

PVPLC/City Preserve Management Team Meeting Minutes

9:30 a.m. Thursday, June 4, 2015, Community Room

In Attendance: Recreation and Parks Director Cory Linder, Community Development Deputy Director Ara Mihranian, Senior Administrative Analyst Matt Waters, Maintenance Lead Worker Gonzalo Garnica, MRCA Supervising Ranger Jewel Johnson, PVPLC Conservation Director Danielle Lefer and Recreation Specialist David Pearce

Preserve Maintenance

- Review of Active Habitat/Trail Projects (PVPLC/City)
 - Unauthorized/spur trail closures: Conservation Director Lefer reported that PVPLC is focusing on closures in the Filiorum Reserve, especially along the Eucalyptus Trail.
 - Three Sisters-Filiorum Connection (PVPLC): awaiting on a preliminary assessment by Kurt Loheit.
 - Packsaddle Trail closure (RP): Deputy Director Mihranian said that the City Manager had given his approval to go ahead with the closure. Conservation Director Lefer says they will install a closure sign and close the trail.
 - Toyon remediation (RP/PVPLC) – waiting on a meeting of Director Linder and Ron Dragoo.
 - Access from Portuguese Bend Community (PVPLC): General discussion of access points to the Preserve from the nearby Port Bend Community Association area and recent emails on the subject. Conservation Director Lefer reports the PVPLC is coordinating with the Portuguese Bend Community Association and adjacent residents. Deputy Director Mihranian suggests a meeting with the PB community is highly desirable to alleviate concerns and should include the Horseman Association, PBCA, and the Vanderlips. Conservation Director Lefer said she would proceed with setting up the meeting.
- Review of trail crew projects/activity (PVPLC): no news.
- Signage (PVPLC/PW/RP):
 - Monument signage, entry kiosks, and welcome signage (PVPLC/RP) – Conservation Director Lefer reported that PVPLC is reviewing the proposal from Hunt Associates. Director Linder reported on the Sacred Cove Trail section to be closed, showing aerial pictures of the need for existing signage to be shifted and new signs installed.
 - Yield signage update (PVPLC) -- Conservation Director Lefer reported that yield signage has been designed and ordered and will be placed at key multi-use trail intersections soon.
 - Coastal trail markers (PW/CD) -- Deputy Director Mihranian reported that he has not had a chance to have a site visit to the Ocean Trails Reserve in order to arrange the remaining markers to be installed.
 - Signage at McCarrel Canyon and McBride Trails (PVPLC) – Conservation Director Lefer reported the signs should be happening soon.
- City Preserve Maintenance Logs (RP): passed out prior to the meeting, but nothing discussed.
- Project Improvement Form Review (PVPLC) – Conservation Director Lefer circulated the new form to the group for review by the next meeting.
- Status of grant contracts/agreements (PVPLC):
 - Upcoming opportunities -- Conservation Director Lefer reported they are looking at a grant from the LA County Parks “Rivers” grant program for restoration at Lunada Canyon.

Preserve Operations

- Ranger report (MRCA): Ranger Johnson reports it has been fairly quiet over the past month. The report is available on the City's website. She says they are starting some after-hours patrols, that they have a new part-time ranger coming on board, and that they are waiting on court approval of the **bail** schedule. She asked approval to have the Jr. Rangers visit other areas besides just the Forrestal Reserve and she was given approval by Director Linder.
- City Preserve Public Use Logs (RP): Public Use Logs were distributed prior to the meeting. Recreation Specialist Dave Pearce confirmed the presence of no-parking signage at the Abalone Cove Tide pools gate and at the Archery Range so that the public is notified and no-parking is enforceable.
- Closing the preserve after rain – implementation (PVPLC/RP): Director Linder reported that this requires City Council adoption of an ordinance. Until then, closures will continue to need to be authorized by the City Manager on a case-by-case basis. Director Linder noted that the rain signs should be incorporated into the overall sign design process.
- Preserve projects (All): Nothing reported.
- Review of Volunteer Trail Watch Reports (PVPLC): No discussion.
- Abalone Cove Safety Task Force (RP): Director Linder reported that there will be a new lifeguard stand (a smaller tower or hotbox) installed at the ruins area by the tide pools. The lifeguard presence will increase during the summer and the safety protocols installed last summer will continue. Director Linder reported that signage should indicate precise location and not just generic Abalone Cove designation.
- Enforcement priorities: Nothing discussed.
- Targeting focused areas for team solutions (PVPLC/RP): Conservation Director Lefer distributed a plan to initially focus on the Rim Trail and a site visit was scheduled with Ranger Johnson, Senior Administrative Analyst Waters and Recreation Specialist Pearce for September 26th. This site visit would examine the needs for trail signage. The plan indicates a two-week period for focused Volunteer Trail Watch and Ranger activities along the Rim Trail.
- Volunteer Trail Watch and Rapid Response Team Priorities (All): VTW monthly meeting set for June 24 at 10am
- Field visit with the MRCA Chief Ranger (RP): Director Linder will be coordinating a meeting.

Additional Items

- Quarterly Preserve Public Forums: Sept. 23rd, and Dec. 16th: nothing changed.
- User Group Etiquette Brochure update: Senior Administrative Analyst Matt Waters is working on a revised version.
- The increased presence of drone aircraft over the Preserve is discussed. Director Linder states the City Council is currently working on a drone policy. Recreation Specialist Pearce recommends keeping a log of drone observations.
- Conservation Director Lefer asked for a clarification on the gopher poison procedure used by the city, expressing concern for the spread of the chemicals through the food chain. Maintenance Lead Worker Garnica stated he would look into this issue and possible options.
- Brief discussion of trash on beaches and location of trash cans ensued. Director Linder said he was working with Maintenance Superintendent Larvenz on a policy to address this issue and educate the public.

Next Meeting: July 2nd @ 9:30 a.m.

Action Items:

PVPLC

- Closing Packsaddle trail with signage.
- Lead a Rim Trail signage survey
- Coordinate a meeting regarding Portuguese Bend Community Access Points

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- Deputy Director Mihranian will schedule a site visit to place Coastal Trail markers within Ocean Trails Reserve

R&P

- Installing signage at the closed section of Sacred Cove Trail
- Revise trail etiquette brochure
- Proceed with drafting Rain Closure Policy/Ordinance