

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 1, 2025**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present

David Boyer, USMC  
Jessi Brown, City of La Mesa  
Cynthia Cornelius, Member-at-large  
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group  
(alternate)  
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee  
David Lipson, SDSU  
Kevin Loomis, Chair  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
Scott Penwell, City of El Cajon  
Mike Pent, Special Member  
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners  
Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic Association  
Gary Strawn, City of Santee  
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area  
Council

**Members Absent/Excuse**

Shawn Chambers, MTRP User Group  
Rick Gulley, City of Parks and Recreation Committee  
Glenn Farber, San Carlos Area  
Council

**City of San Diego**

Ed Christensen, Open Space Division District Manager, Parks and Recreation Department  
Rob Wheeler, Senior Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation Department

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by CAC Chair Kevin Loomis.

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF – JULY 1, 2025**

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Hutsel/Penwell) to approve the amended minutes of the meeting of May 6, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

**CHAIR'S REPORT – Kevin Loomis**

- No updates

**STAFF/RANGER'S REPORT – Rob Wheeler**

- Received approval to hire for remaining park ranger vacancy with interviews concluding last week
- Ranger led education programs have concluded for the school year with over 160 classes and 3800 total students participating in the habitat, geology, and ecosystems programs
- Ranger led volunteer trail work events have wrapped up for summer after working to repair areas of West Fortuna, Suycott Valley, and South Fortuna

**FOUNDATION REPORT – Cynthia Cornelius**

- MTRPF received the non-profit of the year award from Assembly Member Chris Ward
- San Diego River Conservancy has awarded the Foundation two million dollars for the first phase of the external work at the visitors center
- Since the last CAC meeting we've had several events including our annual volunteer gathering, photo contest, award reception, dark sky event, and a gathering of foundation donors
- Summer camps are going on with the last one occurring July 18<sup>th</sup>
- Other projects include interpretive signs for Oak Grove Loop
- The brush and invasive plant removal program is continuing with the primrose removal from Kumeyaay Lake starting in fall

**COMMUNICATIONS –**

- Fred Kramer, Volunteer MTRP
  - Bypass pipeline concerns; creates barrier for wildlife, requesting passage for wildlife

**ACTION ITEMS**

**WORKSHOP ITEMS – None**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**301. Bridge For Max Project Update**

- Discussed in Item 303

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF – JULY 1, 2025**

**302.** East County Advanced Water Purification Project Update – *Rebecca Abbott, Engineering Manager, East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Power Authority*

- Bypass pipeline being set up along FJST and will go through July
- Slip lining construction to start in August

**303.** Ad Hoc Subcommittee Update on approved projects – *Kevin Loomis, Chair*

- Land acquisition East Elliot
  - Foundation is working to acquire additional parcels
- Constructing restroom at OMD staging area
  - On hold
- Improving Visitor Center loop trail
  - Pending
- Kwaay Paay and South Fortuna trail expansion
  - Pending
- Bridge for Max
  - On hold due to funding
- Oak Grove Loop Trail Resurfacing
  - PO for materials are in place
  - Construction to begin within next month
- Old Mission Dam Dredging
  - Completed under budget
- Stowe Trail
  - County has been working with the military to make progress
  - Purchase agreement needed
  - Meeting next week to advance project
- West Sycamore Staging Area
  - Trailer has been ordered
  - Expected completion in 2026
- Wildlife corridor along 52
  - Pending

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, September 2, 2025, 6:30 PM.