

## MISSION TRAILS PROJECT WORKING GROUP MEETING SUMMARY

**DATE:** March 2, 2006

**TIME:** 6 to 8:30 p.m.

**ORGANIZATION:** Mission Trails Project Working Group

**MEETING LOCATION:** San Diego County Water Authority,  
Library Conference Room

**PRESENTERS:** San Diego County Water Authority  
Craig Balben, Public Affairs Representative  
Habib Hariri, Engineer (P.E)

**STAFF RESOURCES:** San Diego County Water Authority: Gina Molise, Craig  
Balben, Habib Hariri  
Katz & Associates: Patricia Tennyson, Emily Powell

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### **Mission Trails Project Working Group Members**

#### **Present:**

Donovan Geiger, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Listy Gillingham, DePortola Middle School  
Everett Neuman, San Diego Mountain Bike Association  
David Oates, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Fiona Pallag, Belsera Homeowners' Association  
John Pilch, San Carlos Area Council, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee

#### **Absent:**

Brent Eidson, Navajo Community Planners, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Bob Frain, DePortola Middle School  
Don Steele, MTRP Foundation  
Tracey Walker, Mission Trails Regional Park, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee

### **Welcome/Introductions**

Gina Molise welcomed the working group members and announced Craig Balben as the group's point of contact at the Water Authority from this point forward regarding the Mission Trails Project.

### **Tierrasanta Open House Event**

Craig stated the Jan. 25 Tierrasanta Open House drew 21 community members. Craig stated the major concern of those that attended was continuing to have access to park trails from Tierrasanta and Belsera during construction. As a result of this feedback, the project team worked with Mission Trails Regional Park staff to identify trails that could remain open or have limited closure during construction. Craig explained that the revised trail access will be included in the draft environmental impact report. The community open house was a good opportunity to interact with community members and obtain feedback on the project.

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### Project Status

Habib Hariri said 30 percent of the project's design had been completed. The new Flow Regulatory Structure II will serve as an underground water reservoir connecting to the new tunneled pipeline. It will be 25 percent smaller than the existing FRS in the park. Its purpose includes eliminating bottlenecks in two untreated water pipelines, increasing water delivery to treatment plants, improving pipeline operations, and providing a supply of water to be used for emergencies. The pipeline tunnel will be approximately 5,000 feet long and approximately 96 inches in diameter. Habib stated most of the blue vent stacks in the park would be removed. Habib showed a birds-eye view video of a rendering of the aboveground access building and stated the building will provide access and security to the water surface and equipment. It will also enclose all electrical, communication, and instrumentation controls. Habib also explained the Shepherd Wye Reconfiguration near the Belsera community is a new component of the project and is included in the draft EIR. This project element will take approximately one to three months to complete.

### Question and Answers

Key: Q = Question, A = Answer, C = Comment

#### Shepherd Wye Reconfiguration

- Q: Why was the Shepherd Wye Reconfiguration project not discussed earlier in the planning process for this project?
- A: Since 1994, the city of San Diego and the Water Authority have been in negotiations regarding this property. Currently, the Water Authority is attempting to buy this land from the city and include it as part of the Second Aqueduct.

#### Park Access & Security

- Q: What measures will the Water Authority take to ensure people do not use unauthorized/closed trails?
- A: There will be barricades and signs at the entrances of closed trails. People crossing over those boundaries will do so at their own risk.
- Q: Will the rangers give tickets to people who use the closed trails?
- A: Currently, there is a shortage of rangers and they are busy attending to other issues in the park.
- Q: Will there be private security in the park?
- A: Yes. Public safety during construction is a major concern of the Water Authority.
- C: Since the beginning of this project, it appeared the community's main concern was going to be truck traffic during construction. However, the Jan. 25 Tierrasanta Open House made it clear that community member's major issue is continual access to the park and park trails during construction.

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### Future Community Outreach

- C: It is important to consider how the communications plan for this project will be delivered to the community. The community needs to be given prompt notification when trails are open or closed. Also it is important to give the Tierrasanta community some access roads to trails during construction.
- C: It is important to have extensive school outreach as part of the communications plan. The Water Authority could give updated project information to meetings at schools.

### Prioritization Exercise:

Patricia Tennyson reviewed the list of ways to address concerns that had previously been developed by the working group. Working group members then prioritized the concerns in order of importance as follows:

<b>Prioritized Suggestions for Addressing Community Concerns</b>		
<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Votes</i>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maximize accessible trails near the project site in Tierrasanta.</li> </ul>	6
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide excavated material to the park for use within the park.</li> </ul>	4
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do not allow heavy equipment drop off or pick up during child drop off/pick up hours at DePortola Middle School.</li> </ul>	3
3 -- Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update website with park map, closing hours, and phone number of the project point of contact person; allow people to sign up for web updates.</li> </ul>	3
3 -- Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify alternative routes to closed park trails.</li> </ul>	3
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish a Water Authority website link from the Belsera HOA, community planning groups, Tierrasanta Community Council, and Allied Gardens' HOA websites.</li> </ul>	2
4 – Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do not store explosives on site. Bring explosives on site only when needed.</li> </ul>	2
4 -- Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Post "closed trail" and "no trail access" signage in the park.</li> </ul>	2
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use decibel meters to get a baseline reading of natural and existing noise before construction begins.</li> </ul>	1
5 – Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimize construction activities before 7 a.m. and after 6 p.m., as well as on weekends.</li> </ul>	1
5 – Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish a "hotline" for blasting damage or potential claims, as well as a number to call to obtain the schedule for blasting.</li> </ul>	1
5 -- Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Post daily updates of trail closures at the park kiosk.</li> </ul>	1
5 -- Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide early notice of park trail closures.</li> </ul>	1