

**Tierrasanta Joint Community Council & Planning Group Meeting
Draft Minutes for Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

The meeting was convened at 6:34 pm by Tierrasanta Community Council President Justin DeCesare in the Tierrasanta Recreation Center, 11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. A quorum was established consisting of 10 members: Officers Justin DeCesare, Rich Thesing, Russ May and Deanna Spehn and Area Directors William Turner, Scott Hasson, Dawn Nielsen-Lostritto, Mike George, John Adair and Loren Vinson. Tom “TK” Keliinoi arrived at 6:47 (11 members present). Absent were Jennifer Schultz, Dan Lazzaro, Bonnie Alexander, John Farmer and Rik Hauptfeld.

Reports by Government Representatives

- San Diego Police Department Community Service Officer Adam McElroy reported that in the previous month there were 6 violent domestic violence reports out of 9 incidents reported. Car prowls dropped from 11 the previous month to 3.
- Katelyn Hailey provided an update on Senator Marty Block’s legislation. The Governor has until October 11th to sign or veto bills. Several important pieces of legislation have been signed already including on elder abuse and education issues affecting children in military families attending school in California.
- Evan Bollinger from County Supervisor Dave Roberts’ office reported that a death had been reported caused by West Nile Virus, and reminded the public to take precautions regarding mosquitos breeding in the area and mosquito bites.
- Sheldon Zemen reported that work on the sports fields lighting project at Tierrasanta Community Park and ADA improvements will begin November 15th and that the fields will be closed until July 2016. He also reported that Intracorp has paid the city for the installation of the electronic traffic calming sign that will be installed on Tierrasanta Blvd. between Rueda and Tambor.
- Juan Lias reported that controlled burns would be conducted when weather, etc., permits.

Item A: Non-agenda Public Comment

- Bob Lang provided his monthly observations about the condition of the jogging trail in Shepherd Canyon and the large number of reeds in Dishwasher Pond.
- Scott Hasson commented that raising water rates is not the direction that the city should be going.
- Tom “TK” Keliinoi reported that the Tierrasanta Town Center merchants were sponsoring an event on December 5th to honor military families
- Deanna Spehn commented that the fire danger is very high in southern California this Fall, and that more than half a dozen large wildfires are not under control in northern California.

Item B: Agenda Review: Due to the large number of TCC members who were absent, TCC President DeCesare suggested delaying the discussion on the draft bylaws until the October meeting to allow a fuller discussion of the draft. There was general consensus by the TCC to table the bylaws discussion until October.

Item C: It was moved by Thesing and seconded by Keliinoi and passed unanimously 10-0-1 with George abstaining due to his absence to approve the draft minutes for the July 15, 2015 joint TCC and Planning Group meeting as submitted, correcting the spelling of Bonnie Alexander’s name.

Action Item 1: Sheldon Zemen from City Councilmember Scott Sherman’s office reviewed the proposed sites for the installation of new traffic calming signs in the community. During the discussion, Thesing recommended that the analysis of the proposed sites by the city’s traffic

engineer be made available to the TCC members and public. According to Zemen, the proposed sites for the new signs were determined by individual requests by the public for speed reductions in specific areas. The matter was tabled until the October meeting so that more information about each of the sites could be provided.

Action Item 2: Deanna Spehn distributed a written copy of the quarterly report by the Tierrasanta Open Space Committee (see below)

Action Item 3: Bylaws update – tabled until the October meeting.

Action Item 4: Appointments to vacant Area Director positions - Christina Decker, expressed interest in serving on the TCC. Since this was her first meeting, she would be eligible for appointment at the October meeting.

Action Item 5: New Business – there was no new business.

Action Item 6: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Tierrasanta Open Space Committee Quarterly Update to the Tierrasanta Community Council & Planning Group September 16, 2015 Deanna Spehn, Chair

The Draft Biological Resources Letter Report for the Tierrasanta Trails Project dated July 31, 2015 was provided to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a few weeks ago, shortly after it was provided to the City's Open Space Division from Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. Open Space staff generally prefer to resolve issues with the two agencies, making the necessary revisions to the plan prior to sharing the draft plan with the public – including the Maintenance Assessment District advisory committees. The agencies appreciate the opportunity to perform this pre-public review consultation as well.

The draft is still with the agencies and until City staff receives their input we do not know if any significant changes would be made to what City staff refers to as the draft Helix trails plan.

Below is a summary of steps that Andy Field has directed will be followed in determining which existing trails in Tierrasanta's city-owned open space will be allowed to stay; which trails or sections of trails will have to be either restored to their natural status or mitigated; and which new trails are possible.

The typical process for a trails master plan for an area would typically undergo the following basic steps:

1. Assign a consultant to the trails master plan effort and develop the project scope in consultation with public
2. Develop a proposal in concert with community and wildlife agencies using consultant data
3. Submit a draft document to the City's Development Services Department (DSD) to determine approval processes, including but not limited to: a. CEQA analysis b. Permits c. Land use plan amendments
4. Have an iterative process with Development Services to discuss comments/concerns
5. Once the draft document satisfies DSD concerns, ask for public comment and Notice of Right to Appeal (NORA) on CEQA document
6. Assuming a Site Development Permit is required, the next step would be to solicit a recommendation from the recognized Community Planning Group for the area
7. Attend public hearings, which could include a Hearing Officer, Park and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, and/or City Council

8. Finalize the plan

This process must include funding for the costs of consultant and Development Services Department review.

At this point City staff is expecting to hear back from the state and federal Resource Agencies shortly, at which point the process detailed above will kick in and.

I was also notified today that a bridge project that had been proposed for Shepherd Canyon by the Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons has been approved by City Open Space Director Chris Zirkle and City Biologist Laura Ball, with the direction by City staff to the Friends not to include the rock/gravel approaches originally proposed at the edges of the replacement bridge. A design to deal with the height difference between the path on either side of the replacement bridge will be installed has been discussed with the Friends and approved by Laura Ball. The Development Services Department determined that no permits were required.

Tree Damage

We lost several trees in the recent storms, including coral trees on Santo Road in front of Villa Portofino that had to be removed because of splitting trunks and the potential for limbs to split off. All tree removals require an official determination by a certified arborist that the tree must be removed for public safety reasons and/or death of the tree, etc. A house within Villa Portofino was seriously damaged and no longer habitable due to a tree that fell in the storm this summer.

Barbados Common Wall

Two sections of the Barbados Common Wall were recently replaced by Treebeard. The sections were “bulging” due to dirt, etc., pushing the wall out of alignment. The height of private yards behind the wall is often significantly different than the height of the dirt/grass on the Clairemont Mesa Blvd. or Santo Road sides of the wall. The cost was \$4081.84.

Water

According to City staff, Treebeard is meeting the 25% reduction in use of water within Tierrasanta open space areas, including joint use fields on the school sites and in developed parks.

Dishwasher Pond

City staff has repeatedly requested a quote from Helix Environmental on the cost and environmental restrictions on removing up to 400 square feet of reeds from Dishwasher Pond, but to date a quote has not been provided. Existing federal environmental laws limit the work that can be done in a body of water where certain plant, bird and animal species are present. City staff will continue to request that the quote be developed by Helix as soon as possible.

Brush Management

The City’s brush management crews continue to work in Tierrasanta. Open Space crews may not perform brush management – only the specialized crews designated by the City and adhering to regulations established via a federal environmental review and a grant from the federal government. The brush crews consistently leave bundled up debris in the canyons for a week or so and then a big truck comes and crews remove the bundles. Treebeard is not involved with the brush management project and no Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District funds may be used for brush management.