# TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK



MASTER PLAN

THE TECOLOTE CANYON CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Special recognition goes to the many dedicated citizens making up these organizations who effectively protected Tecolote Canyon for years and ensured that it "is hereby dedicated in perpetuity as a public park to be used solely and exclusively for park and recreation purposes."

Citizens to Save Open Space
Clairemont Mesa Development Committee
Clairemont Town Council
Fireside Park Homeowners Association
Georgetown Homeowners Association
Joint Advisory Board of Clairemont and Linda Vista
Linda Vista Community Planning Organization
Mesa del Sol Town Council
Tecolote Canyon Protective Association
Western Hills Homeowners Association

Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee gratefully acknowledges the constructive advice, research assistance, and map preparation by the staff of the Park Development and Open Space Division, Park and Recreation Department, City of San Diego. Special thanks to:

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Maps by Park Development and Open Space Division

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#### PREFACE

Tecolote Canyon is a natural treasure. It is a portion of the diminishing chaparral and coastal sage scrub land cover that has blanketed Southern California's coastal hills and valleys for centuries. dedication of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, the canyon became a gift to San Diego's posterity from a large number of caring citizens endowed with immense perseverance. It is also a gift from a responsive City government that created the innovative Park Procedural Ordinance which was used to implement the dream that was earlier deemed impossible. One of the most important benefits of the Park Procedural Ordinance was the birth of the park district. The use of this ordinance also permitted preservation of other canyons threatened with development, and led to a City-wide open space system made possibly by passage of Proposition C by San Diego voters in 1978.

All who have been involved in the preservation of Tecolote Canyon are very proud to have been a part of this effort. Our gratitude is expressed to those who began long ago to lay the groundwork that has brought us so far.

This master plan is a result of this ongoing community effort to see this open space park used with sensitivity and commitment.

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I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK MASTERPLAN

#### A. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF MASTER PLAN



Upon adoption by the San Diego City Council, this document will serve as the Master Plan for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. While this Plan does not establish new regulations or legislation it does set forth many proposals for implementation. The major purpose of these proposals will be to define

the guidelines for the optimum development and use of Tecolote Canyon Natural
Park. The Plan includes a series of goals and objectives established by the
Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee which are consistent with City policy
and which provide direction as to how Plan proposals should be carried out.

Proposals within this Plan have been coordinated with the Progress Guide and General Plan and are in conformance with it. In addition, the Plan has taken into consideration its relationship with planning programs and development patterns in surrounding areas. These include coordination with the Clairemont Mesa Community Plan, the Kearny Vista Community Plan, and the proposed Linda Vista Community Plan (the revision of the Kearny Vista Community Plan).

This Plan includes an inventory of important environmental and social qualities of the park, an analysis of current conditions in the park, and recommendations for restoration and preservation of significant qualities of the park, as well as recommendations for the future use, and development of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Such a plan should not be considered a static or inflexible document.

Amendment may be required based on changes in environmental, social or economic factors in order to remain relevant to community and City needs.

#### B. PURPOSE OF TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK

The purpose of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is to provide an open natural area, in perpetuity, near the geographic center of the City of San Diego. Residents surrounding this canyon have seen their deep and abiding desire to have Tecolote Canyon dedicated as an open space park fulfilled, rather than having if become a series of residential developments. Area supporters also deemed it desirable to have Tecolote Canyon retained as a natural geographic boundary between the communities of Linda Vista and Clairemont. While both Linda Vistans and Clairemonters, who rim Tecolote Canyon, tend to be intensely protective of their treasure, there is a definitive city-wide value accrued from the preservation of Tecolote Canyon as a natural park.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park affords a unique opportunity for everyone to experience a relatively natural environment in an urban setting. Children and adults alike are refreshed as they stroll on the edge of a canyon stream and watch the movement of battle-ready crayfish or observe a covey of foraging quail. At night, the howls and yapping of the elusive coyote recall the exciting adventure of preurban life in California. The canyon park also serves the non-visitor. The vegetation within the park serves to filter the urban air and to replenish our supply of oxygen. The park will always

represent an opportunity for a respite from the continuous impact of civilization and urbanization.

Perhaps most important of all, this natural park provides a spiritual resource. Whereas the urban environment seems rigid, the natural environment represents diversity and change. When urban residents see, touch, and appreciate this natural diversity, they have the opportunity to develop a genuine respect for nature, themselves, and others.





II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



#### A. GOALS OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Tecolote Canyon Citizens
Advisory Committee was
organized in accordance with
Council Policy No. 600-24. The
first members were sworn in,
on April 1, 1978, at the
Tecolote Canyon Natural Park
dedication ceremony. This

committee is recognized by the City Council as the planning committee for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. The primary purpose of this committee has been to develop a master plan for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, which will serve now serves to protect the natural habitat, flora and fauna, and the overall environmental integrity of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. The Master Plan recommends minimal development to accommodate activities compatible with the natural character of this park and implementation of specific objectives, standards, and recommendations for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. This plan includes short-term and long-term guidelines for the Tecolote Canyon area.

Proceedings have been initiated to form the Tecolote Canyon

Natural Park Task Force. On December 12, 1982, the Public

Facilities and Recreation Committee unanimously approved formation of the task force. Council approved the Master Plan on May 24, is
expected in January 1983. At that time, Tecolote Canyon

Citizens Advisory Committee will become became an advisory committee to the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Task Force—and—revised by-laws will be adopted. An amendment to the Master Plan was approved on January 13, 1987.

#### B. OBJECTIVES OF MASTER PLAN

Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee drafted this master plan with specific objectives that its adoption and implementation should accomplish. These objectives are to

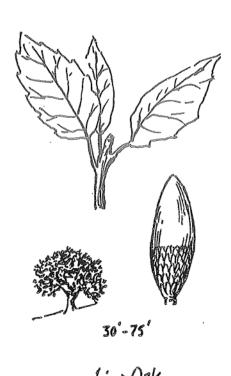
- Provide an accessible natural park to meet the needs of residents of San Diego, especially those in the Clairemont and Linda Vista area surrounding Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.
- Establish criteria and guidelines for the development of rim properties.
- Preserve the canyon slopes, thus ensuring their stability and natural form, and further protect hillsides and natural areas from damage by off-road vehicles.
- Preserve the natural creek which supports vegetation and wildlife habitat.
- Plant native plants in depleted areas for erosion control and restoration of areas disturbed by construction or grading.

- Preserve the open space to provide visual enjoyment. as well as to protect the natural habitat.
- Establish a <u>Tecolote Canyon Natural Resource</u>

  <u>Management Plan maintenance program within for the</u>

  park to preserve quality open space <u>and natural</u>

  resources.





III. LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES

#### LOCATION



Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is located in a narrow coastal valley running in a generally north-south direction. It divides, by its southerly half, the communities of Clairement and Linda Vista and, by its northerly half, the west and east areas of Clairement.

The mouth of the canyon is located a mile north of the San Diego River and is crossed by Interstate 5 at the intersection with Tecolote Road. Its northern tip nearly reaches Clairemont Mesa Boulevard at the North Clairemont Recreation Center. Genesee Avenue forms the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park eastern boundary. The western park boundary is the top of the steep slope parallel to Clairemont Drive and Cowley Way and the mouth of the canyon at the Tecolote Recreation Center.

#### TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK BOUNDARIES (Map #1)

The boundaries of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park were legally defined in Ordinance No. 12234 N.S., adopted by the San Diego City Council on December 14, 1977, dedicating 788.33 acres "for the purpose of preserving open space". The dedication ordinance states that the "said property should be set aside and preserved for the lasting enjoyment and benefit of the people of the City of San Diego".

Maps, used as a base for illustration in this master plan, show boundaries as defined in the dedication ordinance and verified by Olin Hughes, Property Agent, San Diego City Property Department. The verification is over his signature and dated January 15, 1980.

# ADDITIONAL LAND ACQUISITION

Since the dedication of the original acquisition for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, 64.83110 acres have been added to the park area. As canyon rim properties were developed, these additional acres were initially secured through provisions required for subdivision map approval by the San Diego City Council. The slopes below the Linda Vista Village Mobile Home Park were dedicated for inclusion to the park. An open space easement protected the slopes in the Meadow Ridge Development. Fox Run (formerly Cambridge Colony) subdivision map approval included a land trade with the City of San Diego that provided a finger canyon for a future entrance into the park. This finger canyon is protected by deed restrictions. On May 17, 1982, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 15749 which legally defined and included the above parcels within the expanded boundaries of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

#### PROPOSED ADDITIONS

This master plan proposes the addition of more slope acreage as remaining rim properties are developed. The largest and most important remaining property awaiting development

the city-owned 78 acre Tait Kelly site. On October 6, 1982, the City Council adopted the "University Canyon" tentative subdivision map for the Tait Kelly site and 29 acres of University of San Diego land. The adopted map indicates that Development of the University Canyon subdivision (also known as Tait Kelly site) resulted in addition of 29 acres. 12.01 acres will be dedicated and added to In 1986 approximately ½ of Kelly Street Park was renamed Tecolote Canyon Natural Park (R-264867).

The current draft of the updated Linda Vista Community Plan contains the following recommendation:

"The existing Tecolote Canyon Natural Park does not include the branch extending southerly along the west side of Genesee Avenue to Linda Vista Community Park, This city owned parcel of 21.9 acres was designated in the 1970 Community Plan for low density residential (5-10 dwelling units per net acre) development. The retention of the parcel as open space, however, is needed to complement Linda Vista Community Park and to serve as a natural corridor to the main Tecolote Canyon for residents of Linda Vista."

In addition, Linda Vista Community Planning Organization, the city wide Community Planners Committee, and the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department recommend—that the Federal lands, located northwest of Kelly Street Park (containing approximately 17 acres), presented to the City of San Diego for open space use, be incorporated within the boundaries of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

In 1967, the 4.06 acre neighborhood park, Mt. Brundage Park, was dedicated and later renamed as Tecolote Canyon

Natural Park in 1986 (R-264867). The area residents preferthat the development of the site be limited to planting a

few trees and installation of a small number of picnic
tables.

The primary function of the acreage would be is to serve as an entrance into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Residents in the Mt. Brundage Park area, the Park and Recreation

Department and Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee recommend the inclusion of this acreage within Tecolote

Canyon Natural Park boundaries. In November 2012,

approximately 10 acres in east Tecolote Canyon near

Genessee were dedicated to Tecolote Canyon Natural

Park (R-307902).

The North Clairemont Recreation Center will be an important secondary entrance. Although entry is easily accomplished, in order to meet legal requirements, an adequate trail reservation needs to be purchased or a permanent access easement acquired, across two privately owned lots that extend to the bottom of the canyon. Tecolote Canyon

Citizens Advisory Committee has requested City staff to begin the appropriate proceedings. Also, acquisition of an area for additional parking behind Eugene Field Elementary School athletic field, that could serve the park and recreation ball fields and the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park entrance, is being explored.

#### PROPOSED FUTURE ADDITIONS

As additional land receives definitive protection it will be included within the jurisdiction of this master plan.

#### VACATING OF PARK LAND

No portion of the land dedicated as Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will be vacated for other than recreational use except by the procedure specified in the San Diego City Charter. Section 55 of the San Diego City Charter states that dedicated park land shall not be used for any purpose other

than recreation, and such use cannot be changed except by authorization and ratification by a vote of two-thirds of the qualified voters of the City.





IV. CHRONOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY OF TECOLOTE CANYON

# CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK



Tecolote Canyon has been designated as a cartographic feature on area maps for nearly two centuries.

"Tecolote" is a pre-Columbian Indian work meaning "owl". This diminutive raptor lived here in considerable numbers, and its canyon home was

named after it by the Indians. Indications of early Kumeyaay Indian occupation at the mouth of the canyon date back 2,500 years.

The first settler was probably Judge Hyde who built a home and began farming in Tecolote Canyon about 1872. Farming and ranching continued until World War II and, as late as 1953, cattle were still grazing in the canyon. Startled residents sometimes found mounted cowboys herding strays out of the backyards of their rim-side homes.

From the first settlements in San Diego, Tecolote Canyon had remained in private ownership and was generally undeveloped, except for housing on the broad plain at the canyon mouth. Beginning in the 1940's, the city began expanding northward and housing was built on the mesas and along the canyon rims, where development was inexpensive. The community on the east rim was named Linda Vista and the community to the west and north became Clairemont. In 1957, the city government planned to open a sanitary landfill in

Tecolote Canyon. The proposal met with a storm of protest from the residents of Linda Vista and Clairemont and was later abandoned. However, the first step in the long march toward preservation of Tecolote Canyon as an open space park had been taken.

In the 1960's, as land became scarce, builders proposed housing on the floor of the canyon, and a major four-lane road was designed for its length. Community residents, who had long enjoyed the beauty of the canyon, were faced with the grim reality of its imminent loss and reacted with determination. The land within the canyon was zoned for single-family residences and the most the early protectors could hope for was to retain this low density. In 1963, the Fireside Park Homeowners Association crusaded successfully to defeat a plan for high-density multiple residential units which would have stair-stepped down the canyon slope.

In the mid-1960's, citizen planning groups were formed throughout San Diego as a vehicle for citizen input as required for Housing and Urban Development(HUD)programs. The Linda Vista (Kearny Vista Planning Committee now called Linda Vista Community Planning Organization) and Clairemont (Clairemont Mesa Development Committee)planning organizations agreed from the outset that Tecolote Canyon, their common community boundary, should be preserved as open space. Representatives from these two planning groups formed the Joint Advisory Board and launched a drive to persuade the San Diego City Council to enact legislation enabling the formation

of a park district to preserve Tecolote Canyon as an open space park. This request was pursued for several years while the planning groups, the Joint Advisory Board, and many allied "ad hoc" groups, such as Tecolote Canyon Protective Association, Citizens to Save Open Space, and Georgetown Homeowners Association, convinced the City Council to deny tentative subdivision maps from one end of Tecolote Canyon to the other Two mayors and several councilmanic changes later, the communities prevailed.

In 1969, the persevering advocates were rewarded with the San Diego City Council adoption of the Park Procedural Ordinance. During January 1971, the Tecolote Canyon Park District was initiated by a unanimous vote of the Council. In July 1974, the Council unanimously adopted the Tecolote Canyon Park District. The legality of the Park Procedural Ordinance was subsequently challenged but upheld by the courts. Land acquisition was completed, and, on April 1, 1978, the dedication ceremony was held. The new park was officially named Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, and the first members of the Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee were sworn in.

#### NATURAL HISTORY OF TECOLOTE CANYON

#### PHYSIOGRAPHY

Tecolote Canyon is approximately six miles long, with a principal tributary two miles long, and varies between one quarter and one half mile in width. The canyon mouth opens into a broad, flat delta called the Morena District. The creek empties into Mission Bay at the Pacific Passage side of Fiesta Island. The mixing zone at the fresh-salt interface has been historically called the Cudahy Slough. The ancient creek delta, bounded by Bay Park on the north and by University Knolls on the south is no longer contributed to by the runoff from the creek. Sediments carried by the creek are instead deposited in Pacific Passage adjacent to the Fiesta Island land bridge. The creek north of the golf course is usually dry in the summer, but during the rainy season it can run vigorously at a depth of 6-8 feet. Water used to maintain the golf course greens creates a flow even during the dry season. Tecolote Creek contributes to the groundwater table in lower Tecolote There are a few active wells in the Canyon. residential areas of Gardena Avenue.

The axis of lower Tecolote Canyon is roughly west to east, commencing at Mission Bay and ending below Tait Street in Linda Vista. After a 90 degree turn the upper canyon has a principal axis running approximately north northwest.

About one mile north there is a large tributary, which runs east-northeast for one mile, then north-northwest for

another mile. The north and west sides of Tecolote Canyon are steep, with gradients of about 1:1, while the eastern and southern sides are much lower gradients, nearing 3:1 or 4:1. The steep northern and western sides are contributed to by a few short, steep finger canyons, while the eastern and southern sides have many long, deep canyon tributaries. The canyon begins at sea level and rises in its six mile traverse to a height of about 320 feet. The canyon rims are between 315 and 400 feet above sea level.

### GEOLOGY

The walls of the canyon are principally Scripps Formation of Eocene (60 million years ago) Age, except at the mouth where the northern wall into Bay park is the Quaternary (1.8 million years ago) Bay Point Formation. The Tecolote Recreation Center sits on San Diego Formation of Pliocene (10 million years old) Age. The entire canyon bottom is undifferentiated Holocene (Recent) alluvium and slopewash.

#### FAULTS

There are four identified faults in the Tecolote Canyon drainage system. The Mission Bay Fault, located farthest downstream, runs from the Country Club Fault atop Mt. Soledad in a south-southeast direction parallel with the

eastern shore of Mission Bay and down into Old Town. Roughly parallel and to the east a few hundred yards is the famous Rose Canyon Fault zone, which forms the true ancient shore of Mission Bay. This fault runs along the eastern edge of Bay Park at the western foot of the Clairement area, passes under the intersection of Gardena and Knoxville Streets, and across the canyon floor to University Knolls. Another small, short fault is directly to the east of the Tecolote Recreation Center extending from University Knolls to the middle of the canyon. The fourth fault is a short fault extending from the intersection of Cowley Way and Mt. Acadia Street down to the middle of the canyon.

#### FSSIL SITES

Registered fossil mammal site LACM (Los Angeles County Museum) (CIT) 314, UCMP (University of California Mammal Project) V6882, UCR (University of California, Riverside) RV7046, is found at the northwest side of the sharp bend of the tributary canyon, 1,000 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the Mesa College property line, at or near the junction of the Scripps Formation and Friars Formation. In 1980, a paleontological dig was completed in the southern portion of Tecolote Canyon, yielding excellent specimens of Pliocene Marine mammal skeletal remains. The dig was conducted by the San Diego Museum of Natural History.

# ECOLOGY

The native vegetation is the key ingredient in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. All other significant qualities derive from this basic ecological unit. Native plant communities are closely related to the natural climatic zone in which they are found, as well as the underlying soil in which they must grow. Tecolote Canyon, and other local canyons, have an intermingling of two native plant communities: coastal sage scrub and chaparral. This combination of plant communities is habitat for the flora and fauna listed in the appendix. It cannot be emphasized enough that these native plants are unique species whose range is restricted to Southern California and northern Baja California. They are not found anywhere else in the world and are of immense environmental and scientific importance.

Chaparral is the western name of our typical one story land cover consisting of a wide variety of shrubs. They are mostly evergreen, extensively branched, of dwarf growth habit and have extensive, deep root systems (up to 80 feet) that allow them to endure hot, dry summers. Chamise, toyon, scrub oak, holly-leafed cherry, and red berry are found in Tecolote Canyon's elfin forest.

The coastal sage scrub plant community is a less dense, open-type community largely made up of half-shrubs and subshrubs. The principal dominants include California sage brush, white sage, black sage, lemonade berry, laurel sumac, and monkey flower.

Water lingers along the creek bed, therefore, the largest and most robust plants are found here. In the northern area, western branch and southern parts of Tecolote Canyon, a mature gallery forest still thrives along the channel. Here large live oaks, sycamores and willows are found with their attendant undergrowth.

A description of the natural history of Tecolote Canyon is not complete without its recognition as a diminishing resource under pressure from urbanization. Excess water finds its way into the native environment from landscape irrigation via storm drains. The golf course is a large maintained area in Tecolote Canyon that creates an artificial oasis for plants and animal life. The golf course watering creates a downstream year round flow that is capable of supporting some aquatic life forms, such as the crayfish.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park has also been invaded by plants and animals that disturb and often displace the natives. Some introduced plants have been here so long that many residents do not recognize them as not belonging. Of these, tumbleweed, wild chrysanthemums, mustard and fennel are the most pervasive. These annuals, accidently imported from Europe and Asia many years ago, grow vigorously during the rainy season and create a fire hazard once dried. Other plants, such as Pampas grass and ice plant, sometimes "escape" from landscaped areas and displace the "natives". Domestic animals, such as cats,

explore the reaches of Tecolote Canyon and take their toll by instinct rather than intent. Introduced animals include English sparrows, starlings, Norway rats, and crayfish, all of which compete with the native fauna.

Our native vegetation, through not large or lush in appearance, is eminently suited and refined to the semi-arid climate. This seemingly harsh and brittle habitat has served as cover, home, rich food source, and medicine cabinet for man and animal alike long before the "benefits" of modern civilization were introduced. It is singularly ours in Southern California. Tecolote Canyon Natural Park sets aside hundreds of acres of the chaparral and coastal sage scrub plant communities under a unique stewardship. With protection and respect, it will always be there providing the marvel of "belly-flopper" flowers and the sweet smell of sage. Even the agony of poison oak rash can be ours forever.





V. MASTER PLAN FOR TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK



A. GENERAL PLAN (853.16 950 acres)
Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is not only a park for today, but it will become an increasingly important regional resource-based park in the future. Resource-based parks are defined by the City of San Diego

General Plan as those located at the site of distinctive scenic, natural

"located at, or centered on, notable natural... features... and intended to serve the citywide population, as well as visitors."

Open space lands are described as "consisting of canyons, mesas, and other natural landforms... intended to preserve and protect native plants and animals, while providing public access and enjoyment..." Tecolote Canyon Natural Park fulfills both requirements.

Our native vegetation is certainly a diminishing resource as the urbanization of Southern California continues. As stated earlier in this document, "the native vegetation is the key ingredient in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park; all other significant qualities derive from this basic ecological unit".

As the master plan is developed in the succeeding pages, the basis for City-wide importance will be evident. The intent for City-wide use was reflected in the original funding through the 1971 Tecolote Canyon Park District. At that time, an assessment district was formed according to the procedure prescribed by the 1969 Park Procedural Ordinance. The assessment district paid 25% of the land acquisition costs for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park while the City of San Diego funded the remaining 75%.

The intended City-wide use was reinforced when the assessments were refunded following the passage of Proposition C in 1978. Tecolote Canyon Natural Park was incorporated into San Diego's Open Space Park Facilities District No. 1.

The accompanying maps illustrate the maximum development suitable for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Proposed trails are identified in all areas and inter-area connections are plotted. Sites suitable for visitor centers and trailheads are identified. Access points are noted, classified, and coordinated with public transportation. (See Map #3 and Access Index in the Appendix). Existing and proposed trails, visitor center, access points, trailheads, picnic facilities, restrooms and parking are identified on Map #3 TRAIL PLAN.

The primary emphasis of the park master plan is the enhancement, restoration, and preservation of the near natural environment available for all in the midst of our urban setting. The interior of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will be for foot traffic nonmotorized recreational use only. Facilities In addition to access, facilities for picnicking, restrooms, parking, and a visitor centers will be have been located on the park's perimeter at <del>locations appropriate for managing</del> appropriately to minimize impacts associated with visitor activity. Parking for a limited number of cars will be has been provided at some access points and will be additional parking was incorporated into provided at the Nature Center. This plan contemplates integrating additional parking at existing recreation centers and neighborhood parks where possible. Several trailheads are coordinated with public transportation. No new public road, street, or thoroughfare for vehicular access is to be constructed

through any portion of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. No off-road vehicular activity will be permitted.

The proposed overall land use for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is outlined on Map #52 SCHOOLS & HABITAT TYPES which will serve as a general development guide. In keeping with the stated purpose of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, large portions of Tecolote Canyon, especially the steeper slopes, should remain untouched, serving as cover and habitat for wildlife. Even the dead trees should be left in place to provide perches for raptors, habitat for small animals, and natural mulch unless the tree threatens to endanger visitors to the park, the tree inhibits access for emergency, utilities or ranger patrols, or the tree poses a threat to the natural resources within the park. Grading and erosion have taken their toll in many areas of the park. Areas in obvious need of restoration will be noted in succeeding regionalized discussions

The San Diego Gas and Electric Company has granted the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department permission to designate their right-of-way through Tecolote Canyon as part of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, as long as the designation does not restrict their ability to develop and maintain the facilities in that right-of-way. Note on Map #3 TRAIL PLAN shows that parts of the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's right-of-way Areas A, B. and Care incorporated into the hiking trail system. Entrance #22 is used to enter the park along the One access point from Via Bello on San Diego Gas and Electric Company's right-of-way is reserved for future development (Entrance D-1) from Via Bello and is for pedestrian use by local residents.

The Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan proposes that a encompasses the system of decomposed granite emergency service roads be established and maintained by the City of San Diego and San Diego Gas and Electric Company for the co-benefit of park access along with protection of the park, its users, and the adjacent property owners (Map #2-4 EMERGENCY ACCESS).

The primary entrance to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is to be located at the end of Tecolote Road just east of Tecolote Recreation Center. This entry point is convenient for pedestrians, and visitors coming in to the park from private vehicles and public transportation.

Access for handicapped visitors is most appropriate at this entrance as the ground is fairly level. The Park will be evaluated for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-related enhancements, with a focus on this area.

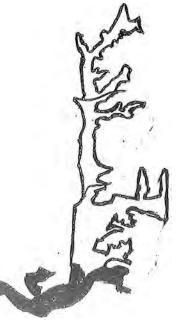
The Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee has noted that a university, a community college, two high schools, two junior high schools, and six elementary schools are located either on the rim of Tecolote Canyon or within easy walking distance of the park boundaries, and that Tecolote Canyon Natural Park presents a marvelous living classroom for natural science. Opportunities for field trips for local schools and for volunteer work with local service groups are numerous. The Nature Center serves as a hub for educational and outreach opportunities, with interpretive displays both inside and outside in the native plant garden about the natural and cultural resources within the Park. Restoration and enhancement of areas most suited for educational use are to receive a high priority. Restoration efforts should involve as much volunteer assistance as possible. Many lessons in environmental sensitivity could be effectively taught tostudents of all ages if their toil is included in conservation-projects.

The Tecolote Creek channel has changed considerably over the last several years. As the rim properties have been developed, the run-off has increased dramatically and erosion has become a severe problem. In January 1982 October 1983, the San Diego-City Council directed staff to conduct an erosion and siltation control study was completed for Tecolote Canyon. Once this has been completed and implemented, the gallery forest can be supplemented with plantings of native trees plants. Canyon-wide erosion control is also important for the protection of the sewer line (all areas) and the U. S. Navy jet fuel line (Area A and D) lying under the floor of Tecolote Canyon.

This master plan has been reviewed by the Linda Vista Community Planning Group Organization and Clairemont Community Planning Group Mesa Development Committee and found consistent with their adopted community plans.

## B. MAP AREAS REGIONAL PLANS

To simplify further discussion, this plan has divided Tecolote Canyon Natural Park into five <u>distinct</u> areas (A through E, as shown on Map #45 MAP AREAS). Each area has varied topography and different requirements. As the master plan is implemented throughout the park, each area <u>will</u> should be managed to retain those the characteristics which make it unique.



## Area A (<del>135.30</del> 215 acres)

Area A is the most southern and western area of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

It is also the most accessible portion of the park. At the point in the throat of the canyon locally referred to as "The Narrows," the plan calls for a sturdy, but decorative masonry wall and gate the Tecolote Nature Center offers park visitors museum-like displays showcasing the natural and cultural history of the

Park, as well as parking, restrooms, picnic tables, meeting spaces and educational facilities (Entrance #1). Educational programs based at the Nature Center include guided canyon walks, live reptile demonstrations inside the Nature Center, or talks in the outdoor amphitheater. Other community events are held at the Nature Center such as art and yoga classes.

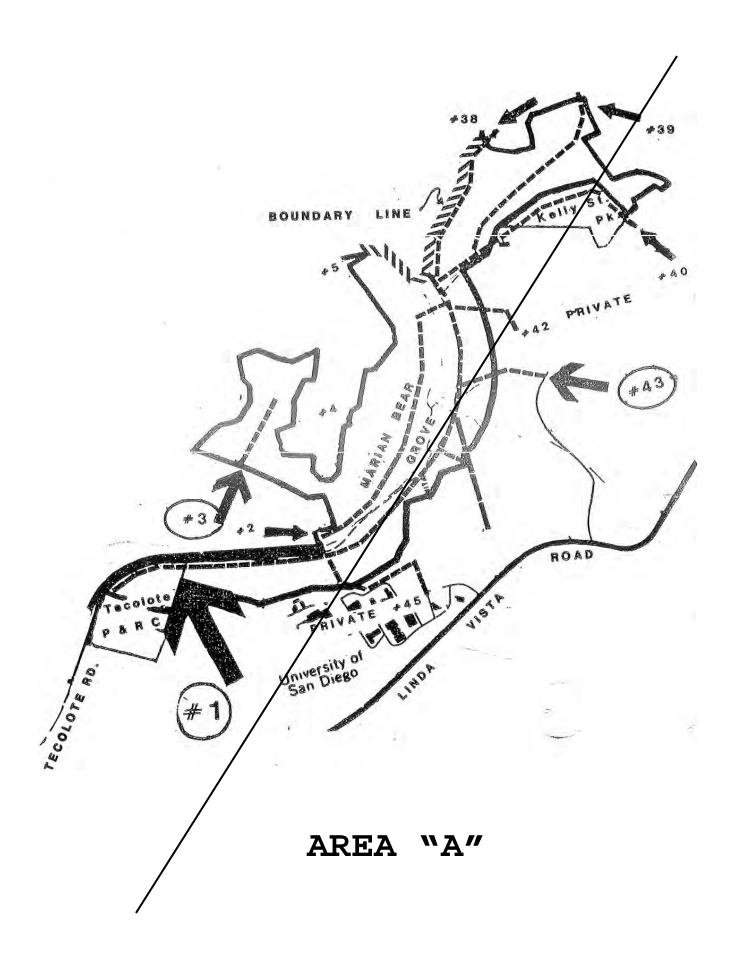
In addition, the substantial barricade at the end of Gardena Avenue must be maintained thus preventing illegal vehicular entry into this part of the park (Entrance #2). The space between the Tecolote Recreation Center and the entrance gate at "The Narrows" is to remain as a transition area between the recreation center and the natural park. Representatives of Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee, Little League, and Youth Soccer have met with the Park Development Division to design a transition complex that satisfies the requirements of all users.

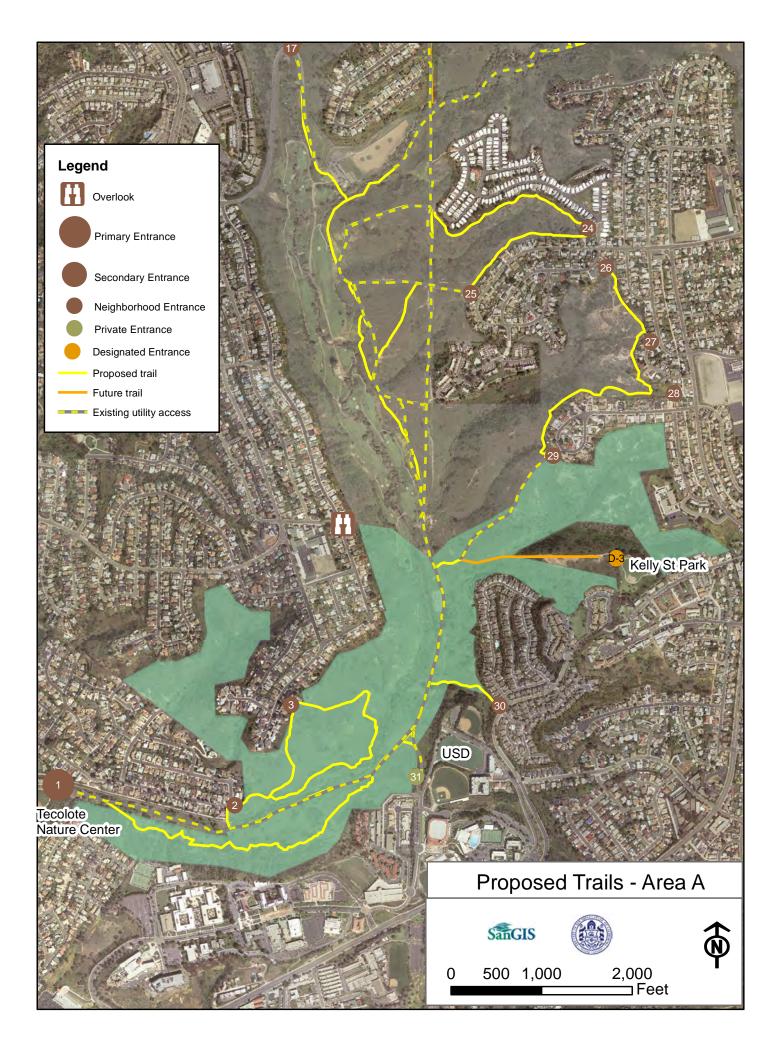
The master plan proposes that the existing athletic fields, east of the Tecolote Recreation Center buildings, be upgraded and realigned. Expanded parking, handicapped, picnic, and restroomfacilities will be located near the gate at "The Narrows," along with the proposed visitor center for Tecolote Canyon

wisitor The Nature Ceenter will provides nature and trail information, trail distances for hikers, mountain bikers, and joggers, and will posted signs reinforce park regulations. A small museum and meeting facility will complete this proposed complex. It is essential that a cooperative planning jurisdiction between Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee and the park planners for Tecolote Recreation Center be established and maintained for the area of expected athletic field expansion. This will assure both facilities use without unfair restriction.

Inside the proposed Entrance #1 Area A opens into a large level meadow, providing a lovely area in which to stroll. The utilityservice/emergency decomposed granite road proposed for this area be able to double as an entry for handicapped persons. serves as the main entrance. — For instance, those in wheelchairs could travel well into Area A on this road.

Area A's northwestern portion contains a riparian gallery forest that has been dedicated as the Marian R. Bear Memorial Grove. The grove is designed to be a passive area for walking, "bench sitting," and wildlife observation. Visually, as well as physically, handicapped persons could enjoy exposure to a natural park environment at this site. There is an excellent potential for development of a nature trail for the blind. Through cooperative private and city funding, the memorial grove will be enhanced with native trees (live oak, sycamore, and willow) over





period of several years and a few rustic observation platforms or benches will be installed.

The University of San Diego, while not granting general public access to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park across its campus, will permit organized groups the use of their parking lot and entry from the bus stop, provided the sponsoring organized group has prior permission (Entrances # 31 44 and #45). Permission may be secured from the University of San Diego's Special Events Office (phone 293-4592). The University of San Diego Master Plan includes a trails and pedestrian plan consistent with the Master Plan and includes wayfinding and trail signage to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

Development of the Tait Kelly site and some University of SanDiego land on the eastern rim will impact Area A visually and
physically. Cooperative design efforts between the Linda VistaPlanners, representatives of Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory
Committee, Collins Development Co., and University of San Diegohave resulted in a subdivision design that is acceptably
compatible with Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Named "University
Canyon", the subdivision's placement will assist in blocking
illegal vehicular access while providing three pedestrian trails
down the slopes. Two trails (Entrances#41 and #42) will not be
open to the general public, but will serve the University CanyonCondominium Complex.

A public secondary neighborhood access entrance (Entrance #43 30) will be provided from Via Las Cumbres. The abandoned sewer settling tanks that used to sit at the foot of the slope were demolished

during construction of the University Canyon development, which represent a clear danger to children, will be demolished and buried under a recon-

toured slope. San Diego Gas and Electric Company is expected to improve maintains its barricade a locked gate at the edge of the University of San Diego campus near "University Canyon" to prevent off-road vehicle entry (Entrance #44 31).

Kelly Street Park is an established existing neighborhood

Neighborhood park Parkbut a—A future trail connection into the canyon is planned and will serve as a neighborhood trail head for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park (Entrance #40 D-3).

Northwest of the Marian Bear Memorial Grove lies an area known as Goldboro Canyon. Though contiguous to the rest of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, it is isolated by a deep ravine and is closed to public use. can only be entered from the terminus of Goldboro Street (Entrance #3). The Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan proposed that this location be used as a native plant and wildlife preserve. There is over 500 lineal feet of curbside parking on Goldboro Street between the park and Galena/Gasconade Avenue that is seldom used by the residents due to unusual house placement and long steep driveways. Therefore, the master plan does not recommend construction of a parking lot to serve the native plant preserve.

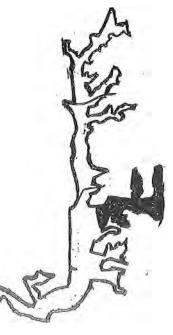
A trail descending along the ridge from the western end of Lanston Street (Entrance #38 29) to the floor of the canyon marks the northeastern boundary of Area A. Entrance #39 serves the neighborhood to the east along Langmuir Street. Entrances #4 and #5 are designated for future development but not for use at this time. An overlook is proposed at the end of July Street; no access to the canyon is allowed due to the steepness of the canyon walls.

All chaparral and scrub covered slopes and other unaddressed areas are to remain undisturbed and enhanced as wildlife cover and habitat.

When the undeveloped portion of Kelly Street Park is transferred to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, except for a trail from the developed portion connecting it with Tecolote Canyon Natural Park's trail system, the acreage would serve as additional wildlife habitat.—



Gray Squirrel



## <u>Area B</u> (<del>114.00</del> <u>145</u> acres)

This region of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park presents a considerable change in topography and challenge from Area A. North and south facing slopes are steep.

Heavily traveled

Genesee Avenue borders the eastern limit

and the driving range of the Tecolote

Canyon Golf Course blocks the western

entry into Area B. In spite of the more

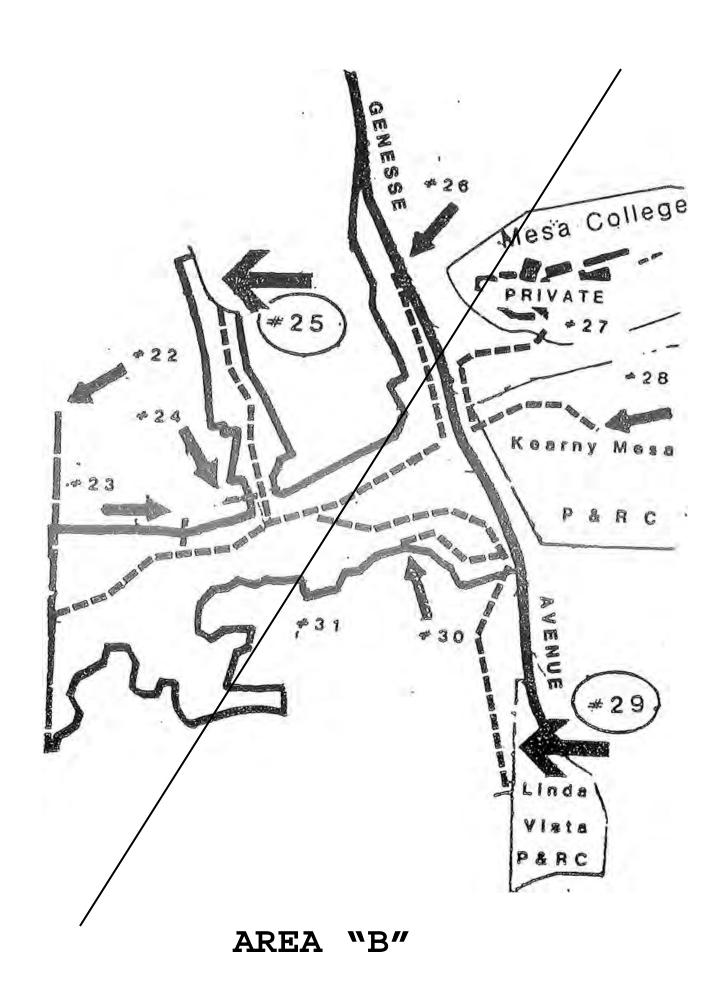
difficult entry, it is an area that

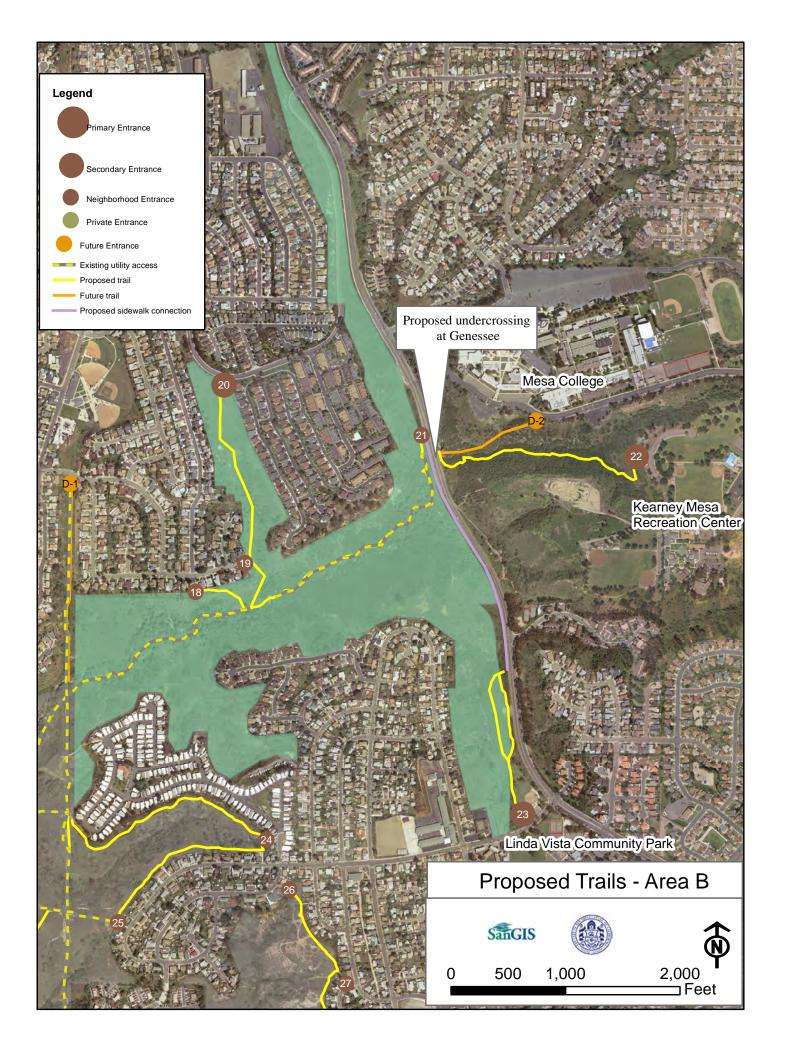
invites exploration. This part of Tecolote Canyon is very beautiful. Trails lead through canebrakes and past an exposed chalky deposit that has been known as "White Cliffs" by local children for decades. Trails meander into a small meadow and under a gallery forest of mature live oak and sycamore trees. The entire Area B is to be preserved in its natural state. Enhancement and restoration will be required at several points, where the flow from storm drains have damaged some slopes and the creek channel has been widened by increased run-off resulting in damage to some of the tree roots.

A finger canyon, on the northern edge of Area B, was incorporated into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park through a land trade with the developer of "Carobridge Colony" (now

Fox Run). The subdivision was specifically designed to leave a window of access into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park along Acworth Avenue just south of its intersection with Mt. Carol Drive (Entrance #25 20). This small finger canyon is currently devastated by erosion. A consultant hired by the City of San Diego, has conducted an erosion control study to determine alternatives for its repair to a state safe for use by the public as a park entrance.

The Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee selected, fromthree alternatives, the proposal for a 1200 foot underground extension of the present storm drain that would control heavy storm runoff all the way to the main canyon floor instead of the other proposals that used one or more check dams to control erosion. Funding for this repair is presently being sought. Once restored, the subject finger canyon will become Entrance 20 is a major public entrance for Area B. The area has a history of erosion issues, relating to development of Fox Run and poor design of a storm drain servicing the area. Though modifications to the storm drain have improved the erosion issue, more improvements are needed in this area. Facilities include—It will be suitable for a secondary—or—self-service visitor center, parking, a small picnic area, and a trailhead for a foot path descending into a particularly handsome grove of live oaks on the floor of the canyon. An entrance at Genesee Avenue, near the Marlesta Drive bus stop (Entrance #26 21), serves as a pedestrian and emergency/service entrance. Other entrances extend from the surrounding neighborhoods (Entrances #22, #23 18, #24—19 and #20) and are well traveled by nearby residents. Entrance #31 on High Knoll Street is not suitable for use at pre-



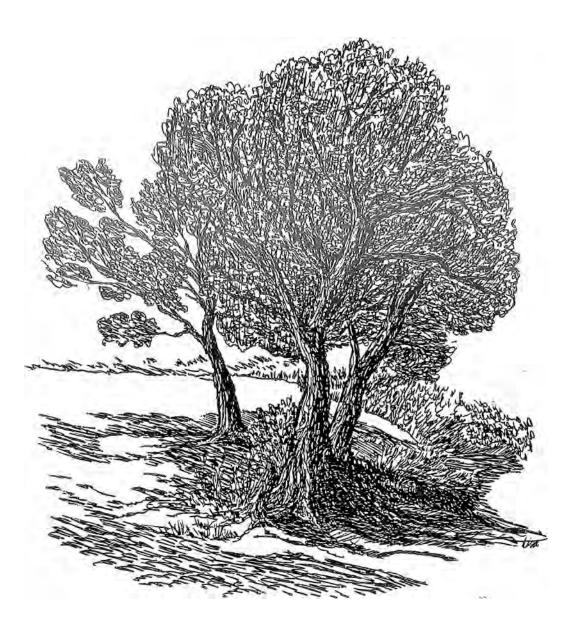


could allow students and guests from Mesa College(Entrance D-2) are to able to enter Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. by crossing at Genesee Avenue near Marlesta Energetic visitors to Kearny Mesa Park and Recreation Center may hike from the center's picnic area (Entrance #22) into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park down the slope to Genesee Avenue and into the Park through a box culvert with improvements for visitor safety. Signs will be posted to warn pedestrians not to attempt crossing during rain events. Another option for a crossing could be considered for Genesee Avenue if it results in consistency with the Community Plan, improved safety, and better connectivity while minimizing environmental impacts to the Park.

The hikers' connection between Areas A and C is will be a future trail over the bluffs on the eastern slope of Tecolote Canyon above the golf course. This trail will connects with Area B at the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's easement and descends to the floor of the canyon a safe distance east of Tecolote Canyon Golf Course driving range.

The current Linda Vista Community Plan draft proposes that a city owned 21.9 acre branch of Tecolote Canyon, extending south along—Genesee Avenue to the Linda Vista Community Park, be retained as open—space. The Master Plan recommends that this parcel be dedicated and—included within Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. There will be ample—space for an important secondary entrance to Tecolote Canyon Natural—Park An entrance from the Linda Vista Community Park (Entrance #29 23)—contains a loop trail with interpretive panels to that will serve the Linda Vista community. Facilities will include a self-service visitor center, parking, restrooms, a picnic grove, and a trailhead. for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Future recommended traffic—improvements along the west side of Genesee Ave. will provide pedestrian access from loop trail to Entrance #21 along Genesee Ave. via improved side walk connection.

Area B abounds with poison oak. If control can be implemented without environmental excessive damage, it should be attempted. and this vegetation should be controlled along the trails. Off-trail areas should remain basically undisturbed for wildlife habitat.



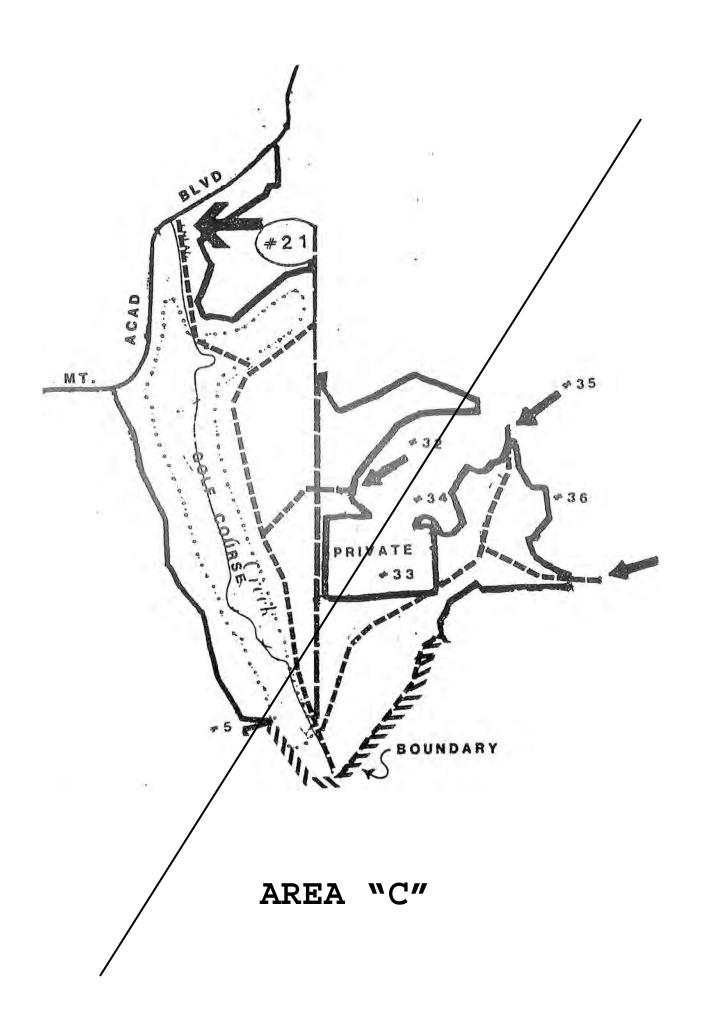


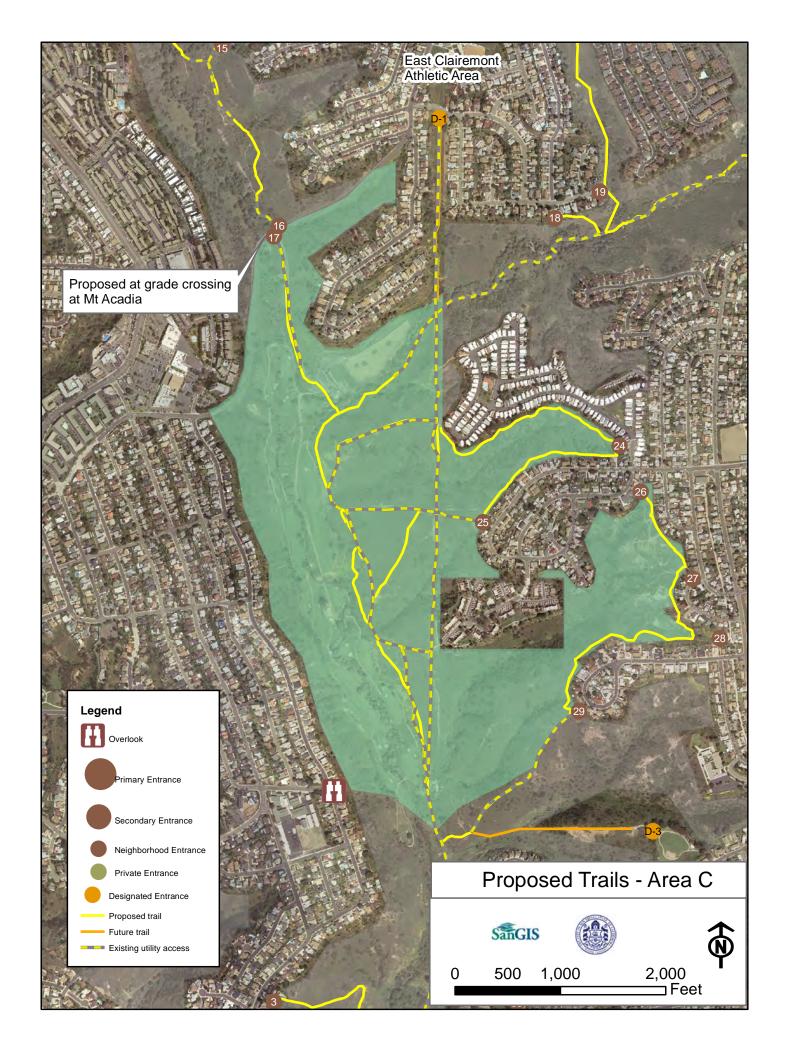
Area C (277.31 272 acres) This is the midsection of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and contains the Tecolote Canyon Golf Course.

The master plan calls for the continuing operation and upgrading of the golf course but without expansion. The golf course is presently leased from the city by a private operator and the current lease expires in 1987 2022. When the lease is negotiated for renewal, particular attention needs to be paid to definition of golf course lease boundaries and lessee's responsibility for erosion

control and damage repair. The golf course has sustained severe erosive damage in the last few years. This master plan proposes improved upstream management of storm run-off so that the need for engineered flood control through the golf course greens will be reduced. Appropriate attention also needs to should be directed to management of golf course vegetation. Trees must not be removed without specific permit. This area is literally "infested" with pampas grass which must be curbed before the entire natural park is covered. On the northern and eastern boundary of the driving range, the fence has been damaged knocked down and signs removed. Installation of an improved fence should be required and maintained. Signs should also warn park users away from the driving range.

Proposed trails for hikers will cross the lower bluffs east of the golf course. Mr. Clyde Griffin, The current golf course lessee, American Golf Corporation, and the City of San Diego agree to a public access foot-path easement agreement which will descend from the bluffs and cross the creek to a pathway between the main golf course and the clubhouse/driving range. A foot bridge will be required for reasonable passage and the lessee requests a gate here that can be locked at night. Hikers Visitors will be able to exit Area C via Snead Avenue (Entrance #17) and enter Area D on the north side of Mt. Acadia Boulevard. The trail will branch, while still on the bluff south of the golf course clubhouse, and the eastern trail will lead the hiker above the golf course driving range into Area B at the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's easement right of way. Trails, from the Linda Vista area (Entrances #24, #32 25, #35—26, #27, and #37 28), will extend either to the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's right of way easement or to the trail lower on the bluffs, allowing entry to either Area A or Area B. Access easements are required for permission to cross two private parcels between Entrances 27 and 28 for the community surrounding the finger canyon known as Manning Canyon. These easements are in process. Residents of the Casa Bella condominium complex are served by Private Entrance #33. Other designated access is reserved for future development (Entrances #34 and #36). The western slope of Area C is very steep and not suitable for public pathways. The golf course runs along the base of most of the slope in this region, making hiking west and east or along the western boundary of the course incompatible with the leasehold.

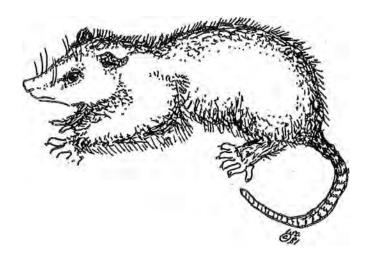


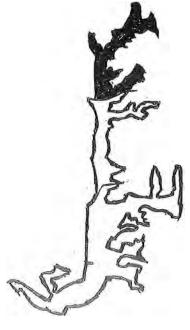


A secondary Two neighborhood entrances (Entrances #21\_16 and 17) is proposed at the intersection of Mt. Acadia Boulevard and Snead Avenue. Parking, A a self-service visitor center, and will provide access to trails in Area C to the south and into Area D to the north will be located here upon completion of recommended traffic improvements or other improvements to provide safe pedestrian crossing across Mt. Acadia Boulevard.

All off-trail areas not included in the golf course will be left undisturbed or enhanced for wildlife cover and habitat.

Should the golf course be abandoned, an amendment to this plan should be drawn up to provide an alternate use for this area.





## Area D (<del>166.52</del>-169 acres)

Area D contains the most conspicuous environmental damage in all of Tecolote
Canyon Natural Park. In 1971, a large borrow pit removed huge amounts of soil to fill two side canyons for development. A large area of the main canyon floor and slopes were left disfigured. The scarred slopes have not been were replanted by the Friends of Tecolote Canyon. —nor have they restored themselves naturally due to a combination of

poor soil conditions and western slope exposure.

The master plan proposes recontouring the scarred slopes may have a benefit to return the canyon slope to an original shape, however, it would damage the native vegetation that was planted and is not recommended at this time in order to minimize impacts where possible., and replanting the damaged canyon floor and slopes with native material. Restoration of this site has been designated as a long term project by Friends of Tecolote Canyon, a state registered non-profit corporation. The cooperation of the San Diego City Park and Recreation Department has been assured.

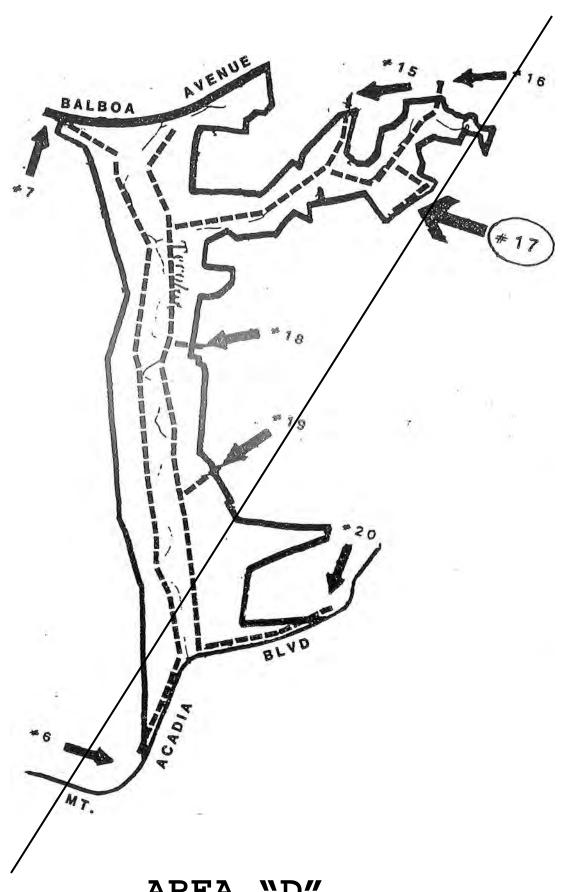
There is a gallery forest along the canyon floor in the northern half of Area D that is relatively undamaged. Several large oaks grow along the creek in this part of the canyon, some likely reaching over 100 years old. The centerpiece of this region is a fine old live oak tree. It is probably the largest, the oldest, and one of the health

iest oaks in all of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Its estimated age is 200 years. Another large oak supports a popular rope swing. In spite of the swing's noisy users, two rare White Tailed Kites were recently observed nesting close by. It is an area attractive to children and wildlife.

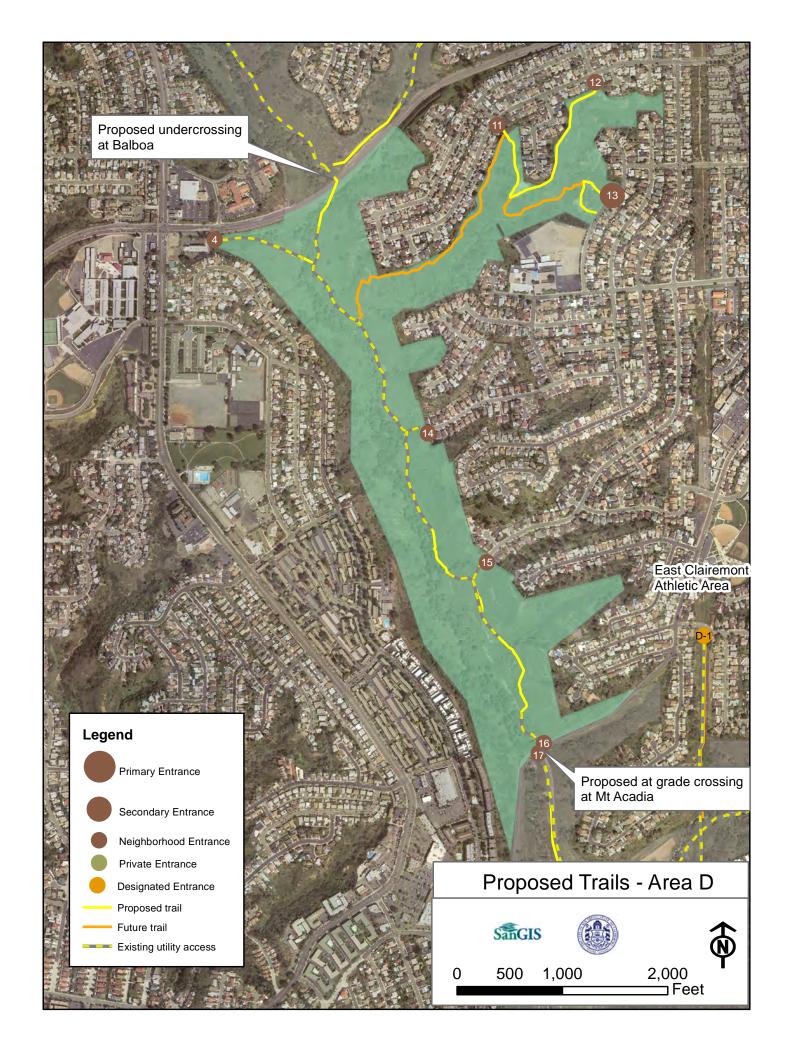
Visitor access is limited in Area D. The northern and southern boundaries are heavily traveled streets with no stopping or parking allowed (Balboa Avenue and Mt. Acadia Ave. The western slope is very steep so that direct neighborhood access is impractical.

Reasonable public entry can be accomplished from the western side at the southern and northern ends of Area D. Improvements to Mt. Acadia would allow safe pedestrian access from trails in Area C (Entrance #16).

In the south, visitors can descend Mt. Acadia Boulevard on foot, bicycle, or car either from the Village Shopping Center on the west or the residential area to the east and use the secondary entrance (Entrance #21) at Snead Avenue and Mt. Acadia Boulevard.Park visitors my enter Area D of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park on the northern side of Mt. Acadia Boulevard and travel south through the golf course trails into Areas B and C. On the northwestern corner of Area D, there is a pathway suitable for pedestrians at the rear of Garfield Plaze—Plaza (Entrance #7 4). This small shopping center is located at the intersection of Balboa Avenue and Clairemont Drive.



AREA "D"



A suitable secondary entrance on the eastern side of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park within Area D is on Mt. Brundage Avenue north of Holmes Elementary School (Entrance #17 13). The Master Plan recommends—that the 4.06 acre site, formerly known as Mt. Brundage—Neighborhood Park, be incorporated into Tecolote Canyon—Natural Park.—There is approximately 500 feet of curbside parking available, thus off-street parking would not be required. The slope inclination lends itself readily to trail construction that would extend into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park's hiking trail—system. Development—Current facilities include a trailhead and garbage bins, and future development of the site could provide additional improvements such as a —will be limited to a—self service visitor center, a small number of picnic tables, and

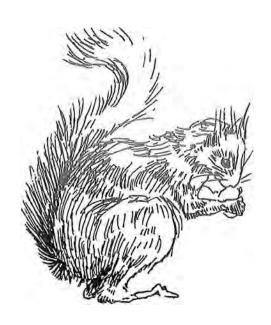
planting of additional native plants trees.

Several streets, that dead end on the border of the park, serve well as neighborhood entrances (Mt. Bagot Entrance #15 11, Mt. Culebra Entrance #16 12, Mt. Ashmun Entrance #18 14, and Mt. Ariane Entrance #19-15). At-grade crossing of Balboa Avenue into Area E at street level is impossible obstructed due to traffic conditions and a the center divider and the roadway's functional classification. A large culvert under Balboa Avenue will provide hikers access to Area E with improvements made for pedestrian safety. Signs shall be posted to warn pedestrians from entering the culvert during rain events. Another option for a crossing could be considered for Balboa Avenue if it results in consistency with the Community Plan, improved safety, and better connectivity while minimizing environmental impacts to the Park. — has been usedby some energetic hikers to enter Area E. This, however, involvesunresolved risk, especially during the rainy season. The alternative is to exit area D at Garfield Plaza (Entrance #7), cross to the north side of Balboa Avenue, and walk along the northernside of Balboa Avenue to re-enter Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

Further study is required to find a satisfactory safe

passage between Area D and Area E.

Off-trail slopes and finger canyons will serve as wildlife cover and habitat.



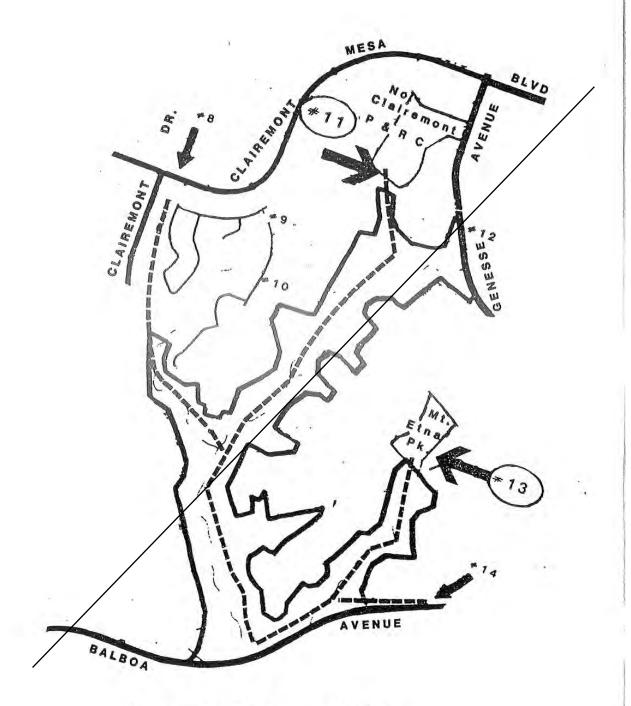


## <u>Area E</u> (<del>160.03</del> <u>149</u> acres)

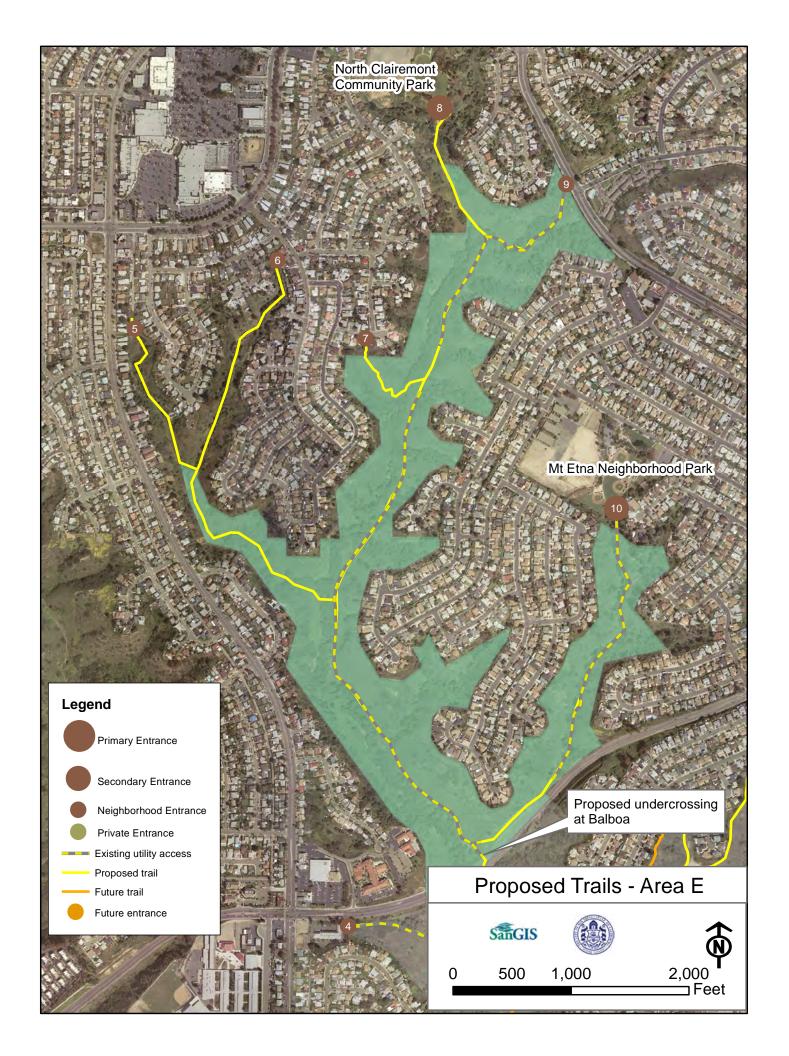
This section of Tecolote Canyon Natural
Park has been less impacted by urbanization
than any other area. Visitors to
Area E feel as if they are miles away from
an urban area. High grassy slopes obscure
the houses on the rim and the dense
gallery forest is in good condition.
Members of the Canyoneers, an organization
from the San Diego Natural History
Museum, have found abundant natural wonders

to share during visits to this portion of Tecolote Canyon
Natural Park. The master plan proposes retention of the region
in its present state with the improvement of trails.

There are two established recreational facilities on the boundary of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park in Area E. They are the North Clairemont Recreation Center (Entrance #8) and the Mt. Etna Community Park (Entrance #13 10). Both facilities coordinate well with Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and will be supplied with self-service visitor centers. Although the North Clairemont Recreation Center appears to be adjacent to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park as noted earlier in the text, permanent access across two



AREA "E"



privately owned lots will be necessary to meet legal requirements. The Master Plan proposes acquiring additional parking behind the Field Elementary School ball fields in order to help relieve the congested parking situation at the North Clairement Recreation Center.

A paved alley (Entrance #8 5) near Clairemont Drive and Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, provides neighborhood access in the northwest on a street right of way. Two additional access points from this neighborhood are on Willamette Ave just west of Rolfe Road on street right-of-way (Entrance #6) and south of Cindy Street through the existing Right of Way. (Entrance #7). Entry from the north side of Balboa Avenue on Mt. Culebra serves residents on the southwest corner. Entry is reserved for future development at Entrances #9 and #10. Public access along Genesee, across from Chateau Drive (Entrance #9), is not considered provided with use of traffic signal for safe pedestrian access because traffic conditions are too dangerous. However, emergency/service entry is advisable (Entrance #7). Barriers need to be installed on Balboa Avenue and Genesee Avenue where pioneer trails enter the canyon. Safe public entry along these busy major streets is improbable.

As in other areas, all off-trail native plant cover will be preserved as wildlife habitat.

#### C. RIM DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

In December 1980, the Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee adopted the criteria to be used as guidelines for proposed development along the rim of Tecolote Canyon. These criteria were adopted to the Tecolote Canyon Rim Development Guidelines on January 13, 1987 (Resolution No. R-267476) and Amended on September 26, 1989 (Resolution No. R-274465). The consensus held that emphasis should be placed on how the structures, traffic circulation, drainage, grading and landscaping would affect Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and its users rather than how Tecolote Canyon Natural Park would enhance a particular development. This master plan proposes Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee review of proposed rim development.

The following guidelines apply to any development along the rim of Tecolote Canyon, which is subject to and requires a in most cases would require discretionary permit approvals through the City of San Diego. Although most rim property is designated in the Linda Vista Community Plan and the Clairement Mesa Community Plan for lower density development (and zoned accordingly), there are some areas designated and zoned for higher densities.

lines should be applied in the review of projects being processed for Hillside Review Permits and Planned Residential Development permits.

The guidelines are:

#### Structures

- Site planning for any proposed project along the canyon rim should carefully consider and demonstrate effort toward minimizing impact to the canyon's viewshed (i.e. visual impact to the park visitor experience).
- Structures located on the canyon rim should be low profile so as not to be visually prominent from the canyon floor.

(Amended 5/24/83)

- o Structures should be set back or placed at staggered distances from the canyon rim to avoid a ''wall effect" along the rim. In cases where the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park boundary is at a lower elevation than the canyon rim, structures should still maintain setbacks from the rim and utilize the area between the rim and park property line as a landscaped buffer.
- The facades of structures should be angled at varying degrees to follow the course of the canyon rim. When viewed from the opposite rim of the canyon, the structures should emphasize the line of the canyon rim.
- o In larger scale developments there should be major breaks between structures to allow significant visual see-throughs and avoid a wall effect along the rim of the canyon.
- Rooflines of structures should vary in angle and height to provide a changing profile along the canyon rim when viewed from the opposite rim. A changing roofline will emphasize the verticality of the canyon walls and help blend the structures into the natural hilkides environment.
- Building materials of color and texture which blend with the natural environment of the canyon should be used so that when viewed from the opposite rim, structures enhance rather than intrude on the view.

## Traffic Circulation

- Larger scale developments should provide pedestrian access to the canyon rim. Pedestrian-oriented, low-impact facilities such as lookout points and pathways, rather than auto facilities should be encouraged to locate in areas adjacent to the canyon rim, as the scale of pedestrian facilities is more adaptable to the varying landforms of canyon rims. Pedestrian facilities should be designed to connect with the pedestrian system within Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.
- New road construction along the canyon rim is discouraged.

  Where it is necessary to locate roadways and driveways along the canyon rim, they should follow the natural course and contours of the rim. Landscaping

  Appropriate landscaping (native, water smart, drainage-friendly planting schemes) should be provided to buffer roadways and driveways from the canyon. These buffered roadways and driveways would then provide open edges between the canyon and development.
- Where it is necessary to locate parking facilities adjacent to the rim, they should be minimal in size and buffered from the canyon by <a href="mailto:appropriate">appropriate</a> landscaping (as described above)
- o Traffic flow should be parallel to or directed away from the canyon rim.

Adequate access for service and emergency vehicles into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park must be considered, but illegal off-road vehicles must be

<del>(Amended 5/24/83)</del>

excluded. Street layout and design should not create any pressure to construct new public roads through any part of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

#### Grading and Drainage

- o Grading should not occur within the canyon. If any areas within the canyon are disturbed by grading occurring adjacent to the canyon, or by minor grading necessary for the provision of services such as sewers or runoff control facilities, the disturbed areas should be repaired to blend with natural slopes and contours and should be revegetated with native plants. Additionally, grading operations should not occur during the rainy season between October 1, and April 1 of any year.
- o As part of development permit approval, a runoff control plan which would minimize runoff from the site should be approved by the City Engineer. Consideration should be given to controlling runoff all the way to Tecolote Creek. Runoff control should be accomplished through the use of detention basins, siltation traps, energy dissipaters, appropriate landscaping and planting methods, and/for other effective means. The most habitat-friendly alternatives are preferred.

#### Landscaping

Development along the canyon rim should be landscaped with <a href="native">native</a>, <a href="native">non-invasvive</a>, and low-water use species which blend in with natural vegetation, <a href="and those that provide additional benefits">and those that provide additional benefits</a> (evapotranspiration where drainage is a concern, soil stabilization where erosion is of <a href="additional concern">additional concern</a>, etc.) are encouraged on a site-specific basis. The scale of landscaping once it has matured should be compatible with existing mature vegetation and neighboring landscaping.

#### Implementation

- A definitive policy needs to be developed to implement These guidelines have been implemented into Resolution No. R-267476 on January 13, 1987 and amended by Resolution No. R-274465 in September 26, 1989. should encourage discretionary review of all development projects located adjacent to Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.
- D. <u>SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS</u> <u>Protection of the Park User</u>
  With the implementation of the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan,
  visitors to the park should be able to expect a safe, as well as an enjoyable
  experience. For the protection of the park user this plan has addressed
  the following:

- <u>Trails:</u> Trail placement will avoid known hazards, such as the steep cliffs north of Linda Vista Village (the mobile home park) and the golf course driving range. As other obvious dangers are identified, modifications for trail safety will be designated.
- <u>Settling Tanks:</u> The abandoned sewage settling tanks, located near the sewer pumping station, have been a long standing hazard that could entrap unwary children. Presently sealed, it is expected that they will be demolished and buried when the Tait Kelly site is developed.
- <u>Poison Oak:</u> The areas found to be heavily infested with poison oak will have warning signs posted at the major public entrances nearby.
- Pollution: Sewer lines are will be regularly and systematically inspected in accordance with the City-wide Canyon Sewer Cleaning Program and Long-term Canyon Sewer Maintenance Program (2004). Ruptured sewer lines endanger not only the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park user, but also the entire Mission Bay Park complex. There should be a concerted effort—The City created water quality improvement plans to minimize the impact of pollutants that wash down storm drains during low flow periods as a result of landscape irrigation or release of household chemicals in the street gutters. The Tecolote Watershed Comprehensive Load Reduction Plan (2012), was developed in response to the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Bacteria issued in 2009. The Mission Bay Management Area Water Quality Improvement Plan, currently in Draft form, is required as part of the renewal of the permit for the municipal storm drain system and will update and replace the Comprehensive Load Reduction Plan. These-

problems underscore the urgency of completing the Tecolote Canyon Upstream Erosion and Siltation Control Study that was directed by the San Diego City
Council in January 1982, before any new storm drains into
Tecolote Canyon are approved.

• Necessary Vehicular Access: Entrances for utility repair, emergency, law enforcement, and fire vehicles, must be readily available. Recreational off-road vehicular traffic must be excluded.

## Protection of Adjacent Property Owners

Owners of property abutting Tecolote Canyon Natural Park deserve protection from hazards related to the park and its use by the public.

- <u>Erosion:</u> The creek channel is constantly changing. It is inevitable that a heavy, uncontrolled flow of water will continuously erode the creek banks, which can lead to land movement that may endanger homes, sewers, and utilities. Appropriate and environmentally sensitive provisions must be available to protect property.
- Fire Hazard: Fire is another concern the rim dwellers face. While each homeowner should be responsible for providing a fire break, it is incumbent on the Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee and the Park and Recreation Department to design a layout of plantings that would not unnecessarily endanger structures along the rim.

- <u>Trail Placement:</u> Trail design and layout should avoid conflict with the community residents. A trail too close to the private fence lines could create a nuisance.
- Pest Control: In some areas at the end of storm drains, standing water creates breeding areas for mosquitoes. Gravel filters should be constructed that will deprive these pests of their nurseries. For example, a large pondis located at the storm drain outlet by the third ball field in Mt. Etna Park just inside Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. The neighborhood would welcome a solution eliminating this pond.





VI. TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK AS IT IS TODAY

# A. TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK AND THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT



Tecolote Canyon has been a defacto

park for many years and on any day one will

find recreational activities in

progress. The Tecolote Canyon

Natural Park will continue to pro
vide quality open space, physically

and psychologically. Therefore, the

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan emphasizes that no structures or "drive-in" picnic areas are to be per- mitted within Tecolote Canyon Natural Park, but instead be located at selected access points on the perimeter.

Tecolote Canyon is a quiet place. The traffic on existing surrounding streets is the only significant continuous noise source. Landscaping with bushes and trees along the perimeter can minimize much of the noise. The master plan proposes that there shall be no through traffic in the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. All off-road vehicular activity shall be prohibited. Thus Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will continue to be an oasis of peace and quiet.

Tecolote Canyon is a natural drainage system for approximately thirty square miles which empties into Mission Bay. Water quality in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park depends largely on the condition of the flow into its creek channel through the storm drains. The master plan requires a study to:

- Improve the quality of water in the creek;
- Reduce siltation;
- Examine and repair storm drains and sewers;
- Control erosion caused by runoff; and
- Direct the rechanneling of Tecolote Creek where necessary.

The principal contribution to air quality by the vegetation in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is through its capacity to filter and precipitate particulates (dust, aerosols, and acids) from the air. Trees and shrubs provide surfaces upon which urban airborne particulates can be precipitated. Rain then washes these into the soil, effectively removing them from the air. As damaged and graded areas are replanted and restored, the filtering capacity will be proportionally increased.

B. Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Natural Resource

Management Plan (NRMP)

The purpose of the NRMP is to provide guidance for the protection of natural resources at Tecolote

Natural Park. The NRMP provides specific information relating to existing conditions within the park, adaptive management strategies that address illegal off-road trails, dumping and trash, erosion and pollution, non-native plants, ASMDs, potential impacts of climate change, and maintenance and utilization of the Park while preserving the Park's natural resources.

## C. EXISTING CRITICAL PROBLEMS

Critical issues face Tecolote Canyon Natural Park that must be resolved quickly, not only to ensure the maintenance of the current status, but to ensure the very existence of Tecolote Canyon as a natural park.

These issues are discussed in the NRMP:

## Off-TrailRoad Vehicular Activity

Illegal off-trail activity is addressed in Section 5.1 (Illegal Recreational Use) of the NRMP. Illegal off-road activity, probably has the single most devastating effect on the flora, fauna, and soil stability.

## Dumping and Trash

Dumping and trash are addressed in Section 5.2 (Urban Edge, Encroachment, and Dumping) of the NRMP.

Heavy dDumping, including household trash, large mounds of construction waste with concrete chunks, and blacktop tailings, blights any areas of the canyon.

This has been particularly serious in the southern portion (Area A), near "The Narrows".

## Erosion and Pollution

Erosion and pollution are addressed in Section 5.4 (Urban Runoff) of the NRMP.

A couple of wet winters and the development of the canyon rim, with its increased peak runoff, have combined to create immense erosion problems. The main sewer line in the floor of the canyon, is sometimes exposed and broken. The resulting raw sewage flow is not only unpleasant, but dangerous. It pollutes the stream bed and flows into Mission Bay, creating larger problems. Some Tecolote Canyon stream banks are assaulted by runoff and are crumbling. The Tecolote Canyon golf course has suffered heavy damage to some of its greens. Storm drain effluent deepens gullies and erodes the canyon floor. Some roadways, for example Genesee Avenue near Park Mesa Way, appear to be in the process of being undermined.

Other pollutants have found their way into Tecolote

Canyon Natural Park via the storm drains. Fertilizers

and pesticides used in landscape maintenance alter

the natural scene. The simple chore of washing a car

not only introduces detergents but also washes oils and

other street surface chemicals into storm drains. All

sorts of household chemicals, some highly toxic, are casually dumped into street gutters.

Non-native Invasive Species Feral Plants
Non-native invasive species including both plants and animals are
addressed in Section 5.5 (Invasive Species) of the NRMP.

Aerial photographs from low altitudes dramatically illustrate the intrusion of vegetation into Tecolote Canyon Natural Park from rim-side yards. Ice plant blankets the slopes of many areas and spreads far beyond property lines and firebreak requirements as the yards above are watered. Pampas grass towers over the chaparral and coastal sage scrub and seems to thrive anywhere. Many more plants which do not belong continue to leave their mark in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.





VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MASTERPLAN IMPLEMENTATION

## A. PUBLIC RECOGNITION



Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will never look like Balboa Park, or a traditional neighborhood park, whose lush manicured shrubs and lawns alone create a distinct park image. An important step in the implementation of the

master plan for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is to raise the public consciousness of the existence and purpose of the park. Since San Diego residents move frequently, many do not realize most of Tecolote Canyon is a dedicated park. Sometimes personnel in the police department, who respond to complaints of off-road vehicles, squatters, or firewood harvesters, are equally unaware of the park status. In order to correct this, the Master Plan recommends:

• Maps: It is vital to have the Tecolote Canyon
Natural Park boundaries boldly marked and delineated
on city departmental and commercially sold city
street City and public maps. Maps showing the
park boundaries and designated trails and
entrances will be available on the City's Park and
Recreation Open Space Division Website. Some
local maps show streets and houses on the floor of
the canyon. This seems to invite vehicular
exploration. Park boundaries are to be drawn and
the words "Tecolote Canyon Natural Park" printed
clearly on master copies and succeeding

## reproductions. The commercial mapmakers receive

their information from the city and, in this way, the definitive park designation would be passed along to the public.

Signs: Signs with the Park's name shall be located at designated park entrances to inform the public of the approved entrance points to the canyon. Additional signs displaying the park's rules and regulations shall also be placed as needed along the park boundaries. Signs informing the public of closed trails or access prohibited shall be placed to prevent off-trail use of the park. Educational signage shall be installed as desired at certain areas to provide information to the public about the natural or cultural resources within the canyon, park history, or other relevant information. Until this month (December 1982) there has not been a single sign located at any access point or at any place on the periphery of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park bearing the park's name. There are signs prohibiting off-road vehicles and dumping, but these are frequently removed or ignored.

There are seven, large, wooden, name signs and several smaller, metal signs ready for installation. The Tecolote—

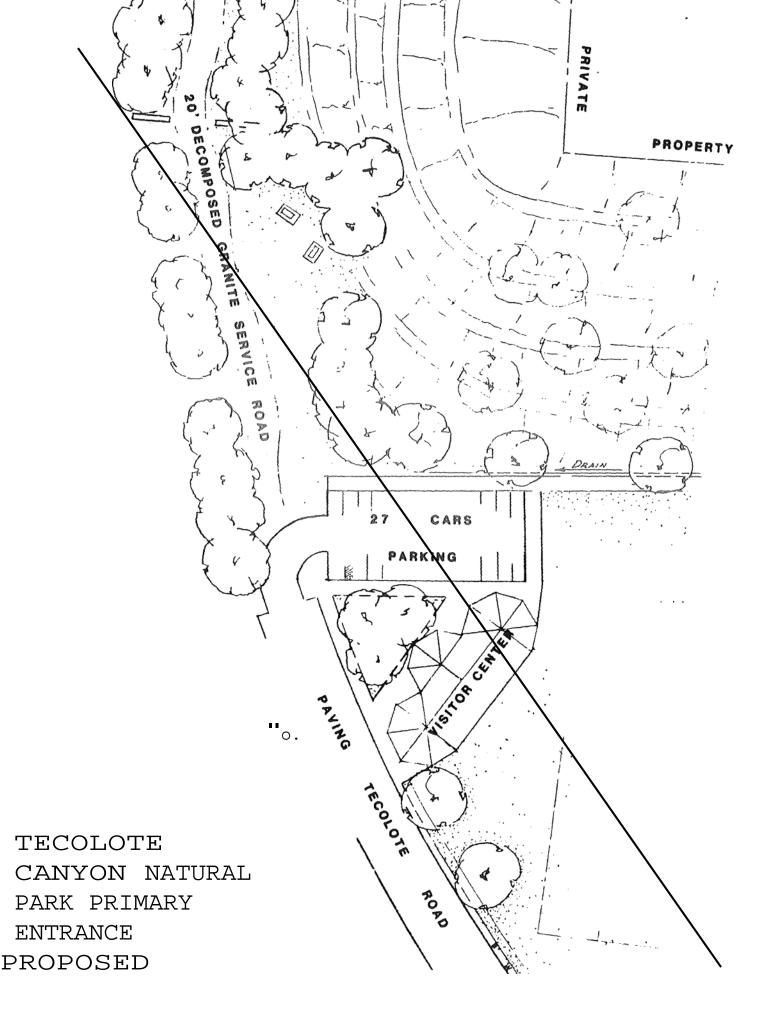
Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee and the Park and

Recreation Department have made recommendations for their location and it is expected they will be in place by early—

1983. These will help inform the general public and define—

the location of a valued park.

Visitor Nature Centers: The Tecolote Canyon Nature Center is the master plan for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park specifies that its primary visitor center and is is to be located at 5180 Tecolote Road, which falls within Area A (in "The Narrows"). It is to be designed to operate with a staff during peak activity periods, but it could also function as a self service facility during low activity periods. The Nature Center is staffed 6 days a week and provides park visitors with a museum-like display of natural and cultural resources found within the park, and interpretive garden, meeting rooms, and restrooms. Park Rangers are patrol the park 7 days a week to reinforce park rules and provide formal and informal environmental education. A Park maps and nature additional trail information are would be made available to the park users. <del>Joggers or hikers</del> Visitors to the park



Would find trail layout and distances posted. At this site, reinforcement of park rules and regulations would be appropriate. A small museum and meeting facility will complete this complex.

There are other entry points that <u>are would</u> be appropriate for secondary self-service visitor centers. These self-service centers <u>will should</u> contain a weather proof map and panels with additional pertinent information <u>which would further publicize to further interpret</u> the park and its functions to the public. These entry sites are:

- Kelly Street Park, Mt. Etna Park, and the North

  Clairement Recreation Center area adjacent to Tecolote

  Canyon Natural Park. Proposed trailheads will enter the

  park from these presently established recreational

  facilities. They could easily support secondary visitor

  centers for Tecolote Canyon natural park.
- will have another secondary visitor center, along with supporting facilities.
- The site at Mt. Acadia and Snead Avenue.
- A location in the Via Los Cumbres area to be identified as the subdivision design for "University Canyon" proceeds.
- The entrance at North Clairemont Community Park (Entrance 8).
- The entrance at Mt. Etna Neighborhood Park (Entrance 10).
- The entrance on Mt. Brundage (Entrance 13).

- The finger canyon adjacent to the Fox Run development, just south of Acworth Avenue and Mt. Carol Drive (Entrance 20).
- The entrance at Kearney Mesa Recreation Center (Entrance 22).
- The entrance at Linda Vista Recreation Center (Entrance 23).
- A future entrance from Kelly Street Park, once design and construction of a safe and sustainable trail connection is implemented (Entrance D-3).

• The corridor between\_the Linda Vista Community

Center. and Tecolote Canyon Natural Park,

when it is added to the dedicated parkland,

would lend itself readily to visitor

management through a center with approved

supporting facilities that would

Public neighborhood access points will only require signs defining the boundaries of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

#### B. PRIORITIZATION

Park Master Plan be implemented in the following three phases: It is recommended that the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan be implemented in two phases. Phase One includes items that have been implemented following adoption of the original Master Plan. Phase Two are items that are either continued from Phase One, or are new and should be implemented within 3 years of the adoption of the Master Plan Amendment.

#### Phase One

- Adoption of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan by San Diego City Council.
- Construction of adequate barricades at all vehicular access points that would exclude off-road vehicles and motorcycles, but would permit entry of emergency, law enforcement, and maintenance vehicles as needed.
- Erection of signs defining Tecolote Canyon Natural Park at locations around its perimeter.
- Increased enforcement of the current laws relating to offroad vehicles, protection of park flora and fauna, and fire regulations.

- Removal of trash and restoration of areas used as illegal dumpsites.
- Completion of the San Diego City Council directed study for Upstream Erosion Control and Siltation Management.

  (Watershed Erosion/Sedimentation Studies Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. October 20, 1983.)
- Dedication of access easements.

- Installation of the park wide trail system <del>for foot travel</del>.
- Acquisition and dedication of a corridor between the North Clairemont Recreation Center and Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.
- Completion of a comprehensive program of environmental studies to identify other needed corrective measures
- Emergency erosion control.
- Establishment of a method for the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan to be reviewed on a regular basis with provision to make amendments to the master plan as needed.

#### Phase Two

- Additional eConstruction and/or maintenance or repair of hiking multi-use trails where needed.
- Continued and increased enforcement of the current laws relating to off-trail activity, homeless encampments, and protection of park flora and fauna.
- Construction of and/or maintenance and repair of emergency and utility access paths and creek crossings decomposed granite roads that are environmentally inconspicuous, but would serve as an emergency and maintenance network.
- Installation of fire hydrants within the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park at strategic locations if required by the San Diego Fire Department.

### Phase Three

- Construction of visitor centers, picnic and restroom facilities, and parking areas.
- The development preservation of Goldboro Canyon as a native plant preserve.
- Control of undesirable <del>feral</del> invasive plants <u>and</u> animals consistent with the <u>Draft Natural Resource</u> Management Plan for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

Master Plan implementation is expected within a time frameof ten years. the following three years Phase Three of implementation should require no more than five years.

The implementation program was formulated based on conditions as they exist today. Re-sequencing of plan elements may be required due to unexpected funding opportunities or changing conditions.

# C. ADDITIONAL STUDIES NEEDED

Before the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Master Plan can be fully implemented, further expert research is necessary. A comprehensive program of environmental studies will reveal several problems that need specialized attention. The Tecolote Canyon Natural Park Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) provides specific information relating to existing conditions within the park, adaptive management strategies that address illegal off-road trails, dumping and trash, erosion and pollution, non-native plants, ASMDs, potential impacts of climate change, and maintenance and utilization of the Park while preserving the Park's natural resources.

- Erosion problems afflict the park in every area; some severely. The study for erosion control must address "upstream" management at storm sewer out lets and grading along the canyon rim building sites that currently increase the silt load in the runoff and have a devastating effect downstream. The Tecolote Canyon Golf Course has been severely damaged where two branches of Tecolote Canyon Creek meet south of the clubhouse. Also, the Trunk sewer line under the canyon floor must have adequate protection from erosion, as well as the homes on the rim of the canyon.
- A mosquito abatement study is needed to determine means for controlling these pests instead of just merely spraying insecticide into the storm drain created ponds.

- A transportation study should provide alternative layouts of decomposed granite roads available for emergency/service vehicle use. Careful attention should be given to design so that these roads will be usable by both fire and law enforcement vehicles.
- A plant management study, that includes methodology for native plant restoration and feral plant control, is needed. This study should also consider the various vegetation roles in creation of fire hazards.

# D. INTERIM USES

The Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee recognizes that implementation of this park plan will take an extended period of time. During the implementation period preceding the adoption of the Master Plan in 1982, it wais expected that Tecolote Canyon Natural Park willould be in continuous use. The projects detailed in Phase One of Section B have now been substantially implemented.

A small portion of the trail segments listed in

Section V of the Amended Master Plan the will not
be open to the public in the interim period while
the majority of the project listed in Section V

will be permitted with the adoption of the plan.

There are many appropriate interim uses. The golf course will continue to operate and the visitors hikers will naturally explore continue to use the approved trails within the reaches of Tecolote Canyon. All area schools, such as the University of San Diego, Mesa College, and Kearny High School, should continue the use of Tecolote Canyon as a living, environmental classroom. Any activity or use of parkland that is in keeping with the concept of suitability for a natural park in the Multiple Species Conservation Program's Multi-Habitat Planning Area will be welcomed as an interim use of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park.

#### E. FUNDING

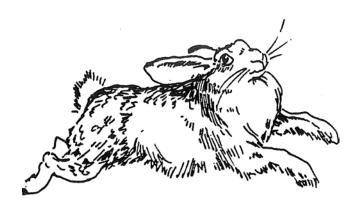
Although this master plan seems uncomplicated, funding its implementation of the Master Plan will be complex and lengthy continue to be challenging. The competition Competition for the shrinking tax dollar resources is intense and all expenditures must be approved by the City Council. Every possible source of funds should be explored.

Funds for capital improvements can be budgeted through the Capital Improvements Program which is reviewed and approved by the City Council annually. Another source might be the Capital Outlay Fund (acquired by sale of city property), which can be used for any type of construction (i.e., bikeways, jogging, and hiking trails). The 2% local transportation fund, from the State for the San Diego region, Local TransNet funds, and federal, state and local active transportation program grant funds may be used for bikeways and pedestrian facilities. However, application must be made to the San Diego Association of Governments for an allotment and to be identified on their five year program. It is possible some funding might be available from the Park Service Fund (paid into—by developers) or Park Fee Utilizaiton Funds (money acquired from building permits). These funds are for use for park improvements in the area of the development.

A portion of the Environmental Growth Fund may be used for maintenance only and should be available as needed for that purpose. The Environmental Growth Fund is budgeted annually. The surrounding property owners may request a maintenance district and have the cost added annually to their tax bill.

Private funding or grants may be sought from non-profit foundations or corporations for projects involving particular interests or individuals. Information and application procedures should be researched by Tecolote Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee.

Friends of Tecolote Canyon is a non-profit organization that was founded with voluntary donations of Tecolote Canyon Park District assessment refunds in 1980. This organization is expressly interested in the enhancement and improvement of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and will work in cooperation with the Tecolote Canyon Citizen Advisory Committee and appropriate city agencies.





VIII. SUMMARY

# SUMMARY

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park is to be preserved as an area of native plant land cover protected as completely as urban pressures permit. Further, in keeping with the adopted Progress Guide and General Plan for the City of San Diego, the master plan does not contain recommendations for any recreational development that would encourage large public gatherings or create a need for extensive parking lots. All sections of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will have a foot trail system that connects the five different areas and, where possible, the trail system will continue into other portions of the City's open space element, e.g., Mission Bay Park, Marian Bear Memorial Park in San Clemente Canyon, and Rose Canyon. This master plan includes a system of natural-appearing, decomposed granite roads for emergency, maintenance, fire, and law enforcement vehicles. All structures, such as visitor centers, restrooms, and parking areas, will be located at selected perimeter sites. Identification signs at Tecolote Canyon Natural Park entry points and certain boundary locations, plus clear delineation on city and commercial maps, will define the location of the park. Illegal off-road vehicular activity will be excluded by effective barricading, increased law enforcement efforts, and elevated public consciousness.

The gallery forest, along Tecolote Canyon creek bed, will be enhanced with additional plantings as erosion is brought within reasonable limits. Restoration of damaged slopes and denuded areas will expand our wild-life habitat and, hopefully, largely volunteer efforts will reduce the impact of feral plants. The golf course will continue to serve as an oasis within an oasis, providing an enjoyable golfing interlude, free of the bordering traffic's roar experienced at some other courses.

With the adoption and implementation of this master plan, it is hoped that some individual in the twenty- first century will stand amid the trees and thank a farsighted citizenry and city government for a place to relax and enjoy a small slice of Southern California the way it used to be.





APPENDIX

#### SURVEY OF FLORA AND FAUNA IN TECOLOTE CANYON

The list of plant species and bird species in Tecolote Canyon was compiled by Susan Liston, a curatorial assistant, San Diego Museum of Natural History. The remaining lists, beginning with the invertebrates, are points of departure for future definitive lists. Specific bats and some water animals are absent. Residents of the canyon not seen for some decades, such as deer and badgers, have been excluded. The bobcat, seen within a few years, and the coyote, seen within a few months, though quiet now, are included, perhaps sadly to be deleted in a few years.

The latter lists were compiled by George Hemingway, a marine biologist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, from relevant literature and need to be confirmed by trained specialists.

The prime sources for Hemingway's lists are:

Vasek, R. C. and O. F. Clark. 1979. A proposed addition to the Scripps shoreline reserve. Mimeo. Dept. Botany, U. C. Riverside.

Hubbs, C. L. and Th. W. Whitacker, Eds. Torry Pines State Reserve. Pub. The Torrey Pines Assoc., La Jolla 1964.

Various field books of the University of California Natural History Guides to Southern California, University of California Press, Berkeley.

#### PLANT SPECIES OF TECOLOTE CANYON

# Agavaceae

 $\frac{\text{Agaye}}{\text{Yucca}}$  sp.

#### Aizoaceae

Carpobrotus sp., Ice Plant Gasoul crystallin1un, Ice Plant

# Amaryllidiaceae

Allium sp., Wild Onion Brodiaea pulchella, Blue Dicks

# Anacardiaceae

Malosma (Rhus) laurina, Laurel Sumac Rhus integrifolia, Lemonade Berry Toxicodendron diversilobum, Poison Oak

# Apiaceae

Conium maculatum, Poison Hemlock Foeniculum vulgare, Fennel

#### Asclepidaceae

Asclepias cp., Milkweed

# Asteraceae

Artemesia californica, California Sagebrush
Baccharis glutinosa, Mulefat
Baccharis pilularis, Coyote Bush
Baccharis sarothroides, Chaparral Broom
Encelia californica, Encelia
Eriophyllum conferiflorum, Yarrow
Gnaphalium californicum, Pearly Everlasting
Gnaphalium sp., Cudweed
Haplopappus sp., Haplopappus
Heterotheca grandiflora, Telegraph Weed
Layia platylossa, Tidy Tips
Sonches arvensis, Sow Thistle
Stephanomeria sp., Stephanomeria
Viguiera sp., Viguiera
Xanthium strumarium, Cocklebur

-2-

Boraginaceae

Cryptantha intermedia, White Forget-me-not

Brassicaceae

Brassica spp., Mustards
Raphanus sativus, Wild Radish

Buxaceae

Simmondsia chinesis, Jojoba

Cactaceae

Opunita occidentalis, Prickly Pear Opunita prolifera, Coast Cholla

Capparidaceae

Isomeris arborea, Bladderpod

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera subspicata, Wild Honeysuckle Sambucus sp., Elderberry

Chenopodiaeae

Atriplex sp., Saltbush Chenopodium sp., Goosefoot Salsola iberica, Tumbleweed

Convolvulaceae

Convolvulus sp., Wild Morning Glory

Cucurbitaceae

Marah macrocarpus, Wild Cucumber

-3-

Cuscutaceae

Cuscuta sp., Dodder

Cyperaceae

Scirpus sp., Sedge

Dipsacaceae

Dipsacus sp., Teasel

Ericaceae

Xylococcus bicolor, Mission Manzanita

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia peplus, Spurge polycarpa, Spurge Ricinus communis, Castor Bean

Fabaceae

Acacia sp., Acacia
Astragalus sp., Locoweed
Lathyrus sp., Lathyrus
Lotus scoparius, Deerweed
Lupinus spp., Lupines
Medicago hispida, Burr Clover
Melilotus albus, White Sweet Clover
Melilotus indicus, Yellow Sweet Clover

Fagaceae

<u>Quercus</u> <u>agrifolia</u>, Coast Live Oak <u>Quercus</u> <u>dumosa</u>, Scrub Oak

Gentianaceae

Centaurium venustrum, Gentian

-4-

#### Geraniaceae

Erodium cicutarium, Filaree

# Iridaceae

Sisyrinchium bellum, Blue-eyed Grass

#### Juncaceae

Juncus acutus, Spiny Rush

#### Lamiaceae

Marrubium vulgare, Horehound Salvia apiana, White Sage Salvia mellifera Black Sage

#### Liliaceae

Calochortus sp., Mariposa Lily

#### Malvaceae

Malocothamnus fasciculatus, Bush Mallow Malva parvifolia, Cheeseweed Sidalcea malvaeflora, Checker Sphaeralca ambigua, Globe Mallow

#### Myrtaceae

Eucalyptus spp., Eucalyptus

#### Nictaginaceae

Mirabilis californica, 4-o'clock

#### Onagraceae

Camissonia sp., Evening Primrose
Gaura gracilis, Gaura
Zauschneria califórnica, California fuchsia

-5-

#### Plantanaceae

Platanus racemosa, California Sycamore

#### Poaceae

Arundo donax, Giant Reed (Bamboo)

Avena sp., Wild Oats

Cortaderia sp., Pampas Grass

Pennisetum setaceum, Foxtail

# Polemoniaceae

Linanthus diathiflorus, Ground Pink

## Polygonaceae

Eriogonum fasciculatum, Flat-topped Buckwheat Eriogonum. sp., Eriogonum Rumex crispus, Curly Dock

#### Primulaceae

Anagallis arvensis, Scarlet Pimpernel Dodecathecon clevelandii, Shooting Star

#### Rosaceae

Adenostoma fasciculatum, Chamise Heteromeles arbutifolia, Toyan Rosa californica, Wild Rose

#### Salicaceae

Salix sp., Willow

# Saxifragaceae

Ribes speciosum, Fuchsia-flowering Gooseberry

-6-

# Sorophulariaceae

Antirrhinum sp., Snapdragon
Mimulus puniceus, Monkey-flower
Orthocarpus purpurascens, Owl's Clover

#### Simarubaceae

Ailanthus altissma, Tree of Heaven

#### Solanaceae

<u>Nicotiana glauca</u>, Tree Tobacco <u>Solanum douglasii</u>, White Nightshade Solanum xantii, Purple Nightshade

# Typhaceae

Typha latifolia, Cattail

# Vebenaceae

Verbena sp., Verbena

#### BIRD SPECIES OF TECOLOE CANYON

#### Blackbirds & Orioles

\*Icterus cucullatus, Hooded Oriole
Icterus galbula bullockii, Northern Oriole
Euphagus cyanocephalis, Brewer's Blackbird

#### Cuckoos & Roadrunners

Geococcyx californianus, Roadrunner

# Finches & Sparrows

Pheucticus melanocephalus, Black-headed Grosbeak
Passerina amoena, Lazuli Bunting
\*Carpodacus mexicanus, House Finch
Spinus psaltria, Lesser Goldfinch
Pipilo erythrophtalmus, Rufous-sided Towhee
Pipilo fuscus, Brown Towhee
Junco hyemalis oreganus, Dark-eyed Junco
Zonotrichia leucophrus, White-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia atricapilla, Golden-crowned Sparrow
Passerella iliaca, Fox Sparrow
Melospiza lincolnii, Lincoln's Sparrow
\*Melospiza melodia, Song sparrow

#### Herons & Bitterns

Ardea herodias, Great Blue Heron

Casmerodius albus, Great Egret

Nycticorax nycticorax, Black-crowned Night Heron

#### Hummingbirds

<u>Archilochus</u> <u>alexandri</u>, Black-chinned Hummingbird \*<u>Calypte</u> <u>anna</u>, Anna's Hummingbird Selasphorus rufus, Rufous Hummingbird

#### Jays & Crows

\*Aphelocoma coerulescens, Scrub Jay Corvus corax, Common Raven

# Kinglets

Regulus calendula, Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Kites, Hawks, & Falcons

Elanus leucurus, White-tailed Kite
Accipiter striatus, Sharp-shinned Hawk
Accipiter cooperii, Cooper's Hawk

\*Buteo jamaicensis, Red-tailed Hawk

\*Buteo lineatus, Red-shouldered Hawk
Falco mexicanus, Prairie Falcon
Falco sparverius, American Kestrel

# Mockingbirds & Thrashers

- \*Mimus polyglottos, Mockingbird
- \*Toxostoma redivivum, California Thrasher

#### Owls

Bubo virginianus, Great Horned Owl
Tyto alba, Barn Owl

Pigeons & Doves

\*Zenaidura macroura, Mourning Dove

# Pipits

Anthus spinoletta, Water Pipit

Plovers, Gulls, & Terns

<u>Charadrius vociferous</u>, Killdeer

<u>Larus occidentalis</u>, Western Gull

Larus delawarensis, Ring-billed Gull

#### Quail

\*Lophortyx californicus, California Quail

## Swallows

<u>Stelgidopteryx</u> <u>ruficollis</u>, Rough-winged Swallow Petrochelidon pyrrhonata, Cliff Swallow

#### Bird Species

-3-

#### Swifts

Chaetura vauxi, Vaux's swift
Aeronautes saxatalis, White throated Swift

#### Tanagers

Piranga ludoviciana, Western Tanager

#### Thrushes

Turdus migratorius, American Robin Hylocichla guttata, Hermit Thrush

# Titmice & Bushtits

Parus inornatus, Plain Titmouse
\*Psaltriparus minimus, Common Bushtit

# Tyrant Flycatchers

Tyrannus verticalis, Western Kingbird

Myiarchus tuberculifer, Ash-throated Flycatcher

Sayornis nigricans, Black Phoebe

Sayornis saya, Say's Phoebe

Empidonax traillii, Willow Flycatcher

Empidonax difficilis, Western Flycatcher

Contopus sordidulus, Western Wood Peewee

#### Vireos & Warblers

Vireo gilvus, Warbling Vireo

Vermivora celata, Orange-crowned Warbler

Dendroica petechi, Yellow Warbler

Denroica coronata auduboni, Yellow-rumped Warbler

Dendroica nigrescens, Black-throated Gray Warbler

Dendroica townsendi, Townsend's Warbler

Dendroica occidentalis, Hermit Warbler

Oporonis tolmiei, MacGillivray's Warbler

Wilsenia pusilla, Wilson's Warbler

Waxwings, Silky Flycatchers, & Shrikes
Bombycilla cedrorum, Cedar Waxwing
Phainopepla nitens, Phainopepla
Lanius ludovicianus, Loggerhead Shrike

# Woodpeckers

Colaptes aurantus cafer, Common Flicker Picoides nuttallii, Nuttall's Woodpecker

# Wrentits & Wrens

\*Chamaea fasciata, Wrentit
\*Thryomanes bewickii, Bewick's Wren
Troglodytes aedon, House Wren

# Introduced Birds

Columba livida, Rock Dover (Pigeon) Steptopelia risoria, Ringed Turtle Dove Sturnus vulgaris, Starling Passer domesticus, House Sparrow

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates definite breeding within Tecolote Canyon boundaries. -103-

#### INVERTEBRATE ANIMALS

#### CRUSTACEANS

Crayfish, Cambarus clarkii

#### INSECTS

Earwigs (Dermaptera)

Ring-legged Earwig, Euborellia annulipes

Grasshoppers and Allies (Orthoptera)

Clear-winged Grasshopper, Camnula pellucid

Field Cricket, Gryllus sp.

Praying Mantis, Mantidae

Short-horned Grasshopper, Melanoplus sp.

Tree Cricket, Oecanthus sp.

Jerusalem Cricket, Stenopelmatus sp.

Long-horned Grasshopper, Tettigoniidae

Termites (Isoptera)

Western Subterranean Termite, Reticulitermes hesperus

Webspinners (Embioptera)

Webspinner, Haploembia solieri

Lacewings (Neuroptera)
Green Lacewing, Chrysopa sp.
Antlions, Myrmeleaonitidae

Thrips (Thysanoptera)

Western Flower Thrips, Frankliniella occidentalis

Hoppers (Homoptera)

Cicada, Cicada spp.

Leafhopper, Homolodisca lacerta

Bugs (true bugs, Hemiptera)

Chlorochroa sp.

Seed Bug, Lygaeus reclivatus

Harlequin Bug, Murgentina histrionica

Plant Bug, Lygus sp.

Assassin Bug, Zelus sp.

Beetles (Coleoptera)

Predaceous Ground Beetle, Brachinus sp.

Weevil, Brachyrhinus sp.

Tiger Beetle, Cicindela hirticollis

Western Spotted Cucumber Beetle, Diabrotica undecimpunctata

Ground Beetle, Elodes sp.

Convergent Lady Beetle, Hippodamia convergens

June Beetle, Perocotalpa ursina

Bark Beetle, Pityophthorus carmeli Rain Beetle, Pleocoma puncticollis Ladybug Beetle, Scymnus ornatus Rove Beetle, Thinopinus sp.

Flies (two-winged; Diptera)

Mosquitoes, Aedes, Anophele and Culex spp.

Robber Flies, Asilidae Midges, Chironomidae Deer Fly, Chrysops sp.

Flower Flies, Syrphidae

Crane Flies, Tipulidae

Butterflies (Lepidoptera)

Gulf Fritillary, Agraulis vanilla Sara Orange-Tip, Anthocharis sara Mormon Metal-mark, Apodemia mormo Pigmy Blue, Brephidium exilis Large Sulphur, Catopsilia eubule sennae Ringlet Butterfly, Coenonympha tullia Alfalfa Caterpillar, Colias eurytheme Queen Butterfly, Danaus berenice Monarch Butterfly, Danaus plexippus Brown Skipper, Erynnis propertius Checkerspot, Euphydryas editha Nicippe Yellow, Eurema nicippe California Sister, Heterochroa bredowii californica Dwarf Sulphur, Nathalis iole Mourning Cloak, Nymphalis antiopa

Blue, Philotes battoides

Checkered White, Pieris protodice

Cabbage Butterfly, Pieris rapae

Western Tiger Swallowtail, Papilio rutulus

Anise Swallotail, Papilio zelicaon

Buckeye, Precis lavinia

Red Admiral, Vanessa atalanta

Painted Lady, Vanessa cardui

West Coast Lady, Vanessa carye

Bees and Wasps (Hymenoptera)

Honey Bee, Apis mellifera

Bumble Bee, Bombus sp.

Tarantula Hawk Pepsis chrysothemis

Harvester Ant, Pogonomyrmex sp.

Paper Wasp, Polistes sp.

Thread-waisted Wasp, Sphex vulgariS

#### SPIDERS

Funnel Web Weavers, Agelenidae
Orb Weavers, Argiope argentata and A. aurantiao
Trapdoor Spider, Bothryocyrtum californicum
Sac Spiders, Clubionidae
Black Widow, Latrodectus sp.
Wolf Spiders, Lycosidae
Lynx Spiders, Oxyopidae
Jumping Spiders, Thomisidae
Zodariids, Zodariidae

#### VETERBRATE ANIMALS

#### **AMPHIBIANS**

Frogs and Toads

California Toad, Bufo boreas halophilus Southern Pacific Treefrog, Hyla regilla hypochondriaca

California Red-legged Frog, Rana aurora draytonii Bullfrog, Rana catesbeiana

Hammond's Spadefoot, Scaphiopus h. hammondii

Salamanders

Oak Salamander, Aneides 1. lugubris Garden Slender Salamander, Batrachopeps major

#### REPTILES

#### Lizards

Silvery Legless Lizard, Aneilla p. pulchra
Orange-throated Whiptail, Cnemidophorus hyperythrus
beldingi

Coastal Whiptail, Cnemidorphorus tigris
Multiscutatus

Western Skink, Eumeces skiltonianus

San Diego Alligator Lizard, Gerronotus multicarinatus webbii

San Diego Horntoad, Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii Western Fence Lizard, Sceloporus occidentalis biseriatus

California Side-blotched Lizard, Uta s. stansburaina hesperis

#### Snakes

California Glossy Snake, Arizona elegans occidentalis Western Yellow-bellied Racer, Coluber constrictor mormon

Red Diamond Rattlesnake, Crotalus r. ruber
Southern Pacific Rattlesnake, Crotalus viridis
helleri

San Diego Ringneck Snake, Diadophis punctatus similis San Diego Night Snake, Hysiglena ochrorhyncha klauberi

California Kingsnake, Lampropeltis getulus californiae

Southwestern Blind Snake, Leptotyphlops h. humilis Coastal Rosy Boa, Lichanura trivirgata roseofusca Red Racer, Masticophis flagellum piceus California Striped Racer, Masticophis 1. lateralis San Diego Gopher Snake, Pituophis malenoleucus annectens

Western Long-nosed Snake, Rhinocheilus 1. lecontei Coast Patch-nosed Snake, Salvadora hexalepis virgultea

California Black-headed Snake, Tantilla planiceps eiseni

Two-striped Garter Snake, Thamnophis couchii hammondii

#### MAMMATIS

Opossums

Common Opossum, Didelphis marsupialis Shrews and Moles

Broad-handed Mole, Spanus longimanus Ornate Shrew, Sorex ornatu

Bats

Various species

Rabbits

Black-tailed Jackrabbit, Lepus californicus Audubon Cottontail, Sylvilagus audubonii Brush Rabbit, Sylvilagus bachmani

Rodents

California/Beechey Ground Squirrel, Citellus/Otospermophilus beechyi California Meadow Mouse/Vole, Microtus californicus
House Mouse, Mus musculus
Dusky-footed or Desert Wood Rat, Neotoma fuscupes or
N. lepida
California Pocket Mouse, Perognathus fallax
Deer Mouse, Peromyscus maniculatus
Western Harvest Mouse, Reithrodontomys megalotis
Botta/Valley Pocket Gopher, Thomomys bottae

#### Carnivores

Coyote, Canis latrans
Bobcat, Lynx rufus
Striped Skunk, Mephitis mephitis
Long-tailed Weasel, Mustela frenata
Spotted Skunk, Spilogale putorius
Gray Fox, Urocyon cinereoargentatus

# ACCESS INDEX FOR TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK MASTER PLAN: MAPS 2 AND 3

Classification of entrances for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park:

# Map 2



Emergency/Service Entrance. Access for emergency/service vehicles only. Locked gates prevent illegal entry.

Map 3



Primary Entrance east of Tecolote Recreation Center. Proposed manned/ self-service visitors center, meeting and exhibition rooms, picnicarea, restrooms, handicapped facilities and parking area.



Secondary Entrances. Proposed\_selfservice visitor and information centers, usually with off-street parking and some facilities

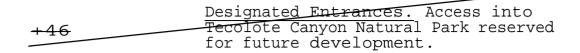


Neighborhood Entrances. A public access point with no off-street

parking or special facilities. For pedestrian use from the surrounding residential area or from a bus stop.

PRIVATE +46

<u>Private Entrances</u>. Entrances not open to the general public; may serve <del>condominium complexes on</del> the campuses of University of San Diego <del>or Mesa</del> <del>College.</del>



# $\frac{\text{ACCESS INDEX FOR TECOLOTE CANYON}}{\underset{\text{MATURAL PARK MASTER PLAN}}{\text{MAP 3}}$

# Classification of entrances for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park:

Primary Entrance at the Tecolote						
Nature Center. Staffed visitor center						
with meeting and exhibition rooms,						
picnic area, restrooms, and parking						
area.						
Secondary Entrances. Proposed or						
existing self-service information						
centers, usually with off-street						
parking and some facilities.						
Neighborhood Entrances. A public						
access point with no off-street						
parking or special facilities. For						
pedestrian use from the surrounding						
residential area or from a bus stop.						
Private Entrance. Entrances not open						
to the general public; serves the						
campus of the University of San Diego						
and Mesa College.						
Designated Entrances. Access into						
Tecolote Canyon Natural Park reserved						
for future development.						
Overlook. No access into canyon from						
this location but proposed or existing						
facilities to allow visitors to enjoy						
a view of Tecolote Canyon Natural						
Park.						

Parking Classification: Not in front of private homes.

0 = No Parking Available.

-5 = Fewer than 5 cars.

5-10 = Between 5 and 10 cars.

25 = Up to 25 cars.

25+ = Greater than 25 cars; parking lots.

Bus Stops Bus routed that have stops within two blocks of Tecolote Canyon Natural Park will be noted by route #.

PUBLIC ENTRANCE INDEX FOR TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK - MAP #3					
Entrance #	Classification	Location	Parking	Bus Stop	Facilities(Existing and Proposed)
1	Primary	East end of Tecolote Road at Tecolote <u>Nature Center</u> <del>Park</del> and Recreation Center	25+	<del>#5</del> _#105	Primary visitors center Nature Center, picnic area, parking, restrooms, handicapped facilities, meeting room and exhibition area, trailhead
2	Neighborhood	East end of Gardena Avenue	-5	<del></del> #105	Marian R. Bear Grove, trail
3	<del>Secondary</del>	North end of Goldboro Street	<del>5-10</del>	<del></del>	Native plant preserve
<u>4</u> <u>3</u>	<del>Designated</del>	2100 block of September	0		Too dangerous for current public usage
	Neighborhood	Street			Trail
<del>5</del>	<del>Designated</del>	East end of July Street	0		Too dangerous for current public usage
	Overlook				Benches, self-service visitor center
<del>6</del>	<del>Designated</del>	North side Mt. Acadia Blvd.	<del>0</del>		<u>Trail</u>
		<del>at west entrance</del>			
<del>7</del> <u>4</u>	Neighborhood	South side Balboa Avenue at west entrance	0	# <del>'s 5,</del> <del>27,</del> 50	Trails
<del>8</del> <u>5</u>	Neighborhood	Alley ½ block east Clairemont Drive at Clairemont Mesa Blvd.	0	<del>#25</del> <u></u>	Trails
<del>9</del> <u>6</u>	<del>Designated</del> Neighborhood	Alley 2 doors east of Rolfe Road on Willamette Avenue	0		No current access to canyon floor Trails
<del>10</del> 7	<del>Designated</del>	Cindy Street 1 lot west of	0		No current access to canyon floor
_	Neighborhood	Miami Way			Trails
<del>11</del> <u>8</u>	Secondary	North Clairemont Park and	25+	<del> #50</del>	Parking, restrooms, picnic area,
		Recreation Center			trailhead, self-service visitors
					center
<del>12</del> <u>9</u>	<del>Designated</del>	Genesee Avenue at Chateau	0	<u>#41</u>	Conditions currently too dangerous to
	Neighborhood	Drive			recommend use for public, emergency /
					service use only Trails

# PUBLIC ENTRANCE INDEX FOR TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK - MAP #3 (cont.)

Entrance #	Classification	Location	<u>Parking</u>	Bus Stop	Facilities (Existing and Proposed)
<del>13</del> <u>10</u>	Secondary	Mt. Etna Park on Mt. Etna Drive	25+		Parking, restrooms, picnic area, trailhead, self-service information center
14	<del>Neighborhood</del>	North side Balboa Avenue at west of Mt. Culebra	<del>0</del>	#27 at Mt. Culebra	<del>Trail</del>
<del>15</del> <u>11</u>	Neighborhood	South of Mt. Alifan on Mt. Bagot	-5	<del></del> # <u>27</u>	Trail
<del>16-</del> <u>12</u>	Neighborhood	South of Mt. Alifan on Mt. Culebra	-5	#27 <u>#28</u> — at Mt. Culebra	Trail
<del>17</del> <u>13</u>	Secondary	North of Holmes Elementary School on Mt. Brundage	10-20		Trails, curbside parking, picnic area, self-service information center
<del>18</del> <u>14</u>	Neighborhood	West end of Mt. Ashum Drive	5-10		Trails
<del>19</del> <u>15</u>	Neighborhood	West end of Mt. Ariane Drive	-5		Trails
<del>20</del> <u>16</u>	Neighborhood	North side of Mt. Acadia <del>,</del> west of Via Aquario	0		Trails
<del>21</del> <u>17</u>	<del>Secondary</del> Neighborhood	Mt. Acadia at Snead Avenue	<del>5-10</del> <u>0</u>		Trails, parking, self-service- information center
<del>22</del> <u>D-1</u>	Neighborhood Designated	Via Bello at SDG&E easement	5-10		Trail
<del>23</del> <u>18</u>	Neighborhood	South end of Mt. Carrol Drive	0		Trail
<del>24</del> <u>19</u>	Neighborhood	East end of Tamres Drive	0		Trail
<del>25</del> <u>20</u>	Secondary	Acworth Avenue west of Aloe Avenue	10-20		Trails, self-service information center, picnic area, curbside parking

Entrance #	Classification	<u>Location</u>	<u>Parking</u>	Bus Stop	Facilities (Existing and Proposed)
<del>26</del> – <u>21</u>	Neighborhood	Genesee Avenue south of Marlesta	0	#4 <del>1 at</del> Marlesta	Trailhead
<del>27</del> <u>D-2</u>	<del>Private</del> Designated	Mesa College			Public entry by permission only
<del>28</del> 22	Neighborhood	Kearney Mesa Park and Recreation Center	25+		Trails, parking, picnic area, restrooms
<del>29</del> – <u>23</u>	Secondary	Linda Vista Park and Recreation Center	5-10	# <del>41</del> _ <u>44</u>	<pre>Parking, restrooms, picnic area, self- service visitors center, trailhead</pre>
<del>30</del>	<del>Neighborhood</del>	North end of Comstock and Ulric Streets	<del>0</del>		<del>Trails</del> —
<del>31</del>	<del>Designated</del>	High Knoll Road	<del>5</del>		Too dangerous for current public usage
24	Neighborhood	Wheatstone Street north of Osler Street	<u>0</u>	<u></u>	Trailhead
<del>32</del> _ <u>25</u>	Neighborhood	West end of Osler Street SDG&E easement	-5		Trail
<del>33 -</del>	<del>Private</del>	West end of Opalo Way	Ф		Access for Casa Bello Condominiums
<del>34</del> _	<del>Designated</del>	1 lot south of Inman Street on Inman Court	θ	_	No current access to canyon floor
<del>35</del> – <u>26</u>	Neighborhood	2 lots south of Osler Street on Quillan Street	-5		Trail
<del>36</del> – <u>27</u>	<del>Designated</del> Neighborhood	Alley, ½ block west of Nye Street south of Preece Street	0		No current access to canyon floor,_ Trail
<del>37</del> <u>28</u>	Neighborhood	Alley, 1 lot north of Lanston Street on Nye Street	-5	<del>#25</del>	Trail
<del>38</del> <u>29</u>	Neighborhood	West end of Lanston Street	0		Trail

#### PUBLIC ENTRANCE INDEX FOR TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK - MAP #3 (cont.)

Entrance #	Classification	Location	Parking	Bus Stop	Facilities (Existing and Proposed)
<del>39</del>	<del>Neighborhood</del>	3 lots west of Langmuir Street on Lanston Street	<del>-5</del>	_	<u>Trail</u>
40 <u>D-3</u>	Neighborhood Designated	Kelly Street Park	-5		Trail, picnic area, restroom
<del>41</del>	<del>Private</del>	University Canyon Subdivision	0	_	Entry for University Canyon residents only
42	<del>Private —</del>	University Canyon Subdivision	<del>0</del>	_	Entry for University Canyon residents only
<del>43</del> <u>30</u>	<del>Secondary</del> Neighborhood	Via Las Cumbres, near University Canyon Subdivision	<del>5-10</del> _ <u>0</u>		<pre>Parking, self-service visitors center, tTrailhead</pre>
44 31	Private	University of San Diego	0	#4 <u></u>	+Entry granted for groups with prior +permission from USD; contact Special +Events Office at 293-4592
<del>45</del> —	<del>Private</del>	University of San Diego	<del>25+</del>	_	7EVENUS OFFICE at 293-4392

Appendix 3

# San Diego Gas & Electric

July 2, 1982

Mr. Wilbur Smith
City of San Diego
Parks & Recreation Dept.
Conference Bldg, Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK MASIER PLAN

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter follows our telephone conversation of June 30, 1982. During that conversation we discussed the subject park master plan. SDG&E has no objections to designating our right-of-way through the park planning area as ''Natural Park" as long as the designation does not restrict our ability to develop and maintain the facilities in our "Right of Way. Other concerns are:

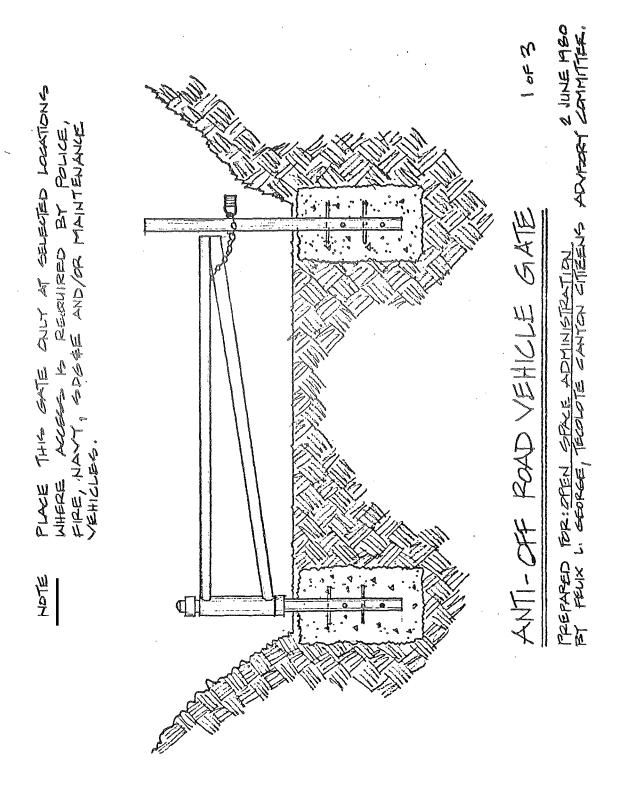
- \* That developments within this area do not hinder access to our transmission facilities in any way either temporarily or permanently. Constant access to our transmission facilities is an absolute necessity.
- \* That activities proposed for this area do not represent a hazard to our facilities or that our facilities do not represent a hazard to planned activities.
- Proposed grading should not impact the right-of-way by changing elevations within the right-of-way or diverting drainage across it.
- \* Any proposed use within the right-of-way must first be re- viewed and approved by our Land Management Section. Proposed uses adjacent to our right-of-way should be compatible with the uses within our right-of-way.

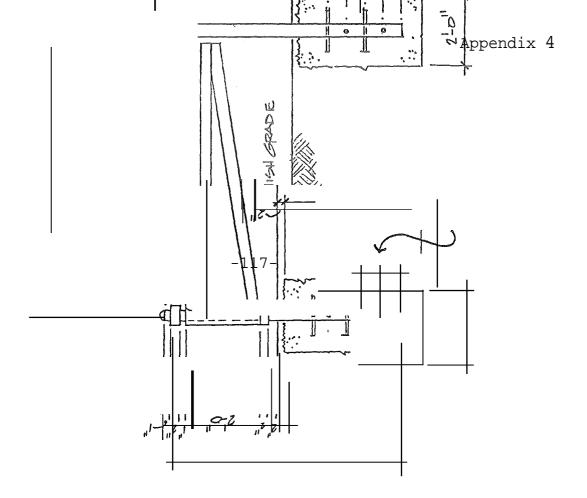
Mr. Smith, if you have any questions regarding this letter or uses within or adjacent to our rights-of-way please call me at 232-4252, Extension 1523 or Mr. Shepard at Extension 15 n.

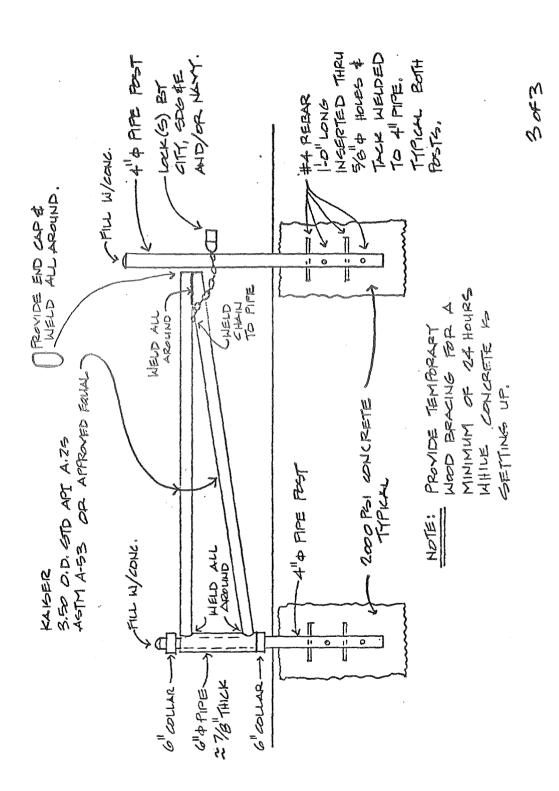
Very truly yours, D. L. Rose

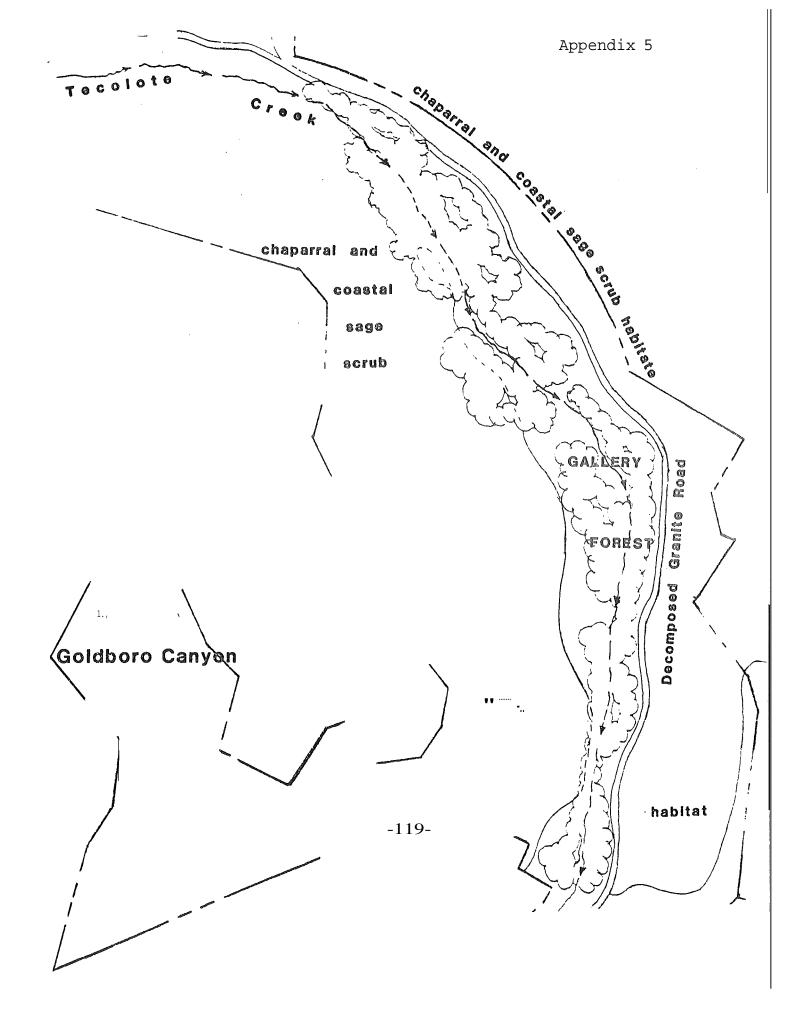
DLR:mak

cc: JWShepard P 1Stanfield









PROGRESS GUIDE AND GENERAL PLAN Approved by The City of San Diego City Council, February 26, 1979

#### The Natural Base

In the urban environment of San Diego, there are parts of the natural landscape that have not changed. These features, the valleys and canyons and the shoreline, provide a feeling and relief from the crowding and stress of city life. As the City grows the keeping of these features becomes more difficult. Preservation and enhancement programs must be undertaken if the City is to keep a sense of unspoiled nature for future generations.

#### **FINDINGS**

## The Valleys and Canyons

The valleys, canyons, and hillsides are San Diego's priceless assets. The flat-floored valleys hold the water and the vegetation, and have been left open until recently, since new housing has avoided the flood plain and occupied high mesas. But now the valleys are facing development pressures despite the flood dangers.

Fingering out from the long valleys, the narrow, brushy canyons, too steep for building, penetrate the city. They are a naturally connected system of open space that is close to almost every community. Many canyons show signs of use by local children, and a few have walking trails. Most lie unused – inaccessible to their neighborhoods, in many cases severed from these neighborhoods by urban development at their base where they connect to the valleys. Heavy machinery can fill them over or terrace them to make flat building sites. But cost flood danger, erosion, and respect for the land all argue against tampering with this natural drainage system.

Development trends in recent years have brought about many problems. Technological progress has dealt more with quantity rather than quality. Man has resculptured the terrain, remaking the environment, resulting in a sterile landscape. Constantly expanding development has eradicated the unique character and identity of natural land forms. For miles in each direction neighborhoods and their houses become virtually indistinguishable.

#### The Shoreline

Many people value the ocean shore as the most important asset of the city, Although much of San Diego's shore is in public ownership, some of that is military ownership, and in other cases access is difficult because of the steep slopes, indirect routes, or the possessiveness of local shore communities.

San Diego has a fairly wide range of income and housing in its coastal neighborhoods, but economic realities pressure for higher densities and higher rents. Some large buildings have been constructed, strongly objected to by beach communities who feared a solid line of structures walling off the shorelines. Concern over this possibility precipitated the passage of Propositions "D" (30 foot coastal height limit) and 20 (The California Coastal Initiative), in 1972. Unfortunately, the 30 foot height limit has done little toward resolving the problem of "walling off", since if height is not permitted, the bulk of the building will expand to achieve the same desired and permitted density. An alternative could be the development of performance standards which would deal with variations of particular circumstances.

The Silver Strand, the logical beach to serve the South Bay communities, is mostly under Navy control and the approach is circuitous and expensive. San Diego Say, a unique and intimate expanse, has limited accessibility. Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, and the La Jolla shore are heavily used but parking is difficult. The bluffs at Torrey Pines shelter a magnificent strand, ideal for vigorous people willing to climb down to it. but inaccessible to others.

The basic question to be answered is how much of the shore should be accessible to whom, and by what means. Shore communities should not have exclusive rights, nor should tourist accommodations be abie to appropriate special frontages. The diversity of beach character and diversity of access should be maintained. There should be less reliance on the car, and more on the feet, or by bicycles and public transportation.

#### **GOAL**

 PRESERVE THE NATURAL BASE OF THE CITY; THE VALLEYS, CANYONS, HILL-SIDES AND SHORELINE BY ENCOURAG-ING DEVELOPMENT TO RESPECT A VANISHING RESOURCE

#### GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

The Valleys, Canyons and Hillsides

 M AINTAIN THE CHARACTER OF THE UNDEVELOPED VALLEYS, CANYONS AND HILLSIDES.

Confine development to the mesas and less sensitive areas of the canyons and protect the hillsides and rims, as well as the floor, so that the rural character of the valley or canyon is preserved, and erosion and flood damage is prevented. Flood plain and hillside zoning must be much more tightly drawn and specifically applied. Structures should be kept back from the rims, with few exceptions. Valley sides should be left to their natural vegetation, and the valley floors should be devoted to open space uses which are unharmed by flood. No further channeling of the streams should be permitted.

 VALLEYS AND CANYONS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR HIGHWAYS AND FUTURE TRANSIT LINES UNTIL ALL OTHER ALTERNATIVES HAVE BEEN EXPLORED.

Not only do highways destroy the natural character, they inevitably bring further development. The uses which most need their access are above, on the mesas, and this means even more ramps to get up there. Except for short local routes serving valley uses, roads should cross canyons and valleys at right angles, SAN DIEGO HAS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP AS A TWO-LEVEL CITY – ONE LEVEL A GREENWAY UNDISTURBED BY CITY TRAFFIC.

c PARTS OF THE VALLEY AND CANYONS SHOULD BE ECOLOGICAL PRESERVES. OTHERS, CAMPGROUNDS AND PARK LANDS FOR CHILDREN TO EXPLORE.

Agricultural. recreational and educational uses could be located there, wherever the natural character can be maintained. But uses which mean large gatherings and extensive parking lots – even public – do not belong.

## Grading Principles

The steeper the natural slope, the more severe the cut and fill required to produce level areas and the higher the resulting banks.

Therefore, in steep terrain:

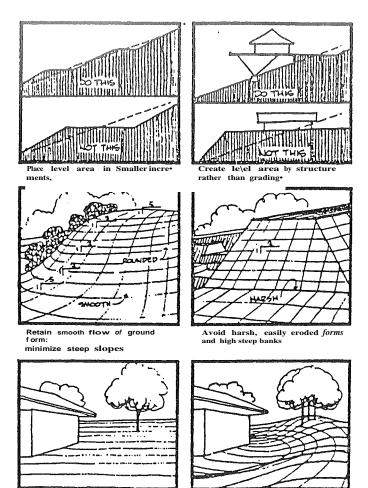
- \* lower the requirements for level areas; e.g., narrower streets, smaller yards, etc.
- \* Make level areas in smaller increments to minimize bank height; e.g., split streets, multi-level houses and yards,
- \* Create level areas by structure rather than by grading on extreme slopes; e.g., platform houses, decks, etc.

#### In level terrain:

Create interest by building up earth forms.

#### In all terrain:

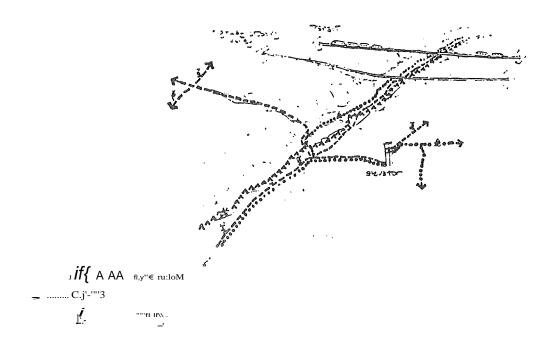
Preserve smooth flowing planes in the ground form. Steep slopes are difficult to plant and maintain and nature breaks down sharp edges, so avoid them in the first place.



In level terrain, create interest by building earth forms.

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 A COMPLETE TRAIL SYSTEM •. FOR WALKING, CYCLING, AND HORSEBACK RIDING • SHOULD BE DEVELOPED ALONG THESE NATURAL VALLEYS. places it should be set farther back. Forward of that line, the land should be given to water-related public recreation, or occasionally leased to 'tow and moderately-priced commer-



Since they penetrate the region at regular intervals and run from mountains to sea on easy grades, they are ideal for recreational travel, and might even be a component in the movement of bicycle commuters. Selected canyons could be developed as connectors between the communities and the valleys, while others could serve for strolling, exploration and local connections.

 ALLOW FOR A REASONABLE USE OF HILLSIDE AREA,

Sensitive development, built in a way which complements the natural character of hillsides and relates well to the regional open space system, should be encouraged. Environmental resources, significant public views and a clear sense of hillside topography must be protected. Recontour rather than cut and fill if earth moving is necessary.

#### The Shoreline

 NEW DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE BACK FROM THE WATER'S EDGE.

Whenever possible, development of vacant land and redevelopment should be at least 100 yards back of the beach or shore and set well behind the brow of the bluff. In many

cial recreation open to the general public. Where possible parking should be kept on the inland side of shoreline roads.

 MAKE THE BEACHES ACCESSIBLE WITHOUT DESTOYING THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES BEHIND THEM.

Major transportation and parking should be kept well back of the beach, with frequent foot access. Elephant trains, bicycles, mini-busses, and boardwalks should predominate along the coast. reaching back to the major routes, while discreet public access routes run down the bluff faces. Continuous shore roads are not needed, but connected cycle and foot trails run along the ocean, both behind the strand and along the rim of the bluffs.

 ENCOURAGE HOUSING OF MIXED PRICE AND TYPE TO LOCATE ALONG THE SHORE.

Densities should be allowed to increase moderately in this zone in accordance with adopted community plans, but bulk and charecter must be controlled. The existing mix of income should be protected, and a mix insured in any new development. Quotas of low and moderately priced housing may have to be imposed, for the privilege of developing shorefront property. Residential use, and its attend-

## Recreation

A large part of the richness and diversity of the urban scene derives from the variety and availability of its recreational opportunities. Of course, a large part of these opportunities are provided by commercial and non-profit enterprises. But since the first American public park was built in the middle of the last century, there has been a steadily increasing awareness of the need for public recreation facilities. These latter are one of the major criteria used to evaluate and compare cities, their relative "progressiveness", their quality of life, their attractiveness as places for establishing business or industry or residence.

The City of San Diego provides three types of recreational accommodations for residents and visitors. Population-based centers are intended to serve the local daily needs of residential areas. Where possible they adjoin schools in order to share facilities, and ideally are within walking distance of the residences within their service area. Resource-based parks serve users from the entire city and elsewhere, and are located at or centered around some natural or man-made feature. Beaches, historic sites, natural canyons, lakes, Mission Bay and Balboa Park are examples of this type of facility. The City also provides other recreational accommodations that are neither population- based nor resource-based; these include sports fields, open-space parks, plazas, large and small landscaped areas, and miniparks. The three groups of physical facilities, plus classes and programs and activities at these and other locations, constitute San Diego's municipal recreation system.

Preservation, development and operation of its public recreational resources is one of a city's primary responsibilities. The intent here is to consider the City's broader and more comprehensive recreation system. Land is essential to that system; of comparable importance are facilities and staff service. All three are vital elements of the City's coordinated effort to provide opportunities for the constructive and enjoyable use of leisure time.

The Recreation Element interrelates in varying degrees with many of the other elements of the Progress Guide and General Plan. Recreation is one of the major uses for Open Space lands, and resource-based parks are a major part of the City's Open Space system. Both the Recreation Element and the Conservation Element are concerned with the preservation and use of beaches, water bodies and wildland areas. Providing recreation facilities within easy access of residential areas has important Energy Conservation consequences. Parks and recreation facilities contribute importantly to a sense of place, urban diversity, improved livability and accommodation of human needs with the City all of which are concerns of Urban Design.

#### **FINDINGS**

At best, a city does not attempt to fulfill residents' entire need for recreation: it is not expected, and is unlikely to happen in the future. Public facilities in this country have traditionally played a relatively small part in the total picture of leisure-time use. However, planning emphasis is currently shifting toward increased guidance of and provision for recreation -in efforts to reduce auto use, energy consumption and air pollution, and to make inner cities and higher density living more attractive and satisfying. To achieve this, an adequate and well-located system of facilities is essential. Also, despite the downward trend in the average work week and the consequent increase in free time, the real increase in useable leisure is not as dramatic as might be expected. With the increasing pace and complexity of urban life, the use of available free time becomes critical. In effect, the need for recreation has increased faster than the supply of time available for accomplishing it. This places additional importance on providing a full and varied range of recreational opportunities, readily available to all.

Since their adoption, a lot of progress has

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been made toward achievement of the City's park and recreation goals. New park lands have been steadily acquired; development of facilities and recreation services have greatly expanded; considerable variety of service has been achieved. Recreation activities are offered throughout the City at Parks, recreation centers, public schools, playgrounds gyms, athletic fields, auditoriums and classrooms. A variety of cultural, athletic, sport, social and craft programs designed to serve all age and ethnic groups are provided.

There Is, however, considerable variation among the various communities and areas of the City with respect to the actual facilities provided, total acreage, and acres/1000 population. This Is partly due to the uneven distribution of large resource-based parks: beaches and Mission Bay Park and Balboa Park fulfill needs of the entire City and tourists, as well as residents of the specific section of the City they are in. It is also partly due to the fact that the Park Service Districts and statistical areas used to compare recreation facilities are not really separable, independent units. However, even with allowances made these considerations, appreciable deficiencies exist throughout the City and more in some sections than in others.

Of most concern is the relative lack of neighborhood and community facilities in some of the older parts of the City. This has occurred for several reasons: the General Plan Standards did not exist when these communities were being developed, there was no park fee ordinance, and there is no space now to estabparks without displacing residents. However, the same needs exist as in newer communities where land dedication or park fees have provided recreation facilities. This problem is common to many older cities, and to the older parts of many cities, except where large-scale redevelopment has provided for recreation space. Given the current trend "back" to the Inner City, Increased citizen desire for public recreation, efforts to reduce auto use, increasing preference for active recreation and health activities, and the ubiquitous energy problem, It Is apparent that facilities should be provided that make recreation an accessible part of daily lives and not a special, gasoline- consuming event that Involves travel.

Both neighborhood and community facilities should take a variety of forms in response to the specific needs and desires of the residents involved. Neighborhood parks should be oriented toward achieving maximum neighborhood involvement in terms of interest, participation and support. They should be an important element In creating neighborhood identity. Community facilities should supplement the neighborhood ones and provide for more activities than the latter. Both should respond to the unique chacteristics of their area; the type of facilities and services and the space arrangements should relate to the population and use characteristics of the area served. The space and equipment Indicated as desirable for them should be considered guidelines and not fixed needs. Most are located adjacent to public schools in order to share facilities and land.

In older, already developed parts of the City, where recreation space is difficult to acquire, efforts should be directed toward providing staff and facilities which compensate for deficiencies in acreage. Land, equipment and supervision in varying proportions can still add up to recreational opportunity and service to the residents. If acreage is reduced, facility investment and leadership should be comspondingly increased.

Trade-offs and exchange among these various aspects of total service can allow tile City to continue moving equitably toward goals while preferred levels of acreage are not immediately attainable.

Resource-based parks are intended to preserve and make available areas of outstanding scenic, natural, or cultural interest. They are meant to broaden the smaller, more dally type of opportunity offered by the system of population-based parks, and also are meant to serve the entire City and its visitors rather than any one community. However, parts of them can and do function to fulfill local neighborhood and community park needs of surrounding residents.

As a special resource-based facility, historical resources can serve both area-wide and local recreational needs when suitably located and Identified and open to the public. San Diego's historical resources are treated in detail in the Cultural Resources Management Element. They embrace physical structures and geographic areas, both natural and man-made, which have some historical significance. Properly designated and available to the public, these can serve as a rich source of tangible

historical material, leisure enjoyment and cultural enrichment, as well as a practical asset for tourist-commercial and industrial promotion:

Parks are mostly financed by sales tax revenues arid sales of city-owned land. Traditionally, park needs have exceeded the City's financial resources. To defray a portion of the cost of park and recreational facilities. the City Council. in June 1974. adopted a Park Fee Ordinance. This ordinance required land contributions or the payment of fees by the subdivider in conjunction with the subdivison process. It also requires that fees be paid by the developer at the time a building permit is issued. Collected fees must be used in the area of benefit.

The City also has policies regarding park development by private funds, and the allowance of credit when park and recreational facilities are furnished by the subdivider. However, park development involving private sources of funding must satisfy specific criteria.

Inasmuch as the amount of funds available for capital improvements for parks and recreation will continue to be severely limited; new sources of revenue should be explored. These may include increases in park fees in park deficient areas, user fees, bond issues for park purposes and mandatory land donations in large subdivisons.

#### **GOALS**

- \* PROVIDE A RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVE AND PASSIVE RECREA-TION, EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND NEIGHBORHOOD IDENTIFICATION, IN ALL PARTS OF THE CITY, ADAPTED TO THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF EACH NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY - -
- \* ENHANCE THE URBAN SCENE BY DEVE-LOPMENT OF AN EXTENSIVE AND VA-RIED SYSTEM OF OPEN SPACE ANDRE-CREATION FACILITIES.
- \* ACQUIRE AND PRESERVE AII BE-ACHES FOR PUBLIC USES.

#### **GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS**

Population-based Parks and Facilities

An ideal balance of recreational opportunities

cannot be achieved through just city-wide application of numerical standards for physical facilities. These standards are important, however, they should be used with discretion rather than mechanically. They are only a basic tool for guiding and evaluating the adequacy of service to a given area and to the City as a whole. Their application should be related to economic feasibility and the nature of the specific neighborhood or community, and should allow for flexibility as specific areas change or the needs and desires of the residents change. Acreage, development and physical facilities, accessibility and distance, supervision and leadership should all be included in the total effort to achieve as much as possible the same degree of service or opportunity or need fulfill... - ment in each administrative district.

Population based parks and facilities are intended to serve the immediately surrounding residential population. There are two categories of these:

## Neighborhood Parks and Facilities

Neighborhood facilities should serve a resident population of 3,600 to 5,000 persons within approximately a 1/2 mile radius. Ideally, they should have a minimum useable area of five acres when located adjacent to an elementary school or 10 acres when not so located. The design and type of facilities should be determined by the population and use characteristics of the neighborhood. Play areas, multipurpose courts, picinic facilities, landscaping and lawn areas are usual accommodations when space permits and when ap.. propriate for the specific neighborhood.

# Community Parks and Recreation Centers

Community facilities should serve 18,000 to 25,000 residents within approximately a 1-1/2 mile radius. Ideally they should have at least 13 useable acres if adjacent to a junior high school or 20 acres if not so located. They should provide a wide range of facilities that supplement those of the neighborhood parks and which are determined by the needs, preferences and use characteristics of the community. Athletic fields, multipurpose courts, picnic facilities play areas, recreation building, lawn acres and landscaping are standard facilities when possible and desirable.

Swimming pools, usually located at community parks, should be planned to serve a minimum population of 50,000 residents within a radius of 1-1/2 to 2 miles.

## Resource-base Parks

Resource parks are located at the site of distinctive scenic or natural or cultural features. They are intended for City-wide use. Their size and development should be determined by the specific resource involved, expected use, available land, and location. Where appropriate, they may be developed with landscaping and recreation facilities. Beaches should have adequate restrooms. In general, development and amenities should not impair the feature or resource that motivates the resource-based park.

## Total Acres Per Thousand Residents

Citywide, there should be approximately 20 acres of urban recreation land for each 1,000 residents. Population-based facilities ideally constitute between and 3.9 1.0 1000, depending on proximity to schools and the residential densities of their service areas. Resource-based parks should provide between 15 and 17 acres/1000. Open space lands, sports fields, plazas, and landscaped areas should constitute approximately 1.1 to 2 acres/1000 residents. These figures however. are norms or abstract concepts, and should not be rigidly applied throughout the City.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- \* Make fullest possible use of multi-purpose planning to expand recreation opportunities:
  - \* recreation use of school facilities and school use of recreation facilities.

- variety of compatible recreation activities within a given site.
- \* passive recreation combined with cultural resource preservation.
- appropriate recreational use of open space lands and wildlife conservation areas and water resources.
- Evaluate each park to be acquired and/or developed on an individual basis using the standards as guidelines.
- Address community needs in community plans.
- Retain all park land for recreation purposes only. As opportunities arise, repossess for recreation purposes desirable park areas that have been diverted to other uses.
- Design parks so as to preserve or enhance the topographic and other natural site characteristics.

Utilize planting materials native to Southern California and landscaping compatible with our climate to reduce maintenance costs.

Acquire non-public beach areas for public use, and preserve and identify access.

Make suitable provision for parks or open space public areas in redevelopment plans for areas presently park- deficient.

- Needed park facilities in older urbanized areas of the City should receive higher priority in the allocation of available funds.
- Coordinate with private recreational facilities and commercial Interest so that the private facilities complement and supplement . the public recreational system.
- Review the existing fee schedule of the Park Fee Ordinance.
- Amend the Park Fee Ordinance to require park fees as a condition of building permits for construction where the underlying property has been previously subdivided.

#### CITY of SAN DIEGO

## MEMORANDUM

FllE .'No.

DATE December 3' 1980

TO Marcella Vetica

FROM Frank S. Hafner, Noise Abatement and Control

SUBJECT: TECOLOTE CANYON

Presently Tecolote Canyon is a very quiet area in the City.

The only noise that impacts Tecolote Canyon is caused by traffic on adjacent streets. There is no significant noise generated by any other source. Development of the area will cause increases in traffic on existing streets and an increase in streets themselves, thus causing an increase in noise level in the area. The following table shows the 1980 traffic counts and the present 60 decibel Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) contour for existing streets in the area,

STREET _	AVERAGE DAILY TRIPS	PRESENT 60 DECIBEL CNEL CONTOUR FET)	60 DECIBEL CONTOUR AT TWICE THE TRAFFIC VOLUME (FEET)
BALBOA	37,300	210	330
GENESEE	22,100	145	230
MT. ACACIA	13,000	100	. 160
MT. ETNA	5,000	55	85
MT. EVEREST	4'100	50	80
COMSTOCK	3,300	40	65

TABLE 1.

The Traffic Volume with Present and Projected 60 Decibel CNEL Contours for Streets in the Vicinity of Tecolote Canyon

The Noise Abatement and Control Office can provide a more complete Acoustical Analysis Report if projected streets and traffic volume estimates are provided.

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