

MISSION TRAILS PROJECT Meeting Summary

DATE: Oct. 18, 2006	TIME: 7 p.m.
ORGANIZATION:	Tierrasanta Community Council
MEETING LOCATION:	Tierrasanta Recreation Center
ATTENDANCE:	25
PRESENTERS:	Craig Balben, San Diego County Water Authority
STAFF RESOURCES:	Jen Shira, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Craig Balben introduced himself and provided information about the Mission Trails and the Habitat Restoration & Erosion Control projects listed on the agenda.

Mission Trails Erosion Control Update: In May, one of the Water Authority's large diameter pipelines located in Mission Trails Regional Park broke. As a result, the Water Authority is working on necessary rehabilitation and erosion control measures in the park. The Water Authority is rehabilitating the area to near-break conditions. The small project began a week ago and should be complete within the next two weeks. All trails within the park have and will remain open during this work.

Mission Trails Project Update: Fact sheets and newsletters for the board and community members were distributed. The project web page is accessible through the Water Authority's website, www.sdcwa.org. Construction trucks will be utilizing Tierrasanta streets to access the project site. The most impacted portion of Tierrasanta will be the Belsera community. The Water Authority has been communicating with the HOA and homeowners and will continue communication throughout construction. The Water Authority is currently conducting school outreach, and has met with four of the five schools in Tierrasanta. Student safety and awareness is a top priority for the Water Authority. The design schedule is currently be determined and once it is set the council and community will be updated.

Questions and Comments:

- Q1. ***Dan Lazzaro (Tierrasanta Community Council):*** Can the truck hours be adjusted so they are not driving down Clairemont Mesa Boulevard at the same time most of the schools start and end their days?
- A1. ***Craig Balben:*** The Water Authority is meeting with the school principals to determine ways the Water Authority could possibly adjust the truck delivery schedule (did I really say this?). However, at this time it is hard to predict when the work hours start each day and when the trucks will be accessing the streets. There is a possibility that the trucks could begin well before school hours in the morning, but the truck traffic will be constant throughout the day. We are meeting with Tierrasanta school principals to determine the

best way to inform students and their parents about the construction vehicles and hours of operation. We certainly are concerned about the safety of the students and also need to consider the project schedule. Ideally, the contractor would not operate construction vehicles on Tierrasanta streets during school start and end times, but we can not guarantee this at this time.

- Q2. **Community member:** During the pipeline break, a friend in Carlsbad experienced a drop in water pressure. From what I understand, it took a while for the Water Authority to respond to the break and shut off the water. Why did it take so long? The pipeline rehabilitation has to be costing the Water Authority a lot of money. Is the Water Authority investing in technology to detect these breaks before they happen?
- A1. **Craig Balben:** Since the break occurred in the middle of the night and most of the Water Authority's operations and management staff live in North County, it took longer to respond to the pipeline break than if it happened during the day. Another contributing factor to the length of response time was that water cannot simply be shut off like a faucet. Gauges and reports on the pressure for the entire system must be accounted for before the water flow can be suspended. The Water Authority does have a program, the Aqueduct Protection Program that continuously monitors and assesses the condition of our pipes. The Water Authority currently is investing in technology, such as fiber optic cables to better predict if and when a break may occur, and cathodic protection to protect the pipes from corroding.

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