

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board

November 18, 2010

***“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”***

**Meeting Held at:**

City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
202 C Street  
San Diego, California 92101

**Mailing Address is:**

City of San Diego  
202 C Street, MS 37C  
San Diego, California 92101

**Members Present**

Wilbur Smith, Chair  
Bruce Brown  
Rick Bussell  
William Diehl  
Vicki Granowitz  
David Kinney  
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds  
Michael Stepner

**Members Absent**

Claudia Dunaway  
Norman Greene  
Roz King

**City Staff Present**

Stacey LoMedico  
Bill Anderson  
Elif Cetin  
Jo-Ann Novak  
Kevin Oliver  
Mario Reyes  
Robin Shifflet  
Shannon Thomas

CALL TO ORDER – Chair, Mr. Smith, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2010

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Mr. Bussell**

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Bussell to approve the October 21, 2010 meeting minutes. (7-0)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – None

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as “Consent” items.

NON-AGENDA COMMENT – None

INFORMATION ITEM

**202. Ocean Beach Comfort Station Replacement Project**

Elif Cetin, Project Manager, and Kevin Oliver, Project Officer II, Engineering and Capital Projects Department presented a presentation on the Ocean Beach Comfort Station Replacement Project.

- Landry Watsch and Giovanni Ingolig are in favor of Item 202
- Ms. LoMedico distributed Ms. Mary Coakley e-mail dated November 18, 2010 regarding her comments on the project.
- Mr. Smith asked if the comments presented at the Design and Review Committee will be included in the final design. (Ms. Cetin stated they would be included in the final design. Mr. Oliver stated this is a design build project and there obviously are certain

parts of the project that are part of the ongoing design build process, and will continue to try and work on those projects that were pointed out.

Board Members Comments:

- Seems odd to place bike racks next to the showers due to water splash over onto bikes.
- Concerned women will end up waiting in long queues at the restroom and no unisex restrooms.
- Concern no doors on restroom stalls.
- Board Members like the design of the comfort station.
- Appreciate the Planning Group creating an Ad-Hoc Committee for this comfort station.

Ms. LoMedico mentioned it was difficult to close a restroom in the middle of summer but due to safety concerns it was prudent action to take. She hopes this comfort station will be in place sooner than later and thanked Engineering and Capital Improvements Projects Department staff for putting this project on a quick time line.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Report

Community Parks II Area Committee

- Ms. King provided a hand-out to the Board Members, outlining the discussion at the last meeting (see attachment.) The representatives are concerned about recreation hours decreased, potential for crime due to hours decreased and closure of centers.

Balboa Park Committee

- Mr. Kinney distributed a list of the Balboa Park 2015 Celebration participants at the meetings held on November 2 and 3.
- The Balboa Park Plaza de Panama Circulation and Parking Garage Project will go to the Historic Resources Board tomorrow as a workshop item.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Balboa Park Committee meeting, the Plaza consultants will be back with another workshop item.

Design Review Committee

- Mr. Smith did not attend the last Design Review Committee, but reported the two projects before the Park and Recreation Board Members today were heard at Design Review Committee.

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Mission Bay Park Committee

- The Committee met on November 9, 2010.
- Mr. Bussell reported the completion of dredging of the Channel with the removal of excess of 500,000 cubic yards of material.
- The Committee provided recommendation to the roof line and the layout of North Crown Point Comfort Station Replacement.
- The Committee approved the permits for Fiesta Island Time Trails Event (March 11, 2011) and the Mermaid Run San Diego-5K, 10K and ½ Marathon (February 12, 2011).

- The Committee will have on-going discussion regarding the impacts to the general population due to road closures on Fiesta Island.
- Real Estate Asset Department (READ) staff, explained why the visitor center was closed on September 30, 2010. In 1997 the visitor center processed 16,600 hotel room reservations. In 2009 they processed 947 reservations. This type of services is not in demand due to access to the internet. The facility will be closed to the public and is expected to go before the City Council on November 30, 2010. READ will issue a new Request For Proposal (RFP) for re-use of this facility.
- Public Utilities Department staff presented information on the (purple pipe) Phase I project. This program will have a budget of \$10.7 million and is expected to produce approximately 15,000 acreage feet of reclaimed water a year by the mid 2000's.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee – No Report

### REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES

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

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – No Report (Mr. Smith will provide an extensive report in January.)

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- There is no December Park and Recreation Board meeting unless some critical items come from the Board Members or Department staff.
- Budget reductions will be in July 2011.
- December Nights will kick-off on December 3<sup>rd</sup> in Balboa Park with an estimated 300,000 people attending over a two day period.
- The Balboa Park Plaza de Panama Circulation and Parking Garage Project Workshop will meet on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Balboa Park Club.
- Board Members may click on their local recreation center or park for brochure/schedule to see what activities are taking place in their community during this holiday period.
- This year is the largest year of participation for the Toys for Tots program with 30 sites participating.
- The Land Use and Housing Committee returned the Dog Off Leash Areas regulations back to the Department. The Department staff found out they had to update their rules and regulations as it pertains to the ordinance. The Department hopes to return the report to the Committee in January. Ms. LoMedico will make sure the Board Members receive a copy of the report.

Mr. Smith believes the public wants the Grape Street area fence in so dogs are not running freely in the community.

Mr. Bussell asked about a news article regarding encroachments on Mt. Terminus Street. Ms. LoMedico stated property owners have encroachments on dedicated park land and are resisting

removal of these encroachments. Currently, the Attorney's Office staff is working with the homeowner's attorney.

ACTION ITEMS – None

INFORMATION ITEMS

**201. Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission regarding San Diego River Park Master Plan**

Mr. Smith requested the Planning Commission Members and Park and Recreation Board Members introduce themselves.

Planning Commission Attendees:  
Eric Naslund, Chairperson  
Tim Golba, Vice-Chairperson  
Robert Griswold  
Mary Lydon  
Gil Ontai  
Dennis Otsuji  
Michael Smiley

Ms Shifflet, Park Designer, City Planning & Community Investments Department introduced the project and distributed the draft San Diego River Park Master Plan, community plan amendments and land development code amendments to the chairs of the Board and Commission.(revised 11-8-10).

Mr. Anderson, City Planning & Community Investment Department Director, provided an overview of the draft San Diego River Park Master Plan.

Todd Mead, Principal of Civitas, a landscape architectural and urban design firm provided a PowerPoint presentation on the master plan history and the components of the draft master plan.

Claudia Tedford, Project Manager of ICF International, a planning and urban design firm, continued the PowerPoint presentation on the proposed community plan amendments and amendments to the Land Development Code.

Commission and Board Members Comments and Questions:

- Asked if the River Walk in San Antonio Texas was reviewed (Yes).
- Recommend park and ride lots at strategic areas so people may access the river by walking or biking.
- Asked if emergency authorizes are okay to have 10 foot wide Hardscape for emergency accessibility (Yes, actually have 14 feet).
- Appreciate the respect for the natural plant life, leisure walk-ways, and the linking of parks.
- Avoid the commercialism like San Antonio River Walk.
- Would like to see platinum level of green for construction.
- Include the element of the first inhabitants - the Kumeyaay Indians.

- Identify with San Diego, to have its own theme.
- Add vegetation to wildlife.
- Looking forward to the final project in 2011
- All ties into the Park Master Plan
- Important to have a good circulation system for the people to include walking/bike trails and equestrian.
- Have a good understanding of the maintenance of the entire park.
- Ensure space along the river park to be program with activities and not to be a passive park.
- Need language to limit special events in the master plan to avoid problems later on.
- Connect activities to the adjacent communities whether it's residential or business.
- The primary purpose is to create a restoration area and not an urbanization area, is that correct? (Yes).
- Concerned about the area past the flood plain area where the City and the river interacts.
- Explanation of Open Space linkage through park land acquisition; open space dedication; and easements? (Yes, all of the above including adjacent to streets, land use established by community plans, and green streets connections.)
- Interested in the architectural expression to particular areas along the river.
- Logo could be improved.
- What is going to happen in the influence areas? What that means about development? What that means about individual property owners, designers approach projects. How we get from an articulate vision about what this place is and how the best version of private development at its edges and take advantage of that. (Ms. Shifflet recommended reviewing the purposed zoning code amendments to ensure the language is strong enough. All documents are on the City Web Site.)
- Believe this is a way to connect the City back together.
- What is the relationship between the private land and the City to manage it? (Most of the land is private land, currently staff are setting up a system to provide economic incentives to property owners.)
- Will staff apply for Wild River Act - Federal grants?
- Concerned about any issues regarding Admiral Baker Field/golf course? (Do not anticipate the golf course will change in the near future.)
- Are there any water use activities planned? (Most of the river is mapped with the MHPA. City staff will have to work with State and Federal regarding water uses.)
- Support connecting the canyons.

Ms. Shifflet informed the attendees where they may find the draft documents on the City's website and if they have questions they may contact her. City staff and the consultants will be working on the program environmental document for the next several months. When the draft program environmental document is sent out for public review, the final draft San Diego River Park Master Plan, Community Plan Amendments and Land Development Code Amendments are ready they will be sent to the Planning Commissioners and Park and Recreation Board Members for review and recommendation. Ms. Shifflet hopes to have the final documents at City Council by the end of 2011.

Mr. Smith thanked the Planning Commissioners, staff and consultants for this presentation.

**203. North Crown Point Comfort Station Replacement**

Mario Reyes, Project Manager, Engineering and Capital Projects Department and Stephen Russell, Platt/Whitelaw Architects, Inc. presented the design of the North Crown Point Comfort Station Replacement.

Mr. Smith confirmed that the Design and Review Committee comments will be incorporated in the construction documents. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Reyes and Mr. Russell for their presentation.

WORKSHOP - None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, January 20, 2011 2:00 p.m.**

**City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico  
Park and Recreation Director