

Minutes to the December 10, 2015 Preserve Management Meeting

Attending: Recreation & Parks Director Cory Linder, Community Development Deputy Director Ara Mihranian, Public Works Maintenance Superintendent Sean Larvenz, Senior Administrative Analyst Matt Waters, Administrative Analyst Katie Lozano, Recreation Specialist Dave Pearce, MRCA Deputy Chief Ranger Kenn Hughes, MRCA Senior Ranger Jewel Johnson, PVPLC Executive Director Andrea Vona, PVPLC Conservation Director Danielle Lefer.

Preserve Maintenance

- Review of Active Habitat & Trail Projects:
 - Toyon / Peppertree Grading Follow-up – Analyst Lozano announced a city meeting took place yesterday that started the scheduling process. A calendar for the remediation work is forthcoming.
 - Unauthorized / Spur Trail Closures – Director Lefer reported continued PVPLC work being done to close spurs in Forrestal, Portuguese Bend, and Abalone Cove Reserves. Repairs to the vandalized closures along Ishibashi and Rim Trails are underway.
 - Trails Network Plan – Deputy Director Mihranian pointed out a discrepancy in the city’s website maps and the PUMP documents.
 - Pony Trail Status -- Conservation Director Lefer reported that the PVPLC technicians re-delineated the new rerouted western portion and that new trail markers are needed in this area. A small bridge across a drainage area may be needed. The City will be approving and returning the project sheet with any requirements next week.
- Review of Trail Crew Activities – Conservation Director Lefer reported that the Trail Crew moved rocks on Zote’s Cutacross Trail where it crosses the western ravine in order to make it more usable by equestrians.
- PVPLC Annual Report – Executive Director Vona reported that the draft 2014 Annual Report has been submitted and they are requesting final comments be in to them by Dec. 21st so that needed adjustments can be made prior to final submission. It will then be posted to the City’s website in January and submitted to the wildlife agencies in February 2016.
- Signage – Director Linder reported that the Recreation & Parks Dept. will be presenting the Preserve Signage Plan at the February 2, 2016 City Council meeting.
- Three Sisters / Filiorum Connection – Conservation Director Lefer reported that the connector trail proposal by PVPLC’s Trail Crew will need to be approved by state & federal wildlife agencies because of the habitat loss resulting from new trail construction. PVPLC may approach Mr. York again to ask him to reconsider allowing a trail easement.
- Rattlesnake Trail Staircase Closure -- Director Linder reported that the H.O.A. above the stairs is planning on installing a fence along their property line. Fencing the lower area would be excessive in expense, unsightly and only result in new spur trails as people try to go around. Director Linder will contact L. A. County regarding their responsibility for this staircase.
- Upper Rim Trail Intrusion from Rolling Hills – Katie Lozano will contact the Rolling Hills adjacent property owner to request that they better manage their fuel modification contractors who improperly crossed into the Preserve. Open Space

Mgt. will consider placing new *No Access* signage in this area.

- Vehicles Improperly Accessing Alta Vicente – No longer a significant issue.
- Grant Contracts / Opportunities – Director Lefer reported that the grants from Los Angeles County are being processed with issues regarding deeds being sorted out.
- City Preserve Maintenance / Public Use Logs – Distributed. The issue of excessive noise from trail users was discussed. Currently, without a definite ordinance regarding noise in the Preserve, MRCA will make contact with patrons using loud radios.

Preserve Operations

- Rain Closure Policy – Specialist Pearce presented a plan for Preserve closure due to rain. It is decided to accept this plan with the modifications to signage to allow for other weather conditions, and with an altered closure plan for Ocean Trails Reserve which will involve coordination with Trump National Golf Club staff. Specialist Pearce will finalize the plan and begin acquisition of materials.
- Review of Utility Access – Conservation Director Lefer will follow up with Community Development for information on the utility companies accessing the Preserve.
- Ranger Report – Ranger Johnson introduced Deputy Chief Ranger Kenn Hughes, who will be the City's new liaison with MRCA. She reported that red locks put on some Preserve entry gates are from Los Angeles Co. Fire Dept., that trail usage is up in Filiorum, that the Ranger patrols are moving uphill in Portuguese Bend and that MRCA met with PVPLC to discuss better signage at some problem trail junctions.
- Enforcement Priorities – MRCA will remain focused in Portuguese Bend, Forrestal, and Filiorum. MRCA will watch for more trail closure vandalism. MRCA will watch the coast during the upcoming high surf advisory.
- Review of Volunteer Trail Watch Reports – No report.
- Targeting Focused Areas for Team Solutions – No report.
- Preserve Projects – A project sheet for the Pony Trail modifications is circulating, and one for the Toyon remediation will be circulated next week.
- Photography permits / enforcement – Conservation Director Lefer reported a professional wedding photographer working off trail at Pelican Cove. It was determined that there are sufficient policies in place to enforce against off-trail activity or lack of permitting.
- Rim & Ishibashi Trails fence vandalism – MRCA and VTW will observe these areas to watch for/counter more vandalism.
- Preserve Staffing Update – Administrative Analyst Lozano reported that job announcements have been sent out and the Recreation & Parks Dept. hopes to begin filling these positions in January 2016.
- Superintendent Larvenz reported that based on the recent meeting between the City, PVPUSD, and AYSO, the Forrestal Dr. gate will normally remain closed.

Announcements

- Quarterly Preserve Public Forum: Dec. 16, 2015
- Monthly Recreation and Parks/Volunteer Trail Watch Meeting: Dec. 22, 2015
- Quarterly Volunteer Trail Watch Meeting: Jan. 13, 2016
- Meet with PVP Horsemen's Association: Date Pending

Action Items

- Analyst Lozano will schedule meeting between City, PVPLC and Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen's Association.
- Analyst Lozano contacts Rolling Hills property owner on Rim Trail access.
- Director Linder will report on L.A. Co. responsibility for Rattlesnake Tr. staircase.
- City will circulate project sheet for the Toyon Trail remediation

Next Meeting: January 7, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.

