas that are undertaken pursuant to this Negative Declaration and had they been obtained.

**Jason Giessow** responded that the USFWS Technical Assistance Letter had been obtained, and the key permit structure the program is working under is a Regional General Permit No. 41 issued by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). The RGP 41 was designed to help watershed based invasive programs operate. It covers a number of practices and becomes an umbrella permit that takes care of 401 and 404 certifications. Separately, SDRC worked with USFWS, outlined its methods and got a Letter of Concurrence that a biological opinion was not necessary, that no species would be jeopardized, as long as there was adherence to the methodologies outlined in the SDRC document. A DFG permit had been applied for but requires the approval of our Mitigated Negative Declaration. He said that SDRC had worked with DFG on their Ward Road property and they were pleased with the approaches we are utilizing. These same approaches have been used elsewhere in Southern California. He added that SDRC's program was very similar to the programs established for the San Luis Rey and Santa Margarita Rivers, which were being managed by the Mission Resources Conservation District. South Orange County and County of Orange just adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration that is virtually identical to the SDRC program.

**Ronie Clark** asked about conducting site specific cultural reviews and whether the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) had been notified.

**Jason Giessow** indicated that SHPO had been notified and that SDRC had specified that a broad historic record search be completed and that sites identified in proximity to project areas provide for an archaeologist and a cultural monitor to be on site to identify resources.

**Robin Rierden** asked what was SDRC's degree of confidence that invasive species had been adequately mapped in the tributaries.

**Jason Giessow**, explained that mapping quality always varies, but SDRC had used high quality data sets; one by Burkhart and Associates for the City of San Diego and additional mapping with CDFA funding. He stated that he believed the data set is a good quality snap shot of where things are; it picks up the pampas grass, Arundo, palms and other species. He added that SANDAG is going to conduct the development of a countywide data set. He stated that he was a consultant for this effort.

**Kathy Keehan** after this MND is adopted how long it is viable.

**Jason Giessow** stated that though CEQA is not a permit, it will stand until the program and its

projects are amended or modified.

**Ruth Hayward** asked whether Robin Reirdan was aware of invasives that are not catalogued in the SDRC document.

**Robin Rierden** responded that she couldn't answer that question until she had copies of colored maps, but that she personally knew that Los Coches Creek in Lakeside was infested with arundo.

**Jason Giessow** stated that Los Coches Creek had been fully mapped.

**Robin Shifflet** inquired about the inclusion of irrigation in the program and whether the City's Development Services Division had responded to the Initial Study and CEQA documents.

**Jason Giessow and Ann Van Leer** responded that Development services had not responded and that typically irrigation will not be installed, that the SDRC program is passive.

**Ruth Hayward** asked whether the City of San Diego had ever given permission to remove arundo from some of the big areas of infestation on their property.

**Mike Nelson** responded that the City of San Diego had approved SDRC's invasives removal and restoration project on its property at the Carlton Oaks Golf Course, though we are still awaiting a formal Right of Entry (ROE) to begin work. He also acknowledged that the Public Utilities Department had provided a letter to the Natural Resources Agency that they would provide a ROE.

**Donna Frye** asked if there were other questions and if not was there a motion to approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

**Ann Miller Haddad** made the motion, which was seconded by **Ruth Hayward** and approved unanimously.

**Ann Van Leer** suggested that if there was interest in a visit to the Carlton Oaks project site; it could be scheduled this fall.

**Mike Nelson** added that the November 5 meeting of the Governing Board could be set up at the Carlton Oaks Golf Course.

## 6. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

### San Diego River Trail – Status Technical Working Group

#### Initiation of Prop 40 Projects

- Riverford Road Segment-San Diego River Trail
- Invasives Control and Restoration- SDSU- Carlton Oaks
- River Gorge Trail-San Diego River Trail

#### Status Report - Proposition 84 Projects

- Tributary Canyons
- San Diego River Trail- Gaps Analysis

#### Status Report; Land Conservation Projects

- Walker Properties – Santee
- Hanson Pond- El Monte Valley

#### 2009 Work Plan: JPA Analysis

### San Diego River Trail – Status Technical Working Group

**Mike Nelson** stated that since the Board's last meeting Supervisor Jacob had discussed the Trail at

SANDAGs Executive Committee and Kathy Keehan of the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition was asked by SANDAG about the status of projects along the Trail; but, perhaps the most significant action was the Coastal Conservancy's decision to restart a San Diego River Trail Gaps Analysis that had been suspended in December 2008. SDRC and the Coastal Conservancy had begun negotiations with KTU+A to conduct this analysis. The decision to restart this contract means that KTU+A will be available to provide technical assistance to the Working Group. Ann Van Leer's contract with SDRC has also been renewed. The impact of these decisions will mean that there will be sufficient staff resources to assist the Working Group and the ability to produce a report of high quality. He said that he had contacted all local government and agencies along the River regarding their participation, and was happy to report that all parties had agreed to actively engage.

**Donna Frye** expressed concern about the time frame for the Gaps Analysis. She indicated that she was very supportive of the technical working group and hoped that it can quickly produce products such as a river long map.

**Megan Cooper** of the Coastal Conservancy said that KTU&A thinks they can get most of their work done by the end of this year, but the contract runs until March 2010.

**Donna Frye** said she was optimistic that this would be a good organizational document that allows people and local governments to come together very quickly around a common cause.

#### **Initiation of Prop 40 Projects**

**Mike Nelson** stated the project agreements had been executed for the three remaining Proposition 40 Projects: Riverford Road Segment-San Diego River Trail, Invasives Control and Restoration/ SDSU-Carlton Oaks, River Gorge Trail-San Diego River Trail. He stated that he was finalizing grants and agreements with sponsors for each to serve as project managers. He further advised that since no local governments or NGO's had been willing to accept lead responsibility for the grants, SDRC had no choice but to take the lead. He informed the Board that each project would require a mind boggling number of transactions with multiple partners and bureaucracies in three cities: Oakland, San Diego and Sacramento. He said that Prop 40 is a reimbursable grant program, so evidence of project expenditures must be provided before reimbursement can occur. Moreover, because SDRC is a state agency, not a JPA or NGO, it is not eligible for an advance payment by the Natural Resources Agency. So, SDRC with a \$333,000 will have great difficulty awarding and managing contracts totaling \$2.5 million. He expressed his concern that this financial predicament will quadruple the number of transactions that SDRC staff must administer and consume as much as 50% of its time until 2011.

#### **Status Report - Proposition 84 Projects**

**Mike Nelson** recalled that SDRC had obtained a \$5,935,000 allocation of Prop 84 funding appropriated to the Coastal Conservancy over two fiscal years. These General Obligation Bond (GOB) funds were suspended in December and continue to be frozen, except for funds associated with the two projects that Coastal Conservancy's Board had approved that were restarted and discussed today: Tributary Canyons, San Diego River Trail- Gaps Analysis

#### **Status Report; Land Conservation Projects**

**Mike Nelson** said that the frozen Proposition 84 funds were the logical fund source for the acquisition of the Walker properties in Santee, but is unavailable because of the GOB freeze. He added that presently he is working with Michael Beck and SANDAG to determine whether there was a way to accomplish this acquisition and others with TransNet funding.

#### **2009 Work Plan: JPA Analysis**

**Mike Nelson** said that the Governing Board 2009 Work Plan encouraged the examination of governance structures that might assist SDRC accomplish its objectives, particularly Joint Powers

Authorities. He said that Hayley Peterson and he had identified the Deputy Attorney General with the most experience with JPAs and intends to meet with him and representatives of conservancies who have successfully used them. Interestingly, the administrative quagmire plaguing the Prop 40 projects he spoke of earlier could have been avoided, if there was a JPA associated with SDRC that would have been eligible for advanced funding.

**Donna Frye** asked if anyone had any objections to having our last meeting of 2009 outside of City Hall and near the River.

**Mike Nelson** indicated a site visit to SDRC's invasives project at Carlton Oaks was a possibility. He asked that if possible he would also like to establish 2010 meeting dates at the November meeting.

**Donna Frye** asked Mike Nelson to send out some proposed dates as he did last year so we would have an opportunity to establish dates for 2010 in November.

**Mike Nelson** said that the Closed Session Committee Room is the best room in City Hall for presentations and remote access for our attendees from Sacramento, yet because there is great demand for the room, securing it is not always possible. He mentioned that he had spoken with Tale Halse of Supervisor Jacob's staff about the possibility of scheduling meetings at the County Administration Center, which has a number of good meeting rooms. He reported that she checked it out and informed him that we could schedule our meetings there, if we could not secure the Closed Session Conference Room in City Hall.

## **9. The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.**

### **Accessibility**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Michael Nelson at 619-645-3183.

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **3**

SUBJECT: **PUBLIC COMMENT**

PURPOSE: Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority which is not on the agenda. Submission of information in writing is encouraged. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Presentation times may be reduced depending on the number of speakers.

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **4**

SUBJECT: **CHAIRPERSON'S AND GOVERNING BOARD  
MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

PURPOSE: These items are for Board discussion only and the Board  
will take no formal action.

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **5**

SUBJECT: **DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**  
This item is for Board discussion only and the Board will  
take no formal action. (*Hayley Peterson*)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **6**

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

- **2010 SDRC Meeting Schedule**
- **San Diego Natural History Museum - Habitat Journey Exhibit**
- **Proposition 40 Project Status**
  - **Riverford Road- San Diego River Trail**
  - **River Gorge Trail and Trailhead- San Diego River Trail**
  - **Invasives Control and Restoration (Supplemental Environmental Project – San Diego County Water Authority)**



MyDoodle: your polls at one glance

E-mail address: •••••••• Log in  
[Forgot password?](#) · [Create account](#)

### Poll: San Diego River Conervancy -2010 Meeting Schedule

Summary: 9 participants, 0 comments, 0 files [more ...](#)

Michael Nelson has created this poll.

	January 2010		March 2010		May 2010		July 2010		September 2010		November 2010	
	Thu 7		Thu 4		Thu 6		Thu 8		Thu 2		Thu 4	
	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Michael Nelson	OK	OK										
Andrew Poat	<del></del>	<del></del>	OK	OK								
Alice Re for Dianne Jacob	<del></del>	OK										
Toni Atkins	OK	OK	<del></del>	<del></del>								
Tom Sheehy	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	<del></del>	<del></del>	OK	OK	OK	OK
Ruth Hayward	OK	OK										
Ann Haddad	OK	OK										
Rachel Shira for Mayor Sanders	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>	OK								
John P. Donnelly	OK	OK										
Your name												
	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
	Thu 7	Thu 4	Thu 6	Thu 8	Thu 2	Thu 4	Jan 2010	Mar 2010	May 2010	Jul 2010	Sep 2010	Nov 2010
Count	6	7	7	9	7	9	6	8	7	9	6	8
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3	2	2	0	2	0	3	1	2	0	3	1

Save

- green =have time
- yellow =could make time if absolutely necessary
- red =do not have time

#### Functions

- [Edit an entry](#)
- [Add a comment](#)
- [File export](#)
- [Subscribe to this poll](#)

## **San Diego Natural History Museum - Habitat Journey Exhibition**

(proposes to use San Diego River as the focal point for this permanent exhibit)

### **Excerpt from San Diego Natural History Museums (SDNHM) application to National Science Foundation:**

---

#### **Project Summary**

The San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) requests support from NSF to create a Full-Scale Development project—the design, fabrication, and evaluation of a 10,000 square foot core exhibition, *Habitat Journey/Nuestro Patrimonio Natural* (working title).

*Habitat Journey* will provide a new kind of museum experience, linking current scientific findings of the Museum's research division with its historic collections, real-time environmental monitoring, and future environment modeling.

Visitors will explore diverse habitats of southern California and Baja California region that will expand their appreciation of science concepts, STEM career paths, and the role science plays in our interactions with the natural world. By incorporating contemporary learning approaches with the emerging field of conservation psychology we will help visitors better understand their place in nature, and explore and act on current environmental issues.

The project will also provide new design concepts for other science museums to create exhibitions that change people's behavior and perspective on the natural world.

**Intellectual Merit:** In *Habitat Journey* visitors will explore geology, climate, ecology, biodiversity, evolution, human impact, and conservation science. Key values will drive the design process: inquiry, scientific evidence and data (e.g., collections, geo-referencing of current plant and animals distributions), a variety of learning modes, development of observation skills and critical thinking, and exhibit techniques that promote intergenerational learning in a social context. Evaluation will be an integral component of exhibition development and include frontend, formative, and summative evaluation using professional evaluators. Visitors will increase their understanding of how life and landscapes change over time, how humans influence these changes, and *how* we know what we know through the process of science. Through content-rich web experiences, rss feeds, pod casts and programs, learning will extend beyond the Museum. Dissemination of evaluation findings through publications and conference presentations will advance knowledge of informal science education and engagement of diverse audiences.

**Broader Impacts:** Our research plan will address current knowledge gaps in the field of informal science education with generalizable results that are relevant to the broader field.

Through a collaborative effort among our team of evaluators (including a partnership with the University of California San Diego Department of Cognitive Science) and an experienced museum staff, we will disseminate strategies and findings to colleagues across the country via publications and presentations at national and regional professional meetings. Our research will expand knowledge in informal science education and build on SDNHM's cycle of learning in the following target areas: Front-end: Examine knowledge, attitudes and sense-of-self in relation to nature, regional habitats, the interface between social and natural systems and the human role in habitat evolution.

**Formative:** Develop innovative strategies that expand access to science learning opportunities for Spanish-speaking Latinos and visitors with learning differences; increase visitor engagement with perceptual challenges that promote learning; use interactive technologies to support the creation of knowledge from data; and inspire visitors to act through engagement in current environmental issues.

**Process:** Demonstrate the value of reflective practice and meaningful feedback loops in project planning and organizational learning.

**Summative/Remedial:** Show how the integration of natural sciences in informal social learning environments contributes to increased engagement as part of an overall theory of change. In particular, how multi-media, sensory-motor experiences, emotion, and social interaction support the development of new attitudes, skills, knowledge and anticipated change in behavior toward urban nature, the regional environment, and current environmental issues.

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **CITY OF SAN DIEGO & SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY –  
QUALCOMM REDEVELOPMENT DISCUSSIONS**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: **8**

SUBJECT: **INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP**  
**Mark Carpenter, KTU&A**



**DATE:** 9.08.09

**TO:** Brian Albright, County of San Diego  
Mark Weston, Helix Water District  
John Coates, City of Santee  
Robin Shifflet, City of San Diego  
Laura Ball, City of San Diego  
Siavash Pazargadi, City of San Diego  
Kathy Keehan, San Diego River Coalition  
Joan Friedlander, U. S. Forest Service

**FROM:** Mike Nelson  
San Diego River Conservancy

**SUBJECT:** San Diego River Trail – Intergovernmental Working Group

---

**Background:** The purpose of this memorandum is to explain an action taken at the July 9, 2009 meeting of the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy (SDRC). The Board has placed great emphasis on the completion of the San Diego River Trail. It has endorsed \$6 million to construct various segments; and, now seeks to raise the visibility of the Trail, as a regional project that is an attractive candidate for local, state, federal and private investment.

Following a meeting SDRC staff and the San Diego River Coalition had with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), The Conservancy and the Coalition concluded that a more formal work plan and capital strategy was necessary to secure additional funding to construct and manage the Trail.

Representatives from the Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Partnership provided the Board with a presentation that explained their successful efforts to establish a partnership for a 100 mile trail that traverses 3 counties and 14 municipalities. This partnership also developed a work plan that guided development, fund raising and management of their Trail.

Staff also examined the collaboration between The City of San Diego, Chula Vista and the County of San Diego that has been so effective in developing a Concept Plan for Otay Regional Park Plan.

Both of these successful regional collaborations relied on the active engagement of elected officials and stakeholders at a policy level and the participation of executive staff for the jurisdictions to address technical issues regarding priorities, construction and management. Our Board suggested that its membership comprised a policy committee, but acknowledged that a technical intergovernmental working group for staff did not exist, despite each jurisdictions commitment to completing segments of the trail.

**Recent Developments:** At the July 9, 2009 meeting, the Governing Board unanimously approved a motion to establish an intergovernmental working group comprised of key officials from jurisdictions and stakeholders along the River to prepare a work plan that will acknowledge each jurisdictions commitment to the trail, guide the construction, management and prioritization of new segments, as well as, to serve as a marketing prospectus to secure funding. SDRC staff has received assurances from the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, the City of Santee, the Helix Water District, and the San Diego River Coalition regarding their willingness to participate.

**Recommended Actions:** Recognizing that your participation is critical to the success of this exercise, SDRC and the River Coalition look forward to your active engagement and significant contributions. Hopefully, we can quickly agree on a date for our first, organizational meeting and get started.

CC:

Ann Van Leer, Land Conservation Brokerage

Mark Carpenter, KTU+A

Megan Cooper, SCC

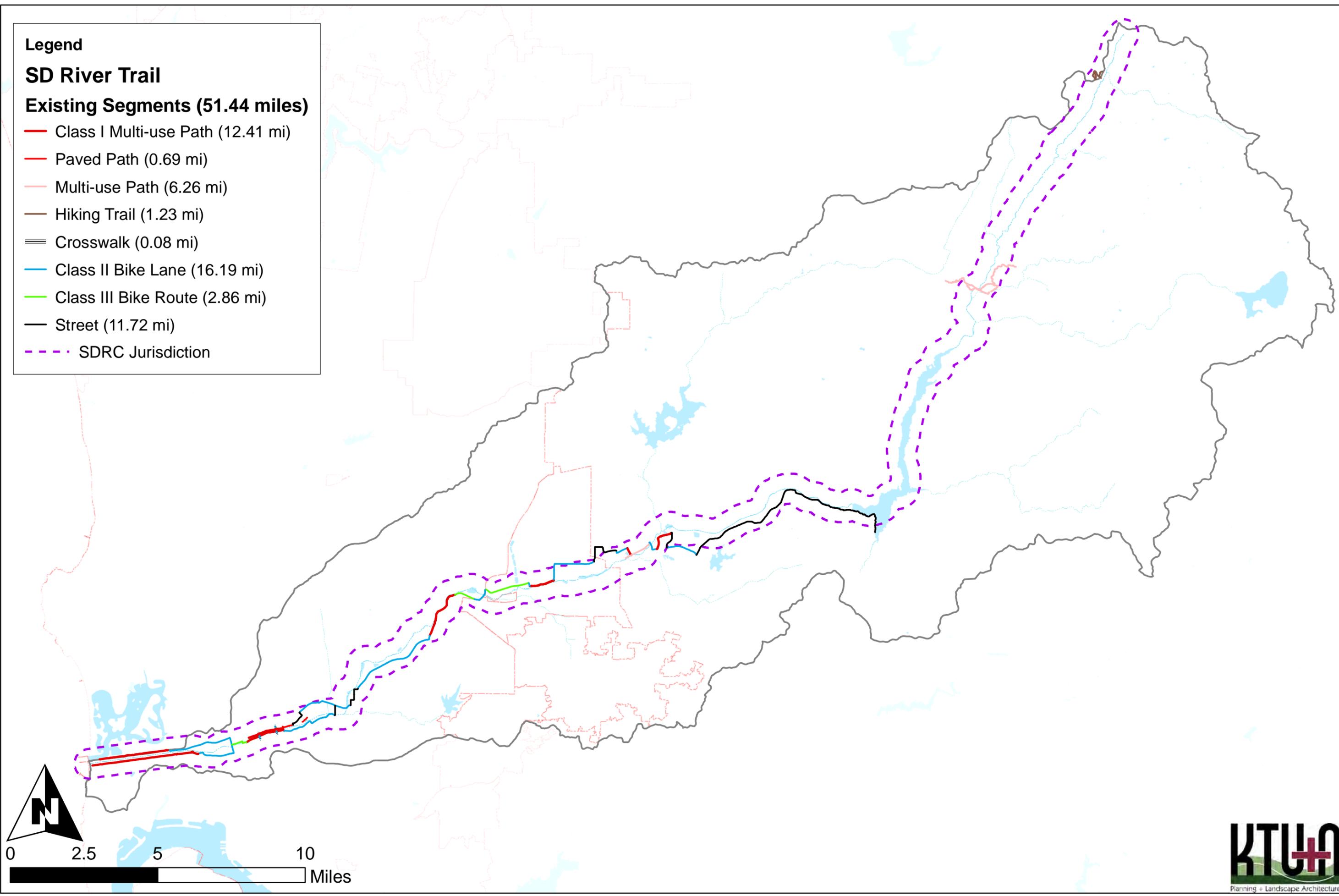
Julian Richards, SDRC

**Legend**

**SD River Trail**

**Existing Segments (51.44 miles)**

-  Class I Multi-use Path (12.41 mi)
-  Paved Path (0.69 mi)
-  Multi-use Path (6.26 mi)
-  Hiking Trail (1.23 mi)
-  Crosswalk (0.08 mi)
-  Class II Bike Lane (16.19 mi)
-  Class III Bike Route (2.86 mi)
-  Street (11.72 mi)
-  SDRC Jurisdiction





## **AGENDA**

### **SAN DIEGO RIVER TRAIL – INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP**

**County of San Diego Administration Center (CAC)  
1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101  
Tower 7 Meeting Room  
Tuesday, September 29, 2009  
2:00 pm-3:30 pm**

#### **2:00 Welcome**

- o SDRC's commitment to San Diego River Trail.
- o Mandate and purpose of Working Group.
- o Introductions

#### **2:10 Organization**

- o Goals and expectations
- o Meetings Dates and Times

#### **2:20 Regional Perspective**

- o San Diego River Coalition
- o KTU+A

#### **2:35 Local Governments and Agency - Brief Overviews**

- o City of San Diego
- o City of Santee
- o County of San Diego
- o Helix Water District
- o United States Forest Service

#### **3:00 Conclusions and distribution of tasks**

- o Review of assignments and deliverables for members and staff
- o Next meeting date.

# San Diego River Trail Intergovernmental Working Group



Kick-off Meeting  
9/29/09

## Attendees:

Organization	Name	email	phone
SD River Conservancy	Mike Nelson	<a href="mailto:mnelson@sdrc.ca.gov">mnelson@sdrc.ca.gov</a>	
California Coastal Conservancy	Joan Cardellino	<a href="mailto:jcard@scc.ca.gov">jcard@scc.ca.gov</a>	510-286-4093
KTU+A	Mark Carpenter	<a href="mailto:markc@ktua.com">markc@ktua.com</a>	619-294-4477
SAR Trail & Parkway Partnership	Patricia Lock-Dawson	<a href="mailto:pld@pldconsulting.net">pld@pldconsulting.net</a>	951-544-3789
City of San Diego	Robin Shifflet	<a href="mailto:rshifflet@sandiego.gov">rshifflet@sandiego.gov</a>	619-533-4524
City of San Diego	Laura Ball	<a href="mailto:lbball@sandiego.gov">lbball@sandiego.gov</a>	619-533-6726
City of San Diego	Siavash Pazargadi	<a href="mailto:spazargadi@sandiego.gov">spazargadi@sandiego.gov</a>	619-533-3757
City of Santee	John Coates	<a href="mailto:jcoates@ci.santee.ca.us">jcoates@ci.santee.ca.us</a>	619-258-4100
County of San Diego	Tale Halse	<a href="mailto:tale.halse@sdcounty.ca.gov">tale.halse@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>	619-531-5522
County of San Diego	Brian Albright	<a href="mailto:brian.albright@sdcounty.ca.gov">brian.albright@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>	858-966-1300
County of San Diego	Maryanne Vancio	<a href="mailto:maryanne.vancio@sdcounty.ca.gov">maryanne.vancio@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>	858-966-1372
(IWG)	Mark Weston	<a href="mailto:mark.weston@helixwater.org">mark.weston@helixwater.org</a>	619-917-6920
San Diego Foundation	Marisa Aurora Quiroz	<a href="mailto:marisa@sdfoundation.org">marisa@sdfoundation.org</a>	619-235-2300
SD River Coalition	Kathy Keehan	<a href="mailto:execdir@sdcbc.org">execdir@sdcbc.org</a>	858-487-6063
SD River Park Foundation	Rob Hutsel	<a href="mailto:rhutsel@sandiegoriver.org">rhutsel@sandiegoriver.org</a>	619-297-7380
US Forest Service	Joan Friedlander	<a href="mailto:jfriedlander@fs.fed.us">jfriedlander@fs.fed.us</a>	619-540-6086
US Forest Service	Debbie Hobbs	<a href="mailto:dshobbs@fs.fed.us">dshobbs@fs.fed.us</a>	619-905-9958

## Welcome:

Mike Nelson welcomed the group and provided some information regarding the San Diego River Conservancy's (SDRC) commitment to the planning and implementation of the San Diego River Trail (SDRT), including ~\$6mil of authorized funding to date. He also discussed the purpose of forming the **Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG)** is to develop a capital strategy for the entire SDRT by first identifying existing, programmed, proposed, and GAP segments of the trail and then establishing overall priorities for future projects.

## Organization:

Mike Nelson stated that the SDR Conservancy is adopting a governance structure similar to that used by the Santa Ana River Trail & Parkway Partnership. It will utilize the SDRC's Governing Board as the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and the formation of this IWG as the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). He described the goals and expectations of the IWG to be an environment where the various jurisdictions, land owners, and trail proponents can bring together and discuss, coordinate, and collaborate on their various efforts along the river.

The near term goal is to develop a 5-year plan for the SDR Trail; a work plan that documents the investments and accomplishments of each jurisdiction or agency; acknowledges what has been built, what is proposed or planned, and where gaps exist. He expressed his desire to create a Work Plan that would also guide the construction, management and prioritization of new segments, as well as to serve as a marketing prospectus to secure funding, particularly opportunities that may exist at San Diego Association of Government (SANDAG). Because the significant

investments agencies and governments have made in the development and planning of SDRT, the Intergovernmental Work Groups should be quickly completed.

### **Regional Perspective:**

Mike then introduced Rob Hutsel who presented a brief overview of the origins of the SD River Park Foundation and SD River Coalition (a massive sewage overflow in 2000) and the progress that has been made since: 2002 Cal Poly Pomona Studio 606 Conceptual Master Plan; 2005 City of San Diego Draft Master Plan; Land Acquisitions; River Monitoring; Trash Clean-ups... Rob also indicated that the Coalition functions in an advocacy role only and needs project partners with technical and capital resources.

Mike then introduced Mark Carpenter who gave a brief overview of SDR Trail mapping efforts to date from the ocean to the headwaters and described some of the GAPS and issues along the way. Mark discussed the goals of the Coastal Conservancy project that KTU+A is undertaking and how it is being used to kick-start the IWG's efforts.

### **Local Governments and Agency – Brief Overviews:**

City of San Diego – Robin Shifflet provided a status report on the environmental review process for the SDR Master Plan and indicated that staff had been focusing on zoning revisions to control redevelopment and hope to have a public review draft in early 2010. She also stated that Jim Lundquist was replacing Brad Jacobsen as the Bicycle Coordinator for the City.

City of Santee – John Coates stated that the City had incorporated the goals of the 2002 Conceptual Master Plan into their General Plan with the goal of providing a continuous trail along the north side of the river with segments along the south side and north/south connections where feasible. The City is nearing completion of an update to its Bicycle Master Plan which will further reinforce the SDR Trail.

County of San Diego – Brian Albright provided an overview of the success the County has been experiencing in developing trail systems within other river systems (Tijuana, Otay, San Dieguito, and San Luis Rey) and is looking forward to similar success within the SD River. Maryanne Vancio then provided an overview of County trail planning efforts within the SD River including collaboration with the Lakeside River Park Conservancy; an eastern trail extension from Cactus Park; a north/south connection to Steltzer Park; the historic Flume Trail; connections from Blossom Valley to the flume and El Monte Park; and portions of the Trans County Trail.

Helix Water District – Mark Weston provided an overview of the District's ownership along the river (El Monte Valley – 3.5mi and Cedar Creek – 2.5mi). He then described the planning process leading up to the current groundwater recharge, open space and recreation proposal for the El Monte Valley which is moving towards the EIR phase. The project will result in ~2mi of SDR Trail with opportunities for east and west extensions. He also noted the trail uses may become an issue as CDF&G has indicated that they want equestrians out of the riparian area. The history of the Cedar Creek property was then described including past volunteer efforts to clean up trash within the bottom of the gorge and the recent easement dedication to the USFS for access and enforcement provided they manage ongoing trash pick-up.

USFS – Joan Friedlander provided a brief history of the Cleveland National Forest and the USFS's role in providing key access to a number of regional river systems. She also described Cedar Creek Falls as being a great resource that needs to be protected, but acknowledged the need for access and information kiosks to help avoid costly rescues. She stated that the USFS was pleased with the formation of this IWG as it provides them with a group with which to discuss regional priorities for planning, implementation, and management.

California Coastal Conservancy - Joan Cardellino stated that regional trails like the SD River Trail are an important component of the urban infrastructure and need to provide connections to roads, trolley, rail, parks, activity centers, and other trails as they are planned and implemented.

### **Conclusions and distribution of tasks:**

Mike Nelson and Mark Carpenter described the next step of the process was for KTU+A to contact each of the jurisdictions/land owners and schedule a meeting to discuss individual planning and implementation efforts that need to be incorporated into the overall project. Mark indicated that these meetings should be held during the month of October, with a goal of getting the IWG back together by mid-November to discuss existing and planned conditions further.

Next Meeting Date, Time, Location: TBD

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: **SAN DIEGO RIVER INVASIVE NON-NATIVE  
PLANT CONTROL AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION  
PROGRAM (Carlton Oaks Project)**

**City of San Diego Public Utilities Department**  
Niki McGinnis  
Jeff Pasek

**San Diego River Conservancy Consultants**  
Ann Van Leer  
Jason Giessow

**U.S Geological Survey**  
Barbara Kus

**San Diego State University Research Foundation**  
Tom Zink  
John Crockett

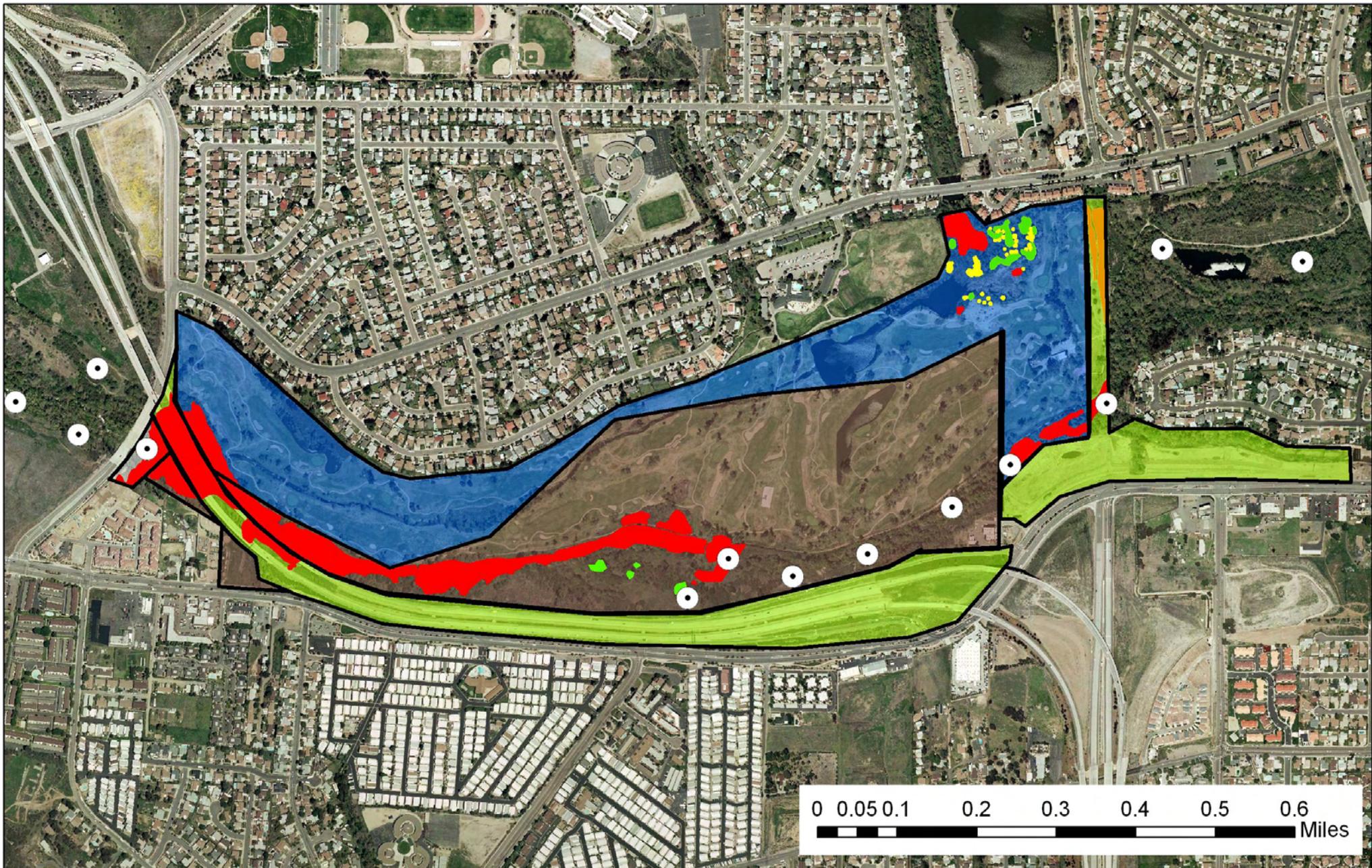
State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of November 5, 2009**

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: **CARLTON OAKS GOLF COURSE SITE VISIT AND  
DEMONSTRATION**

**Jason Giessow, SDRC Consultant  
Greg Amori, Agri Chemical and Supply, Inc.**



Carlton Oaks Arundo control and habitat restoration project. Over 20 acres of Arundo, palms, and non-native trees will be controlled followed by re-vegetation with natives. Risk of catastrophic flood and fire damage will be reduced and native habitat will be enhanced.

**Target Non-native Plants**

- Arundo donax
- Brazilian peppertree
- Palms
- Mixed
- Least Bell's vireo (USGS)

**Funding Source and Property Owner**

- River Parkways: CAL TRANS
- River Parkways: CITY OF SAN DIEGO
- San Diego County Water Authority: CARLTON OAKS GOLF COURSE
- Periodic Maintenance: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT  
**November 5, 2009**

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT