

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,

January 17, 2008
9:30 am – 11:30 am

Meeting Location

San Diego City Hall 202 "C" Street
Conference Room B, 12th Floor
San Diego, California 92101

Tele-Conference Location: 1416 Ninth Street
Resources Agency Conference Room 1305 Sacramento, CA 95814
(866) 673-2851 / Pass code 3486949

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. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may

take action regarding any of them:

2008 Meeting Calendar

Thursday, January 17, 2008	(9:30 a.m.– 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, March 20, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, May 15, 2008	(1:00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.)
Thursday, July 17, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, September 18, 2008	(1:00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.)
Friday, November 21, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Status Report / Handout

Project Updates

- Bike Path
- Mission Valley Preserve
- SDSU & SDRC Inter Agency Agreement

6. Deputy Attorney Generals Report
7. City of San Diego (Project Management – Inter Agency Coordination)
8. 2008 Work Planning Session
9. Adjournment

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11:00 Groundbreaking Ceremony – Ocean Beach Bike Path Extension

**Location: Sefton River Park, West End Hotel Circle Place
2445 Hotel Cir Pl, San Diego, CA 92108-2813**

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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 January 17, 2008

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of January 17, 2008

ITEM: **2**

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board will consider adoption of the November 9, 2007 public meeting minutes.

PURPOSE: The minutes of the November 9, 2007 Board Meeting are attached for your review.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes

SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY (SDRC)

Minutes of November 9, 2007 Public Meeting

(Draft Minutes for Approval January 17, 2008)

Chairperson Donna Frye called the November 9, 2007 meeting of the San Diego River Conservancy to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present:

Donna Frye, Chair	Council Member, City of San Diego
Karen Scarborough	Resources Agency
Anne Sheehan	Department of Finance
Toni Atkins	Council Member, Public at Large
John Donnelly	Wildlife Conservation Board
Jim Peugh	Public at Large
Anne Haddad	Public at Large
David King	San Diego Regional Water Quality Board
Andrew Poat	Public at Large

Staff Members Present:

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

Absent:

Jerry Sanders	Mayor, City of San Diego
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2. Approval of Minutes

Toni Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2007 public meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Peugh and adopted unanimously.

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 thanked everyone that attended the San Diego River Park Foundation anniversary celebration and noted that over 500 were in attendance. He mentioned that the River Coalition, at its November meeting, will be considering their annual work plan. He also stated that the recent fires burned about 20 miles of the river. The National Forest continues to be closed and the Eagle Peak Preserve once again was burned.

4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report

John Donnelly made a suggestion regarding the agenda format for future meetings. He observed that the "action items" are typically the last items on the agenda. He suggested that members of the public may not wish to sit through all of the items on the agenda; they may only be interested in a single item. Consequently, it might be to the Board's advantage to consider those items, for which the Board is being requested to make a decision, be moved to the beginning of the agenda instead of the end.

Chairperson Frye agreed with John Donnelly's suggestion and said she would move "action items" to the beginning of the agenda.

6. Deputy Attorney General's Report (No report)

7. City of San Diego – Project Review – Inter Agency Coordination (Brent Eidson)

Mike Nelson stated that he has spoken to Brent after posting the agenda and was advised that fire recovery was the overwhelming priority of every agency of the City of San Diego and requested that the City's presentation to SDRC be deferred until the Conservancy's next agenda.

9. San Diego River Gorge Trail – Phase Two

The Board will consider approval of a revised Resolution 06-14 to that would assign SDRC as lead agency for Phase Two of the River Gorge Trail improvement project and replace the Ramona Trails Association.

Mike Nelson stated that the Ramona Trails Association preferred to be an active partner for the project rather than assume the lead agency role and manage the Proposition 40 funding. He proposed that the SDRC assume the role of lead agency for the project and that Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project be merged into a single project. He informed the Board that Anne Van Leer had been successful in locating a volunteer to handle CEQA compliance.

Ann Van Leer gave a PowerPoint presentation on the San Diego River Gorge project. She located the trail within Cleveland National Forest just north of the El Capitan Reservoir near Ramona. On the west side is San Diego Country Estates in Ramona, where the trailhead is located. Five miles across the gorge is where the other trailhead is located. This picturesque area is one of the primary reasons people visit Cedar Creek Falls which is between the two points. The falls are not on Forest Service land, but land owned by the Helix Water District. Since this trail is so heavily used, the Forest Service has made its improvement a priority. The Board has approved Phase 1, which was for trail improvements. Separately, the board approved a support resolution for the Ramona Trails Association for trailhead improvements. What we are asking today is in effect to revise the Ramona Trails resolution so that SDRC can assume responsibility as lead agency for the project. She stated that this change enjoyed the support of the Ramona Trails Association. They will continue to provide in-kind services for the project, but they will not have to be concerned with the paperwork associated with a Prop 40 application. The project will pay for the improvement of the existing trailhead, a kiosk, parking, water, a turnaround, picnic table and bathroom.

Hayley Peterson added that originally this project was broken up into two phases even though they are a part of a larger project. Phase Two was outside the San Diego River area and outside of this Board's jurisdiction. One of the issues for discussion is whether these both phases are essentially part of a larger project which is within SDRC's jurisdiction. It would be a policy determination whether the Board wants to exert jurisdiction over the entire project and could make findings that it furthered the goals of the River Act and confirm staff's recommendation that those findings be made.

Andrew Poat asked Hayley for clarification regarding SDRC's jurisdiction.

Hayley Peterson replied that the jurisdiction of SDRC is a half mile on either side of the river bed until SB 419 broadens it when it takes effect in 2008. The trailhead improvements are outside the half mile zone. The trail itself is partly outside the zone and partly inside the zone. As a result, a decision for the Board to make is whether the trailhead improvements are a component of the larger trail project, and, if so, does that then tie it together and make it appropriate for the Board to exercise its jurisdiction over the entire trail including the trailhead improvements.

Andrew Poat asked if we had an operating budget for this project.

Mike Nelson replied that there was not a separate operating budget for the project.

Andrew Poat asked what does this mean, referring to Resolution 6-14's stating, "Certifies that applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project."

Mike Nelson stated that while we may not specifically have an operating budget for this project, there is an agreement between SDRC, the Forest Service and the Ramona Trails Association that ensures that the project will be operated and maintained.

Ann Van Leer explained that this agreement was a difficult one for the Forest Service, but they were able work out an agreement with the Resources Agency to satisfy this concern. Proposition 40 has very specific requirements for maintenance. The Resources Agency is comfortable with the Agreement. The Forest Service is in effect saying that they will be responsible for operation of this trail because it is on their property.

Andrew Poat asked if our Counsel is comfortable with the Agreement.

Hayley Peterson answered that she could see no reason not to be, but would defer to the Resources Agency.

Andrew Poat asked who we have to thank for the in-kind services.

Ann Van Leer stated that the in-kind service will be provided by the Ramona Trails Association and the US Forest Service. Also, she said there is a CEQA specialist, Troy Murphe, who is doing the CEQA for both projects at no cost. She works for a water district and does CEQA as part of her profession. She lives in the watershed and wanted to help out.

Karen Scarborough said that the grants division at the Resources Agency has very strict guidelines and undertake a rigorous review of what is satisfactory. So, she had full confidence that it was acceptable to the Resources Agency. She also stated that she was confidence in the process and the due diligence that was performed with the Forest Service. She also wanted to make sure that it was proper for her to vote on the item, since the action was not an application or request for funding, but the receipt of funding.

Hayley Peterson stated it is legally proper for Karen to vote on this item

Karen Scarborough asked would this trail head become within our jurisdiction and purview on January 1, 2008.

Hayley Peterson stated that she will defer to the actual location to Ann Van Leer and the Executive

Officer, but the expanded jurisdiction does talk about the tributaries. It was her understanding that action was consistent with the expanded jurisdiction of the legislation that takes effect January 1st.

Mike Nelson said that the new law specifically references the Board ability, on a case by case bases can authorize the Conservancy to pursue projects along the river's tributaries.

Karen Scarborough stated that it seem to me that it is consistent with our project purposes.

Jim Peugh asked if the board should wait until after January 1st to vote on this.

Chairperson Frye stated that Hayley had addressed that issue. Specifically, that the Board is required to make certain findings such as to whether the project is outside of SDRC's jurisdiction, whether the project furthers the goals of the San Diego River Conservancy, and is consistent with the enabling statue of the Conservancy.

Chairperson Frye stated that part of the motion should include that this project does meet the findings that are needed in order to make sure that this project is consistent with the enabling statue.

Ann Miller Haddad moved for the approval of revising Resolution 06-14 authorizing the Executive Officer, working closely with the Forest Service, to submit an application to the Resources Agency for *Phase Two* of the River Gorge Trail Improvement Project, replacing the application of the Ramona Trails Association. Toni Atkins seconded the motion. The Board voted 7-0-0 to approve the motion.

10. San Diego River Trail – Riverford Road Trail Project

The Board will consider affirming and authorizing submittal of a Proposition 50 grant and Resolution (07-10) to implement improvements to .95 miles of the San Diego River Trail. The project includes construction of a trail and a trail crossing under the Riverford Road Bridge in the community of Lakeside.

Mike Nelson stated that at the last Board meeting, he was authorized to submit a Prop 50 grant application for the Mission Valley Greenway in cooperation with the City of San Diego, the San Diego River Coalition and the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition. Unfortunately, the Conservancy was not able to pull a grant application together for this project, though it remains a high priority for the next funding opportunity that should emerge. Moreover, the project might be a candidate for an allocation of some of the Proposition 84 funds that the Conservancy was allocated in the 07/08 Budget

However, Robin Rierdan, the Executive Director of the Lakeside River Park Conservancy(LPC), approached SDRC and said that her organization could partner with SDRC and submit and Proposition 50 grant application to complete approximately one mile of the San Diego River Trail. A trail segment that would connect LPC's the CALMAT acquisition to a park the County of San Diego is developing on the River. Most importantly LPC could meet the October 19th deadline for Prop 50 applications. Though there was not an opportunity to come to the Board prior to the deadline, the guidelines for Proposition 40 grant applications provide that applicants may submit Board Resolutions after the deadline. I consulted with the Chair, who encouraged me to go forward with the submittal. Today, I am formally asking you to approve a Resolution, following a presentation by the LPC.

Robin Rierdan gave a presentation of the Riverford Road Trail and explained that the Prop 50 grant will take a trail that is essentially in place and polish it , complete CEQA, and add the finishing touches to make it a bona fide public trail. She added that there are two parts to the trail. One is a rough graded section that is already established and one is a haul road that takes it to the San Diego River under the Riverford Road. It is a \$700,000 request for .95 miles that begins just east of the Palm Row right of

way and takes it to San Diego Lakeside Ballpark. The timeline for the project is two years which will mostly be devoted to the completion of CEQA requirement.

Jim Peugh asked how much of the trail will flood.

Robin Rierdan stated that a very small section, maybe a 1000 feet.

Jim Peugh will it be designed so that it will survive floods without needing a lot of maintenance.

Robin Rierdan stated that was their goal. It will also be gated to keep people out during a flood.

Andrew Poat asked where the funds are going to come from for operations.

Robin Rierdan stated that this project is part of the San Diego County's Trails Master Plan and once an easement is dedicated to the County, the responsibility for maintenance would pass to them. LPC will also assist with the maintenance responsibility. Presently, LPC supervises a park patrol and a nursery group that works on trails on a daily basis.

Andrew Poat asked who decided the project required the payment of prevailing wage.

Robin Rierdan said that it was a requirement stated in the Proposition 50 grant guidelines.

Chairperson Frye stated that there are certain requirements for local projects when they are funded with state dollars and considered as a project of statewide concern. Because this is a state grant, she would assume that it would meet the standard of statewide significance.

Ann Van Leer added that the obligation exists once there is a contract for construction of the project. The prevailing wage standard would apply to all construction contracts.

Rob Hutsel wanted to give support on the project. He stated that this was part of the annual San Diego River Coalition's Work Plan.

Jim Peugh moved for the approval of Resolution 07-10 authorizing the Conservancy in partnership with the Lakeside River Park Conservancy to apply for Prop 50 funds for the development of the Riverford Trail Project. Toni Atkins seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0-1 to approve the motion. (Karen Scarborough abstained)

8. SDRC Invasive Non-Native Plant Control and Revegetation Program for the San Diego River

Ann Van Leer introduced Jason Giessow, President of Dendra, Inc and the newest member of the San Diego River Conservancy's team. She gave an overview of SDRC's Invasive Non Native Plant Control program. She stated that the SDRC enabling statute encouraged the Conservancy to protect wildlife habitat and provide for habitat restoration which is reflected in the SDRC Strategic Plan(Program 3, Project 1), to remove invasive non-native plants and restore and manage the land.

Control of non-native species, restoration of the land, and the preservation and enhancement of native species are intertwined and cannot be isolated, which makes this task difficult. Another aspect that causes difficulty is that many trail systems and projects that meet other SDRC objectives can conflict with each other. Trails systems in particular can harm native species including the least Bell Vireo. Another difficulty is the scale of the project. The 52 mile river corridor makes the project big, complex,

and expensive. One of the biggest challenges we must confront involves the corridor's multiple public and private partners and property owners. A Proposition 40 grant requires long term maintenance commitments and a property owner to allow the Conservancy or other entities to control invasive non-native plants on their properties. Also, they must agree to a long term maintenance agreement, which in can be as long as 25 years.

As an example, the City of San Diego owns about seven large properties that are infested with invasive plants. We need the City of San Diego and all of the property owners that own these target properties to agree to allow us go in and control the invasive non-native plants located on their property, but also agree to a long-term maintenance commitments.

We are proposing that the Conservancy lead a river-wide program to control invasive non-native species and restore the land with a special focus on enhancing habitat for the least Bell's vireo, our *canary* in the river. We will use the vireo to measure our progress; if the number of vireos increases as a result of this and other programs of the Conservancy, we will know our efforts have been successful.

Fortunately, we do not have to do this alone. The Department of Fish and Game, the San Diego River Park Foundation and the Lakeside Conservancy have managed successful restoration projects and are working with SDRC.

The Board has previously discussed setting aside \$1.3 million dollars of Prop 40 funding for the control of non native invasive plants, as well as submitting a funding request to the Wetlands Recovery Project for control of invasive non-native species. These two requests, combined with a more recent request to the San Diego River Fund for monies to secure permits and conduct a Least Bell's Vireo recovery program, will advance a comprehensive program to protect and enhance the vireo in the river.

Mike Nelson added that while the Board had approved the use of the Conservancy's set aside of Prop 40 funds for the removal of Invasive non-natives along the river, when we recognized the magnitude of the problem and realized that \$1.3 million was insufficient. So, that is why SDRC submitted the program to the Coastal Conservancy's Wetlands Recovery Project requesting inclusion in their Work Plan.

Jason Giessow gave a presentation on the Invasive Non-Native Plant Control and Revegetation Program for the San Diego River watershed, stating that he does every aspect of Invasive Plant control programs including mapping, grant writing, permits, etc.

Andrew Poat asked what will be the effect if this program cannot use the top down approach.

Jason Giessow stated that it is optimal to do the top down approach, but Arundo does not move that quickly. It takes a major flood event to move it around. If there is a flooding you will suddenly have new Arundo stands, which will increase maintenance cost. He suggested that if we can quickly build a program, we may be able to hit the hot spots throughout the whole watershed in 5-10 years, which would minimize the impact of not moving from the top, down.

The main reason why we are not doing top down is that we must deal with the constraints placed on the use of Prop. 40 funds. Nonetheless, the funds represent a real opportunity to do a significant amount of work. He recommended that we proceed and focus on public land that can deal with funding constraints. SDRC should work towards a top down progression and go after Wildlife Conservation Board, Wetlands Recovery Project, and Urban Stream Restoration funds and move to the tributaries later.

Jim Peugh asked how the 25-year long-term maintenance would be funded.

Jason Giessow: It is a kind of a mixed bag approach. One of the critical aspects of the program that Ann Van Leer will be working on is getting the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, and other agencies to accept the responsibility for maintenance. If we can get it to a point where we have 98% of it is controlled, the maintenance cost will be reduced. If you did have Arundo coming on a site after a flood, as long as the maintenance is being done regularly or after a major event, the maintenance cost will not be that great. We have identified the San Diego River Fund as a fund that conceivably could provide up to \$50,000 annually.

Jim Peugh asked whether there will be any fire money might be available for the program.

Jason Giessow: It should be available and applied to Arundo. The program that I manage on the San Luis Rey River has been very successful in getting funds. The only project that we did not get funding for was a fuel load reduction project. It should definitely be looked at if funding becomes available for fuel load reduction through some kind of state or federal program.

Jim Peugh asked what the overall cost was. He stated that he heard astronomical numbers for the Santa Ana River.

Jason Giessow: Santa Ana has about 8000-9000 acres of Arundo. For the 140 acres of the San Diego River, the cost is expensive, which is why you need the budget that Mike Nelson mentioned. There is potentially a \$ 5 million funding gap. So, you should look at a program that will utilize the \$1.3 million of Proposition 40 fund and add the \$5 million that has been requested. This includes everything; pampas grass, tamarisk, Arundo and the palms. That is the way the Wetlands Recovery Project prefers to see the program.

Mike Nelson: Rob Hutsel brought to my attention that the Department of Fish and Game has this large piece of property on the river next to the stadium. Ann and I met with Tim Dillingham and the people at Fish and Game they were excited to work with us to develop a project for this parcel.

Jason Giessow: That example illustrates that in many watersheds, organizations want the work to occur; they just don't have staff time to deal with the permitting.

Mike Nelson: I am glad we have two City Council members here today. Our presentation shows that there are some real hot spots on City owned property. We need the support of City officials. We would like to include these properties since we are targeting Prop 40 funds for public property, where the infestation is greatest. Any assistance you might offer would be greatly appreciated. Ann and I made a presentation to Brent Eidson and asked that the City of San Diego consider trying to work with us to spend the Prop 40 funds on City owned property.

Chairperson Frye: suggested that one of the things we can do is having the Executive Officer appear before the Natural Resources and Culture Committee. She encouraged Mike Nelson to work with to schedule it. Additionally she encourages staff to look at brush thinning funds that are available to the Park and Recreation Department, as well as through the Fire Department. It has been severely under funded in the past and continues to be under funded. But, she believed there might be some new found interest based on the issues like fuel loads.

Jason Giessow: observed that 90% of the people that made presentations to the City Council in Oceanside were Fire Department heads and that was their big concern. . Arundo stands are a huge fire risk. The riparian areas are really supposed to block fires; when they have Arundo they convey fires.

Chairperson Frye: said she would like to bring forward a balanced approach so that the non-native removal is not just looked at in a singular way.

Ann Miller Haddad: asked, that we had mentioned that there were private property owners and that they needed to be approached. Is there a concern that they wouldn't be interested in participating or is it just a matter of reaching out and educating them?

Rob Hutsel: I think this is a great example where synergy between the Coalition and the Conservancy can happen and hopefully we will be included in this process. We have actually had conversations with all of the property owners along the river at some point or another. In Mission Valley, as part of our Bureau of Reclamation process, we had to get authorization to go onto their property. So, we do have those relationships in place.

Mike Nelson: This presentation is a good indication where the Board's earlier approval of Prop 40 funds took us. Though there is no Resolution before the Board today, I want to make certain that you don't have a problem with me entering into whatever agreements are necessary, specifically with Fish and Game and/or the City of San Diego, to move the project forward. As an example, the Department of Fish and Game will be entering into an interagency agreement with SDRC that sets forth how we will conduct this operation. I would like to execute that agreement. It has been my interpretation of previous authorizations and resolutions that you have given me that authority, but since we are about to commence this program, I would like to some assurance that you are comfortable with SDRC entering into these agreements.

David King: Regarding the nesting season of the vireo and the removal of the Arundo, does that create timing issues? As we expand the program, we need to make sure that we keep focused on the primacy of the habitat.

Jason Giessow: The main methodology we use and what will be in our permits is the principal avoidance technique, which is not being there when the birds are there. We do all our work between September 15th and March 15th and we maintain a close working relationship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Fish and Game.

Karen Scarborough: What exactly do we need to take as far as an action to allow the Executive Officer to take advantage of project and funding opportunities? I am not exactly sure. There is not a dollar value that is associated with many of these agreements; more of an understanding between these agencies.

Mike Nelson: said that Karen was correct, that the Conservancy will undoubtedly enter into inter agency agreements which contemplate financial participation, as well as staff support. As an example, we have applied directly for the San Diego River Funds to hire Barbara Kus to do work. It not just the ability to enter into these arrangements, but it is also to pursue funding.

Karen Scarborough: It seems consistent with my understanding of where we need to go and the pace, at which we need to go, that there would be some sort of extension of authority for you to explore funding.

Chairperson Frye: stated there was no opposition and in fact strong encouragement for the Executive Officer go forth and pursue funding for this project.

John Donnelly: Encouraged Mike to work with Scott Clemens, Riparian Habitat Conservation Program Manager of the Wildlife Conservation Board on this project.

5. Executive Officer's Report

Mike Nelson introduced Bill Hanlon, as representative and property owner of the Walker Property in Santee. He remarked that Bill was one of the first individuals he met with regarding land conservation. SDRC approached him regarding his families' ownership of approximately 125 acres and two miles of riparian corridor in Santee. He stated that they would be meeting with an appraiser this afternoon.

Bill Hanlon stated that his family has owned the property since 1926. The property connects with the baseball field in Lakeside that was mention during the discussion of the Riverford Road Trail project.

2008 Meeting Calendar

Mike Nelson: stated the need to establish a meeting schedule for 2008 and that he had included two schedules for their consideration. The first was for second Fridays on alternating months, since historically SDRC had met on those dates. The second was a schedule that placed the days and months of SDRC's 2007 schedule on a 2008 calendar. He asked the Board to submit comments and calendars to him.

Chairperson Frye: If we could, it would be helpful we could get that to Mike by the end of next week.

Mike Nelson: mention that he had touched base with Supervisor Jacob's office and learned that second Friday's conflicted with the SANDAG schedule.

Karen Scarborough: Given that SANDAG meetings will be an ongoing challenge and conflict that the Board should address. If we have currently have a conflict for one or two board members and potentially one in the future, she was comfortable taking a look at the third Friday to avoid and accommodate SANDAGs Schedule.

Andrew Poat: acknowledged that he had a conflict on third Fridays.

Chairperson Frye: said the other question she had regarding Friday meeting dates was how long SANDAG meetings are

Toni Atkins: It depends on if it is a Board meeting or a business meeting. For instance, this morning their meeting started at 10 am until 12 pm, but some of their meetings start at 9 am.

Chairperson Frye: But they don't have afternoon meetings?

Toni Atkins: No.

Karen Scarborough: But for those of us that travel, Friday afternoon would be a challenge. Thursdays are an option.

Chairperson Frye: Thursdays might be a good option. Maybe, you could send us what a Thursday schedule would look like.

Karen Scarborough: Maybe if we all give Mike our general availability, we might see if second or third Thursdays also work for us.

Chairperson Frye: That would be helpful. We know the challenges that people face and we would like to make it easier for the people flying in from Sacramento.

John Donnelly: I will send my calendar to Mike. As far as Thursday go, the San Joaquin River Conservancy meet on the second Thursday of every month, so I might have to do the third Thursday.

Senate Bill (Kehoe) No.419

Mike Nelson: said the Governor did sign Senator Bill 419 which expands the jurisdiction of this Conservancy, its membership and adds a new historical focus to the enabling statute. I think we owe a great deal of gratitude to Senator Kehoe for introducing the legislation, which was coauthored by Assembly member Saldana.

Chairperson Frye: asked when does the bill take effect?

Mike Nelson: The bill takes effect January 1st, 2008. Our new members will be invited to our next meeting and will include Supervisor Jacob and the director of State Parks and Recreation, Ruth Coleman.

Karen Scarborough: made a general comment on the membership. She felt that it was important to maintain the City's strength on the Conservancy's board. I had intended to come express some accolades for Mayor Sanders and the City of San Diego for the handling of the wildfires. I am regret that he is not able to be here. Continually regretful that he is not able to attend, but understand that in the legislation it's written so that the Mayor and not his or her designee can attend...

Chairperson Frye: said that maybe we should consider amending the SDRC legislation.

Karen Scarborough: said she would like to explore it. She added that she was aware know there has been some investigation on the possibility of that. If there are any bases upon which this board can make an action given the modification of the form of government of this City of San Diego. I am looking to see if there is a window there that the vote to move to a strong mayor modified the mayor's job description if we could as a board, go there.

Chairperson Frye: We can work on that.

Hayley Peterson: I will look into the issue before the next meeting and provide the Executive Officer an answer or some alternatives that may be able to meet the goals.

2007 Work Plan

Mike Nelson gave a status report on the following SDRC's projects

- Bike Path
Contractor has been selected and within bid and is in possession of contract documents.

- *Eagle Peak*

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Rob Hutsel: The first acquisition that the SDRC funded is complete. We have received a donation of 204 acres adjacent to that property in a trust valued at \$ 800,000. We are in escrow on the second

acquisition SDRC helped fund. The County of San Diego must have two hearings on a \$120, 000 contributions they intend to make to this acquisition. We are optimistic we can this transaction the end of January.

- *Mission Valley Preserve*
Invasive removal should begin in January with renegotiation in spring of 2008
- *Land Conservation Opportunity*
Appraisal discussion initiated with Hanlon family.

Ann Miller Haddad: Weren't we planning to do a mini retreat or tag onto our next meeting a work plan?

Mike Nelson: answered, yes, but stated that he would like include our two new members for this work planning exercise. He continued that his understanding was that there was going to be at least two events. One was we were going to address our partners and meeting them, but we were going to have a separate session to develop our work plan. He asked if the Board wished to have our retreat as part of a regular Board meeting...

Chairperson Frye: Yes, it is difficult to coordinate everyone's schedule. Maybe March would be a good time to schedule it.

Andrew Poat: inquired about the status of SDRC 08-09 Budget.

Karen Scarborough: Andrew's point is pertinent because we are about to close the window on BCP's

Chairperson Frye: So maybe we should authorize the Executive Officer to do whatever is needed to get the budget increased.

Mike Nelson: I have submitted a BCP to the Resources Agency that basically argues that the increase that was envisioned in 07-08 ought to be considered in 08-09, but I read the paper and note that the governor has to back.

Andrew Poat: Is that operating cost or capital cost?

Mike Nelson: That is operating.

Andrew Poat: I am interested in both. Staff is important and I want to resolve that, but the whole capital stretch here is very important.

Chairperson Frye: So Mike can work with Resources and move forward with whatever need to be done. I think Mike knows where this Board is and that you certainly have the authority to move forward on what you need to do. It would be wonderful to actually have it in the Governor's budget.

Andrew Poat: Do we have a San Diegan on all the key boards that allocate funding that we care about?

Karen Scarborough: No.

Andrew Poat: Well we need to get someone on those boards so they can start making sure that San Diego projects are priorities.

Mike Nelson: Do you want to work with me on that?

Andrew Poat: Sure, if you can just get me a list of the granting agency, the money funding agencies, that we rely upon and the next question will be is there a San Diegan on that commission and if there isn't then we need to find someone.

Chairperson Frye: So, Mike will get you the list of granting agencies, are you going to then follow through of the list.

Andrew Poat: I will be glad to call the Governor's office and work with them.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25.

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 January 17, 2008

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 January 17, 2008

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 January 17, 2008

ITEM: **5**

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:

2008 Meeting Calendar

Thursday, January 17, 2008	(9:30 a.m.– 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, March 20, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, May 15, 2008	(1:00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.)
Thursday, July 17, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
Thursday, September 18, 2008	(1:00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.)
Friday, November 21, 2008	(9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Status Report / Handout

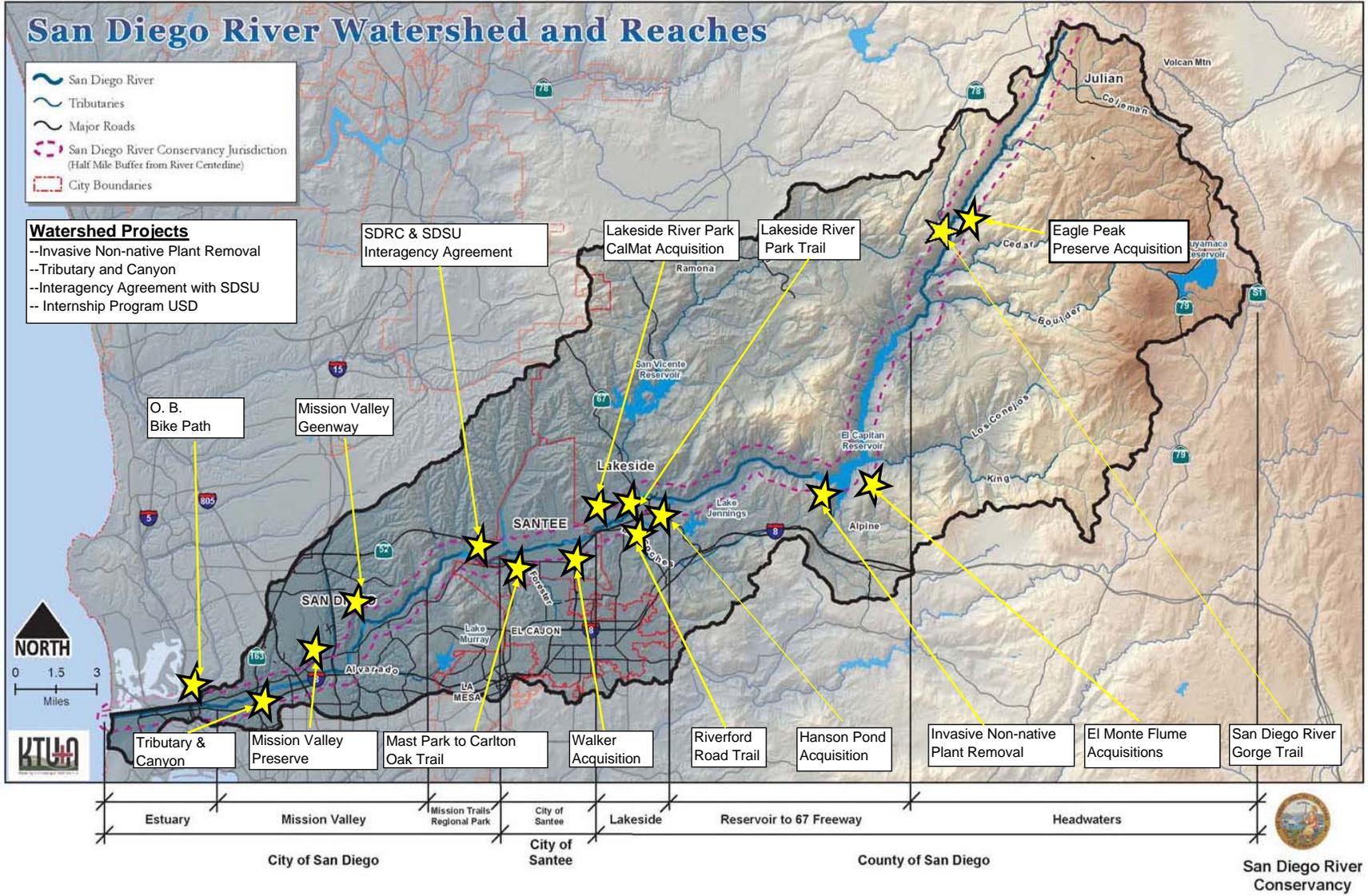
Project Updates

- Bike Path
- Mission Valley Preserve
- SDSU & SDRC Inter Agency Agreement

San Diego River Watershed and Reaches

-  San Diego River
-  Tributaries
-  Major Roads
-  San Diego River Conservancy Jurisdiction (Half Mile Buffer from River Centerline)
-  City Boundaries

- Watershed Projects**
- Invasive Non-native Plant Removal
 - Tributary and Canyon
 - Interagency Agreement with SDSU
 - Internship Program USD



- SDRC & SDSU Interagency Agreement
- Lakeside River Park CalMat Acquisition
- Lakeside River Park Trail
- Eagle Peak Preserve Acquisition
- O. B. Bike Path
- Mission Valley Geenway
- Mission Valley Preserve
- Mast Park to Carlton Oak Trail
- Walker Acquisition
- Riverford Road Trail
- Hanson Pond Acquisition
- Invasive Non-native Plant Removal
- El Monte Flume Acquisitions
- San Diego River Gorge Trail

Estuary Mission Valley Mission Trails Regional Park City of Santee Lakeside Reservoir to 67 Freeway Headwaters

City of San Diego City of Santee County of San Diego



San Diego River Conservancy



Coastal Conservancy

December 15, 2007

Michael Nelson
San Diego River Conservancy
1350 Front Street, Suite 3024
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Wetland Recovery Project Work Plan Proposal

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for submitting your proposals to the Wetland Recovery Project (WRP) Work Plan for the San Diego River Land Conservation Program and the San Diego Watershed Riparian Restoration Program. Proposals were reviewed by the WRP Managers Group and the County Task Forces and the 2008-2009 Work Plan was adopted by the Board of Governors on November 29, 2007. The WRP received 39 proposals and added 26 of them to the Work Plan.

Both of these projects have been added to the Work Plan and prioritized as a Tier 1 projects. More information about the three categories within the Work Plan is available at www.scwrp.org under the Work Plan tab under Projects & Planning.

Please remember, this does not mean that your projects have been awarded a grant. The Work Plan is a list of priority projects in the region. Both the Coastal Conservancy and the Wildlife Conservation Board use the Work Plan to identify eligible projects to receive grant funding, however being on the Work Plan does not guarantee your project funding, now or in the future. We appreciate your time and effort preparing these proposals and look forward to working with you on this important project.

Please contact me by email (msmall@scc.ca.gov) if you have additional questions about the WRP Work Plan or the project evaluation and selection process.

Sincerely,

Mary Small
South Coast Program Manager

1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2530
510-286-1015 Fax: 510-286-0470



State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
Meeting of January 17, 2008

ITEM: **6**

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

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
Meeting of January 17, 2008

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **City of San Diego (Project Management—Inter
Agency Coordination)**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
Meeting of January 17, 2008

ITEM: **8**

SUBJECT: **2008 Work Planning Session**