



San Dieguito River Valley
Regional Open Space Park
14103 Highland Valley Road
Escondido, CA 92025
(858) 674-2270 Fax (858) 674-2280
www.sdrp.org

**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Friday, February 19, 2010

County Administrative Center

1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303

San Diego

Speaker slips will be available. Please fill out a slip and give it to the Chair prior to the meeting if you wish to speak to an item on the agenda. The Board may take action on any item listed on the Consent or Action agenda.

Introductions and Announcements

Approval of the Minutes of January 15, 2010

Executive Directors Report

Public Comment

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board and not appearing on today's agenda. Comments relating to items on today's agenda are to be taken at the time the item is heard. Pursuant to the Brown Act, no action shall be taken by the Board on public comment items.

ACTION

1. Budget Amendment for FY 09/10 (page 3)
2. Budget Situation
 - a. Status Report (page 9)
 - b. Report and Recommendations from Budget Committee (page 12)
 - i. Draft Letter from JPA Member Agencies to San Diego Mayor Sanders
 - c. Recommendations from Citizens Advisory Committee (page 16)
 - i. Motion re CAC Status in Event of Layoffs
 - ii. Letter re Environmental Planner Status in Event of Layoffs

INFORMATION

3. Presentation on Alternative Fairground Expansion Plan Concept by Bill Lewis (page 20)
4. Coordination Reports (oral)
 - a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
 - b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
 - c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation
 - d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
5. Status Reports (Oral)
 - a. River Park Projects
6. Jurisdictional Status Reports

An opportunity for the Board members to report on actions taken within their jurisdictions to further the park planning process, or on problems which have arisen.
7. Communications
 - a. Union-Tribune Article, Feb 9, 2010, "Kehoe opposes fairgrounds expansion plan" (page 21)

THE NEXT REGULAR JPA MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010

If you have any questions, please call Dick Bobertz at (858) 674-2270.

****Due to the high cost of printing and mailing the JPA and CAC agendas, the JPA has converted to an email distribution of both agendas. Please advise the office at 858 674-2270 if you do not have an e-mail address and want other arrangements will be made. Full packets will continue to be mailed free of charge to JPA and CAC members upon request. For others, the cost of the full agenda, with backup material, is \$45 per year, and the cost of the agenda without backup material is \$10 per year. **The agenda and minutes are available at no cost on the San Dieguito River Park web site at www.sdrp.org**

TO: JPA
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Amend FY 09/10 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Amend FY 09/10 Operating Budget and Trails/Land Management Budget

SITUATION:

A. Summary and Recommendation

The FY 09/10 budget included \$139,000 from SCE for Trails Management in the coastal area. This included \$106,208 as a reimbursement for ranger staff. That amount was based on the first year of the new Trails Management Program. The second year of the program went into effect in January 2010. The second year program included additional ranger funding and funds for an additional truck, tools, equipment, solar-powered gates and signs, for a total of \$273,312. Under the new program, the portion of this amount that the San Dieguito River Park will receive in total for staffing reimbursement from SCE in FY 09/10 is \$137,571. The attached draft budget amendment would transfer \$137,571 to the operating budget to reimburse the operating budget for ranger staff costs, an increase of \$31,363 over the current budget. The balance of the funds received from SCE in Year Two is \$135,741, which will remain in the Trails/Land Management fund to be used to purchase a new ½ ton truck and materials, tools, equipment, signage, solar-powered gates and other items in accordance with the agreement with SCE.

The second proposed amendment is to add \$10,000 to the Trails/Land Management Fund for additional work that will be done on Bernardo Mountain. The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy is providing the \$10,000 to the JPA to reimburse the JPA ranger staff for doing additional habitat restoration projects on Bernardo Mountain. This budget amendment would transfer those funds to the Operating Fund to reimburse the operating budget for those ranger staff costs.

The third proposed amendment is to correct an error that has been identified in one of the formulas used to compute overhead in the Operating Budget, specifically health benefit costs. The formula should have used a factor of 2.5%, and instead it used a factor of .25%. This created an error of \$13,350.

The net effect of the above amendments is an increase in revenue of \$28,013 in the FY 09/10 Operating Budget.

Staff recommends that your Board adopt the attached amendments to the FY 09/10 Operating Budget and Trails/Land Management Budget.

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Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Carter
Deputy Director

Attachments: 1. Draft FY 09/10 Budget Amendment

San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park		Adopted	Amend #1	Amend #2	
Joint Powers Authority Fiscal Year 2009-10 Operating Budget		FY 09/10	FY 09/10	FY 09/10	
ORG 91160 FUND 44625			9/18/09	02/19/10	
Appropriations					
Salaries and Benefits					
1000 Object Account					
	51110	Permanent Wages	593,324	593,324	593,324
	51115	Temporary Wages	-	-	-
	51410	Retirement - CERS	97,364	97,364	97,364
	51415	Retire Other Post Retirement (Health Supplement)	12,875	12,875	12,875
	51421	Non County POB Contributions	72,208	72,208	72,208
	51430	Retirement- CERS - County Offset	42,838	42,838	42,838
	51450	Retirement - OASDI & Medicare	44,262	44,262	44,262
	51510	Employee Group Health & Life Ins., Disability Ins.,	1,483	1,483	14,833
	51530	Worker's Compensation Insurance	4,984	4,984	4,984
	51550	Flex Credit	60,460	60,460	60,460
	51560	Unemployment Insurance	1,483	1,483	1,483
Subtotal			931,282	931,282	944,631
Services and Supplies					
2000 Object Account					
	52304	STIPEND to employees	-	-	-
	52062	Telephone/Cell/Fax/Satellite Service	9,988	9,988	9,988
		Office Telephone (\$5200)			
		Cell service for Rangers (\$3000)			
		Dish Network (Satellite for Internet Service) (\$1788)			
	52130	Insurance - General and Property Liability, incl Auto	6,160	6,160	6,160
	52134	Insurance - Medical/Liability for Volunteers	600	600	600
	52182	Fuel for Vehicle, incl Tractor	8,000	8,000	8,000
	52186	Office Equipment Maintenance/Repair (Service Contracts)	2,500	2,500	2,500
	52220	Office Operation/Maintenance	10,800	10,800	10,800
	52220	Recycle (\$180)			
	52220	Dumpster Rental (\$900)			
	52220	Janitorial Service (\$720)			
	52220	Maintenance/Repair/Tires for Vehicles (\$6,000)			
	52220	Uniform Allowance (\$3000)			
	52220	Lake Hodges Bike/Ped Bridge Lease	3,201	3,201	3,201
	52220	Dept. of Health Services Permit, Hodges Bridge	525	525	525
	52220	Sikes Adobe Historic Farmhouse	5,322	5,322	5,322
	52270	Memberships	200	200	200
	52304	Miscellaneous, petty cash	800	800	800
	52330	Office Supplies	3,000	3,000	3,000
	52332	Postage	1,000	1,000	1,000
	52334	Printing (Stationery, maps)	3,200	3,200	3,200
		Repay Loan for Bike/Ped Bridge Shortfall		275,000	275,000
	52370	Professional Services	49,900	49,900	49,900
		Attorney Services (\$30,000)			
		Bookkeeping Services (\$6,600)			
		Auditor Services (\$8,300)			
		County Services (\$3,500)			
		Computer/Website Consulting Services (\$1,500)			
	52304	Stipends for Board Members (10 mtgs x \$100 x 2)	2,000	2,000	2,000
	52394	Maps, photos	250	250	250
	52304	Legal Notices	300	300	300
	52550	Volunteer/Event Program	10,575	10,575	10,575
		Water/Ice/Refreshments (\$1050)			
		Volunteer Recognition (\$2,500)			
		Mailings - Activity Schedule and Newsletter (included in postage & printing line items)			
		Scout Plaques/Awards (\$625)			

OPERATING BUDGET

San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority Fiscal Year 2009-10 Operating Budget		Adopted FY 09/10	Amend #1 FY 09/10	Amend #2 FY 09/10
	Other Events (e.g., Earth Day) (\$775)			
	Docent Training/Volunteer Patrol Training (\$1050)			
	Intern Stipends/Education/Outreach (\$2,875)			
	Kiosk Displays (\$200)			
	20th Anniversary events (\$1500)			
52560	Books/Publications/Subscriptions	200	200	200
52566	Minor Equipment	200	200	200
52672	Utilities (at Undercrossing)	600	600	600
52608	Out of County Travel	428	428	428
52610	Training (incl Seminars, Trails Conf.)	2,250	2,250	2,250
52612	Employee Auto Reimbursement	800	800	800
52550	Endowment	-	-	-
52304	Computer Software (Quickbooks, Antivirus renew, etc)	600	600	600
52304	Email distribution service	400	400	400
Total Services and Supplies		123,799	398,799	398,799
Other Charges				
53426	Lease/Purchase Phone system	-	-	-
53426	Lease/purchase copier equipment	2,800	2,800	2,800
56311	Amortization Reserve (for future truck replacement)	8,000	8,000	8,000
53426	Loan Payments for Work Truck	5,800	5,800	5,800
Total Other Charges		16,600	16,600	16,600
Fixed Assets				
54982	Down Payment for 'Work vehicle for cargo, transports/tax/title/hitch/rack/trailer			
Total Fixed Assets		-	-	-
Reserves				
Total Appropriations		1,071,681	1,346,681	1,360,030
Revenues				
Account				
48117	Transfer from Amortization Reserve	5,800	5,800	5,800
48117	Transfer from Trails/Land Mgmt fund for Admin Costs	230,400	230,400	271,771
48117	Transfer from Project fund for Admin Costs	40,000	40,000	40,000
48117	Transfer from Land Trust Fund (rent payments)	-	-	-
48117	Transfer from Fire Recovery Fund	-	-	-
00000	Fund Balance	0	0	0
44105	Interest	30,000	30,000	30,000
45511	Offtrack Betting	50,000	50,000	50,000
45918	Member agency assessments, includes endowment	707,711	707,711	707,711
45918	Stipend Reimbursements	2,000	2,000	2,000
47526	Donations transferred from SDRVC	3,000	3,000	3,000
47526	Mitigation Sale proceeds from Navy Brig 8.9 ac parcel		275,000	275,000
47526	Ranger Reimbursement from SDRVC	-	-	-
48117	FEMA reimbursement for JPA staff time (transfer from Fire Fund)			
46778	Fees Received for Agenda Backup Material	-	-	-
47540	Nontaxable Sales	125	125	125
47615	Taxable sales (t-shirts/videos/books)	2,645	2,645	2,645
Total Revenues		1,071,681	1,346,681	1,388,052

Trail & Land Management Fund

San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority FY 09/10 - Trails/Land Mgmt Fund			Adopted 09/10	Amend #1 09/10	Amend #2 09/10	Amend #3 09/10
ORG 96601 FUND 44635				06/19/09	09/18/09	02/19/10
Item #	Appropriations					
1						
2						
3	Services and Supplies					
4	2000 Object Account					
5	6310	56311 Transfer to Operating Fund for Admin. Costs	230,408	230,408	230,408	271,771
6		(Land Mgmt \$70,000; Interest, \$10,000, EEMP grant \$7,000				
7		N.E.G. Crews \$47,200; Trails Management \$106,208 and \$31,363				
8	2290	52220 Trail Maintenance/Construction/Open Space Mgmt General	15,770	15,770	15,770	15,770
9		Bernardo Mtn Fire Breaks (\$1,200)				
10		Poway Fire Breaks (\$1,200)				
11		Herbicide - (\$200)				
12		Sign Materials (\$600)				
13		Supplies, General Materials (\$1150)				
14		Seeds/Plants (\$350)				
15		Jute Netting, Erosion Control (\$500)				
16		Haz-Mat Dumping, dump fees (\$600)				
17		Tools Repairs/Replacement/Power Tools (\$770)				
18		Work Crews (\$4,000)				
19		Equipment Rental (\$600)				
20		Water Truck Rental (\$400)				
21		Fence materials (\$1,000)				
22		Mulch (\$800)				
23		D.G./Dirt/Gravel (\$1,000)				
24		Culverts (\$200)				
25		First Aid Materials (\$100)				
26		Dump Fees - 2 trips (\$100)				
27		Haz-Mat Dumping Clean-up, estimate (\$1000)				
28		Training, Applicator Certificates	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
29		Tractor/Trailer Repair	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
30		Habib Ponds clean-up	-	-	-	-
31		Streambank Cleanup	600	600	600	600
32		Bernardo Mountain - biological surveys	-	-	-	-
33	2290	52220 Trailhead Portapotties (4 ADA at \$193/mo, 3 regular at \$81/mo)	12,180	12,180	12,180	12,180
34	2376	52396 West Bernardo Bike Path & Cantilever Project	343,000	343,000	1,768,000	1,768,000
35	2290	52220 Coastal Trails Management - Tools, Equipment, Signage, Gates	32,792	32,792	32,792	103,241
36	2376	52396 Exotic Species removal, monitoring & mapping	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
37	2376	52566 Tablet PC and GIS software for Field Use	-	-	6,000	6,000
38	2376	52396 Pamo Valley Trail Gap	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
39	2376	52396 Heritage Trail Link construction			15,000	15,000
40	2376	52396 Cactus Wren and Pond Restoration Projects	-	-	95,325	95,325
41	2376	52396 Cloverdale Creek Mitigation Project - water	6,808	6,808	6,808	6,808
42	Total Services and Supplies		708,858	708,858	2,250,183	2,361,995
43						
44	Fixed Assets					
45	4509	54982 Ranger Truck for Coastal Unit	30,000	-	-	32,500
46	4509	54982 Mini-Carrier			32,184	32,184
47	Total Fixed Assets		30,000	-	32,184	64,684
48						
49	Reserves					
50	6705	56042 General Reserve	-	-	-	-
51			-	-	-	-

Trail & Land Management Fund

52							
53	Total Appropriations			738,858	708,858	2,282,367	2,426,679
54							
55	Revenues						
56	Account						
57				-	-	-	-
58	0640	26400	Deferred Credits	-	-	-	-
59	9190	44105	Interest	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
60	9742	47535	Land Management Income:				
61			Caltrans Bernardo Mtn Endowment	8,850	8,850	8,850	8,850
62			Homeowner Association Fees (Golem)	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000
63			Fenton North Endowment	6,730	6,730	6,730	6,730
64			Fenton Ranch 90	15,911	15,911	15,911	15,911
65			Maderas Westridge 9	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
66			Sandag Dean parcel 23	-	-	-	-
67			SDRVC Bernardo Mtn Endowment	15,000	15,000	15,000	25,000
68	9742	47535	Trails Management Income (SCE)	169,000	139,000	139,000	273,312
69	9527	45414	SDRVC - SDF and NRCS grants for Habitat Restoration	-	-	95,325	95,325
70	9527	45414	State EEMP grant for West Bernardo Bike Path & Cantilever	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
71	9527	45414	SANDAG EMP grant for invasive species removal	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
72	9527	45414	SANDAG EMP grant for Heritage Trail Link			15,000	15,000
73	9527	45414	SANDAG EMP grant for mini-carrier & GIS tablet			38,184	38,184
74	9527	45414	SANDAG Transnet grant for West Bernardo Bike Path			1,425,000	1,425,000
75	9742	45414	Caltrans for LH Bridge construction	-	-	-	-
76	9527	45414	Sandag for LH Bridge construction	-	-	-	-
77	9527	45414	State of California, River Parkway projects - for LH Bridge				
78	9527	45414	State TEA for I-5 Trail				
79	9527	45414	State of California, Coastal Conservancy, for I-5 Trail				
80	9990	47535	State of California, SWRCB for Treatment Ponds				
81	9990	47535	SDRVC - Pamo Valley Trail Gap	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
82	9678	45848	SDRVC - Highland Valley/Poway Trail Link				
83	0000		NRCS WHIP Grant	-	-	-	-
84			Fund Balance	57,367	57,367	57,367	57,367
85	Total Revenues			738,858	708,858	2,282,367	2,426,679

TO: JPA Board
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Budget Report – Status Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive report – no action required.

SITUATION:

STATUS REPORT ON ISSUES RAISED AT YOUR JANUARY 15, 2010 MEETING

Fourth Quarter Shortfall: At your last meeting, in response to the loss of 4th quarter funding (\$63,694) from the City of San Diego, your Board gave direction to staff to institute staff furloughs one day a month effective February 1st. This action was carried out and will save \$31,042 in the remaining months of FY 09/10. Before authorizing the Executive Director to increase staff furloughs to two days a month, your Board directed staff to investigate other one-time revenue sources that could be used. Specifically your Board directed staff to pursue \$30,232 that had been appropriated in the City of San Diego Park & Recreation Budget for the San Dieguito River Park but not invoiced. That avenue was pursued after your last meeting, but the City of San Diego Park & Recreation Director said that the City's Financial Management Department had declined to make those funds available to the San Dieguito River Park. However, the Executive Director has identified other funding sources that will bridge the remainder of this fiscal year without requiring the need to implement a second day of furloughs. In Agenda Item #1, additional revenue in the amount of \$28,013 was added to the Operating Budget. That leaves a shortfall of \$3,029. Staff recommends that a portion of that difference could be obtained by holding the Board meetings without our Attorney in attendance. Even though Attorney Brechtel's firm, Worden Williams, provides services to the JPA at rates significantly below their regular rates, nonetheless at three hours per Board meeting, it adds up, and would save \$2,250 over the five remaining months in the fiscal year. The remaining difference can be absorbed in the existing budget by cutting back on certain small expenses, such as office supplies.

Spreadsheet Handout: Another matter that was raised at your last Board meeting was a spreadsheet that Board member DeMaio passed out. That spreadsheet compared San Dieguito River Park operating revenues from 1999 to 2009 with San Dieguito River Park operating expenditures for the same time period. The spreadsheet appeared to indicate that every year the revenues had exceeded expenditures, with the implication that the River Park had been able to accrue a sizable reserve over time.

In fact, this is not the case. The information in the spreadsheet was taken from Tables 5 and 8

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from the Revenue/Expenditures/Accomplishments report for 1989 to 2008 that the San Dieguito River Park staff prepared in January 2009. Table 5 is titled "Operating Revenue Sources 1999-2009". This table does include all operating revenue sources. Table 8 is titled "Operational Expenditures in Major Categories 1999-2009". The reason the title used the word "major" is because although it included certain items such as postage, printing, telephone, insurance, fuel, etc., it did not include all expenditures. Examples of some of the other expenditures that were not included are office supplies, janitorial services, dumpster rental, copier lease, audit fees, training expenses, truck payments, volunteer support and costs associated with managing the Sikes Adobe Farmhouse.

Each year when the JPA Board adopts the annual budget, the appropriations total is the same as the anticipated revenue total. The only reserve appropriated each year is a vehicle amortization fund. Two thousand dollars per vehicle is set aside each year for future replacement. There is currently \$26,000 in the Reserve Fund.

Impact and Savings if All Operations on City of San Diego jurisdiction are eliminated: Ceasing operations in the jurisdiction of the City of San Diego as a way to make cost savings would require the elimination of two of the San Dieguito River Park's five rangers. This is the maximum number of rangers that could be eliminated, as funding is provided by SCE for the services of two rangers at the coast, and funding is provided sufficient to pay for one ranger through our endowment for management of habitat mitigation parcels. Once those two ranger positions were eliminated there would be no ranger available for any patrol or maintenance on any lands in City of San Diego jurisdiction. It would also have the inadvertent effect of eliminating patrol and maintenance on trails in the unincorporated area. Once those ranger positions were eliminated there would be no management of property that the JPA owns in the Lake Hodges/Lake Sutherland watershed, which amounts to 2,256 acres. Some of these lands are in the unincorporated area, nonetheless there would be no ability to manage or monitor them. The result of lack of patrol and maintenance is that there would be no remedy for dumping (including hazardous materials), or erosion and its damage to trails and the environment, or control of invasive plant species, or off-road vehicle use. Once the ranger positions were eliminated the River Park trails in the Lake Hodges/San Pasqual Valley area would officially be closed; however, the public would continue to access these areas, without any supervision, potentially a public safety concern. In addition the David Kreitzer Lake Hodges Bicycle Pedestrian Bridge would have to be closed, because the JPA would not be able to comply with its requirement for three times a day patrol of the bridge. The trail volunteer program would be eliminated because there would be no supervision. The fact that the San Dieguito River Park is down to only two rangers to patrol and manage all of the Park's trails and property east of the lagoon is the result of last year's 14% cut that required shifting two existing park rangers to revenue producing positions at the coast. Despite the dire effects of eliminating two ranger positions, these savings (\$78,250 plus \$47,732 in benefits for a total savings of \$125,982) would not be enough to address the shortfall if there is no City of San Diego funding; it would still be necessary to make other layoffs (the Executive Director position) to produce sufficient cost savings to add up to \$254,000. With the loss of the Executive Director, the San Dieguito River Park would not be participating in the San Dieguito Watershed Council, or San Pasqual Weed Management Area, both of which benefit the City of San Diego Water Department.

CAC RECOMMENDATION:

The CAC has not reviewed this item.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

TO: JPA Board
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Budget Committee Report and Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION:

1) Direct that a letter from the Mayors of the JPA member agencies and the County Board chairwoman be sent to Mayor Sanders requesting a meeting to discuss options for SDRP support; and 2) Direct that the Executive Director and JPA Board members that sit on SANDAG meet with the SANDAG Executive Director to discuss SDRP funding options.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Your Budget Committee was requested to meet to address the crisis situation if funding from the City of San Diego is not forthcoming in FY 10/11; to look at the current budget line by line to identify expenses that could be cutback or eliminated, and to begin consideration of alternative funding sources for the future. The Budget Committee did meet on February 4th, with Chair Richard Earnest, and Board members Olga Diaz, Sherri Lightner and Jim Cunningham in attendance.

It is the Budget Committee's recommendation that the Mayors of each of our member agency cities, and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors, sign a joint letter to the Mayor of San Diego, Jerry Sanders, expressing their concern at the City's unilateral withdrawal from the JPA after a twenty-year investment by all the member agencies, and requesting Mayor Sanders to meet with them to discuss the options. A draft letter is attached.

The Budget Committee reviewed the line-item budget, but since the budget consists of more than 82% in staff costs, did not identify any obvious items that could be cut to provide significant savings. The budget process for next year is beginning now and will include additional review of all costs.

Finally, the Budget Committee was joined at their meeting by volunteer Wayne Dernetz, who is a former city manager and former City Attorney for the City of Vista. He is offering his help in looking at potential long-term funding alternatives. He had joined with Executive Director Bobertz and Attorney Brechtel for a meeting with County Parks Director Brian Albright to consider the option of forming a county-wide recreation district, under Public Resources Code Section 5506.3. Under that section, the district could be created by the Board of Supervisors and an assessment placed on property owners if a simple majority of voters support it. Revenues would be allocated among all affected public agencies (including JPAs created for park purposes). However, the

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assessment must be in direct proportion to the benefit received. This analysis must be performed by a civil engineer who specializes in this type of work. The negatives to this type of district are that the engineering analysis is expensive, as is mounting a campaign to obtain political support. Also, as written the Public Resources Code Section states that the revenues must be used 80% for capital outlay and 20% for operations and maintenance. A second option would be creation of a district specific to the boundaries of the San Dieguito River Park. It would have the same negatives regarding the cost of preparing an engineering analysis and mounting a campaign to obtain public support, except that the JPA would be carrying the burden alone, instead of shared with other agencies as in the first option. Another option may be the SANDAG Quality of Life Initiative, which is a sales tax increase proposal that would likely go to the voters in 2012. This type of measure requires 2/3 approval by the voters. The Budget Committee recommends that the Executive Director and interested Board members meet with SANDAG Executive Director Gary Gallegos to discuss whether this initiative could be used to provide operations and maintenance income to the San Dieguito River Park.

CAC RECOMMENDATION:

The CAC has not reviewed this item.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

Attachment: Draft Letter to Mayor Sanders

February _____, 2010

Jerry Sanders, Mayor
City of San Diego
City Administration Building
202 C Street, 11th Floor
San Diego, California 92101

Re: Unilateral Decision to Discontinue Funding for the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority

Dear Mayor Sanders:

We are writing to urge reconsideration of your recommendation to unilaterally terminate all funding for the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority (“River Park JPA”).

In 1989, the County of San Diego and Cities of Del Mar, Escondido, Poway, Solana Beach, and San Diego entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to create the River Park JPA. Each party became a “Member Agency” responsible for governance of the River Park JPA. For the next 20 years, we have worked together to build a wonderful open space park for the north San Diego region that includes public benefits such as the purchase and preservation of over 2,976 acres of natural open space, a 150-acre coastal wetlands restoration project, and construction and ongoing management and maintenance of over 35 miles of public trails, the majority of which are in the City of San Diego. In its 20-year existence, the JPA has secured \$160,000,000 in grants and gifts that would not have come to this region without the JPA’s efforts, including the award-winning \$10.5 million David Kreitzer Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge. The success of the River Park JPA was made possible by guidance and financial support of each Member Agency.

The unilateral decision by the City of San Diego to cut off all of its funding for the River Park JPA was not simply a matter of walking away from the River Park JPA. It was a decision to walk away from the five contractual partners to the Joint Powers Authority Agreement. The “go it alone” approach could jeopardize not only the viability of the River Park JPA but also the willingness of public agencies to partner with the City of San Diego in the future. Each Member Agency has participated in the management and long-term planning for the River Park JPA in good faith reliance upon the ongoing financial support of all public agencies benefited by the open space project.

We understand the financial challenges faced by the City of San Diego. All Member Agencies face financial challenges. However, it is our hope that before any Member Agency takes unilateral action to cut off funding, it will first work with its contractual partners to fully understand the ramifications of such action. What would the loss of City of San Diego funding do to the River Park JPA’s viability? How can the other jurisdictional Member Agencies of the JPA be expected to financially support the River Park JPA without the City of San Diego’s support – especially when major River Park facilities, such as those in the San Pasqual Valley, in

Bernardo Bay, and along the north shore of Lake Hodges, along Highland Valley Road, and in the San Dieguito Lagoon are located within the City of San Diego and/or on land owned by the City of San Diego? What happens to all of the open space land owned and/or managed by the River Park JPA, when funding is reduced to the point where park lands and facilities cannot be adequately monitored and maintained? Are there less drastic options available that would avoid a complete cut off of funding?

We urge the Mayor's office to work with the River Park JPA and its Member Agencies to help arrive at constructive solutions that will allow the regional public park we have all worked to establish during the past 20 years to survive. Solutions could include helping identify potential funding sources from within the City of San Diego, such as the Water Department, or by the contractual outsourcing of maintenance or watershed-protection functions on City-owned lands in the River Park to the JPA, or other partnering measures that might help address the City's fiscal concerns and allow the River Park JPA to survive.

We ask that your office set up a meeting with Member Agency mayors to discuss possible solutions that would allow a public partnership to continue its long-standing success.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF DEL MAR

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

By _____
Crystal Crawford, Mayor

By _____
Lori Holt Pfeiler, Mayor

CITY OF POWAY

CITY OF SOLANA BEACH

By _____
Don Higginson, Mayor

By _____
Thomas Campbell, Mayor

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

By _____
Pam Slater-Price, Chair of Board of Supervisors

TO: JPA Board
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Committee Actions

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider and direct staff accordingly.

1. Motion re CAC Status in Event of Layoffs

At their February 5, 2010 meeting, the CAC approved the following resolution on a vote of 17 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstaining.

Resolved:

That regardless of any future adverse JPA budgetary circumstances the San Dieguito River Park Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) should continue to meet as necessary but at least quarterly, and should be provided with at least minimally adequate staff support.

Further, should future adverse JPA budgetary circumstances or Board actions result in a cessation of JPA staff support for the CAC, it is hereby resolved by the membership of the CAC, that pursuant to the stipulations in Article 8 of the "Joint Powers Authority Agreement" of June 12, 1989, the CAC will continue functioning as a legally authorized component of the JPA, and that the duly elected Chair and Vice-chair of the CAC will continue to serve as the officers of the CAC and will continue to represent it at all JPA Board of Directors and committee meetings, and that the CAC and its various committees will continue to meet periodically as convened by the Chair, and will continue to submit their recommendations to the JPA Board at their monthly meetings.

Approved by the CAC at its regular meeting on February 5, 2010 by vote of the CAC membership quorum in attendance:

In Favor: 17

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 1

2. Letter re Environmental Planner Status in Event of Layoffs

Agenda Item 2c
February 19, 2010

At their February 5, 2010 meeting, the CAC voted to approve the attached letter (Attachment 1) and send it to your Board on a vote of 18 in favor, 1 opposed and 0 abstaining. The primary emphasis of the letter is that the work of the CAC and the CAC's Project Review Committee is valuable, and that their work cannot continue without staff support. Specifically, the letter states that the loss of the Environmental Planner would gravely jeopardize the ability of the San Dieguito River Park to implement its objectives. The impetus for the letter was the worst-case scenario presented at your last Board meeting, if all of the City of San Diego funds are withdrawn, in which the only solution was to eliminate three staff positions, among them the Principal Environmental Planner as well as the Executive Director and the Sikes Adobe Museum Manager..

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

Attachment: Letter from CAC Addressing Critical Function of the JPA's Environmental Planner

To: CAC

From: PRC & FSDRV

Subject: CRITICAL FUNCTION OF THE JPA's ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER.

The City of San Diego has informed the San Dieguito River Park that it may be unable to meet its financial obligation toward the San Dieguito River Park for the 4th quarter of this fiscal year (April 1 to June 30 2010) and the entirety of the upcoming fiscal year. The last San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority Board meeting of January 15, 2010 included a discussion of different budget scenarios that analyzed the consequences of a 10 %, 25 % and 36 % budget reduction. The budget scenarios were prepared by the staff.

These scenarios determined that such budget reductions could only be accomplished by a combination of layoffs, including elimination of bookkeeper services, the ½ time Sikes Adobe Museum Manager, and reducing the hours of the Principal Environmental Planner or eliminating the position entirely.

Both the Project Review Committee of the CAC and the Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley Board discussed extensively the impact of these reductions and came to a unanimous conclusion: **the loss of the Environmental Planner would gravely jeopardize the ability of the San Dieguito River Park to implement its objectives.**

The SDRP Concept Plan (updated in 2002) discusses that in order to implement the overall park concept plan the JPA (and CAC) needs to provide generalized land use analyses and design recommendations of projects to achieve the preservation of the river valley's unique and largely rural character.

Because the Citizen's Advisory Committee is such a large group, it has entrusted to the Project Review Committee (PRC) the responsibility to review and comment on public and private projects within or adjacent to the Focused Planning Area

The PRC review and comment processes are confined to the relationship of the projects to the Park and any impact they may have on Park plans, goals and objectives. Reviews include meeting with proponents of the projects, communicating with local planning officials, reviewing other relevant correspondence and information pertaining to the project and/or its environs. After extensive review of a project, the comments are developed by the group, and prepared for submission to the CAC by the Environmental Planner. These comments are then sent to the large CAC for modification and or adoption. If adopted by the CAC, they are sent to the JPA Board for approval and/or action. The Environmental Planner is in communication with local public agencies, project proponents, and members of the JPA, CAC, and PRC for these projects. The Planner also serves as the "clearinghouse" for filings on each project, which information (when relevant) is then shared with the PRC members.

When projects have no significant impact on the Park they are handled administratively by the Environmental Planner. Shawna Anderson, the present Environmental Planner, has

handled 300 such reviews since she was hired in 2000. A listing of these projects is included in the file below. *

For more complicated projects, the Environmental Planner works with the PRC volunteers. The PRC is composed of interested CAC members (nine members from various geographic locations of the Park Focused Planning Area) who volunteer to assist the Environmental Planner in reviewing, evaluating and commenting on a variety of projects. Some projects are very complex and have Environmental Impact Reports which are thousands of pages long. Although the volunteers generally do not have any specialized training, some of them have expertise and long practice in reviewing projects and their various documents. To insure the professionalism of their analyses, the PRC has issued self-imposed guidelines, which frame the recommendations in terms of their consistency with the Concept Plan.

A measure of the size of the PRC reviews follows. After the 2007 fire loss of historic files, Jan Fuchs, the chair of the PRC, provided the JPA offices with the files she has kept on PRC analyses: they occupy 3 running feet of shelving (not including each project's plans, EIRs, etc.).

The sheer quantity of projects reviewed (an average of 30/yr) shows that the oversight by the park Environmental Planner, with the help of volunteers, has ensured protection of the Park's interests, improved the Park's environment, and preserved the property values of surrounding areas. It continues to be incumbent upon the Park's Environmental Planner to balance the interests of the Park and developers of property within the Focused Planning Area:

Furthermore, it is a measure of the Environmental Planner and PRC success that, in most of the cases, the modifications proposed by the Environmental Planner/PRC are accepted and well regarded by developers and approved by the CAC, the JPA Board and other decision-makers.

Without an Environmental Planner, the PRC volunteers would not be able to function. Volunteers are not available to put in 4 days a week to oversee the quantity of materials, decipher the plans/documentations, deal with local officials and developers. Volunteers would be discouraged from getting involved due to the workload. The purpose of the Park is to protect the Focus Area for all of us and future generations. It would be a tragedy to not fully protect this treasure. There is a huge risk of degradation of the San Dieguito River and surrounding areas without knowledgeable and experienced oversight by a paid environmental planner, assisted by committed volunteers who have either jobs or other obligations.

Jan Fuchs, PRC Chair
Deborah DeBow
Bill Michalsky
Jacqueline Winterer
Dave Kreitzer
Terry Badger

TO: JPA

FROM: Staff

SUBJECT: Presentation on Alternative Fairground Expansion Plan Concept

RECOMMENDATION:

Information Item - No Action Required

1. SITUATION:

A. Summary

Bill Lewis is a retired architect and a Del Mar resident who participated on the citizen committee that made recommendations to the Del Mar City Council for the City response to the Fairgrounds Expansion Plan EIR. As an individual, Mr. Lewis headed up a voluntary group of professional planners to develop an alternative Fairground Plan that appears to offer the following advantages:

- Significant reduction in local traffic impact
- Increase in wetland habitat area
- Extension of River Park trail to the ocean
- Space to accommodate Senator Kehoe's Greenway concept

Mr. Lewis will present the plan using a series of charts and exhibits at the meeting. Mr. Lewis has presented his alternative plan to various groups including the Del Mar City Council, and Del Mar Fairgrounds management. Mr. Lewis has submitted the plan as a personal response to the Fairgrounds EIR.

2. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

This item was reviewed as information by the CAC on 2/5/10. Many questions were asked and one concern was expressed that the realigned Highway 101 road segment on the north side of the river could increase noise impacts to habitat areas.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Bobertz,
Executive Director



Kehoe opposes fairgrounds expansion plan



Board wants to add hotel, exhibition hall

By [Michael Gardner](#), U-T SACRAMENTO BUREAU

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 12:02 a.m.

Online: To read Sen. Christine Kehoe's response to the fairgrounds expansion plan, go to uniontrib.com/docs.

SACRAMENTO — State Sen. Christine Kehoe yesterday challenged plans by the Del Mar Fairgrounds board to aggressively expand on the coastal property, including adding a convention center and hotel.

“I am disappointed that the master plan doesn't take advantage of this beautiful site,” Kehoe, a San Diego Democrat, said in an interview. “There should be more open space, and the design should take advantage of the views of the (San Dieguito) river and wetlands.”

In an 11-page letter to the fairgrounds board yesterday, Kehoe criticized a draft environmental impact report as falling far short in protecting wildlife and wetlands and for not doing enough to encourage public transportation.

Kehoe also raised doubts over financing the estimated \$300 million, 15-year project. The plan proposes a 330-room condominium-hotel, 60,000-square-foot fitness center, exhibition hall and parking facilities. Track improvements, soccer fields and other projects also are planned.

Kehoe wonders whether the state, which owns the fairgrounds, would be liable if the project flops.

Yesterday was the deadline for submitting comments on the draft environmental review.

Fair board spokeswoman Linda Zweig said directors plan to analyze all comments before responding. “We're taking every letter very seriously,” Zweig said.

Kehoe's letter mirrors complaints previously raised by the public about the project's possible environmental effects.

The site sits on about 400 acres along the coast in Del Mar, marketed as “where the surf meets the turf” because of its world-class horse racing events.

Kehoe has proposed legislation to establish a greenbelt on the southern edge of Del Mar as a buffer between the fairgrounds and the San Dieguito River.

Whether she pursues a legislative remedy to address possible environmental shortcomings will depend on how much the board is willing to compromise.

“When we see what those responses are, I will have a much better idea of how I want to pursue the discussion,” Kehoe said.

Find this article at:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/feb/09/kehoe-opposes-plan-fair-site>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

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