

**City of San Diego**  
**Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 16, 2023**

*“TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL”*

**Meeting Held by In Person and Teleconference:**

This meeting was held at Park de la Cruz Conference Room 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/Excused</b>	<b>City Staff Present</b>
Nick Anastasopoulos- In-Person Jon Becker- In-Person Marcella Bothwell (Chair) – In-Person Shaina Gross – In-Person Rick Gulley- In-Person Dennis Otsuji (Vice Chair) – In-Person René Smith – In-Person Pita Verdín – In-Person	Molly Chase Evelyn Smith	Andy Field – In-Person Tom Tomlinson – In-Person Louis Merlin – In-Person Ryan Barbrick – In-Person Kristi Fenick – In-Person Jon Garibay – In-Person Maricris Lumibao – In-Person Jason Grani – In-Person Elvi Ricafort – In-Person

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Bothwell at 6:01 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2023**

**MOTION:                      MOVED/SECONDED                      Mr. Gulley/Mr. Anastasopoulos**

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Anastasopoulos to approve the Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved 8-0-2 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, René Smith, and Pita Verdín. Recused: None. Abstained: Shaina Gross. Absent: Molly Chase and Evelyn Smith.

**NON-ADOPTION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT** – No non-adoption agenda public comment was submitted.

**REQUEST FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON 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 one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.)

**ACTION ITEMS:** None.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**201. Regional Park Improvement Funded Projects Update**

Presenter: Jason Grani, Assistant Deputy Director, Engineering and Capital Projects Department

**Public Comment on Item #201:** None.

**Board Comment on Item # 201:**

<b>Board Member:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Ms. Gross	Ms. Gross asked when the grant funding expires what do we do to ensure the grant funds expended on time? Mr. Grani responded that he has a team that are well versed with environmental documents to prepare for the needed design package with the available funding for design.
Mr. Smith	Mr. Smith asked if this project would somehow drain the Regional Park Improvement Fund (RPIF) extensively. He commented that the Board should have funding limitation in place for additional RPIF's funding requests. Mr. Field responded that the construction funding will be based on the outcome of the environmental report. There will be funding mechanism in place for the construction funding for Ocean Beach Pier including leveraging state funds, accessing additional funds to complete the replacement project, and possibilities for public-private partnership.
Ms. Bothwell	Ms. Bothwell agreed that we can't just continue to drain the RPIF. Mr. Field commented that the state funding will be the primary driver of the costs and that the state funding will be used for the design effort.

<b>Board Member:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Mr. Becker	Mr. Becker asked if the North Chollas Park dog off leash area would be a temporary dog park? Mr. Grani responded yes. Mr. Field also commented that staff will identify possible locations for a dog off-leash area depending on the outcome of the environmental report and feedback from the Chollas Community Recreation Group.
Mr. Otsuji	Mr. Otsuji asked if the Air and Space Museum building is considered historical building and needed approval from the Historical Resources Board (HRB) for needed repairs to the building. Mr. Grani responded yes.
Mr. Gulley	Mr. Gulley commented that suggested a review of the leases in Balboa Park as a potential source of funds for repairing the Air and Space Museum and other buildings with similar needs in Balboa Park.
Ms. Bothwell	Ms. Bothwell mentioned a possible option could be to introduce parking fees in Balboa Park to pay for repairs to facilities in Balboa Park.
Mr. Smith	Mr. Smith asked if the roof project is going to the Historical Resources Board (HRB)? Mr. Grani responded that they just received approval for the destructive test, and they will add these findings to the construction documents package.
Mr. Otsuji	Mr. Otsuji commented that the City has numerous historical structures. However, no funds are set aside for historical buildings in Balboa Park.
Ms. Gross	<p>Ms. Gross asked who decides whether the design-build or design-bid-build project delivery method will be used for each RPIF project.</p> <p>Mr. Grani responded that usually they have two factors to make the determination of which delivery methods to use, including timing of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination is ready and the amount of available funding as well. He also added that the design-bid-build method is usually for library, fire, and major buildings. For park projects, these are usually suitable for design-build delivery method.</p>

<b>Board Member:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Mr. Gulley	<p>Mr. Gulley commented that the San Diego River dredging project at Old Mission Dam is a very important project for the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and consider this project more critical than the other projects.</p> <p>He asked how do Mr. Grani and team prioritize projects? Mr. Grani responded that his team will prepare the construction documents with all the available reports and determination of which delivery methods to use, including timing of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination and the amount of available funding, permits and studies and meeting the regulatory agencies' requirements as well.</p>

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

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 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: March 16, 2023**

Submitted by,



Andy Field  
Director  
Parks and Recreation Department