

**Minutes of the Meeting of the March 16, 2023
Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, March 16, 2023.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Raul Campillo, City of San Diego
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee
Councilmember Kent Lee, City of San Diego
Councilmember Dustin Trotter, City of Santee
Councilmember Colin Parent, City of La Mesa

Members Absent

Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, County of San Diego
Supervisor Joel Anderson, County of San Diego

Staff

Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Vicram Vettiyil, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Erika Ferreira, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Nick Chavez, Community Services Director, City of Santee

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Task Force Chair Raul Campillo at 10:00 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (TROTTER/PARENT) to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2022, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- *Councilmember Campillo*

- Welcome to Councilmember Kent Lee. Thank you for being a Task Force member.
- Dorothy Leonard was instrumental in the inception of this park and has been an asset to its progress since the beginning. In 2025 she will be relocating to Oregon to be near family so we will be looking for a new Citizens' Advisory Committee chair. CAC operating rule changes will also be coming partly to ensure a smooth transition.

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

- None

ACTION ITEMS

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101. Appointment/Reappointment of MTRP CAC Representatives for terms expiring in January 2025. – *Councilmember Campillo, MTRP Task Force Chair*

- Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council, Glenn Farber, San Carlos Area Council Alternate, Rich Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council, Rob Hutzel, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Committee, Dr. David Lipson, SDSU College of Sciences, Gary Strawn, City of Santee, Kevin Loomis, MTRP User Group, Ryan Hartigan, MTRP User Group Alternate.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (CAMPILLO/TROTTER) to approve the appointments/reappointments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego River Crossing Bridge Project – PRJ – 1050170 – *Ben Lenail, project applicant/Evan Lakin with KPFF*

- A meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers has taken place. It has been determined that the project cannot disturb any of the existing habitat without first doing a species determination study. The borings will instead be relocated outside of the habitat and onto the existing access road. They will still need to do a wetland delineation survey on both sides of the river. This is a minor change but shows the project’s flexibility. They have been told by the Army Corps that if the bridge spans the entire wetland area, then no permit will be necessary. They will be moving forward with the boring permit once the wetland delineation is complete. It is anticipated that the CEQA permit will take approximately one year to process.

302. Status report on encumbering funds in Mission Trails Fund 200403 for start-up costs related to the preparation and planning of priority projects approved by the MTRP Task Force at the November 18, 2021, meeting. – *Erika Ferreira*

- The Parks and Recreation Department is working with the Purchasing and Contracting Department to get a contract put in place with an environmental consultant. The process is expected to take 9-12 months.

303. Oak Grove trail improvements status report – *Erika Ferreira*

- It has been discovered that the \$100,000.00 grant requires matching funds from the City. A request for the matching funds will be routed through City Council.

304. Stowe Trail status report – *Erika Ferreira*

- The Department of Real Estate and Airport Management is moving forward with obtaining an appraisal for the privately owned parcel with identified willing sellers. They will then reach out to the property owners. If an agreement can be made, then the City will move forward with purchasing the property. The process will most likely take about 9 months to complete.

305. Old Mission Dam Dredging project status report – *Erika Ferreira*

- Engineering and Capital Projects is working on what permits will be needed. It is believed that most of the existing permits can be used if the same scope of work is used from the last dredging project. Currently September 2024 is the proposed timeframe for the project to take place.

CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT– *Dorothy Leonard, Chair MTRP CAC*

- None

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MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – *Jennifer Morrissey, Executive Director, MTRPF*

- We are still working on the process to purchase property and then donate it to the City utilizing the 2-million-dollar grant obtained for that purpose. The new Eco-ambassadors program will be starting soon. About 2,000 students have been on field trips so far and about 3,000 will have been on field trips by the end of the school year. The annual photo contest is wrapping up. A new MTRP web site is currently under construction. The annual volunteer appreciation event is on Saturday, and we are expecting about 100 people to attend.

STAFF REPORTS

Water Department's Lake Murray Report – None

City of Santee Community Services Department – *Nick Chavez*

- We will be making a presentation at the next CAC meeting to propose an enhanced trail head next to Big Rock Park on County owned land. Road improvements in the area are also getting ready to start.

MTRP Senior Ranger Report-*Ryan Robertson*

- Currently down 2 Rangers. Interviews are in progress. Will be working to fill vacancies as soon as possible. Winter has been brutal but also great. Looking to take advantage of loosened soils from all the rain to get trail work projects completed. The park is inundated with visitors, especially on the weekends.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 A.M.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 18, 2023, 10:00 AM