

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,

July 7, 2011
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Meeting Location

County of San Diego Administration Center (CAC)
Room 302
1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101

Tele-Conference Location: 1416 Ninth Street
Resources Agency Conference Room 1310 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's General Report

6. San Diego River Trail: Gaps Analysis – Capital Priorities

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

Ann Van Leer, SDRC Consultant

7. Grant Park: Discovery Center / Project Overview

Presentation and Report:

Rob Hutsel, Executive Director, San Diego River Park Foundation

8. Executive Officer's Report

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

SDRC Administrative Services Provider: Transfer from State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) to General Services

Walker Properties: Option Agreement / SCC Prop 84 Approvals

River Gorge Trail: Construction Status, Community Impacts, Modifications

Carlton Oaks Golf Course: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Adjustments

9. Adjournment

Accessibility

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 July 7, 2011

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: **2**

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The Board will consider adoption of the **May 5, 2011**
public meeting minutes.

PURPOSE: The minutes of the **May 5, 2011**
Board Meetings are attached for your review.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes

SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY (SDRC)
Minutes of May 5, 2011 Public Meeting

(Draft Minutes for Approval on July 7, 2011)

Governing Board Chairman, Ben Clay called the May 5, 2011 meeting of the San Diego River Conservancy to order at approximately 1:34 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present

Brent Eidson	Mayor, City of San Diego (Designee)
Dianne Jacob	Supervisor, Second District
Bryan Cash	Natural Resources Agency, Designee (via phone)
Pedro Reyes	Department of Finance, Designee (via phone)
Ronie Clark	Department of Parks and Recreation, Designee (via phone)
Ben Clay, Chair	Public at Large
Ruth Hayward	Public at Large
Andrew Poat	Public at Large
Ann Miller Haddad	Public at Large
Gary Strawn	San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
John Donnelly	Wildlife Conservation Board

Absent

Lorie Zapf	Council Member, City of San Diego District 3
Todd Gloria	Council Member, City of San Diego District 6

Staff Members Present

Michael Nelson	Executive Officer
Hayley Peterson	Deputy Attorney General
Julia Richards	Administrative Services Manager
Ann Van Leer	Consultant, San Diego River Conservancy

Hayley Peterson administered the Oath of Offices to Pedro Reyes, Department of Finance.

2. Approval of Minutes

Brent Eidson moved approval of the minutes of the March 3, 2011 public meeting. The motion was seconded by **Andrew Poat** and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

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.

Rob Hutsel, Executive Director, San Diego River Park Foundation thanked the Board for being a sponsor of San Diego River Days 2011. He added that as a sponsor, SDRC is the beneficiary of the Foundation's extensive marketing of the event. It is a campaign that includes announcements, mailers, advertisements, as well as, interviews and articles in the Union Tribune and KPBS.

Jim Lundquist thanked the Board for its financial participation in the River Gorge Trail and expressed his enjoyment of his hike to Cedar Creek Falls.

4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report

Ben Clay explained that as a result of recent conversations with the Vice Chair and the Executive Officer, he had decided to establish two, one member committees. The first would deal with project development and approval and the second that would address finance. He asked Deputy Attorney General for advice on the formation of committees recognizing that the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Act must be addressed.

Hayley Peterson responded that under the Bagley-Keene Act, if a committee is formed that has three or more persons, its proceedings would be subject to the Act; however, if a committee with one or two members was formed that would meet on an informal, ad-hoc basis, the Act would not apply. She added that the Executive Officer and staff could participate and the committee could report to the Chair and/or the Board.

Ben Clay thanked Hayley and stated that he was seeking greater engagement by the members in the work of the Conservancy. He asked Ann Miller Haddad to Chair the Project Committee and Andrew Poat, the Finance Committee and that they report back to him as expeditiously as possible.

5. Deputy Attorney's General Report

No Report.

6. Serra Museum: San Diego History Center / San Diego River Conservancy Partnership

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

David Kahn, Executive Director, San Diego History Center

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 11-03

Michael Nelson introduced David Kahn, Executive Director, of the San Diego History Center. He explained that the San Diego River Conservancy Act was amended to place greater emphasis on the river's cultural history and specifically referenced the Presidio. Moreover, he said SDRC's Work Plan recommended the development of programs and projects that acknowledged cultural resources. He

noted that when he became aware that the History Center was considering reinterpreting the Serra Museum to capture a larger and more diverse audience, he realized that this exercise could provide SDRC with an opportunity for a cultural resource project, which could incorporate the river's ecological and cultural history. This was an opportunity that could be pursued with a distinguished partner, at an existing facility, in an iconic location overlooking the Presidio and Mission Valley. He stated that the Resolution would allow the Conservancy to seek funds from the State Coastal Conservancy's - SDRC Prop 84 set aside and advised that the proposal would be modified to meet their funding criteria.

David Kahn testified that the History Center was one of the oldest and largest historical organizations in the State of California, serving 80,000 people annually and a membership of 1500. He said the Center is headquartered in Balboa Park and Serra Museum, the History Center's first home serves approximately 21,000 school children. He said development of a new Interpretive Plan and Exhibit Design for the Serra Museum would engage the San Francisco Estuary Institute, San Diego State University and the Balboa Park Online Collaborative. He gave examples of selected topics future exhibits might include:

- Spanish regulations requiring missions to be established near rivers to guarantee water supplies
- Indian occupation on the area surrounding the Presidio
- Founding of the Mission of San Diego de Alcalá, the Presidio, and subsequent relocation of the Mission
- Development of Old Town
- Rerouting of the San Diego River
- Flooding in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Construction of the Serra and landscaping of Presidio Park
- Development of Mission Valley

He concluded that the Center proposes to assemble a team of experts, exhibit designers, media designers, historians, educators, lands research specialists that would pull together a detailed plan and budget for exhibits and programs. The plan would specify the kinds of interactive experiences that visitors will find at the museum.

Pedro Reyes asked whether the proposed activities were eligible uses and consistent with the bond requirements for Proposition 84.

Michael Nelson answered that he was confident that the proposed uses were eligible for Prop 84 funding. He added that the State Coastal Conservancy has fiduciary responsibility for the SDRC's Proposition 84 funding and will be responsible for making the final determination regarding consistency with the bond act.

Andrew Poat asked to what stated SDRC goal this project relates. He said that the museum sounded like a great project, but wondered about its origins. He questioned if it was a sponsorship opportunity or a competition.

Michael Nelson responded that the project addresses the adopted strategic plan and amendments made to the San Diego River Conservancy Act. He continued that the resolution identified the strategic plan project or program to which it relates. SDRC has never solicited competitive proposals for any of

its projects. This project was solely the Executive Officer's attempt to implement SDRC's strategic plan and its statutory objective to educate the public about the River's rich cultural and historic resources.

Michael Nelson expressed a willingness to develop options for a grant program the Board could administer in the event that SDRC should have sufficient funds for such a program.

Ronie Clark asked whether there had been any discussions with Old Town State Historic Park. She said State Parks has been involved with research and development that explores Old Town's connections to the San Diego River. She suggested that incorporation of California State Parks could add value to this effort.

Rob Hutsel, Chair of the San Diego River Coalition, said the coalition has worked 10 years to advance the vision for the River Park that incorporated the Presidio, Serra Museum, Old Town State Historic Park and San Diego County's Heritage Park. He said in times of limited resources it was important to be efficient in how the story of the San Diego River was told. He supported the Serra Museum project and encouraged collaboration that acknowledges the different messages other facilities being planned for the River will present.

Pedro Reyes asked what was the project's life span.

David Kahn responded that it would be a permanent exhibit that would exist on public property owned by the City of San Diego.

Ruth Hayward made a motion to approve Resolution 11-03.

Ronie Clark asked if the motion could be amended to include broader participation and partnership.

David Kahn interjected that the Center's proposal did include consultation with community members, public agencies, consultants, historians, and teachers.

Brent Eidsen asked the maker of the motion to consider amending it to require that the final interpretative plan reflect collaboration with the other stakeholders.

Ben Clay asked if the maker of the motion agreed to the changes.

Ruth Hayward agreed.

Ruth Hayward made a motion to approve SDRC Resolution 11-03 and include an amendment to the resolution which requires collaboration with California Department of Parks Recreation, and the San Diego River Coalition and others. The motion was seconded by Ann Miller Haddad. Michael Nelson conducted a Roll Call Vote and the motion was approved unanimously

Voting Yes (8): Dianne Jacob, Bryan Cash, Pedro Reyes, Ronie Clark, Ben Clay, Ruth Hayward, Andrew Poat, Ann Miller Haddad.

Ben Clay stated the motion carries unanimously.

7. San Diego River Trail: Status of Gaps Analysis

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

Brian Albright, Director, Parks and Recreation, County of San Diego

Bill Maertz, Community Services Director, City of Santee

Robin Shifflet, Planning and Community Investment, City of San Diego

Michael Nelson recalled that the Intergovernmental Working Group comprised key officials from local and municipal governments (City of San Diego, City of Santee and County of San Diego). Each jurisdiction was asked to take a look at the Gaps Analysis and identify priorities for those projects that would close those gaps. The Gaps Analysis was completed in partnership with the State Coastal Conservancy and KTU+A.

County of San Diego

Brian Albright, Director, Parks and Recreation, County of San Diego explained that **Megan Hamilton** would review the County priorities for trail segments indentified in the Gaps Analysis moving for from west to east. He stated that one of the County's most difficult challenges was the lack of land tenure and control of the land. However, where the County did have funding and tenure they would initiate design, construction or improvement of trails from the Lakeside Baseball Park to the El Capitan Reservoir.

Megan Hamilton stated that there are approximately 20 miles of existing, planned or proposed trails extending from the Lakeside Baseball Park to El Capitan Reservoir and some of these lands were held in fee or easement.

1) (County-A)

Lakeside Baseball Ball Park to Lakeside's River Park (east of Riverford Road Bridge). Lakeside's River Park Conservancy is obtaining permits for construction on a County easement and will follow the river corridor.

2) (Segment 57)

Channel Road to SR-67. This segment requires the acquisition of easements from the City of San Diego and a private owner. It would possibly use an existing underpass to connect the trail at Channel Road to SR-67. Channel Road Bridge will allow for trail connections south of the river.

3) (Segment 58)

SR-67 to Ashwood Road. The existing trail alignment on County property traverses the perimeter of Cactus Park and winds toward the river with a potential to go beneath Ashwood and join planned trails to the east and the existing trail on Helix Water District property to the north of Cactus Park. Another option would be to cross the river on the west side of Ashwood. Earlier discussions with Helix Water District regarding a trail easement or license agreement could be re initiated. It is also possible to connect the existing bikeway to trails east of Ashwood. If this trail were to continue, across the river and connect with the Cactus Park, it would require permission from the Helix Water District.

4) (Segment - County B).

Ashwood - El Monte Valley Project. This project is a discretionary action for mining, reclamation and water recharge. This project was presented recently to the Board by the Helix Water District. Multiple trails have been included as a component of the project by the District and the public should have access to perimeter trails during project implementation.

5) (Segment County C)

This segments winds around Hanson Pond, a site recently acquired by the Endangered Habitats Conservancy (EHC). Easements held by the County will allow for trails at this property. It is envisioned that a trail would be built as part of the restoration project's implementation and loop around the pond and connect to a potential staging area. Currently, Hanson Pond has perimeter trails.

6) (Segment 61)

El Monte Valley (Helix Water District) to El Monte Trail and Staging Area. Private property owners have been contacted for voluntary trail easements, but no response has been received to date.

7) (Segment- County D)

El Monte Valley Trail and Staging Area. This facility was recently opened to the public. Environmental analysis and construction was completed in house and funded through a Proposition 40 grant.

8) (Segment 62)

El Monte Staging Area – Flume Trail - Trans County Trail. El Monte Trail connects the river valley to the Flume Trail.

9) (Segment 63)

Flume Trail. A portion of the flume trail was recently purchased by the County. Willing seller letters have been sent to property owners located within the missing sections the trail.

Megan Hamilton summarized her remarks by stating that between the Lakeside Baseball Park and the El Capitan Reservoir, the County's most viable course of action is to repair portions of the 2 mile flume trail that are washed out, continue to work with Helix Water District and other land owners to make trail connections, and, east of the El Capitan reservoir, seek opportunities for trail connection as they arise.

Ben Clay asked if the County was pursuing other fund sources since Sacramento continued to experience severe financial limitations and what was their strategy until funding returns.

Megan Hamilton responded that the County's focus is primarily those segments for which it has control of the land. Contracts for environmental analysis and planning are in place, so the Department of Parks and Recreation could proceed as soon as money was available.

Diane Jacob asked about the mileage total for segments for which the County had tenure.

Megan Hamilton answered that presently it is the 2 mile flume connection.

Brian Albright added that this segment was listed in the CIP, but funds have not been allocated.

Diane Jacob asked if funding was available how long would it take to get started.

Megan Hamilton responded that it might be possible to begin construction in 6-8 months.

Andrew Poat asked which entity would have responsibility for maintenance.

Brian Albright said that it would be the County.

Michael Nelson before introducing Bill Maertz said that while these presentations represent the first time each jurisdiction has focused on the San Diego River Trail as a regional collaboration, all the projects have been discussed and in most cases endorsed by the San Diego River Coalition.

City of Santee

Bill Maertz, Director of Community Services for the City of Santee announced that Santee has made completion of the San Diego River Trail a capital priority and is making great progress.

1) (Segment 44)

West Hills Parkway to Carlton Oaks Golf Course. This segment provides the most benefit to residents of Santee giving them access to Mission Trails Regional Park. Santee finished construction of trail that leads to Carlton Oaks Golf Course. The golf course has recently erected a fence and no trespassing signs along the trail on their property.

2) (Segment 46)

East Carlton Oaks Golf Course to Class 1 Path and Multi-Use Trail/ Mast Park West. A paved class 1 path plus an unpaved multi-use trail at Mast Park West that was recently finished with a Prop 40 grant. It includes a picnic shelter, staging area and interpretive kiosk, and river overlooks.

3) (Segment 48)

Mast Park Southern Hike/Bike Trail. Santee received a grant from SANDAG to redo its master plan for Mast Park.

4) (Segment 49)

Mast Park to Town Center Community Park Multi-Use Trail. Mission Creek is a multi-use trail that is one of the most heavily used in Santee.

5) (Segment 52)

Santee Town Center at Cuyamaca. This is a recently finished \$23 million redevelopment project with trail along the river. Lodge pole fencing and signage protects the sensitive habitat along the river.

6) (Segment 53)

Santee Town Center to Town Center Community Park Pedestrian /Bike Bridge. The pedestrian bridge connects Santee Town Center to Town Center Community Park/YMCA/Aquatic Center. Santee installed 2 bridges with the largest wheeled crane in the western hemisphere to avoid disturbance of sensitive habitat.

7) (Segment 50)

County of San Diego Parcel -Class 1 Path and Multi-Use Trail. This segment is east of Town Center Community Park and has been rezoned by the city for higher density housing. Though uncertain of County's plans and timeframe, Santee will condition the property to provide a trail easement that Santee will build.

8) (Segment 51)

RCP Brick and Block Class 1 Path and Multi-Use Trail. RCP Brick and Block plant is scheduled for closure in 2017, at that time, Santee would obtain trail access.

9) (Segment 54)

RCP to Magnolia Ave South. This section will allow Santee to have a trail that goes underneath the Magnolia Avenue Bridge. It is currently utilized as a haul road for sand mining. Santee would use sidewalks to provide access around the plant until it is closed.

10) (Segment 56)

Hanlon - Walker Multi-Use Path to Lakeside's Baseball Park. This project involves the Walker Property which is a 1.3 mile corridor that SDRC, SCC, TPL and Santee are acquiring. Santee has prepared a \$3.4 million engineers estimates for a trail, a parking lot and a comfort station which would be included in Santee's Capital Improvement Program as a priority.

Andrew Poat asked if there was a process to ensure that San Diego River Trail projects were included in each jurisdiction's Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs) and what their timelines and targets will be.

Michael Nelson responded that today's presentation was the first step in that direction. SDRC staff will take the information provided by the jurisdictions and assemble a capital strategy that can be used to secure funding and measure performance. He said he would present a matrix at the Governing Board's meeting in July.

City of San Diego

Robin Shifflet, City of San Diego Planning Department introduced herself as the project manager for the San Diego River Park Master Plan. She announced that the final revision would soon be submitted to the City's Development Services Department to commence the EIR process. She said she believes the Program EIR for the San Diego River Park Master Plan would be available for public review at the end of summer or early fall.

She stated that in the City of San Diego there was about 17.5 miles of the river from the Pacific Ocean to Santee. The City of San Diego received a list of 16 projects from SDRC. She distributed the list to various departments that own or oversee riverfront property.

1) (Segment SD-A)

West Mission Bay Drive. The bridge for this segment was to be redone, but studies determined it has to be rebuilt entirely, replacing the existing 4-lane bridge and bike route to a new 6-lane bridge and class II bike lanes. Funding for the project is primarily State of California. (Caltrans).

2) (Segment SD-B)

Hazard Center. This segment encompasses two projects: a road and the pathway. The pathway is on the CIP and the City has \$1.6 million in funding; design is complete and it should be bid in early 2012.

3) (Segment 1)

Sefton Field to Friars/YMCA. The City completed a feasibility study in 2009 to provide trail connection and needs funding for design and environmental compliance. It has a \$1.7 million funding estimate.

4) (Segment 2)

YMCA to Fashion Valley Road / Trolley Tracks. The trail is located along the trolley and River Walk Golf Course, which is private property. The City will need to negotiate MTS and the golf course.

5) (Segment 11)

Mission Center Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge. The City did a series of feasibility studies to connect FISDRIP through Mission Valley. This is one of the bridges that would connect the existing pathway across Mission Center. The City of San Diego needs funding for preliminary design and environmental compliance at a cost of \$2.6 million.

6) (Segment 12 & 13)

Camino Del Este Bridge (#12) Pedestrian Signal (#13). This is also one of the roads separating the FISDRIP pathway. An analysis by the City concluded that the traffic on this street only requires an at grade crossing, a development that has changed the cost estimate from a bridge with a \$1.5 million cost to a pedestrian signal which will only cost \$200,000.

7) (Segment 16)

Discovery Center. This is the San Diego River Park Foundation's project, not the City of San Diego's.

8) (Segment 19)

Fenton Parkway to I-15. This project is located on public land behind the Mission Valley Library through Qualcomm Stadium and under the I-15. San Diego River Park Foundation obtained a feasibility study which estimates the cost of design and construction at \$1.1 million.

9) (Segment 20)

Mission Center Parkway. The bridge is a current CIP project for the City, though the scope of work is not fully established. The bridge is part of the approved Mission Valley Plan and has some funding. SDRC currently shows a bridge for bikes and pedestrians only. Calculations for this project suggest a \$7 million shortfall.

10) (Segment 23)

Rancho Mission Rd/Ward Rd. This project will provide a signal at Ward Road and a bike path to the Navajo community. The City is researching the installation of a Class III bike route for this street.

11) (Segment 33)

Mission Trails Regional Park. This project proposes new trails within Mission Trails Regional Park that completes the connection for the San Diego River Trail from the west side of the park to the east. The Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan is currently being updated. Community input and trail connections will be determined through this process.

12) (Segment 34)

Tierrasanta to Calle de Vida. The trail alignment is located within City open space on an SDGE easement/access road connecting Tierrasanta Blvd. to Calle de Vida. The City will need to conduct negotiations with SDG&E.

13) (Segment 42)

West Carlton Oaks Golf Course Multi-Use Path (Multi-Use Path under Highway 52). This project would occur on private property within a Caltrans right-of-way. It provides a connection under Highway 52 between Mission Trails Regional Park and Carlton Oaks Golf Course. This segment would require a trail easement be negotiated with a private land owner and Caltrans.

14) (Segment 43)

Carlton Oaks Golf Course Multi-Use Trail to West Hills Parkway. This project is located on private property and proposes the design and construction of a trail along the west side of the Carlton Oaks Golf Course and would require an easement from the private land owner.

15) (Segment 45)

Carlton Oaks Golf Course - Mission trails Regional Park - City of Santee. The City of San Diego is selling this land and negotiating an access easement for the trail along the berm as part of the sale.

Robin Shifflet added that the City developed in-house criteria to determine priority. This criteria is based on project status, ease of project implementation and whether the segment extends the current San Diego River Trail. A high priority was also given to those projects that already exist within the CIP, are on public land, and extend the trail in two directions.

She concluded her presentation by listing the City's top priorities and said it was presently seeking federal, state and SANDAG grants to complete them.

(Segment SD-B) Hazard Center Drive Extension Class I Path (\$175,000)

(Segment 19) Fenton Parkway to I-15 Class I Path (\$1.1 million)

(Segment 11) Mission Center Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge (\$2.6 million)

(Segment 12/13) Camino del Este crossing and signals, north and south side of river (\$400,000)

(Segment 1) Sefton Field to Friars Road Class I Path and Bridge (\$1.7 million)

Michael Nelson proposed that the next step for SDRC is to develop a capital strategy to secure funding. He recalled that SDRC had proceeded in a fashion similar to the Santa Ana River Trail project. Staff from key agencies of each jurisdiction developed a list of priorities that are endorsed by a policy group (SDRC Governing Board) which becomes the basis for a capital budget. This capital budget would require each jurisdiction to commit available funding and serve as a fund raising prospectus to obtain state, local, federal and regional funding. He said he was confident SDRC staff could assemble the information presented and develop a draft format or matrix that would establish a conceptual capital program for completion of the San Diego River Trail.

He stated that SANDAG may represent a new funding source for trail projects. He noted that the Trail had been included as a bicycle corridor in the agency's Regional Transportation Plan.

Dianne Jacob agreed with the next steps proposed by the Executive Officer but asked that the matrix include a column that shows the total number of trail miles for each jurisdiction.

Ronie Clark suggested that the jurisdictions to work together so that their trail and trail users meshed. She said City of San Diego is focusing on bikes and a transportation corridor, except at Mission Trails Regional Park, the County on the other hand provides more opportunities for equestrians, and the City of Santee does not allow horses at Mast Park.

Ben Clay asked if anyone that was present from the jurisdictions cared to comment on Ronie Clark's observations regarding compatibility of trail types and users.

Robin Shifflet said that the City of San Diego was looking into it, but horses would probably not be allowed beyond Mission Trails Regional Park. She acknowledged that the river pathway in the City would be a transportation corridor for bicycles and pedestrians.

Brian Albright from the County of San Diego said the entire length of the County's segment of the trail is multi-use. He reminded the board that a majority of the County's segment was not paved nor planned to be.

Bill Maertz said the City of Santee at Mast Park West had to address unique circumstances. As a mitigation site the resources agencies mandated that horses not be allowed to use the trail.

8. El Monte Valley: Hanson Pond Acquisition and Reclamation

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

Michael Beck, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats Conservancy

Michael Nelson before introducing Michael Beck and Jennifer Tavernier of Endangered Habitats Conservancy's (EHC) stated that SDRC had invested \$1.5 million of its Proposition 40 set aside in the acquisition of Hanson Pond. He said it was adjacent to the Helix Water District's holdings in El Monte Valley. This was the topic of Helix Water District's presentation at the last meeting, as well as, the location of their water supply, reclamation and recreation project.

Jennifer Tavernier from Endangered Habitats Conservancy said that EHC purchased the property in August of 2010; has partnered with Lakeside's River Park Conservancy to secure \$3.5 million for the first phase of reclamation; and, is working with the Wildlife Conservation Board to complete restoration. The Hanson Pond project will assist with the implementation of several adopted plans and policies including the Multiple Species Conservation Program, the San Diego River Park Master Plan and the County of San Diego's Trail Plan. EHC is focused on the conservation of sensitive species and the functions and values of the river system; particularly preservation and restoration of a critical regional wildlife linkage.

Restoration of this 145 acre site, which includes a 50-acre pond, will require filling 1/2 the pond to create an emergent wetland that will dramatically increase the biological diversity of the site and when coupled with other components of the reclamation control downstream flooding and sediment transport. Additionally, trail extensions will be developed that are compatible with those under consideration on the adjacent Helix Water District property.

Michael Beck discussed a technical issue that had arisen as a result of EHC's acquisition. Ownership of the property meant that EHC accepted environmental responsibility for the sand mining that had occurred at the site and specifically the regulatory obligation to complete the Reclamation Plan as its permit required. Mining law provides that bonding or other financial assurances are in place to assure that the Reclamation Plan is completed. EHC, a small non-profit is having difficulty complying with this requirement. He said SDRC's Executive Officer and EHC are exploring alternative approaches to fulfilling the requirement with the County of San Diego and the Department of Conservation and the State Coastal Conservancy adding that he appreciated the Governing Board's willingness to work with EHC on this technical complication.

Ruth Hayward asked whether other restoration projects had encountered difficulty with the bonding requirement, such as Lakeside's River Park Conservancy.

Michael Beck responded that bonding was an issue, but unlike the Calmat acquisition involved a Major Use Permit which allowed LRPC to avoid the bonding requirement until their reclamation project could be initiated.

Michael Nelson commented that he would continue to work with counsel to solve this problem recognizing that the state and the county had invested more than \$8,000,000 in the project.

9. Carlton Oaks: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Adjustments

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

James Barwick, Director, Real Estate Assets Department, City of San Diego

Mary Carlson, Real Estate Assets Department, City of San Diego

Michael Nelson said to the Board, Brent Edison and he attended a meeting with representatives of the Real Estate Assets Department, Public Utilities Department, and Planning and Community Investments. At that meeting he and Brent had three questions:

- 1) Had the boundaries of the proposed sale been established? If so, will that boundary be located along the northern or southern toe of the levee, also known as the "berm" or, significantly increase the acreage of the sale?
- 2) Will the trail easement the City of San Diego was negotiating on property it would receive or retain, be compatible with the trail easement TY Investments donated to SDRC and placed in escrow?
- 3) Would the purchase and sale agreement or deed protect SDRC's invasives control and restoration project and reserve access for SDRC and the City of San Diego?

Though the Real Estate Assets Department could not provide a final metes and bounds description of the sale boundaries, they provided assurances that our concerns were reasonable and the final survey and purchase and sale agreement would address each of them.

He also reminded the Board that the option agreement that had been executed on their behalf prohibited any interference by SDRC with the sale. He said he had recently been advised of this clause by TY Investments. He said that recognizing that the donations or the conservation and trail easements and right of first refusal were the only conservation outcomes associated with the sale, he was being careful not to “interfere”.

Dianne Jacob asked if everyone was in agreement on the boundaries.

Michael Nelson responded while there is general agreement, a map of the final boundaries should be provided to SDRC.

10. Executive Officer’s Report

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

Walker Properties: Santee City Council / State Coastal Conservancy
Mast Park West Trail: Proposition 40 Close Out and Dedication
River Gorge Trail: Construction Status, Community Impacts, Modifications

Michael Nelson said that there had been new developments for three of SDRC’s long standing projects:

Walker Properties: Santee City Council / State Coastal Conservancy

The State Coastal Conservancy scheduled the Walker Property on its May agenda, the City Council of Santee approved accepting responsibility for the property, and LRPC had organized a 5K Run that would traverse the property.

Mast Park West Trail: Proposition 40 Close Out

He reported that the Natural Resources Agency conducted a “close out” inspection for the Prop 40 funds grant awarded to Santee for construction of the San Diego River Trail at Mast Park West. He added that the City of Santee had scheduled a formal dedication and invited the members of the Governing Board.

River Gorge Trail: Construction Status, Community Impacts, Modifications

Though construction of the River Gorge Trail in Cleveland National Forest is nearing completion, its popularity has created an explosion of visitation and a serious parking problem in the adjacent community of San Diego Country Estates. A combination of the heavy rainfall, the improvements to the trail, and the impact of social networking have overwhelmed the trail, Cedar Creek Falls and the nearby community have made the falls unusually attractive.

Supervisor Jacob has met with the local community. SDRC has advised Forest Service that if the community and the Forest Service agreed on a project modification, SDRC would make every effort to accommodate it within existing project funding. He also said that SDRC had approached the San Diego River Park Foundation and the Ramona Trails Association to determine their willingness to provide a presence on site.

Dianne Jacob reported that she was contacted by San Diego Country Estates who expressed to her that Forest Service had not been working with them closely. She said that she had arranged meetings with the County's Public Works staff and Forest Service. She commented that Forest Service has some very real management problems and local citizens had some good ideas about things that could be done. She said that one of those ideas was for Forest Service to begin to issuing permits as a means of gaining some control over the number of users. She also stated that there were recommendations and actions that the County of San Diego was pursuing. Unfortunately, the trail has become an attractive nuisance; visitation is not 50 persons per day, but 250. Though the trail is wonderful and is very popular, the impacts need to be addressed. Forest Service has a responsibility to manage and protect the area.

Ben Clay asked if there was anything else the Conservancy we should be doing to encourage and put pressure on the Forest Service about putting pressure on them to step up to the plate?

Dianne Jacob responded affirmatively and said that SDRC should encourage the ban on alcohol and restrictions on the number of visitors. Once Public Works provide a package of concrete recommendations we can better determine any additional role SDRC might play.

Rob Hutsel advised that the Park Foundation was also a large land owner in the area and they had also been inundated with visitors. He said that his volunteers had been on site the past three weekends and have also been conducting clean ups at Cedar Creek Falls. He stated that he thought the Foundation could be part of the solution and felt that the season will soon be over because the waterfall will dry up quickly and the problem will dissipate.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

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 July 7, 2011

ITEM: **4**

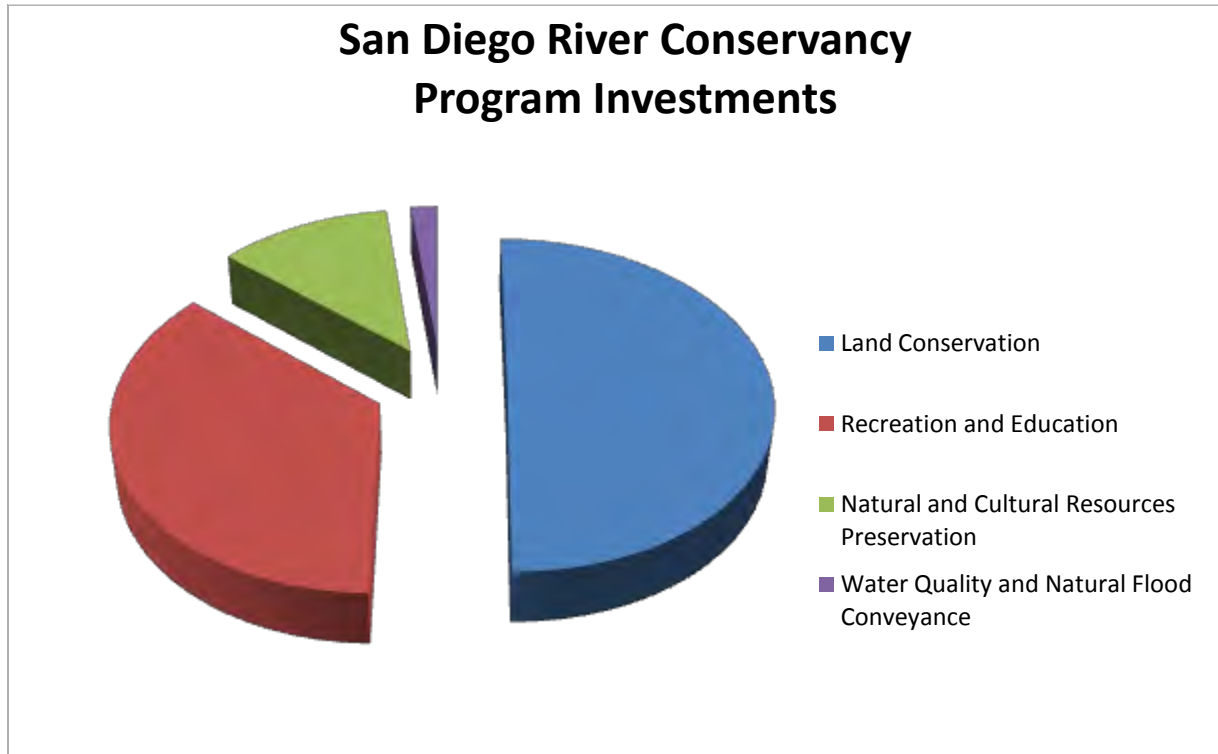
SUBJECT: **CHAIRPERSON'S AND GOVERNING BOARD
MEMBERS' REPORTS**

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

PROJECT NAME	GRANTEE	ESTIMATED COST	BOARD APPROVAL	FUNDING	ALLOCATED	PROJECT STATUS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
LAND CONSERVATION							
CALMAT	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$2,200,000	9/1/2002	Prop 40	\$2,200,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
		\$2,000,000	9/1/2002	Prop 13	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
Eagle Peak Preserve	San Diego River Park Foundation	N/A	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$175,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 112 acres
		\$674,000	8/11/06	Prop 40	\$527,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 180 acres.
Hanson Pond	Endangered Habitats Conservancy	\$5,000,000	3/2/07	Prop 40	\$1,586,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 143.5 acres
Walker Properties	SDRC/City of Santee	\$10,000,000	11/9/2007	Prop 84, Sec6	\$2,445,000	Option Agreement Executed	Acquisition of 110 acres with a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (\$1M from Feds, Sect. 6) . (\$1,445,000 from Prop 84)
El Monte Valley Flume Properties	SDRC	\$723,838	10/13/06; 1/19/07	SEP	\$15,000	Negotiation	Conducted real estate analysis with the County of San Diego, secured appraisals and surveys necessary to acquire property along 6 six miles of the historic flume in El Monte Valley.
Carlton Oaks Golf Course easements	SDRC		9/2/10			Agreement Executed/ Escrow	Donation of a conservation easement, trail easements and right of first refusal (65 acres)(1 mile SDRiver Trail)
					\$8,948,000		
RECREATION AND EDUCATION							
Gaps Analysis	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy	\$60,000	7/8/10	Prop 84	\$60,000	COMPLETED	Identificat of gaps that included the plans and projects of jurisdictions, development of a formal work plan and capital strategy to implement a regional collaboration to complete the trail.
San Diego River Trail	SDRC						
• Ocean Beach Bike Path	City of San Diego	\$2,550,000	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Extension of Ocean Beach Bike Path .75 miles from Pacific Highway to Hotel Circle.
• River Gorge Trail	SDRC/US Forest Service	Phase 1- \$190,644	8/12/05	Prop 40	\$136,762	Construction	Design and construction of trail improvements and trail head at Cleveland National Forest.
		Phase 2-\$634-442	10/13/06; 11/9/07; 9/18/08; 11/21/08	Prop 40	\$833,250	Construction	
• Lakeside River Park Trail	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$450,000	8/11/06	Prop 40	\$203,617	COMPLETED	Design and construction of .75 miles of trail at Lakeside's River Park.
• Mast Park West	City of Santee	\$475,000	9/18/08; 11/21/08	Prop 40	\$472,963	COMPLETED	Design and construction of 2500' of San Diego River Trail at Mast Park West
• Riverford Road	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$800,000	11/9/07; 7/17/08	Prop 40	\$787,562	Design/CEQA	SDRC and Lakeside's River Park Conservancy are designing and building 1 mile of San Diego River Trail, connecting to Lakeside's Baseball Park and the City of Santee
• Hazard Center/163	City of San Diego	\$1,400,000	5/15/2008	SDCity Funds	\$1,400,000	Permits	Design, construct, and connect the San Diego River Trail from Fashion Valley Mall to Hazard Center (Under 163) (*City of San Diego - Substituted SANDAG and other funding sources for Prop 84)
• Carlton Oaks Golf Course	SDRC			Prop 84			Planning and design services for conservation baseline, wetlands delineation and San Diego River trail alignment.
• Tributary Canyon	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy	\$963,185.50	9/28/07; 5/15/08; 7/8/2010	Prop 84	\$370,000	Design/Negotiation	Improve recreational access to the River and its tributary canyons, preserve and enhances natural resources, and promote environmental awareness .
Serra Museum, Presidio Park	San Diego History Center	\$150,000	5/5/11	Prop 84	\$150,000	Design/Negotiation	Development of Interpretive Plan and Exhibit Design at Serra Museum that incorporates ecological history of the San Diego River.
					\$6,414,154		
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION							
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	5,000,000	9/3/2009			COMPLETED	Watershed invasives control program to control and replant over 329 acres, secured state local and federal permits, as well as, preparation and adoption of CEQA compliance documents
• Mission Valley Preserve • Carlton Oaks Invasives Control and Restoration • San Diego River Ecological Preserve at Ward Road • Carlton Oaks Golf Course – TY Investments • San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement (SANDAG-EMP Grant)	City of San Diego	\$500,000	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$500,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Control of non-native vegetation and replace it with native plants (4.22 acres)
	Foundation/ City of San Diego Public Utilities	\$577,846	3/2/07; 11/9/07; 7/18/08	Prop 40	\$577,846	In Progress	Control invasives on approximately 18 acres at Carlton Oaks Golf Course and 3.5 acres of Caltrans property near I-8 and I-15
	SDRC/Dept of Fish and Game	\$233,005	9/3/09	DFG endowment	\$233,005	COMPLETED	Control invasive non-native plants and re-vegetate with natives on DFG and adjacent properties (14.2 acres)
	SDRC/San Diego State Univ Research Foundation/SDCWA	\$293,609	9/3/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$293,609	In Progress	Riparian habitat restoration for the San Diego County Water Authority which includes the control of 4.7 acres of invasive non-native plants and re-vegetation with native plants
SDRC/ City of Santee/ Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$527,739	7/8/10	SANDAG	\$527,736	In Progress	Invasivise and access control, park patrols, clean ups, landowner outreach	
					\$2,132,196		
WATER QUALITY AND NATURAL FLOOD CONVEYANCE							
Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration	Dept of Interior/Bureau of Reclamation	\$719,000	8/12/05	SDRWQB: SEP	\$30,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration Planning
San Diego River Watershed Data Portal	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$25,000	7/17/08	SDRWQB: SEP	\$25,000	COMPLETED	Digital portal with Park Foundation and SDRWQB that provides citizens and stakeholders with project information and status
Field Surveys and River Clean Ups	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$35,000	1/8/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$35,000	COMPLETED	Conducted 2 field surveys and managed 12 River Clean Ups
San Diego River Net -Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program	SDSU Research Foundation	\$1,500,000	3/5/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$240,000	COMPLETED (phase 1- installations)	\$1,500,000 project to establish a network of sensors dedicated to monitoring of the environment and water quality
					\$330,000		
TOTAL					\$17,824,350		

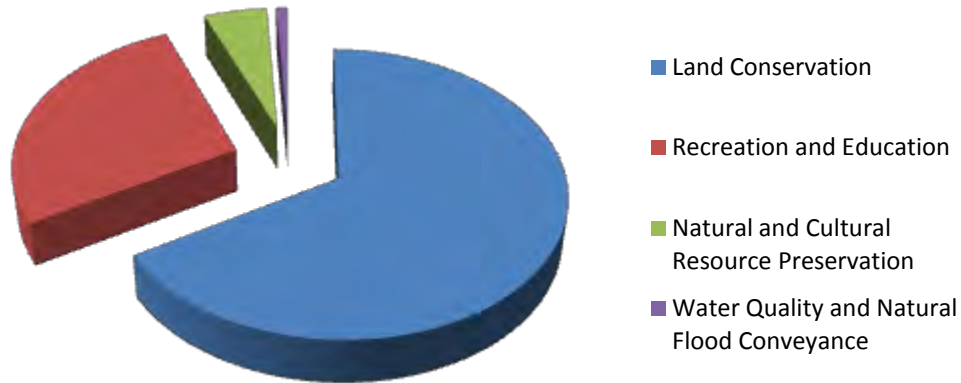
Status of Investments

The charts that follow represent an analysis of allocations and expenditures by the San Diego River Conservancy. The investments made by the Governing Board have been categorized according to the four programs adopted in the 2006-2011 Strategic Plan.



Funding Analysis	Allocation
Land Conservation	\$8,948,000
Recreation and Education	\$6,414,154
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$2,132,196
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	\$330,000
Total	\$17,824,350

San Diego River Conservancy Completed Projects



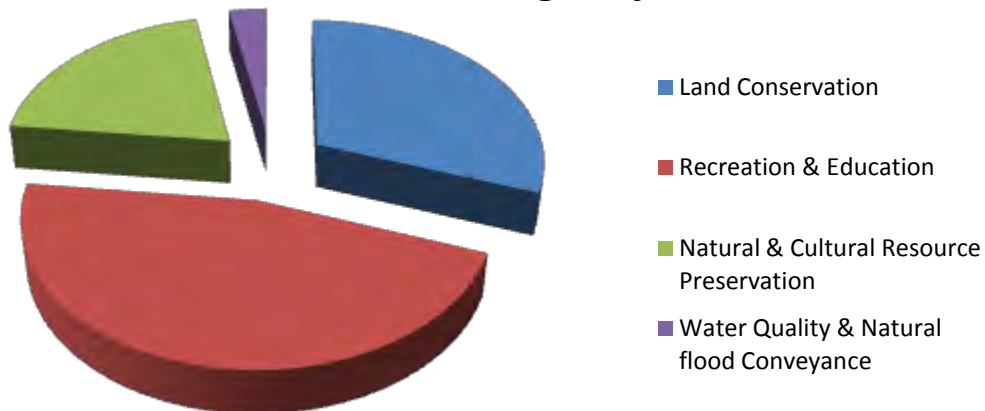
Funding Analysis

Land Conservation	\$6,488,000
Recreation and Education	\$2,676,580
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$500,000
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	<u>\$90,000</u>
Total	\$9,754,580

Allocation

	\$6,488,000
	\$2,676,580
	\$500,000
	<u>\$90,000</u>
	\$9,754,580

San Diego River Conservancy Continuing Projects



Funding Analysis

Land Conservation	\$2,460,000
Recreation and Education	\$3,737,574
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$1,632,196
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	<u>\$240,000</u>
Total	\$8,069,770

Allocation

	\$2,460,000
	\$3,737,574
	\$1,632,196
	<u>\$240,000</u>
	\$8,069,770

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: **5**

SUBJECT: **DEPUTY ATTORNEY'S GENERAL REPORT**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

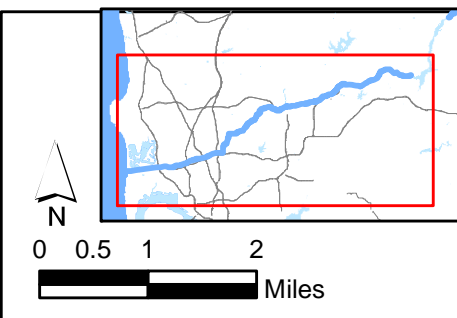
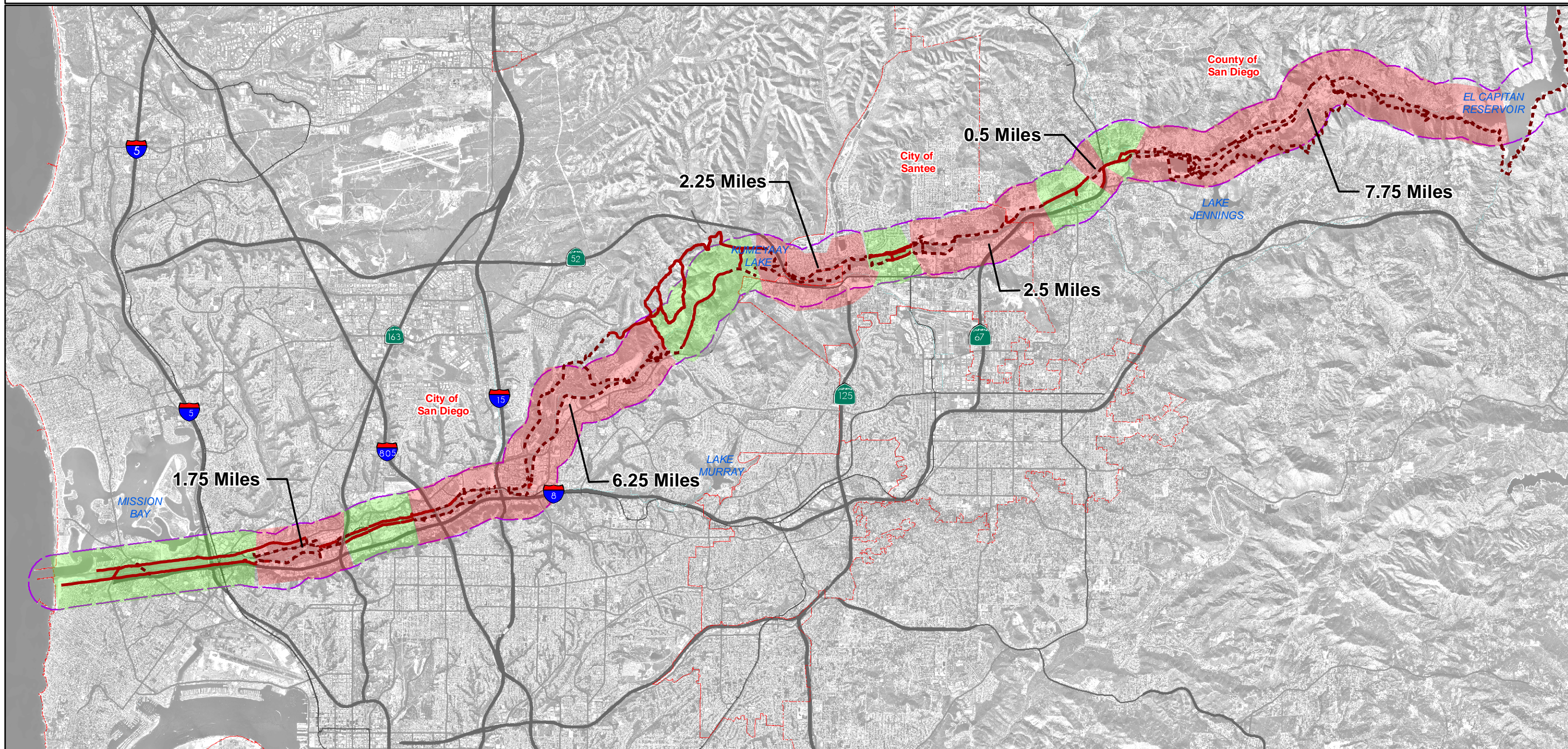
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: **SAN DIEGO RIVER TRAIL: GAPS ANALYSIS- CAPITAL
PRIORITIES**

Presentation and Report:
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer
Ann Van Leer, SDRC Consultant

SDRT GAPS Analysis: Ocean to the El Capitan Reservoir



SDRT - Existing Trail

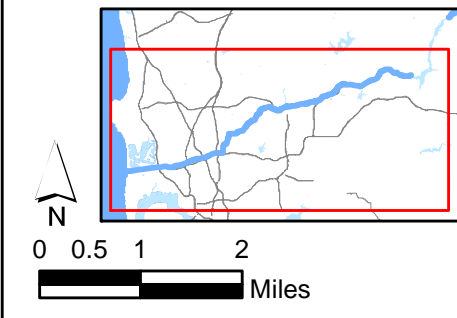
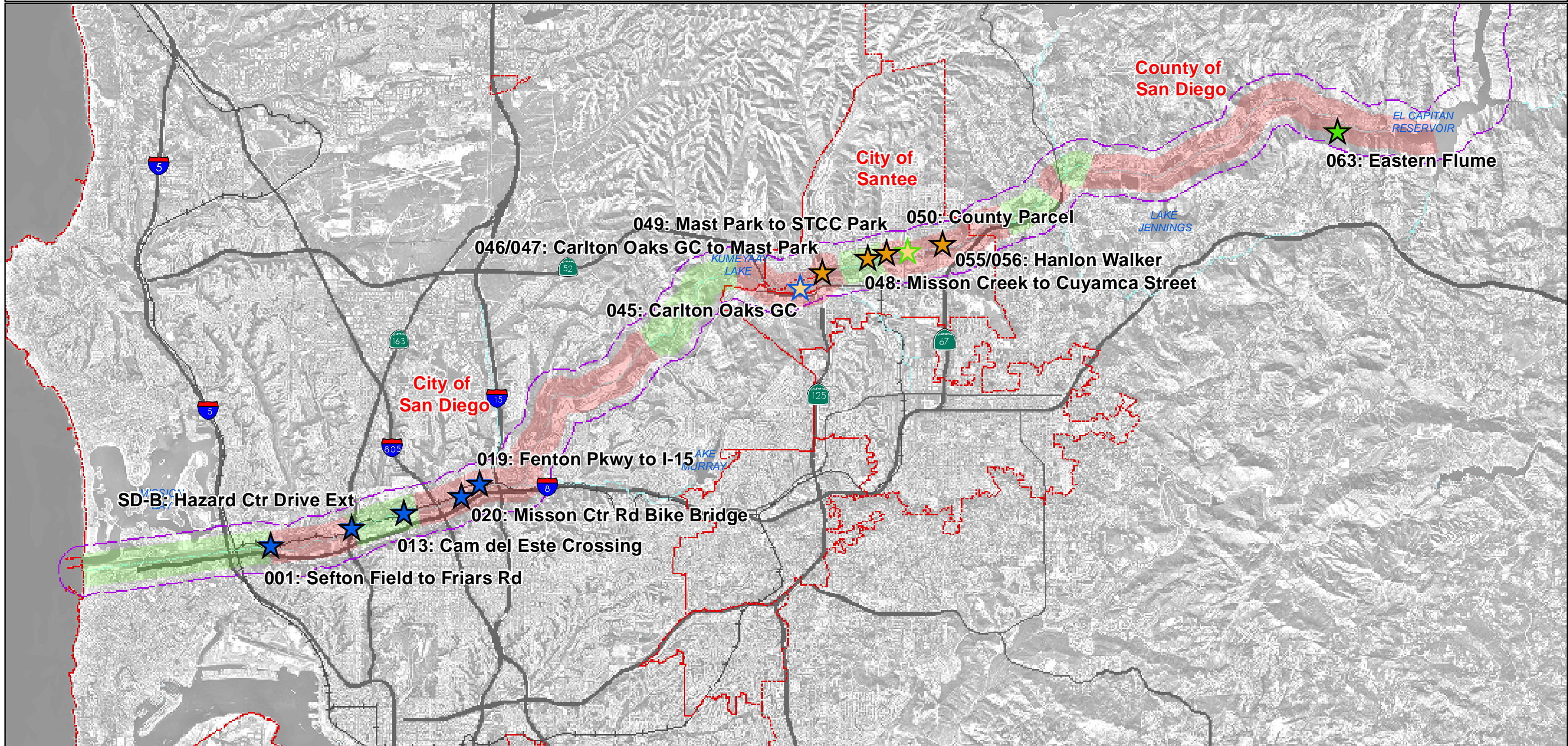
SDRT - GAP

Existing Trail Segments

Planned/Proposed Trail Segements

SDRC Jurisdiction

City Boundaries



- Existing SDRT
- SDRT GAPS
- SDRC Jurisdiction
- City Boundaries

Priority Projects		Priority Miles
★	City of San Diego	1.650 mi
★	City of Santee	2.486 mi
★	County of San Diego	2.670 mi
★ ★	City of Santee in collaboration w/ City or County of San Diego	

River Miles: Ocean to El Capitan Reservoir			
Total	Existing	Priority Projects	Remaining GAPS
17.388 mi	7.642 mi	2.015 mi	7.731 mi
3.454 mi	1.151 mi	2.278 mi	0.025 mi
10.280 mi	1.642 mi	2.124 mi	6.514 mi
31.122 mi	10.435 mi	6.417 mi	14.270 mi

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **GRANT PARK: DISCOVERY CENTER / PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Presentation and Report:
Rob Hutsel, Executive Director, San Diego River Park Foundation

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: 8

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:

SDRC Administrative Services Provider: Transfer from State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) to General Services

Walker Properties: Option Agreement / SCC Prop 84 Approvals

River Gorge Trail: Construction Status, Community Impacts, Modifications

Carlton Oaks Golf Course: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Adjustments

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of July 7, 2011

ITEM: **9**

SUBJECT: **ADJOURNMENT**