

City of San Diego
Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2023

“TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL”

Meeting Held by In Person and Teleconference:

This meeting was held at Balboa Park Club - Ballroom and remotely using the Zoom Webinar platform and was streamed online. The public was invited to join the meeting by phone or computer, as well as invited to submit “Public Comments” in writing via a webform. The form was made available on the Parks and Recreation website at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards>.

NOTE: Both verbal and written communication were used by Committee Members, City staff, and presenters during the meeting. City staff also used the screen-share function to allow viewers to view content shared by the speaker which included PowerPoint presentations and websites.

Before the meeting was called to order, City staff read instructions to the public regarding technical procedures for making live public comment during the webinar.

Members Present	Members Absent	City Staff Present
Nick Anastasopoulos Jon Becker Marcella Bothwell Shaina Gross Rick Gulley (virtual) Daniele Laman Dennis Otsuji Evelyn Smith (virtual) René Smith Allison Soares (virtual)	Pita Verdin	Ryan Barbrick Christina Chadwick (virtual) Karen Dennison (virtual) Gina Dulay Andy Field Maricris Lumibao Jess Luke Louis Merlin Elvi Ricafort Gabriela Verendia

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 3:56 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

MOTION/SECONDED

Mr. Anastasopoulos/Mr. Becker

A motion was made by Mr. Anastasopoulos and seconded by Mr. Becker to approve the September 21, 2023, Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved 7-0-3 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, Jon Becker, Shaina Gross, Rick Gulley, Daniele Laman, Evelyn Smith, and

René Smith. Recused: None. Abstained: Marcella Bothwell, Dennis Otsuji, and Allison Soares. Absent: Pita Verdin.

NON-ADOPTION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT – No non-adoption agenda public comment was submitted.

CONSENT AGENDA – No items were submitted for the consent agenda.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – No items were requested for continuance.

COMMUNICATIONS – No communications we submitted.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

101. Reallocation of Regional Park Improvement Funds for CIP Mid-Year Action

Mr. Barbrick presented a request to reallocate funds between projects.

Ms. Laman made a motion to approve discussion item 101 seconded by Mr. Otsuji. The motion was approved 9-0-1 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Shaina Gross, Rick Gulley, Daniele Laman, Dennis Otsuji, Evelyn Smith, and René Smith. Recused: None. Abstained: Allison Soares. Absent: Pita Verdin.

Public Comment: None

Board Comments:

Ms. Laman asked about the scope of building improvements for Balboa Park Club including the Wi-fi signal. Mr. Barbrick said that the scope of the Balboa Park Club project, which would be halted as a result of this proposed action, includes upgrades to stop leaks, increase energy efficiency, replace doors and windows, and make other improvements to the building. However, these are not urgent items at this time.

Ms. Laman asked about the history of this project. Mr. Field asked Ms. Laman if she was looking for the conditions assessment done seven years ago to the building. Ms. Laman elaborated by asking why the repeater on the top of the roof was removed and when this the technical equipment will be reinstalled to improve the Wi-Fi signal in this corner of the park. Mr. Field said that the Wi-Fi signal will be done separately.

Mr. Field then added that the building improvements for Balboa Park Club focused on making accessibility improvements, replacing doors and windows to make them energy efficient, upgrading the roof to allow to have the replacement for the air conditioning and heating systems, and making stucco repairs. But those items are not urgent, and unfortunately there are projects in the park and elsewhere that need to be done. Hence, Mr. Field noted that the Committee and staff are making tough decisions to determine how to fund the existing project portfolio in the face of some significantly escalating cost of the construction industry.

A significant portion of the requested funding transfers is for the Botanical Building project, which has seen unanticipated cost escalation and requires additional work that was not a

part of the original scope. Mr. Field asked Mr. Luke if the Department's information systems team is actively working on the Wi-Fi upgrade at Balboa Park Club. Mr. Luke indicated that yes, the Wi-Fi signal improvements are underway.

Mr. Smith asked about the rationale for why the Botanical Building was needing more money at this point and expressed concern with the project continuing to grow in cost. He asked whether there was recourse and wondered how we got to this stage. He is disappointed that the other projects had to be postponed due to the need for money for the Botanical Building. He recommends a future workshop to discuss the park capital improvements program.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

201. Fiscal Year 2025 Regional Park Improvement Fund Budget Allocations

Mr. Barbrick presented an informational update on preparation efforts for the development of the Fiscal Year 2025 proposed budget for the Regional Parks Improvement Fund.

Public Comment: None

Board Comments:

Ms. Laman asked what the status is of the Balboa Park Restrooms is and how it will be funded? Mr. Field responded that the conceptual layouts of each restroom have been created, and Mr. Daniels is preparing to bring the matter forward to the Balboa Park Committee for public vetting. Mr. Field believes that there is one more workshop to be done at the committee and then the project will be advanced to the E&CP department. Mr. Barbrick also shared that the City received a \$6 million State grant to fund the Balboa Park Restrooms improvements project.

Ms. Laman also asked why is the Chollas Triangle Park included in the Regional Park Improvement Fund program? Is it part of the Chollas Creek Regional Park? Mr. Field responded yes, Chollas Triangle is within the Chollas Creek Regional Park and is thus eligible for funding from the Regional Park Improvement Fund.

Mr. Smith asked about the funding for the Ellen Browning Scripps project and if there is any possibility of pushing back the funding to Storm Water Department versus using the Regional Park Improvement Fund (RPIF) budget. Mr. Field shared that the project is mostly a storm drain replacement, so most funding would come from the Storm Water Department budget, although it must compete with other storm water projects for priority funding. Since the park component of the project is mostly related to the walkway and bluff area, it is likely the Department would contribute a smaller portion of the park project.

Mr. Smith also asked that the RPIF outlook include a sheet that outlines the project stage and a short summary of the project scope. Chair Bothwell shared that the requested sheet used to be provided to the Board; however, a former board member commented that that was too much information and requested the information no longer be presented.

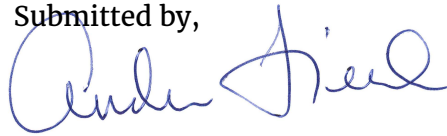
WORKSHOP ITEMS: There were no workshop items.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Copies of the reports, attachments, PowerPoint presentations, and audio-video recordings can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/reports>.

Next Calendared Meeting: November 16, at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Field". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a distinct "F".

Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department