



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023

## City of San Diego Begins Planning Work on Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park COMMUNITY MEMBERS INVITED TO JOIN AND PROVIDE INPUT

DURING WATERSHED WALKS ON SATURDAY

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego is asking community members to join them on a walk along Chollas Creek on Saturday, Sept. 23, as they seek input on the new <u>Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park</u> <u>Master Plan</u>. The Master Plan will guide the policies and goals of the future regional park.

The Chollas Creek Watershed is a network of water channels, parks and surrounding open space that stretches across the neighborhoods of City Heights, Kensington-Talmadge, <u>Eastern Area</u>, Encanto, <u>Southeastern San Diego</u>, Barrio Logan, Greater Golden Hill, North Park and Normal Heights. As part of the adoption of the updated <u>Parks Master Plan</u> in 2021, the Chollas Creek Watershed was formally designated as a regional park for both local neighbors as well as San Diegans across the city to enjoy.

Once finalized, the Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park Master Plan will prioritize the restoration of ecological habitats, increasing opportunities to get around by walking, rolling and biking, improving public health and air and water quality, expanding economic opportunity and promoting new development that can support and enhance surrounding neighborhoods.

"The Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park has the potential to bring immense benefits to surrounding communities, such as a cleaner environment and more outdoor parks and recreation spaces. By planning for increased pedestrian and biking connections to, from and throughout the Watershed, we can also plan for increased economic opportunity and shared prosperity for all San Diegans," said City Planning Director Heidi Vonblum. "For decades, we have heard from San Diegans that they want investments in the Chollas Creek Watershed to realize its full potential. We are excited to work together with the community to make that happen."

To gather input from community members on their vision for parks, access, programs and other topics, City staff invites them to join one of three walks along Chollas Creek. Each walk will begin at the below locations and take about an hour.

10 a.m. - Southcrest Recreation Center, 4149 Newton Ave., San Diego, CA 92113

## 12 p.m. – Castana and 47th Streets, San Diego, CA 92102

## 2 p.m. – Chollas Parkway & Salta Place, San Diego, CA 92105

Staff plan to continue gathering public input as they create the Master Plan. This will include surveys, community member meetings, workshops, partnerships with community-based organizations and participation in community events. To learn more and stay up to date on how to provide input, San Diegans can visit the <u>Chollas Creek Watershed Regional Park Master Plan website</u>.

Ultimately, the Master Plan will be presented to the San Diego City Council to consider for adoption.

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