

Minutes to the November 5, 2015 Preserve Management Meeting

Attending: Recreation & Parks Director Cory Linder, Community Development Deputy Director Ara Mihranian, Principal Engineer Ron Dragoo, Superintendent Sean Larvenz, Sr. Administrative Analyst Matt Waters, Administrative Analyst Katie Lozano, Recreation Specialist Dave Pearce, MRCA Senior Ranger Walt Young, MRCA 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 – Director Linder outlined the remediation process. Analyst Lozano will organize a site visit with the City & PVPLC to finalize the plan, establish and flag areas to be repaired on Toyon and Peppertree Trails.
 - Unauthorized / Spur Trail Closures –Director Lefer reported work has been completed in Abalone Cove and Forrestal Reserves with some holding up and others not.
 - Oct. 5th Trails Network Plan Workshop follow-up – Deputy Director Mihranian reported approximately 30 equestrian attendees expressed concerns about Preserve accessibility. He explained the limitations of what the City can do to solve many of their current concerns. The City and PVPLC will attempt to set up a November meeting with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen’s Association to further explore the equestrian concerns regarding the Preserve.
 - Pony Trail Status -- Conservation Director Lefer reported that the PVPLC has delineated the new trail section along the western portion of Pony Trail, but they are working with the Trail Crew to address usability and drainage issues. The segment may be rerouted.
- Review of Trail Crew Activities – Conservation Director Lefer reported work along Pirate Trail in the Forrestal Reserve is going well.
- Signage – Conservation Director Lefer reported that the monument signage plan is still under development with PVPLC. There was some discussion about font size necessary for enforcement and encompassing drone use. The next draft of the signs will be sent to Director Linder for feedback. PVPLC, City, and MRCA staff will conduct site visits to correct unclear signage at the trail junctions of Ishibashi Farm/Peppertree, Basalt/Quarry and Flying Mane/Mariposa.
- Three Sisters / Filiorum Connection – All parties have not had a chance to review this item. There is a recognition by all that this issue needs to be addressed soon.
- Grant Contracts / Opportunities – Director Lefer reported that three different grants from Los Angeles County for vegetation rehabilitation are in development.
- Graffiti Removal Process – Director Lefer reported on the successful meeting with GPC (the graffiti removal contractor) on October 9th in which guidelines for operating in the Preserve were discussed. Specialist Pearce reported a busy and successful orientation/work day at Abalone Cove where 64 different incidents of graffiti were cleaned in a sweep through the Reserve.

- City Preserve Maintenance / Public Use Logs – Passed out without discussion. Specialist Pearce had submitted two work orders for guardrail problems at the San Ramon Reserve discussed at the previous meeting.

Preserve Operations

- Rain Closure Policy – Specialist Pearce presented a preliminary plan for Preserve closure due to rain. It was decided that the Vicente Bluffs and Ocean Trails Reserves would be included in any Preserve-wide rain closure. Specialist Pearce will continue to develop the plan and will distribute the plan via email to all attendees for review and comment with a goal of having a finalized plan by December.
- Review of Utility Access – There was discussion about PVPLC's desire to communicate with each utility company about their entry points into the Preserve. Superintendent Larvenz suggested that these access areas be captured in the GIS system.
- Ranger Report – Ranger Johnson reviewed MRCA's quarterly report and indicated that they had been spending lots of patrol time in the Abalone Cove area during the last quarter. Beach visitors need guidance returning to the parking lot area to prevent them from creating/using spur trails. Para-gliders are active again in Ocean Trails. Ranger patrols are focusing on Portuguese Bend now.
- Preserve Projects – none reported
- Review of Volunteer Trail Watch Reports – No report.
- Enforcement Priorities – MRCA will keep a look out on Vista Trail for spur trail usage.
- Targeting Focused Areas for Team Solutions – Conservation Director Lefer reported that Portuguese Bend will be the primary focus area.
- Preserve Staffing Update – Sr. Administrative Analyst Waters announced these positions are still being developed by the Recreation & Parks Dept. in conjunction with Human Resources. It is hoped that these positions will be opened and filled early in 2016. Work assignments have already been undertaken in the Preserve by Specialist Pearce and R&P staff as part of the early efforts to activate this Preserve Staff.

Additional Items

- Quarterly Preserve Public Forum – The next Public Forum is scheduled for Dec. 16th.

Action Items

- Toyon/Peppertree site visit
- Schedule meeting City, PVPLC and Palos Verdes Peninsula the Horsemen's Association
- Portuguese Bend & Forrester site visits with MRCA & PVPLC to specify trail junction signage
- Specialist Pearce finalizes Preserve Rain Closure Plan

Next Meeting: December 3, 2015 @ 9:30 a.m.

