

Notice of Public Meeting San Diego River Conservancy

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

March 28, 2024
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Meeting Locations

County of San Diego Administration Center 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302 San Diego, CA 92101	Natural Resources Agency HQ 715 P Street 20-103 (Serpentine Room) Sacramento, CA, 95814	Manzanita Reservation 6 Old Mine Road Boulevard, CA 91905
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Teleconference Line
877-411-9748, Code 3906093

For Questions Contact:
Wendell Taper at wendell.taper@sdrcc.ca.gov or (619) 390-0568

Meeting Agenda

The Board may take agenda items out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum, unless noted as time specific.

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes (*ACTION*)

Consider approval of minutes for the February 7, 2024 meeting.

3. Public Comment (*INFORMATIONAL*)

Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority and jurisdiction. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged. The Board is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the agenda; no adverse

conclusions should be drawn by the Board's not responding to such matters or public comments.

**4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report
(INFORMATIONAL/ACTION)**

5. Deputy Attorney General Report (INFORMATIONAL/ACTION)

6. Health and Safety Report (INFORMATIONAL)

7. San Diego County Parks – Lindo Lake West Basin (ACTION)

County Parks is requesting funding to improve Lindo Lake for recreation and to restore habitat in the west basin. County Parks is requesting funding for tree removal and relocation and to install native landscape. The proposed project would provide healthy habitat for multiple wildlife species along this migration corridor and also improve trail access and install fishing piers, bird watching stations, and site hardscapes. Conservancy staff recommends funding up to the amount of \$2,000,000 from the Budget Act of 2022.

Available for Q and A:

Emily Hubbard, Chief, CIP/Development Division North, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-10

8. Barona Band of Mission Indians Proposal to Remove Hazardous Trees on the Reservation (ACTION)

The Barona Group of Mission Indians is requesting funding to remove approximately 40 large mature eucalyptus trees, plant native willow trees and install one greenhouse for native plant propagation at the Barona Indian Charter School's native garden in partnership with the Barona Cultural Center and Museum. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$129,016 from the Budget Act of 2023.

Available for Q and A:

Laurie Egan Hedley, Museum Director, Barona Cultural Center and Museum

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-11

9. Campo Band of Mission Indians Proposal for Improvements to Ralph Goff Community Park (ACTION)

Campo Band of Mission Indians requests funding to install a new 2-unit prefabricated vault restroom with solar power, parking spaces, erosion control including site preparation, and one shade structure for the playground at Ralph Goff Community Park on the Campo Reservation. The restroom would provide two unisex toilets and would be constructed to provide accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, the Campo Reservation Fire Protection District has

committed to providing and maintaining potable water to the facility, as required, and providing vegetation, grounds maintenance and minor repairs as required throughout the facility's service life. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$950,000 from the Budget Act of 2022.

Available for Q and A:

Scott Timbs, Fire Chief, Campo Reservation

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-12

10.Santee Fire Department's Proposal for Wildfire Supplies, Equipment and Training (ACTION)

The Santee Fire Department is requesting funding to procure equipment for a fire engine, firefighter personal protective equipment, and delivery of wildland firefighting training for fire personnel from the Santee Fire Department. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$210,000 from the Budget Act of 2023.

Available for Q and A:

Justin Matsushita, Fire Chief, City of Santee

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-13

11.Fire Risk Reduction Through Vegetation Management in the San Diego River Watershed (ACTION)

Lakeside's River Park Conservancy seeks funding to carry out fuel reduction activities on approximately 150 acres of land in the Wildland Urban Interface area that runs along the San Diego River and its tributaries, including Los Coches Creek. These activities are aimed at preventing the outbreak of fires, which in turn will safeguard human life and property, and protect public lands. Additionally, these activities will also have a positive impact on local wildlife and their natural habitat. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$649,000 from the Budget Act of 2023.

Available for Q and A:

Julie Turko, Executive Director, Lakeside's River Park Conservancy

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-14

12.City of El Cajon's Proposal for Improvements for Broadway Creek - Phase B (ACTION)

El Cajon requests funding to implement Phase B of the Broadway Creek Restoration Project to restore the stream's functionality and address erosion in its 1,771 linear foot reach. The proposed Phase B will restore approximately 400 feet of earthen channel that runs through a County Flood Control easement between residential developments. The creek restoration process will remove non-native plant material, trash and debris, and rock gabions. The goal is to stabilize the creek's contours and prevent flooding and future erosion, mainly by installing an engineered solution. This stabilization will help increase the capacity of Broadway

Creek to handle storms and reduce the frequency of flooding beyond the creek. Conservancy staff recommends funding up to the amount of \$2,000,000 from the Budget Act of 2022.

Available for Q and A:

Olga Reyes, P.E., Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works, City of El Cajon
Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-15

13. San Diego Regional Fire Foundation 2024 Proposal for Fire Reduction and Suppression Activities in San Diego River Watershed (ACTION)

The San Diego Regional Fire Foundation in partnership with the Wynola Fire Safe Council and Santee Fire Department propose to purchase a fire apparatus and conduct fuel reduction activities. They request partial funding to procure a Type 3 Brush Fire Engine, which would be utilized by the Santee Fire Department for fire suppression activities. In partnership with the Wynola Estates Fire Safe Council, they would also reduce flammable fuels loads on approximately 40 acres in Julian that are surrounded by the Cleveland National Forest, open space and forested lands. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$650,000 from the Budget Act of 2023.

Available for Q and A:

Joan Jones, Executive Director, San Diego Regional Fire Foundation
Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-16

14. Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation's Proposal for East Elliott Land Acquisition (ACTION)

The Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation requests funds to acquire approximately 55 acres of land in the East Elliott area. This land will be conserved in perpetuity and will offer several benefits such as preserving the habitats and protecting the wildlife corridors, maintaining public access, and safeguarding the watershed. Additionally, acquiring this land will establish access to outdoor recreation, connections to the existing trails at Mission Trails Regional Park, the San Diego River Trail, and other nearby trail networks. Conservancy staff recommends funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 through the Budget Act 2022.

Available for Q and A:

Jennifer Morrissey, Executive Director, Mission Trails Park Foundation
Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-17

15. Fire Mitigation in Santee's Wildland Urban Interface Area (ACTION)

The City of Santee has applied for a grant through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to conduct fuel reduction activities across 415 acres of land and along 3.26 miles of the San Diego River and its tributaries (the Project). The total estimated cost of the Project is \$7,623,567. The City of Santee is requesting

funding in the amount of \$907,568 from the Conservancy for the Project. The primary objective of the Project is to reduce the amount of invasive non-native plants, dead and dying trees. The fuel reduction activities will help to decrease the likelihood of property damage, loss of life, and enhance firefighter safety and effectiveness during wildfires. The Conservancy staff has recommended partially funding this Project in the amount of \$907,568 from the Budget Acts of 2021 and 2023.

Available for Q and A:

Justin Matsushita, Fire Chief, City of Santee

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-18

16. San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation Proposal for Procurement of a Vehicle, Chipper, Trailer, Tools and Supplies, to Carry Out Fuel Reduction Activities (ACTION)

The San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation seeks funding to reduce fuel loads and maintain and create firebreaks to help safeguard and protect vulnerable, at-risk, and underserved communities in the San Diego River watershed. The Foundation will use the funding to procure one Pierce Mini Pumper (Ford F-550 vehicle), one tow behind chipper, one portable restroom trailer, and firefighting equipment, tools, and PPE. The San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation and the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department will partner to implement fuel reduction activities in the City of San Diego within the San Diego River watershed. The Conservancy staff recommends funding up to \$622,000 from the Budget Acts of 2021 and 2023.

Presentation:

Wendy Robinson, Executive Director, San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation

Anthony Tosca, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshall, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

Recommendation: Approval of Resolution 24-19

17. Executive Officer's Report (INFORMATIONAL/ ACTION)

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

Conservancy staff attended the follow events:

Biodiversity Summit (San Diego Natural History Museum)

Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team Steering Committee Meeting

All State Conservancy 2024 Spring Meeting

California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force Meeting

Fire Safe Council of San Diego County

San Diego Canyonlands Advisory Committee

San Diego Biodiversity Summit (San Diego Natural History Museum/SANDAG)

County Parks Trans County Trail Meeting
SDSU Mission Valley Park event
San Diego Fire-Rescue demonstration

18. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is anticipated to be held in person on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, from 10:00 am to noon.

19. Adjournment

Accessibility

If you require a disability related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Wendell Taper at 619-390-0568 or Wendell.Taper@sdrca.gov