

**City of San Diego**  
**Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 21, 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.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>City Staff Present</b>
Jon Becker Marcella Bothwell Shaina Gross Daniele Laman Dennis Otsuji Evelyn Smith René Smith Allison Soares	Nick Anastasopoulos Rick Gulley Pita Verdin	Ryan Barbrick Michelle Abella-Shon Andy Field Rod Greek Maricris Lumibao Louis Merlin Elvi Ricafort Andre Smith Gabriela Verendia

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 5:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2024**

**MOVED/SECONDED**

**Mr. Becker/Mr. Otsuji**

A motion was made by Mr. Becker and seconded by Mr. Otsuji to approve the Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved 5-0-3 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Daniele Laman, Dennis Otsuji, and Allison Soares. Recused: None. Abstained: Evelyn Smith, René Smith, and Shaina Gross. Absent: Nick Anastasopoulos, Rick Gulley, 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:** None.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**201. Performance Audit of the Mission Bay and San Diego Regional Improvements Funds  
Fiscal Year 2022**

Mr. Greek provided a summary of the audit conducted for Fiscal Year 2022 for the Regional Park Improvement Fund.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Smith noted this report was presented to Audit Committee in January and suggested that the Oversight Committee could receive the report first, prior to the Audit Committee. He asked when the next audit for Fiscal Year 2023 would be completed, and Mr. Greek noted it is underway currently.

Mr. Smith asked about the recommendation follow-up report timing, which is scheduled for next month at the Audit Committee. He asked whether the Office of the City Auditor reviews older reports. Mr. Greek stated that after implementation, the Office of the City Auditor considers the matter completed, unless the topic arises in a future audit. He suggested the Oversight Committee can advise the Office of the City Auditor if the Oversight Committee finds an area that should be explored for auditing.

Mr. Smith then asked if Office of the City Auditor requests funds to help implement audit recommendations. Mr. Greek indicated that the City Auditor will defer to Mayor and City Council for the budget process.

Mr. Smith asked for a breakdown of the overall program since inception of the program that shows allocation of funds into various parks. Mr. Greek will consider this. Mr. Smith stated he would like to have additional information provided during the semi-annual project report updates.

Mr. Smith noted that Board vacancies and expired terms continue to be troublesome. Mr. Greek noted that the process could be changed to address this situation. Mr. Smith suggested maybe the term lengths could be modified or lengthened and that board membership requirements

should be considered (such as need for landscape architects). Mr. Smith questioned the timing of warranties for completed capital projects. He noted that construction projects have challenges including cost and schedule delays and wondered if the Oversight Committee could do more to address these issues.

Mr. Smith suggested that maintenance funding should be set aside for projects constructed using the Regional Park Improvement Fund so they can be cared for properly. Mr. Smith suggested Mr. Greek look at the February Park Board meeting minutes Items 201 and 203 to see examples of project challenges.

Ms. Laman asked about Mission Bay Park Committee and whether regular updates can be provided by them to the Board or Oversight Committee. Director Field responded there used to be a seat on the Board for the Mission Bay Park Committee chair, but that requirement was removed from the San Diego Municipal Code around 2008. He is exploring options to bring the chair of the Mission Bay Park into the Parks and Recreation Board in the future in ongoing conversations with the Office of Boards and Commissions.

Mr. Smith asked about the split of oversight committee roles and responsibilities. Director Field responded those are articulated in the City Charter and San Diego Municipal Code.

Ms. Laman asked about the differences between Mission Bay Park Committee and Mission Bay Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee. She asked about the origin of the funds. Director Field provided an overview of how Mission Bay lease revenues are split and indicated there is not overlap between the two improvement funds.

**WORKSHOP ITEMS:** There were no workshop items.

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 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: April 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.**

Submitted by,



Andy Field  
Director  
Parks and Recreation Department