

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
**August 12, 2005**

ITEM: **18**

SUBJECT: **STATUS OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROPOSITION  
40 RIVER PARKWAYS PROJECTS**

Attached is a status report on the three projects previously authorized by the San Diego River Conservancy Governing Board for Proposition 40 River Parkways funding. The Board may take an action. (*Deborah Jayne*)

PURPOSE: Information item. This item is included to inform the Board about the status of the previously approved Proposition 40 River Parkways expenditures and to provide an opportunity for Board discussion and further direction.

DISCUSSION: Although approved by this Governing Board for Proposition 40 River Parkways funding almost a year ago, complete applications for Prop 40 funding have not yet been received by the Resources Agency for any of the three approved projects. Consequently, no funds have been expended to date.

For the sake of efficiency, you may recall that I recommended, and you concurred, that the City of San Diego and the San Diego River Park Foundation apply directly to the Resources Agency for Prop 40 funding for their respective projects. The alternative was for the Conservancy to apply for and receive River Parkways grant funds and then “re-grant” these funds to the City and Foundation for project implementation.

Under the approach we selected, the City and Foundation were to apply for and receive direct funding. The Conservancy’s role would be to (1) review each project for consistency with the Conservancy’s enabling statute, mission, and numerous San Diego River planning documents (in various stages of development); (2) evaluate the relative merit and priority of each project; (3) approve and recommend each project to the Resources Agency for Prop 40 funding; (4) facilitate the grant application and award process as needed; and (5) facilitate

project implementation. To date the Conservancy has completed numbers 1 through 3. The Conservancy has also, on numerous occasions, offered to assist the City and Foundation in any way possible in order to facilitate and expedite the grant application process. As described below, the City and the Foundation have made significant progress on their project grant applications, but have not yet completed them.

**Background**

In late 2002, former Governor Davis signed the fiscal year 2002-2003 budget bill which appropriated \$12 million in bond funds for the protection and restoration of the San Diego River.

This Executive Officer Summary Report is intended to provide the Board with an update of the application for, and expenditure of, those funds to date.

Total Appropriation for San Diego River	\$12 million
Lakeside Conservancy CalMat Acquisition	(\$4.2 million)
Remaining Appropriation (in April 2004)	\$7.8 million

In September 2004, this Governing Board voted to formally endorse and recommend expenditure of Proposition 40 River Parkways funds for the following three projects:

1) Eagle Peak Acquisition	(\$ 200,000)
2) Construction of Bicycle Pathway	(\$ 2 million)
3) Restoration of Mission Valley Preserve	(\$ 500,000)
Total Cost of Three Proposed Projects	\$2.7 million

Current Balance of Appropriation	\$7.8 million
Approved Projects	(2.7 million)
<b><i>Remaining Appropriation</i></b>	<b><i>\$5.1 million</i></b>
<b><i>(assumes implementation of three approved projects)</i></b>	

The Conservancy is partnering with the San Diego River Park Foundation on the first project and with the City of San Diego on the other two projects. To date, no funds have been expended on these projects.

**Current Status of Grant Applications**

*Eagle Peak Acquisition:* The San Diego River Park Foundation is in the final stages of completing its grant application to Resources Agency. Mr. Hutsel has agreed to let me review the application after Foundation Board Members have reviewed it.

*City Projects:* The City of San Diego has submitted preliminary applications for each of its two projects. The Resources Agency responded with a list of additional detailed information which it requires to process the applications. The City has committed to providing the requested information to the Resources Agency in the month of August.

I will keep in contact with the City, the Foundation, and the grants staff of the Resources Agency. I will keep you apprised of progress and continue to look for ways to facilitate the process.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:

1. San Diego River Conservancy, Adopted Minutes from the September 4, 2004 Governing Board Meeting. (**See Item 13, Page 4**).
2. Support Letter from Deborah Jayne to Rob Hutsel (San Diego River Park Foundation) dated October 25, 2004 regarding Eagle Peak Preserve acquisition.

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the Executive Officer's Report.