

City of San Diego
Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2024

“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
Jon Becker Marcella Bothwell Rick Gulley Daniele Laman Dennis Otsuji René Smith Allison Soares	Nick Anastasopoulos Shaina Gross Evelyn Smith Pita Verdin	Ryan Barbrick Andy Field Louis Merlin Elvi Ricafort Tom Tomlinson Gabriela Verendia

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 3:58 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2023

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Gulley/Ms. Laman

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Ms. Laman to approve the Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved 6-0-1 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Rick Gulley, Daniele Laman, René Smith, and Allison Soares. Recused: None. Abstained: Dennis Otsuji. Absent: Nick Anastasopoulos, Shaina Gross, Evelyn Smith, and 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.

(Limited to items not on the agenda. Each will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.)

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

101. Fiscal Year 2025 Regional Park Improvement Funds – Proposed Allocation

Mr. Barbrick presented the proposed allocations for the Fiscal Year 2025 proposed budget for the Regional Park Improvement Fund.

Ms. Laman moved to approve discussion item 101. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-2-0 and passed unanimously with the following vote: Yea: Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Rick Gulley, Daniele Laman, and René Smith. Nay: Allison Soares and Dennis Otsuji. Recused: None. Abstained. None. Absent: Nick Anastasopoulos, Shaina Gross, Evelyn Smith, and Pita Verdin.

Public Comment:

Lynn Edwards walked Chollas Lake to investigate drainage issues and was promised the City would use Regional Park Improvement Funds to begin a drainage study. She asked this become a priority for expenditure.

Board Comment:

Ms. Laman noted Ms. Edwards comment and requested an amendment to the staff report to switch budget allocations for North Chollas L22004 in the amount of \$400,000 with the Chollas Lake Drainage project. Mr. Smith seconded this request.

Mr. Becker asked if the Chollas Lake Drainage Study is necessary. Director Field responded yes, the drainage study is needed, along with many other projects. He will gather additional information to respond to this request.

Mr. Smith asked about the likelihood of the ability to design and develop the North Chollas project. Director Field responded yes, as other funding sources can emerge to help fund this effort, as evidenced by recent expansions in grant opportunities and ongoing discussions about overall City finances.

Ms. Soares and Mr. Becker asked about the need for the drainage project. Ms. Laman responded that the drainage from nearby housing communities is impacting the trails that surround Chollas Lake and can create safety risks. Lake water quality can also be impacted by runoff.

Mr. Otsuji asked how the cost estimates for projects are developed. Director Field acknowledged this request and noted that cost estimation is provided by the Engineering and Capital Projects Department as part of project scoping and design. This could be expanded into an information item in the future.

Mr. Smith requested details of North Chollas Improvements project including status of design, scope of work, schedule, and cost estimate. Director Field committed to providing that information at an upcoming meeting.

102. Reallocation of Funds to Various Projects

Mr. Barbrick presented the proposed reallocations for several capital projects within the Regional Park Improvement Fund.

Mr. Gulley stated the Cowles Mountain Restroom project is not being cancelled and moved to approve action item 102. Ms. Laman seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-1-0 and passed unanimously with the following vote: Yea: Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Rick Gulley, Daniele Laman, René Smith, and Allison Soares. Nay: Dennis Otsuji. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Nick Anastasopoulos, Shaina Gross, Evelyn Smith, and Pita Verdin.

Public Comment: None.

Board Comment:

Mr. Gulley noted concerns with the Cowles Mountain Restroom and expressed concerns it is referenced as being cancelled. Mr. Barbrick will leave the project as on hold, not cancelled. Mr. Gulley noted that all Mission Trails Fund allocations must be approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee and Task Force prior to appropriation by City Council. Mr. Barbrick stated that Erika Ferreira would attend the meeting to obtain concurrence from the Task Force. Mr. Gulley made a motion to approve the allocation with the note that Cowles Mountain Comfort Station project is not cancelled and instead is on hold. Ms. Laman seconded and thanked the staff for prioritization of electricity at Chollas Lake.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Barbrick for the expenditures on the \$1.4 million allocation to the Balboa Park Club Renovations project. Mr. Barbrick indicated he would get back to the Board with this information. Mr. Smith asked about the status of the Balboa Park Club Renovations project. Mr. Field responded that the suspended floor in the ballroom was repaired, and the stucco repair and painting will be done via a non-capital improvement process.

INFORMATION ITEMS: None.

WORKSHOP ITEMS: There were no workshop items.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 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: February 15, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Field". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department