

MINUTES
City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
MISSION BAY PARK COMMITTEE
January 8, 2019

Meeting Location:

Santa Clara Recreation Center
1008 Santa Clara Place
San Diego, CA

Mailing Address:

Balboa Park
Administration Building
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-
4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

David Potter
Darlene Walter
Giovanni Ingolia
Ron Anderson
Kari Logan
Paul Robinson
James McGuirk

Members Absent

Miles Himmel

Staff Present

Stacy McKenzie
Bill Overstreet
Karolynn Estrada-
Sparlin
Sara Osborne
Alyssa Muto

CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF December 10, 2018

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED

A motion was made by Ingolia and seconded by McGuirk to approve the December 10, 2018 meeting minutes as read. The motion carried. (7-0-0)

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS

- Hilton/Hyatt leases don't have those names listed on them. Unequal treatment of those removed from De Anza. Lawsuits; Campland and Tijuana Estuary, mobile homes at De Anza.

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

STAFF REPORTS

CD2 Joshua Coyne

Mr. Coyne introduced himself and said he would be attending the regularly scheduled meetings.

Stacy McKenzie

Ms. McKenzie said a Grounds Maintenance Supervisor was hired to replace the one that just retired, 2 Grounds Maintenance Work II's were recently hired and interviews for Grounds Maintenance Worker I's were currently being held to hire 12 Grounds Maintenance Worker I's.

Lieutenant John Sandmeyer, San Diego Lifeguard Service

Lt. Sandmeyer introduced Rick Romero as the new lieutenant.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE

None

ACTION ITEMS

Consent (These items are adopted without discussion; they can be moved to adoption by any committee member.)

101. None

Adoption (Each adoption item requires individual action; they can be moved to consent by action of the committee.)

201. SeaWorld 2020 Project

SeaWorld 2020 project is seeking support for the 2020 attraction. The attraction is Mako, a roller-coaster. It will be 153- feet tall with a 143-foot drop. It will have 2,500- linear foot tract and a floorless vehicle.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED

A motion was made by Ingolia and seconded by Logan to approve the SeaWorld 2020 Attraction. The motion carried. (6-0) Committee member Walter recused herself.

202. The Mission Bay Park Master Plan Fiesta Island Amendment - Sara Osborn, Planning Department (Project No.: 562189 / SCH No. 2017051034)

The primary purpose of the Fiesta Island Amendment is to:

- Formalize uses and activities already occurring on the Island;
 - Address water quality, erosion, and sensitive natural resources;
 - Enhance shoreline access;
- and with both options, the amendment proposes to

- Reduce the amount of developed parkland currently planned in the adopted Master Plan and provides additional regional recreation opportunities than existing.

This project does not include General Development Plans for each of the subareas of Fiesta Island. Future General Development Plans will occur following the adoption of amendment and will include design and construction-level details.

The adopted concept relocates the sand arena towards the entrance of the island. The amendment proposes to keep the sand arena in its existing location and provide for some expansion.

The existing fenced off-leash dog area is currently not part of the adopted Master Plan vision. The adopted concept plan envisions the southwest area of the Island as a major regional active park with playgrounds, parking and swim area. The proposed amendment, for both options, formalizes a fenced off-leash dog area with different configurations and preserves Stony Point as a least tern habitat. The adopted concept plan also expands camping uses, provides for water access, and includes a connected trail system.

The Fiesta Island study area is approximately 470 acres and the proposed amendment discusses the island as a whole and within 4 distinct subareas. 3 of the subareas propose the same improvements in both option A and B, it is the southwest subarea which includes different options.

Both option A and option B were equally analyzed in the Programmatic EIR and the Amendment language reflects both options as well.

- **The North Subarea** proposes to maintain the least tern preserve and create a wetland/marsh habitat and channel.
- **The Central Subarea** proposes to maintain the youth camping/aquatic area, relocate the sand management operations to the west with a new habitat preserve and trails, the existing sand arena will remain in its current location with room for expansion.
- Adjacent to the sand arena in the **Southeast Subarea** proposes two active parks with playgrounds and a primitive camp ground including bathrooms, and an area for concessions. The Southeast subarea also includes the entrance to the Island, the Tecolote wetlands, and a proposed habitat area. These uses would be connected by a multiuse trail and pathway system.
- **The Southwest Subarea for Option A** proposes approximately an 85-acre fenced off-leash dog park with a dog activity park with associated facilities and adjacent parking. This option also proposes a two-way park

road that extends to a parking area and a new park with a children's play area, turf, and picnic area. The proposed park road, parking, and the parkland would be separated from the off-leash area by fencing. A proposed supervised swimming area would be located adjacent to this park and a non-motorized personal watercraft (PWC) storage area would be located to the west of the park. The southwest tip of the sub-area would remain a least tern habitat area.

- **Southwest Subarea for Option B** – proposes approximately 92 acres, to be a fenced off-leash dog area. Improvements would include a parking lot in the northwest area and along the east side near the terminus of Hidden Anchorage Cove. In addition, this option provides an entrance plaza, trails, seating areas, native and non-native vegetation areas, trails, beach area, and a small dog leash-free fenced area.

In the Land Use Element, the amendment updates the overall description of Fiesta Island, Island circulation; the land leases for camping; and active recreation areas. The amendment proposes to remove the language which re-locates the sand arena and adds text to expand the existing sand arena in its current location. The amendment also proposes to remove the recommendation to dredge along western shoreline.

In the Water Use Element, a supervised beach swimming area will continue near the Youth Camp and with option A, the amendment proposes to include a new supervised swim area designated along the southern shore along with an area for PWC trailer parking and storage. These proposed uses would be accessed by the proposed option A road extension in the southwest subarea.

In the Environment Element, the amendment proposes wetland restoration and expansion in the North & Southeast subareas. The amendment supports the preservation of Least Tern areas in the north subarea and Stoney Point. The amendment also proposes to revise the eelgrass enhancement area to include an eelgrass area off the southern shoreline. Water quality is also addressed with the amendment.

In the South Shore and Fiesta Island Element, the amendment provides a description of the types and intensity of uses by subarea. The amendment proposes such concepts as: large group picnic facilities, potential concession, beachfront parking, sand recreation: a supervised swimming beach and PWC parking in option A. This element also discusses the island entry causeway, roadway, bike and pedestrian improvements.

In the Access and Circulation Element, the amendment addresses mobility on the island comprehensively to create a cohesive system of road, pathway and

trail connections to better access the island by all modes of travel and for all levels of recreation.

A notable proposal in the amendment is to redirect the island road to a clockwise direction. This allows for flexible closures during peak events, greater bike/pedestrian safety with the location of pathways and trails and provides separation for bikes from the loop roadway and the pedestrian bridges at key crossings. The design of the circulation network including road, paths and trails will be further developed following the amendment, however, a concerted effort was made to describe these improvements in the form of policies in the amendment text.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Pathway recommendations as part of the amendment is a multi-use pathway which generally follows the roadway alignment for both options.

Proposed improvements to the causeway would provide separate bicycle/pedestrian access onto the island. Additionally, the amendment recommends a roundabout on the island from the improved causeway to help with the routing of vehicles in a clockwise direction.

As for the schedule, there will be a presentation to the wetlands advisory board on the wetland creation portion of the amendment. Public review of the EIR ends on the February 21st. Park and Recreation Committee will hear this item on February 21st. Presentations to Council Committee and City Council are anticipated in March/April 2019 with a submittal to Coastal Commission's consideration after their council's decision.

Public Comment:

Fiesta Island Dog Owners (FIDO) – FIDO supports option B for the following:

- Leaves existing area intact.
- Maintains an open undeveloped area for those seeking a different park experience.
- Adds two parking spots.
- Uses natural vegetation; foxtail elimination.
- Leash free swimming area.
- Lower cost.
- Minimal maintenance.

FIDO opposes option A for the following:

- Unnecessary road divides the area, with limited places to cross the road, making use of the eastern section and berm walk difficult.
- Significant grading eliminates popular off-leash perimeter pathway.
- Private storage area and proposed beach area and related requirements can be elsewhere, while off-leash dogs and owners will never be provided as large a space anywhere in Mission Bay.
- More than one third of the area would become hardscape, playground, parking, fences and road, severely reducing the actual practical off-leash space from the existing area.

Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC)–Appreciates being left in the same area. Would like to participate in future plans.

Outrigger Club– Supports option A. Option B eliminates the storage, dock and swimming area which under coastal act is higher priority than a dog park. Water recreation is dependent on water storage and water is necessary.

Individual Testimony:

- Support option B. Least impactful economically, environmentally and lower in maintenance.
- Concerned no attention is being given to water quality. It should be 1st priority.
- Concerned with location of paddlers site in option A. Jet skis intermingle with paddlers.
- Against hillside amphitheater in option A. Support option B

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED

A motion was made by Walter and seconded by Ingolia to adopt option B, retain launch for paddlers until a viable option for paddlers is designated and if not, they stay at current location. The motion carried. (6-0-1)

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REVIEW (Special Events that require road or plaza closures or will potentially impact park and/or commercial operation, are brought to the Committee for a formal recommendation. They can be moved to Consent by action of the Committee.)

301. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS (No actions taken; discussed by the Committee and staff)

401. None

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. None

SUB-COMMITTEE

601. None

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS - The reports are non-debatable.

ADJOURNMENT - Chairperson Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:27 P.M.

Notice of Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: TBA

Santa Clara Recreation Center
1008 Santa Clara Place
San Diego, CA 92109

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy McKenzie

Stacy McKenzie District Manager, Mission Bay Park

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