

Minutes of the Meeting of the July 17, 2025 Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at the MTRP Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Raul Campillo, City of San Diego
Councilmember Dustin Trotter, City of Santee
Councilmember Marni von Wilpert, City of San Diego
Councilmember Genevieve Suzuki, City of La Mesa
CAC Chair Kevin Loomis

Members Absent

Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe, County of San Diego
Councilmember Kent Lee, City of San Diego

Staff

Julie Aeilts, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Vicram Vettiyil, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Erika Ferreira, Deputy Director, Open Space Division

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Task Force Chair Raul Campillo at 10:23 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Loomis/Trotter) to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS- *Councilmember Campillo, MTRP Task Force Chair*

COMMUNICATIONS - None

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

ACTION ITEMS

101. Updates to Task Force Operating Rules regarding Task Force Member Alternate

Appointments – *Councilmember Campillo, Chair Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force*

- **MOTION:** It was moved/ seconded to formally appoint an alternate member to appear in each member's stead if they are unable to attend Task Force meetings. (Campillo, Suzuki)

102. **Appointment and Reappointment of Members to the MTRP CAC** – *Councilmember Raul A. Campillo, Chair Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force*
Subitem A: Appointment of MTRP Executive Director Jennifer Morrissey as CAC member (Loomis, von Wilpert) Passes 5-0.

STANDING REPORTS

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

City of Santee Community Services Department – *Nicolas Chavez, City of Santee Community Services Director*

- Prop 4 Climate Bond – SD River Conservancy. Replacing the lodgepole fencing with metal.

MTRP Senior Ranger Report – *Julie Aeilts, MTRP Senior Park Ranger*

- MTRP will be fully staffed. A conditional offer for park ranger will be made within the week.
- Oak Grove Trail Resurfacing Project – POs have been approved and trail work will begin in July.
- East County Advanced Water Purification Project – Orion construction group has been very communicative at addressing public concerns.
- Addressed public safety issues regarding hiking in the heat. Discussed the installation of thermometers at major staging areas or the Visitor Center and continued use of signs.

Open Space Report – *Erika Ferriera, Deputy Director, Open Space Division*

- Open Space Division and Park Ranger Division are currently completing reference checks to fill Park Ranger vacancies.

MTRP Foundation Report– *Jennifer Morrissey, Executive Director, MTRPF*

- MTRPF received Nonprofit of the Year Award from Chris Ward; Jennifer met with Wade Crowfoot, CA's Natural Resources Secretary, in Sacramento to receive the award.
- 30x30 Conference will be in San Diego in August. Hike for attendees to be hosted at MTRP.
- MTRPF received 2 million dollars for exterior improvements at MTRP Visitor Center.
- Entering second year of invasive brush removal by RECON Environmental; primrose removal will begin at Kumeyaay Lake.
- Interpretive panels are being finalized and will provide English and Spanish text, with a QR code linking to 12 threshold languages.
- Events: just wrapped up photo contest awards, upcoming Dark Sky event and Volunteer Appreciation event

Citizen's Advisory Committee – *Kevin Loomis, CAC Chair*

- Master Plan Update- 13 priority projects determined throughout the park. Kevin will discuss each in more detail at next Task Force meeting.
- Max Lenail Memorial Bridge is paused. Looking to other sources of funding: possible grants, public and private sources.
- City Council approved to keep Lake Murray Reservoir open.
- West Sycamore Staging Area – Groundbreaking scheduled for fall will include picnic tables, restrooms and lot resurfacing.

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- Stowe Trail is moving along. Archeological/ biological studies have been done and land acquisition purchase paperwork is being processed.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 AM.

NEXT MEETING: September 18, 2025, 10:00 AM