



San Dieguito River Park
 Joint Powers Authority
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**AGENDA
 SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 VIA TELECONFERENCE ONLY
 Friday, February 4, 2022 ~ 10:30 A.M.**

Pursuant to the State of California Executive Order N-29-20, and in the interest of public health, San Dieguito River Park is temporarily taking actions to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic by holding the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting via teleconference. All members and staff will be participating remotely.

To join this meeting via Teleconference

Topic: SDRP CAC meeting

Time: January 7, 2022 10:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://zoom.us/j/96894531823>

Meeting ID: 968 9453 1823

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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Meeting ID: 968 9453 1823

It is highly recommended to call in **at least** 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Introductions and Announcements

Approval of the Minutes of January 7, 2022 (Page 3)

Chair's Report

Chair

Executive Director's Report

Staff

Public Comment

Public

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. SDG&E Del Mar Reconfiguration Project Presentation
2. E-bike Discussion (Page 6)
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Project Review Committee
 - b. Trails Committee
 - c. Interpretation Committee

INFORMATION

4. Park and Project Status and Updates (oral)
 - a. Osuna segment of CTC Trail
 - b. San Dieguito Lagoon Restoration Phase II (W-19)

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2022
If you have any questions, please call Christal Ames at (858) 674-2270 Ext. 10

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 7, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Barnouw
Rich Risner
Phil Pryde
Jan Fuchs
Diane Coombs
Liz Gabrych
Linda Oster
Maggie Brown
Judy LaVine
David Wilson
Jeremy Blackspear
Sharon Fogg
Peter Shapiro
Jim Smith
Eric Jones
Chris Khoury

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
American Society of Landscape Architects
Audubon Society
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3
League of Women Voters
Del Dios Town Council
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Lake Hodges Native Plant Club
Rancho Bernardo Planning Board
San Diego Mountain Biking Association
San Dieguito Planning Group
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Volcan Mountain Foundation
San Pasqual/Lake Hodges area Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Christal Ames	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Ayden Zielke	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Kelly Harless	JPA Board – Solana Beach
Dwight Worden	JPA Board Chair – Del Mar

Introductions and Announcements

Chair Barnouw convened the remote Zoom teleconference meeting at 10:30 a.m. and confirmed a quorum of 14 in attendance by roll call. Chair Barnouw welcomed the newest CAC member, Chris Khoury representing property owner for San Pasqual/Lake Hodges area.

Approval of Minutes- June 4, 2021

Chair Barnouw asked for a motion to approve. Phil Pryde moved to approve the minutes of June 4, 2021. The motion was seconded by Maggie Brown. All members in favor.

Chair's Report – no report

Executive Director's Report – Executive Director Shawna Anderson mentioned that for upcoming meetings potential presentations of interest might be the results of the OMWD test well and the status on their proposed project to do ground water extraction. In Del Mar SDG&E is doing pole removal and relocating and could present project progress at an upcoming meeting. Director Anderson updated status of the San Dieguito Lagoon Restoration Phase II project (W-19), which kicked off the beginning of two-year construction. She announced that the Dust Devil Nature Trail will be closed M-F, but will be open for use

on the weekends. . The contractor is Marathon, overseen by Caltrans. Executive Director Anderson shared information and pictures from the work party at Surf Cup, outlining the great attendance by the public, SDRP employees and four JPA Board Members.

Public Comment - Maggie Brown asked if the lagoon restoration project construction area crosses the Horse Park and asked if they would be fixing the portion of the trail that had collapsed previously in the area. Executive Director Anderson clarified that repair of the collapsed area is on the other side of the river and is not part of the project. Linda Oster would like to see a discussion added to the next CAC agenda about the usage of e-bikes on the trails. Executive Director Shawna Anderson agreed to place the issue on the agenda for the next meeting.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. **Election of 2022 Chair and Vice-Chair** – Chair Barnouw reported that his final term as chair of the CAC has ended after serving three terms. He then nominated Chris Khoury for Chair and clarified that Mr. Khoury is currently representing as a San Pasqual/Lake Hodges property owner. Barnouw then asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were no other nominations. Jeff Barnouw proposed that he would like to nominate himself for the position of Vice-Chair, representing as a Coastal Region Property Owner. He was then nominated by Peter Shapiro, and it was seconded by Jim Smith. All voted in favor for Chris Khoury as Chair, and Jeff Barnouw as Vice-Chair.
2. **Discussion of CAC Tribute for Jacqueline Winterer** - Suggestions were given as to how the Board could thank Jacqueline Winterer for her exemplary involvement and volunteerism as a long-term member and Vice-Chair of the CAC. Many suggestions were given; it was decided that it would be expressed best by giving a commemorative plaque from the CAC thanking Jacqueline for all her years of service. Phil Pryde made a motion to move ahead with the tribute, it was seconded by Linda Oster. All voted in favor.
3. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Project Review Committee** – Jan Fuchs stated that the PRC is planning a site visit of Lusardi Creek with JPA staff Ayden Zielke. Ms. Fuchs also stated that recently the PRC was notified of an environmental document Notice of Preparation being prepared by the City of San Diego for the adjacent property of the St. Garabed Church located on El Camino Real, they were given until January 14th to provide comments to this document. The PRC will be researching and responding to the NOP.. PRC is concerned about cumulative densification in areas that are low density semi-rural open space.
 - b. **Trails Committee** – Mr. Blakespear reported that a meeting is planned by the Trails Committee to Lusardi Creek and San Dieguito Road segment for their February 8th meeting. Lusardi Creek is often difficult to cross on the trail due to year-round flow and would like to see a proper trail crossing placed there. , The Trails Committee is also interested in working with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy to raise money

specifically for uncompleted Coast to Crest Trail segments, getting donations “earmarked” for trail construction.

- c. **Interpretation Committee** – Liz Gabrych is working with JPA staff Leanna Bulay and Blanca Drapeau on an interpretive Master Plan for the San Dieguito River Park. Ms. Gabrych wanted to make a correction to the June 2021 minutes which stated that the committee was looking into land grants, she would like to clarify that she is looking into land grant maps.

INFORMATION

Park and Project Status and Updates (oral)

- a. **Osuna segment of CTC Trail**- Executive Director Anderson reported that staff submitted the site development application to the city this week. Ms. Anderson reported that they continue to engage and reach out to surrounding property owners and planning groups with project information.
- b. **Surf Cup segment of CTC Trail** – no report
- c. **San Dieguito Lagoon Restoration Phase II (W-19)** – updated in the Executive Director report, no additional report.
- d. **Ranger Station and Trail Event Usage Policies** – Executive Director Anderson provided the CAC with the new ranger station usage policy, outlining what kind of users and policies for using the conference room.

Chair Chris Khoury adjourned the meeting at 11:53 am.

TO: CAC
FROM: JPA Staff
SUBJECT: E-bike Discussion

Background:

At the January CAC meeting committee member Linda Oster representing the Del Dios Town Council requested that a discussion of e-bikes on San Dieguito River Park trails be added to the next CAC agenda. The CAC and the CAC's Trails Committee have discussed e-bike usage in the SDRP at various times over the past few years. Most recently, the topic was discussed at the June 2021 Trails Committee meeting (see meeting notes Attachment 1). The Trails Committee consensus was to continue the JPA's current practice of allowing Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on their trails and focus increased efforts on signage and safety for all user groups.

Based on previous discussions and the JPA's member agency rules regarding e-bike usage on their trails (for example, San Diego city and county trails), the JPA policy is to follow the member agencies regulations regarding e-bikes. E-bike rules on SDRP trails are consistent with those of the public agency jurisdictions through which the trails pass. Other SDRP park rules follow this same practice. Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are thus allowed on all SDRP trails within the cities of Del Mar and San Diego and the County of San Diego. San Diego County Parks does prohibit e-bikes on trails located in some of their open space preserves, although none are within the SDRP.

SDRP trail maintenance and management is conducted by JPA full-time park rangers and supervised volunteer patrols who regularly patrol trails and usage and enforce and educate users on trail rules. Field observations indicate that bike-related accidents or other issues (speed) are no different for e-bikes than regular bikes. JPA staff will continue to monitor e-bike rules for jurisdictions within the SDRP. JPA Senior Ranger will attend this CAC meeting to provide input on signage and other methods to improve public safety.

Attachment 1: Notes from June 2021 Trails Committee meeting

Agenda Item 2

February 4, 2022

SDRP Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
June 8th, 2021

Meeting commenced via Zoom at 1:02 P.M.
Introductions were made.

In attendance:

Ben Stone, SDMBA
Carol Carr, Walkabout SD
Jeff Barnouw, CAC Chair
Jeremy Blakespear, SDMBA, Trails Committee Chair
Julia Erickson, Equestrian
Slader Buck, SD River Valley Conservancy
Kim Wehinger, City of SD Public Utilities
Shawna Anderson, SDRP Executive Director
Ayden Zielke, SDRP Planner
David Hekel, SDRP Ranger
Julie Klein, Equestrian
Tina Robinson, Equestrian

Shawna thanked Carol Carr for all her years of service as the chair of the trails committee among her many other contributions to the park.

Jeremy described his involvement in the park over the last 10 years or so. He is an avid hiker and mountain biker. He hopes to contribute to the park in any way possible and shares the goal of many in the group to see the completion of the Coast to Crest Trail within the next 10-20 years.

13:20 Shawna gave a status report update on several trail segments.

The W-19 connector trail is planned. Timeline 2-3 years. Will connect to El Camino Real bridge/CTC via bike/pedestrian lane. Mention was made that there is unfortunately not a good way for equestrians to cross.

Surf Cup Sports is expected to begin work on segment of CTC beginning around September 15th, 2021. Volunteers organized by JPA and Conservancy will help with the work.

Ayden is busy planning the Osuna trail segment at Fairbanks ranch.

SDRP will be working with the County of San Diego to develop the plan for a pathway adjacent to San Dieguito Road through Fairbanks ranch.

The "Scorpion Ridge" segment of the CTC is now open, connecting Sante Fe Valley segment to Lusardi Creek thanks largely to the efforts of Dave Hekel and park staff. The SDMBA also contributed to a short section near the powerlines.

Shawna is applying for a Wildlife Conservation Board public access grant for planning and designing the CTC Trail around Lake Sutherland in Ramona.

13:40 Discussion of E-Bikes on SDRP trails

The topic was introduced by Shawna who described the current internal policy since 2019 which allows class 1 and 2 e-bikes on park trails based on the recommendations made by the legal counsel for SD County and SD City which are member jurisdictions of the SDRP JPA. Their recommendations were based on an interpretation of state law AB 1096, which classifies class 1 and 2 e-bikes as bicycles, not motorized vehicles. The JPA generally follows the guidance of their member jurisdictions for usage policies.

Ben Stone commented that there is significant disagreement about e-bikes on trails even within the mountain biking community, but that interest in e-bikes continues to skyrocket and is becoming more and more of a fixture on trails throughout the county. He also stated that with state law as it is, it would be very difficult to exclude e-bikes from trails. Advised continued efforts to educate cyclists and other users on shared use of trails/trail etiquette.

Tina Robinson expressed her concern about cyclist's speed and the need to continue efforts to reduce conflicts between user groups. She mentioned that the speed problem is not specific to e-bikes, but all trail cyclists.

Other equestrians and hikers in the group mentioned the need for cyclists to recognize and respect the shared nature of the trail system.

Lead Ranger David Hekel noted that "pandora's box" had already been opened and that it would be extremely difficult to enforce any regulation made to limit or ban e-bike use. He reports that he has not observed a substantial increase in crashes or injuries since e-bikes began using the trail system, nor has he noted a substantial increase in erosion problems related to e-bike use.

Jeremy commented that the onus of safe trail use falls upon all users, but especially cyclists, whether they are on e-bikes or not. He suggested that the park consider adopting a park-wide posted 15 mile per hour speed limit. Dave mentioned that it would be difficult to enforce. Jeremy responded that it would be an individual responsibility to follow the rule and that adoption of such a rule might protect the park from litigation. SDRP does post speed-related signage on some trails but could improve the signage.

Julia suggested that the park consider having increased signage, especially in narrow or congested sections.

There was a perceived lack of a quorum at the meeting, so no motion was made to change the current policy of allowing class 1 and 2 e-bikes throughout the trail system. The general consensus on this day was to continue the current internal policy with the caveat that

Agenda Item 2

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continued efforts be undertaken to educate users, especially those on e-bikes, about shared use of the trail system and common courtesy/etiquette.

There was discussion about future meeting plans. Slader voiced his support for returning to in-person meetings as soon as possible as we all are experiencing Zoom fatigue. Carol noted that the interpretive committee has moved their meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of the month and wondered if the trails committee wished to follow suit. Ben proposed the idea of moving the meeting time to outside of regular weekday work hours to possibly attract the participation of people who can't otherwise join because of their work schedule.

Pending further consideration, the next Trails committee meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday, August 10th at 1 P.M. Location TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 P.M.