

**CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES**  
**NATURE PRESERVE QUARTERLY PUBLIC FORUM**  
**April 18, 2018**

The forum began at 6:04 p.m. in the City Hall Community Room, 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard.

**ATTENDANCE**

City of RPV:   Katie Lozano – Recreation and Parks Admin. Analyst/Open Space Manager  
                  Dave Pearce – Recreation and Parks Recreation Supervisor  
                  Irving Anaya – Community Development Associate Planner  
                  Deputy Pablo Jimenez – Lomita Sheriff Station  
PVPLC:        Adrienne Mohan – Conservation Director

Analyst Lozano thanked the group for attending and explained that the purpose of the Forum is to share information on Preserve projects and public use and to solicit public feedback. City and PVPLC staff introductions were made. There were approximately 12 members of the public in attendance.

**Preserve Maintenance**

Review of Active Habitat/Trail Projects/Unauthorized Spur Trail Closures: Director Mohan reported on PVPLC habitat and trail maintenance activities including habitat restoration (planting 15,000 plants) and weeding at Alta Vicente Reserve and weeding at Portuguese Bend Reserve. Sandbox Trail was repaired and re-opened while spur trail closures are ongoing. Monument signage was installed in the Aqua Armaga Reserve and goat grazing is planned there as well.

City Preserve Maintenance Report: Analyst Lozano used a PowerPoint slideshow to update the public on upcoming maintenance projects in the Preserve including the goats grazing for fuel modification. Bluff top fence replacement in Abalone Cove Park & Reserve will begin in June while re-paving of Beach School Trail there will start in August. Landslide Monitoring for a GPS survey has started this month. Del Cerro Park parking is being modified in May. During 2018, capture of maintenance information via GIS in the Preserve is underway.

Trail Counter data for Portuguese Bend Reserve is showing an approximate average of 1,500 people a week entering at the Burma Road gate. Supervisor Pearce pointed out that the Preserve had 5 rain closures during this past quarter. Highlights of the Preserve Staff maintenance activities included removing a discarded barrel along McBride Trail, removing an outdated sign on Gnatcatcher Trail, picking up lots of broken glass from Jack's Hat Trail and removing several hazardous metallic posts protruding into Nike, Mariposa and Pirate Trails. OSM submitted 18 Service Requests to Public Works and reported 5 instances of tagging to the City's graffiti contractor during the last quarter.

*Public Comments:*

*Joan Kelly asked about a dewatering well leak reported on Vanderlip Trail.*

Supervisor Pearce responded that a service request was submitted to Public Works to repair that leak.

*Randy Harwood asked regarding the status of closed trails in the Preserve.*

Analyst Lozano responded that the City's Geologist recommended closure of lower Rim Trail due to potential rock fall. Other closed trails in the Abalone Cove Reserve are awaiting repairs or fencing installation before they can be opened.

*Ken Dupont asked if all the Del Cerro Park parking is being taken away. Christine Campbell also asked why this parking is being taken away. Mike Brewster commented that reduced Del Cerro parking will push people trying to park into the surrounding neighborhoods. Eva Cicoria asked if public comments on the Del Cerro parking situation favored reducing parking spots.*

Analyst Lozano responded that the plan involves reducing parking spaces at Del Cerro Park, and that public feedback from neighbors and residents supported the reduction.

*Joan Kelly commented that the Point Vicente Interpretive Center lawns are over-watered.*

*Eva Cicoria expressed concern that the NCCP has gone forward without more emphasis on gathering public input on the conservation easements.*

Analyst Lozano indicated that a blanket easement will be over the entire Preserve should City Council adopt the NCCP/HCP, and that there was opportunity for public response at last October's public workshop.

*Max Dixson commented that social media attracts non-stakeholders to the Preserve. Barb Ailor commented that there needs to be social media news telling people that Deputies are in the Preserve. She also mentioned that 'carrying capacity' is a normal tool in controlling overuse in a nature preserve.*

## **Preserve Operations**

**Preserve Enforcement Report:** Deputy Jimenez reported out on 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2018 activities including trends, violations, and citations issued, as well as more recent activity. The Deputies had 1,898 public contacts in this period including 51 warnings issued, 66 citations issued and 2 people assisted on the trails. Most warnings and citations were for dogs off leash or on the beach in Abalone Cove and Ocean Trails Reserves. They have been encountering more homeless activities in the area.

**Open Space Management (OSM) Report:** Supervisor Pearce utilized a PowerPoint presentation on OSM activities over the last quarter, including public contacts, violation trends, public outreach, and maintenance. The Preserve Staff encountered 8,058 people in the Preserve including 6,741 hikers, 961 dog walkers, 341 mountain bikers and 15 equestrians. The Preserve Staff dealt with 325 public-use issues including 138 dogs off leash and 185 people off trail/on a closed trail.

**Review of Volunteer Trail Watch (VTW) Reports:** Director Mohan provided a report on VTW

activities for the previous quarter that included a summary of their reports and activities in the Preserve. They had 524 reports issued during the first quarter.

*Public Comments:*

*Ken Dupont complained bikes travel too fast on Ishibashi Trail and he got injured. Joan Kelly said a 'Slow' sign is needed there. Eva Cicoria wants to implement measures to promote safety on this trail. Christine Campbell commented that mountain bikes are not compatible with a nature preserve. Randy Harwood said that citations for reckless bike riding are difficult for deputies because they cannot be everywhere in the Preserve all the time. Matt Dixson supports mountain bike use in the Preserve. Greg Perkins asked about blind curves on this trail and how wide are multi-use trails.*

Deputy Jimenez responded that the deputies have not witnessed any misuse of mountain bikes on Ishibashi Trail. Analyst Lozano offered to join PVPLC in an inspection of Ishibashi Trail for viewing any issues of blind curves or analyzing safety concerns. She responded also that there is no allowance for standard trail widths since we do not have trail standards established in the Preserve.

*Eva Cicoria asked about speed limits for mountain bikes in the Preserve, pointing out that line-of-sight improvements only attract more speeding bikes. Barbara Ailor said there are many ways to determine if someone is biking too fast. Ken Dupont asked what do 'citations' mean in the context of bike use in the Preserve, while Eva Cicoria asked if there were in citations issued by the Deputies for reckless mountain biking.*

Analyst Lozano responded that speed limits are still open for future consideration. Deputy Jimenez responded that citations were issued for cyclists on non-bike trails and no citations have been issued for reckless biking.

*Kurt Loheit commented that trail managers will always have trail use issues no matter what level of rule enforcement is in place. He commented also that Ishibashi Trail was poorly aligned to begin with, yet the actual number of user problems on this trail is low compared to the overall amount of use it receives.*

### **Preserve Interpretive Activities/Other**

**PVPLC-led Interpretive Activities:** Director Mohan reported on upcoming PVPLC hikes and volunteer events including those on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and those on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Los Serenos Docent/City-led Interpretive Activities:** Analyst Lozano reported on upcoming City docent hikes and volunteer activities including Meet-the-Goats on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**NCCP Update:** Analyst Lozano reported that the City Council approved the NCCP on March 29<sup>th</sup>. It is now under a federal review process concurrent with a 60-day public review and comment period. Then it is back to the City Council for adoption in August.

**Next Public Forum:** Analyst Lozano reported that the next Public Forum will be July 18<sup>th</sup> and that the calendar for the remainder of the year is on the City's Preserve webpage, including

the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Public Comments/Questions*

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.