

Executive Officer Report

Item 5 – July 9, 2004

The purpose of the Executive Officer Report is to provide you with information / status reports on topics that are not covered in today's agenda¹. This report will be a key mechanism by which I will keep you informed on a variety of issues ranging in importance.

I. Executive Officer Meetings and Activities

In addition to continuing to meet individually with each of you, I have attended numerous meetings on behalf of the San Diego River Conservancy since the May 21, 2004 Board meeting. A few of the most significant are summarized below.

Sacramento – Senator Alpert, Assemblymember Kehoe, Resources Agency, and Department of Finance

On June 9 and 14, 2004, I had the opportunity to meet with several key legislative contacts as well as key staff members of the Resources Agency and the Department of Finance. The purpose of the Sacramento trip was to make initial contact with individuals critical to the fiscal future of the Conservancy and specifically to request their assistance in (1) reappropriating the Conservancy's FY 03/04 Support Budget and (2) extending the deadline to encumber the remaining \$7.8 million capital outlay funds earmarked for the San Diego River.

During my visit to Sacramento, I met with:

Senator Dede Alpert;
Mr. Bob Franzoia; Deputy Director, Senate Appropriations Committee (Senator Alpert is Chair);
Assemblymember Christine Kehoe;
Mr. Michael Miiller, Sacramento Chief of Staff for Assemblymember Kehoe;
Ms. Karen Scarborough, Undersecretary of Resources and SDRC Board Member;
Mr. Don Wallace, Assistant Secretary of Administration and Finance, Resources Agency;
Ms. Elaine Berghausen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Bonds and Grants, Resources Agency; and
Mr. David Harper, Deputy Director of the Department of Finance and SDRC Board Member.

I have also contacted and been in communications with:

Mr. Fred Klass, Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance
Mr. John Lloyd, Assistant Program Budget Manager (Resources), Department of Finance
Miriam Ingenito, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
Chris Shultz, Capitol Director for Senator Alpert
Steve Archibald, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Mary Shallenberger, Chief of Staff for Senator John Burton, Pres. pro Tempore
Carol Baker, Chief of Staff for Fabian Nunez, Speaker of the Assembly
Kasey Schimke, Chief Consultant, Assembly Democratic Fiscal Committee
Chris Holtz, Chief Consultant, Assembly Republican Fiscal Committee
Keely Bosler, Chief Consultant, Senate Democratic Fiscal Committee
Therese Tran, Chief Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Committee
Mark Newton, Director, Legislative Analyst's Office (Resources)
Michelle Baass, Consultant, Legislative Analyst's Office (Resources)

Please see Agenda Item 8 on the SDRC Budget and Budget Requests for more information about the Sacramento trip and follow-up activities.

California Tahoe Conservancy --- Dennis Machida, Executive Officer

On June 10 –13, 2004, I met with Mr. Dennis Machida, Executive Officer of the California Tahoe Conservancy. Mr. Machida is one of the original “grandfathers” of state-chartered conservancies in California. Mr. Machida served as the first Assistant Executive Officer for the State Coastal Conservancy at its inception 26 years ago and has served as Executive Officer of the California Tahoe Conservancy since its inception approximately 20 years ago.

I first contacted Mr. Machida in February 2004 (and each of the other 6 state-chartered conservancy Executive Officers) while preparing for my upcoming SDRC job interviews. At that time, Mr. Machida invited me to Tahoe and offered to mentor me. The purpose of my trip to Tahoe was to be mentored by Mr. Machida and specifically to discuss the policies, procedures, programs, and priority ranking criteria that have worked well for the very successful Tahoe Conservancy.

My trip to Tahoe was invaluable. Dennis Machida is an amazing man, an enormous wealth of information and wisdom, and he was willing to spend countless hours with me during my trip. In addition to face-to-face time with Mr. Machida and key senior staff, I was also able to visit many of the Conservancy’s acquisition sites, restoration projects, parks, public access-ways, and interpretive educational facilities. I came away from Tahoe feeling inspired and with a much broadened sense of possibilities for the San Diego River. Mr. Machida often speaks to start-up conservancies and has offered to come to San Diego to address the San Diego River Conservancy. With your blessing, I plan to take him up on this offer.

Deanna Spehn, Senior Consultant for Assemblymember Kehoe

On June 8, 2004, I had my first meeting with Ms. Deanna Spehn, Senior Consultant for Assemblymember Kehoe in the San Diego office. Ms. Spehn provided valuable historical perspective on the formation of Conservancy and on Assemblymember Kehoe’s goals for the San Diego River.

State Coastal Conservancy – Board Member Sam Schuchat

The purpose of my June 1, 2004 trip to the State Coastal Conservancy was to have my first individual meeting with Board Member Schuchat and specifically to discuss his Delegation of Authority as well as the policies, procedures, programs, and priority ranking criteria that have worked well for the very successful State Coastal Conservancy.

In addition to a very informative meeting with Member Schuchat, I had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Neal Fishman, Deputy Executive Officer and with Ms. Regine Serrano, Chief of Administration for the Coastal Conservancy. Ms. Serrano handles many SDRC personnel and administrative issues. My meetings with Mr. Fishman and Ms. Serrano focused primarily on

SDRC budget issues and potential sources of funding. My trip to Oakland was a significant education and worthwhile investment.

San Diego County Assessor, Gregory Smith and Board Member Jim Bartell – “Parcel Ownership Inventory”

On June 29, 2004, I had the privilege of meeting with the San Diego County Assessor, Recorder and Clerk, Mr. Gregory Smith and Board Member Jim Bartell. Member Bartell requested and arranged this meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to request Mr. Smith’s assistance in obtaining ownership and other essential information about all parcels within the SDRC’s jurisdiction for the Conservancy’s “Parcel Ownership Inventory”. The development of a Parcel Ownership Inventory is the first required step in assessing the Conservancy’s full range of acquisition opportunities.

I am extremely pleased to report that Mr. Smith has agreed to provide the Conservancy with extensive maps and profile information about each parcel within our jurisdiction for the entire 52-mile length of the San Diego River and he has agreed to do so at no cost to the Conservancy.

Mr. Smith directed Larry Berggren, Chief of the Mapping Division, and two expert GIS analysts to immediately commence work on our request. I spent the remainder of the afternoon with Mr. Smith’s staff defining the overall scope of the project and specific parameters. The final product will consist of two sets of maps, a database, an overall Area Map, and corresponding County Map Books. The first set of maps will be aerial photographs showing the boundaries of the SDRC jurisdiction and all parcels within the boundaries. The second set of maps (non-aerial photo) will show the information on the first maps as well as important hydrologic features including, watersheds, tributaries, flood plains, and wetlands, etc. The database will provide extensive profile information about each individual parcel within the jurisdiction, and the overall Area Map and corresponding Map Books will be used to identify specific Map Book and parcel numbers.

Although I do not know the actual total cost of this information (e.g., cost to the general public), I know that it would be many thousands of dollars and that it will be invaluable to the Conservancy. I would once again personally like to thank Member Jim Bartell for arranging this very important meeting. His working relationship with Mr. Smith paved the way for this project. I would also like to thank Mr. Smith for his extremely generous assistance and invaluable information. I plan to prepare a formal letter of appreciation to Mr. Smith and his staff on behalf of the SDRC Governing Board.

US Environmental Protection Agency, Board Member Jack Minan

On June 4, 2004, I met briefly with Mr. Wayne Nastri, Regional Administrator of USEPA Region 9; several of Mr. Nastri’s staff; Board Member Jack Minan; and Mr. John Robertus, Executive Officer of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the San Diego River Conservancy and its mission to Mr. Nastri and to

explore potential future federal funding opportunities. Mr. Minan and Mr. Robertus arranged the meeting to discuss Regional Board issues and invited me to briefly join them.

San Diego River Coalition

I attended the San Diego River Coalition's June 18, 2004 meeting and briefly addressed Coalition members. As a follow-up, I have requested to be on the Coalition's July 16 Agenda when I will more formally introduce myself and address how the SDRC can assist the Coalition in achieving our common goals.

San Diego River Park / Lakeside Conservancy – Mr. Michael Beck and Ms. Deborah Jones

On June 15, 2004, I met with San Diego River Park / Lakeside Conservancy Founder and Board Member, Michael Beck and Executive Director, Deborah Jones. Mr. Beck and Ms. Jones briefed me on the needs of their non-profit Conservancy, provided copies of their policies and procedures, and gave me a tour of important recent acquisition and potential acquisition sites. In particular, they took me to a sand mining operation adjacent to the River which is targeted for industrial development. There is an urgent need for funding to acquire this high priority site in Lakeside. The site, known as "Fish Pond", has been described by Mr. Beck as the site where we are literally "racing bulldozers". This was my second meeting with Mr. Beck.

City of San Diego – Property Acquisition Staff

On May 27, 2004, I had my second property acquisition meeting with Mr. Tom Story (Senior Policy Advisor to Mayor Murphy) and City of San Diego staff, Jeff Harkness (Park and Recreation) and Lane MacKenzie (Acquisition/Real Estate Assets). Mr. Mark Marney (Park and Recreation) also attended the first meeting on May 6. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss potential acquisition opportunities within the City of San Diego.

Environmental Breakfast – Secretary Mike Chrisman

On June 4, 2004 I attended an Environmental Breakfast Meeting (sponsored by a local legal firm) at which Mr. Michael Chrisman, Secretary of Resources and Mr. Terry Tamminen, Secretary for Environmental Protection (CalEPA) were the featured guest speakers. At the meeting, Board Member Minan introduced me to Secretary Chrisman. I have previously worked with Mr. Tamminen who was a strong supporter of the San Diego Municipal Storm Water (MS4) permit during its development.

II. Board Member Compensation: \$100 Stipend and Travel

Section 32635 of the Diego River Conservancy Act provides that:

"The members of the Conservancy that are not full-time public employees may be compensated for attendance at regular meetings of the Conservancy at the rate of one hundred dollars (\$100) per regular meeting, not to exceed 12 regular meetings a year. All members of the Conservancy may be reimbursed the actual amount of the reasonable and necessary expenditures incurred in attending meetings of the Conservancy and carrying out the duties of their office."

I have initiated the process of compensating eligible Board Members (non-public employees) their \$100 stipend per meeting and associated travel costs. There have been seven meetings to

date and there are five eligible (non-public employee) Board Members. I have accounted for this annual Conservancy expenditure and requisite travel in my FY 04/05 and FY 05/06 budget projections. It is my understanding the Accounting Department of Coastal Conservancy is preparing to send out the first set of checks to SDRC Board Members shortly.

III. SDRC Website

The existing website for the SDRC at <http://resources.ca.gov/sdrc.html> is supported by the Resources Agency, currently at no cost to the Conservancy. It is very simple website whose most important current function is to provide the interested public with Board Meeting Agenda Notices and supporting Agenda Briefing Packets. The Agenda Notice for today's meeting has been posted on the website since June 28, 2004. The Agenda Briefing packet materials have been added in stages upon completion. A small amount of background information in the form of press releases on a few Board Members and the Executive Officer is also provided.

I am currently in the early stages of planning moderate enhancements to the website and have requested that substantially more basic information be added. I am also in very early discussions with David Harris, our key website contact at Resources Agency, regarding (1) formal contractual arrangements between the Resources Agency and the SDRC (i.e., Interagency Agreement); and (2) equitable compensation for our website support service.

IV. San Diego Union Tribune Article

Enclosed in your Supplemental Agenda Briefing Packet was a copy of a June 21, 2004 Union Tribune article on your new Executive Officer. Although I was generally satisfied with the article, I want you to know that I strongly requested that the article focus on the River and the Conservancy, rather than on the Executive Officer. I also asked and emphasized that the article acknowledge (in a big way), the contributions of Assemblymember Kehoe and Senator Alpert; Mayor Murphy, Councilmember Frye, Michael Beck, and Rob Hutsel; the Governing Board Members; the San Diego River Park Foundation; and the San Diego River Coalition and its many dedicated members that have been working hard to protect the River for the past 3.5 years. It is my hope that future articles will present this information.

Press releases will serve as one very important mechanism to educate the public about the Conservancy and its efforts. Public awareness and support will be absolutely essential to the success of the SDRC's mission. The article was apparently widely read as the phone has been ringing ever since its publication.

1 Note: This "Executive Officer Report" (EO report), which covers topics not in the Agenda is to be distinguished from "Executive Officer Summary Reports" (EOSRs), one of which is provided for each item in the Agenda. EOSRs are provided in your Agenda Briefing Packet. The EO report will generally be included in your Supplemental Agenda Briefing Packet (as well as any EOSR or Supplemental EOSR

not previously transmitted).