

City of San Diego Park & Recreation Department
Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District (TOSMD)
Tierrasanta Open Space Committee
7 pm at Tierrasanta Recreation Center • 11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
Agenda for January 6, 2016 Meeting

The Tierrasanta Open Space Committee is advisory to the City of San Diego Open Space Division on matters related to the Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District.

Voting members: Deanna Spehn* (Chair), Jennifer Schultz* (Secretary), Jerry Bierman, Lee Campbell, Teresa Clowes, Roberta Froome, John Hopper, Dawn Lostritto-Nielsen, Russ May*, Bob Muldrew, Betty Ogilvie, Mike Ogilvie, Dick Rees, Rich Thesing*, Justin DeCesare* (President, Tierrasanta Community Council).

City Staff: Bob Smith and Ray Garcia

Agenda

7:00 pm Chair Deanna Spehn will call the meeting to order and establish that a quorum is present, followed by introductions of those present and agenda review.

1. Non-agenda public comment (limited to 3 minutes per person)
2. Approval of September 2, 2015 Draft Minutes
3. Staff Report for October 7, 2015 meeting – Bob Smith
4. Presentation by Helix Environmental on Roadrunner Pond (a.k.a. Dishwasher Pond)
5. Meeting day and time and other administrative matters re: the committee
6. Encroachment issues
7. Status of trails system & environmental study status and timeline
8. Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons
9. New Business – to be referred to a future noticed meeting of the Tierrasanta Open Space Committee
10. Adjournment

Next meeting: February 3, 2016 – 7 pm Tierrasanta Recreation Center
11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department
Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District
Tierrasanta Open Space Committee

Draft Minutes for Wednesday, November 4, 2015 Meeting
Tierrasanta Recreation Center, 11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

Voting members:	Present/Excused/Absent		
	November 4, 2015	October 7, 2015	Sept. 2, 2015*
Deanna Spehn* Chair	Present	Present	Present
Jennifer Cochrane-Schultz* Secretary	Present	Absent	Present
Jerry Bierman	Absent	Present	Present
Lee Campbell	Present	Present	Present
Teresa Clowes	Absent	Absent	Absent
Justin DeCesare* Chair, Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group	Absent	Absent	Absent
Roberta Froome	Absent	Present	Present
John Hopper	Absent	Absent	Present
Dawn Lostritto-Nielsen*	Absent	Absent	Absent
Russ May*	Present	Present	Present
Bob Muldrew	Present	Present	Present
Betty Ogilvie	Present	Present	Present
Mike Ogilvie	Present	Present	Present
Dick Rees	Absent	Absent	Absent
Rich Thesing*	Present	Present	Present

Staff:
Robert Smith, Tierrasanta Open Space Inspector
Sheldon Zemen, City Council District 7 representative for Scott Sherman
Ray Garcia, Sr., Parks and Recreation Department
Paul Sirois, Parks and Recreation Department
Rose Tajalle, Parks and Recreation Department

Vendors, presenters, community members	
James Sanders	
Bob Lang	

The meeting convened at 7:05 p.m. Members and guests made introductions. A quorum was established. [15 voting members on the committee, eight present]

Taken out of order on the Agenda:

Item 5: Draft changes proposed by the City of San Diego’s Economic Development Department to the Municipal Code and Council Policy regarding the formation and management of Maintenance Assessment Districts in the City of San Diego.

Paul Sirois presented the proposed changes and the rationale for those changes. Essentially, there needs to be some consistency with how the MAD’s function and are managed.

Discussion focused on the need to indemnify open space committee members. Concern was expressed regarding the ability of the City Council to change how MAD funds are spent. These funds were approved for “special benefits” above and beyond what the City provides from general revenues. Accordingly, a clearer definition of enhancements and special benefits needs to be outlined in the Engineer’s Report. Also, it should be so stated that Engineer’s Report is the guiding document for the MAD vs. municipal code or city council policy.

With these recommended revisions in mind, and pending review of the final draft, it was moved by Rich Thesing, and seconded by Jennifer Cochrane-Schultz to accept the proposed changes in concept. The vote was unanimous 8 – 0 to accept.

Taken out of order on the Agenda:

Item 3: Presentation on Draft Budget for FY 17 Tierrasanta Open Space Maintenance Assessment District

Rose Tajalle presented the proposed budget for the 2017 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. Discussion followed regarding Treebeard estimates, and how these seem to be increasing each year. It was noted that the audited actual expenses are generally appreciatively lower than estimated expenses. Concern was expressed for the lower reserve levels. Deanna Spehn explained that the previously higher levels of reserves resulted from the long delayed receipt of accumulated assessments.

Rich Thesing moved, and Mike Ogilvie seconded to accept the proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously 8 – 0.

Item 1: Non agenda public comment

Bob Lang complimented the Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons on the quality of their recently installed foot and bike bridge in Shepherd Canyon.

Lee Campbell reported that the Viacha “banjo” grass is alive again. Bob Smith was able to restore the irrigation thanks to overall water conservation efforts in the district. He also installed a mutt-mitt dispenser at that location.

Sheldon Zemen distributed a flyer for Councilman Sherman’s five-peak challenge.

Item 2: Approval of October 7, 2015 Draft Minutes

Betty Ogilvie motioned, and Lee Campbell seconded to accept the minutes. The vote was 7 – 0 – 1 to accept; Jennifer Cochrane-Schultz abstaining due to non-attendance at that particular meeting.

Item 4: Staff Report for November 4, 2015 meeting

Refer to the staff report for further details. Briefly:

- Representatives from the respective state and federal fish and wildlife departments met Parks and Recreation Department staff on October 22, 2015. They walked numerous trails shown in the trails plan. Comments from that inspection have been received. City staff is in the process of reviewing and responding to those comments.
- The Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons applied for a grant to remove palms throughout the Tierrasanta Open Space canyons. The San Diego River Conservancy rejected the grant proposal, saying that they wanted a more comprehensive restoration project with measurable results.
- Mike Kelly and Treebeard are in the process of spraying and removing various noxious weed species—to include fennel, mustard, Eucalyptus suckers/sprouts, and Russian thistle.

In addition to those items on the report, the following information was also reported:

- The landscaped corners at Antigua and Santo are due for some improvements. The work should be completed in November.

Item 6: Results of the recent meeting on “jogging trail” in Shepherd Canyon with Environmental Biologist Sean Paver from the City’s Public Utilities Division

Sean Paver’s letter to Bob Smith was shared with the committee. The utilities division noted that the road is still serviceable as regards their needs to access the sewer and water pipes. Repairs to the road in the riparian area are not possible without going through the extensive environmental review and permit process. This is an expense the utility will not undertake given that the road currently meets the need for which it was designed.

Treebeard can perform some minor repairs and cut water bars in a few places.

Item 7: Bob Smith re: placement of benches provided by the Tierrasanta Foundation

These benches have been placed.

Item 8: In response to vehicular damage at Roadrunner Park...

Bob Smith presented Treebeard’s bid and plan for improvements to reduce vehicular access to the park’s grassy field. The committee reviewed and accepted the plan.

Item 9: Status of Dishwasher Pond

Helix Environmental Services will provide a study and detailed cost proposal to determine the feasibility of pond restoration.

Item 10: Status of trails system and Helix environmental study status

This topic was discussed during the open space inspectors report. Refer to Item 4 above.

Item 11: Drought and use of water in Tierrasanta

The Tierrasanta MAD has achieved a 56% savings in water usage. We can start irrigating in selected areas again as the needs dictate.

Item 12: Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons

As reported earlier by Bob Lang, the Friends successfully installed a raised footbridge at the Shepherd Canyon water crossing that runs parallel to Antigua Blvd. Another bridge is being considered for a much wider area located below Villarrica Avenue.

The November cleanup is set for eucalyptus removal just below the Via Vallarta trailhead. No decision yet on December activities.

Item 13: New Business

Changes in lighting at Tierrasanta Recreation Center field and upgrades to the bathroom will begin on November 30. The bathroom will be remodeled to meet ADA standards. The contractor is responsible for providing and maintaining accessible toilets during construction. Treebeard normally maintains the existing comfort station.

It was also reported that solar panels would be installed in the next two years.

Committee members asked if the old lights could be moved to the tennis courts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
OPEN SPACE DIVISION
TIERRASANTA MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
 January 6, 2016
STAFF REPORT

Ongoing Projects/Completed

- **Tree Trimming** - West Coast Arborists continues to trim trees in various areas of the Open Space.

Open Space

- **Open Space Trails Plan** - On October 22, 2015, staff met with Representatives from US Fish and Wild Life, Cal Fish and Wild Life, and walked numerous trails from the trail plan. In the next few weeks, we're anticipating additional comments from them and will be responding.
- **Palm Removal** - The palm removals from Shepherds Canyon by West Coast Arborist and Blackhawk Helicopter was a success.
- **Helix Environmental Plan Dishwasher Pond** - Tom Huffman from Helix Environmental will present the Dishwater Pond Restoration study and answer questions.
- **Brush Management** - The Brush Management Unit has completed their scope of work for 2015. They are scheduled to return in March of 2016.
- **Invasive Weed Growth Removal** - Kelly and Associates will be removing invasive weed growth (Fennel, Mustard, and Eucalyptus Sprouts) from the north and east sides of Shepherds Canyon beginning in November.

Landscape Contract

- **Treebeard** - continues to provide services within budget.

Miscellaneous.

- **Road Runner Park – Completed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Smith, Grounds Maintenance
 Open Space Division / MAD's Park and
 Recreation Department
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