



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE
PIMA COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**



Notice is hereby given to the Members of the Pima County Board of Supervisors and to the general public that the Pima County Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a meeting, open to the public on Friday, February 8, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 in the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation first floor conference room, 3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona (877-6000).

NOTE: As of the posting date of February 6, 2013, no executive session item has been placed on the regular agenda. However, this is subject to an addendum.

Public comment will be taken. Members of the Pima County Parks and Recreation Commission will attend either in person or by telephone conference call. The Commission will discuss and may take action on the following agenda items.

AGENDA

(The order of the agenda may be changed to accommodate public comment.)

- A. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- C. CONSENT AGENDA: For consideration and approval
 - 1. Action: Approval of December 14, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes
- D. CALL TO THE PUBLIC
- E. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/ACTION REQUEST
 - 1. Update Report: *El Corazon de los Tres Rios del Norte* (Suzanne Shields)

Report on Pima County's acquisition agreement with California Portland property (615 acres of open space) and its multiple beneficial uses as it relates to the Regional Transportation Authority improvements related to Silverbell Road, Regional Flood Control District's improvements as it relates to the Santa Cruz River, active and passive recreation, water supply enhancement, environmental remediation, and ecosystem restoration.
 - 2. PowerPoint Presentation: Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center (Dianna Kelley)

3. Clarification in conducting Parks and Recreation Commission study session (Tobin Rosen, Rafael Payan)
4. Mary Henderson Property

Mary Henderson property transfer to Pima County and implications on the potential development of the trailhead that may link that site to Tucson Mountain Park, Starr Pass Resort, and Painted Hills (Tobin Rosen, Rafael Payan, Steve Anderson)

5. Development Division – Announcement of Transition

Carlo DiPilato retired in November 2012. He was the manager of the Development Division. As a result of his retirement, the department's capital improvement projects (CIP), except for the trails projects, were transitioned to the Project Management Office (PMO) under Nancy Cole. The PMO is administered under the Deputy County Administrator for Public Works Office. (Rafael Payan)

6. Commissioners Report

- a. Beat Cancer Boot Camp (Anita Kellman)
- b. BAJA Softball Project (Chuck Catino)

F. DIVISION UPDATE REPORTS: Division Managers will report on their recent activities related to the Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department. This item will be informational only and no action will be taken at this meeting. If further discussion is necessary, those items requiring discussion may be placed on a future Commission meeting agenda.

1. GeoMedia (Joy Mehulka)

- a. Virtual Tours of the Loop (written informational material not available for publishing)
- b. Wildlife camera on the NRPR Web Site (written informational material not available for publishing)

2. Natural Resources (Kerry Baldwin)

- a. Open Space/Ranch Property Management
 - Pima County continues to be asked to provide in-kind match funds from the previous acquisition of the ranches to help develop grant proposals. Currently over \$2.4 million of on the ground project funds have been generated that support the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan outcomes.
 - Public sessions on the Multi-Species Conservation Plan will run during the month of January.
 - NRPR is exploring the opportunity to turn over day-to-day management of the A7 Ranch to an experienced ranching operation with over 120 years of experience in Arizona.
 - The division staff completed a field evaluation for Buckelew Farms to establish a new grazing plan.

- Range condition monitoring has been finalized on ranches and data analysis finishing up. Annual grazing use plans are being set with operators on the ranches.
 - County staff will be helping implement some new conservation and restoration efforts in Altar Valley and will help develop a new comprehensive Star Valley-wide conservation/restoration plan.
 - The county has acquired an 8,000-acre ranch adjacent to A7 Ranch along the San Pedro River. The M Diamond will fill in gap between A7 Ranch and 6 Bar Ranch and also includes land trades with Oracle Ridge Mine project for conservation efforts. Additional ongoing enhancement projects, planning and survey work on the ranches include:
 - Fence repairs and trespass barriers on the ranches especially in the high drug traffic areas of Altar Valley ranches.
 - Monthly water quality samples and use recordings were completed on open space property wells.
 - Work is nearing completion on a two-mile long waterline replacement and installation of wildlife water on A7 Ranch at the Brown's farm well system.
 - Pima County continues to investigate and work on mitigation compliance on situations where utilities got outside ROWs and impacted open space lands.
- b. Invasive Species/Bufelgrass
- The Wednesday Sonoran Desert Weedwacker crews have been working on rugged and steep areas in Tucson Mountain Park and continue to add volunteer hours to their totals. The aerial spraying test and study at Tucson Mountain Park performed in 2011 on buffelgrass has been published.
 - Beat Back Buffelgrass Day will be held on January 26, 2013. NRPR will be hosting several site projects.
 - Utilizing a grant from US Fish and Wildlife the NR crew will begin to do some new invasive tree/shrub control in Cienega Creek in late December.
- c. Environmental Education
- The environmental education (EE) program is gearing up for the normal increase in programs and outdoor recreational opportunities we provide. The current spring program schedules will be provided to the commission and are always available online at <http://www.pima.gov/nrpr>.
 - The EE staffs are preparing to train volunteer docents and start giving routine tours down at historic Hacienda de la Canoa starting in February.
 - The urban wildlife trailer continues to be a good draw at events including the recent Tucson Meet Yourself. It was recently used by Arizona Game and Fish at Sabino Canyon and has been scheduled for several more events.
 - NRPR will be hosting an educator resource fair with Sonoran Arthropod Society- SASI on February 2, 2013, at the NRPR complex.
- d. Natural Resource Parks
- The Agua Caliente spring is currently not flowing again. Water levels continue to drop in spite of supplemental water additions. Mud flats are present. New plans to establish a more sustainable water budget and keep the first pond full are being worked on
 - Vandalism at the park has generated over \$40,000 of unplanned repairs and replacement costs in past four months.

- Significant vandalism has occurred at 36th St. Trailhead and Gates Pass. A new solar gate was installed at 36th St after several community clean-up sessions, increased Tucson Police Department patrols and was destroyed after just a week in place. Cost to build and have security close and open 6 gates 365 days will run over \$34,000. NRPR is scheduled to meet with the Sheriff's Office to pursue cooperative enforcement efforts. Potential options to relocate the 36th St trailhead are also being considered.
- Tucson Mountain Park is going into the winter busy season and the Gilbert Ray campground is beginning to fill. The registration building is open and our full complement of campground hosts are almost in for the season.
- Use of the natural resource park trails continues to increase and be expanded. A new three-mile long paved segment through Tucson Mountain Park is in the planning stages. We are again getting increasing calls on dogs on closed trails in Pima Canyon.
- A new set of signs on CB Brown, the original visionary for the creation of Tucson Mountain Park, will be installed at Gates Pass Overlook and Brown Mountain picnic area

3. Operations (George Kuck)

- Rillito Park: Park staff has been cleaning up around the barn areas with the assistance of the Juvenile Court CREW Program in preparation for the upcoming horseracing season. The paved ADA path across the racetrack was removed after Christmas. Meetings were held with PC EDT, Risk Management, and with the Horseman's Association regarding the upcoming season.
- Canoa Preserve: There was a soft opening of the park on January 2, 2013. There has been a lot of positive feedback from the community regarding the park. NRPR staff has been working closely with BAJA on a number of issues. Dave Bang and Associates donated a ramada (thanks to Chuck Catino), and it is being installed the second week in January. The Operations Division has received O&M funds for the park, and will begin assuming the cost of the water and electric bills.
- Rillito River Park: The Operations Division is working with various county staff and members from the bike community in developing a plan to open the Rillito River Park to nighttime usage. We are in the process of getting quotes to install reflective striping on the paved paths.
- Summit Park: Risk Management has moved their surveillance cameras from Winston Reynolds Manzanita Park to Summit Park. The vandalism and graffiti at Summit Park has decreased since the cameras. The vandalism at Winston Reynolds Manzanita Park has increased again.
- Metal Thefts: Recent metal thefts of bathroom fixtures and backflows have impacted the Rillito River Park restroom that had to be temporarily closed. A similar situation at the Ted Walker Trailhead had previously occurred. The thieves are also stealing wires to irrigation systems at various parks.

3. Planning (Steve Anderson)

- CAP (Central Arizona Project) Trail: Pima County, in collaboration with the Central Arizona Project (CAP) and the United States Bureau of Reclamation, continues to make strides towards the implementation of the CAP Trail in 2013. The 32-mile section of the trail through the Avra Valley had a setback because CAP expressed concern that resurfacing of the trail's pavement could

be problematic. The Pima County administration has requested for CAP's reconsideration. Several trails advocates are very supportive of the project.

- New Trail in Green Valley: Several Green Valley residents met with staff and suggested their preferred location of Pima County's planned 1.8-mile trail that would link the Abrego Trailhead with the Canoa Preserve Park. This project will require Union Pacific Rail Line approval.

5. Recreation (Joe Barr)

a. Budget

- Staff has entered data into the budget system for the FY 2013/14 fiscal year. Final data entry by NRPR staff occurred on Friday, January 11, 2013.
- A mid-year budget adjustment of \$997,521 for FY 2012/13 was approved by the Pima County Board of Supervisors on December 11, 2012. These funds have been annualized into the FY 2013/14 budget request. Additional funding has been provided for increases in motor pool rates, and additional funding for utility rate increases is being considered.

b. Kino Swimming Pool

- A project has been initiated to develop a new bathhouse entrance for the Kino Swimming Pool to allow members of the public, who are not members of the YMCA, enter the swimming pool for Open Swim without going through the main building. Construction will begin in February 2013. A gas-fired pool heater has been installed to heat the pool, and year-round or modified year-round operation of the pool will occur in FY 2013-14. A supplemental funding request for this purpose is included in the FY 2013-14 budget request.

c. BMX at Mike Jacob Sportspark

- Opening of the BMX track at the Mike Jacob Sportspark forthcoming this winter. Safety netting is being installed and various site improvements are being made. Site will offer BMX track, remote control model car track, go-cart track, and miniature golf. The Pima County CIP unit is assisting with this project.

d. Ted Walker Dog Park

- Funding was included in the mid-year budget adjustment for development of a special event dog park facility at Ted Walker Park, which is located immediately south of Mike Jacob Sportspark. Projected opening date is anticipated for late spring of 2013.

e. Manzanita Swimming Pool

- Staff has retained the services of American Leak Detection to provide analysis of a leak from the underground surge pit into the pump pit at the Manzanita Swimming Pool.

f. NW YMCA Solar Panels

- The YMCA is pursuing grant funding to install solar panels on parking shade structures in the lower parking lot of the NW YMCA. NRPR supports this program and may seek to replicate it at other locations.

- g. Youth Day at Old Tucson
 - Youth Day at Old Tucson Studios on January 31, 2013, provided educational opportunities and entertainment to 4,000 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders, their teachers, and their chaperones. The Dan Felix Foundation and the Parklands Foundation provided monetary support, and 33 agencies provided educational enrichment programs.
 - h. Winter Jam
 - Winter Jam, a skateboarding contest, hosted 225 youth on Saturday, January 26, 2013, at the Picture Rocks Skate Park. Despite cold and rainy weather, the event was successful and participants are greatly looking forward to the next event.
 - i. Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range
 - The Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range hosted Senior Olympic shooting events on the weekend of January 26th. Twenty-four (24) seniors participated in the high-power rifle event at 100 yards, 44 seniors participated in the rimfire and centerfire pistol at 25 yards, and 32 seniors participated in small bore rifle and sporter rimfire at 50 yards.
 - The Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range hosts Arizona Game and Fish Hunter Education classes on the last Sunday of every month. In 2012, a total of 267 youth participated in this valuable and practical education program. Mr. Bob Bartoszek and Mr. Bob Bonko volunteer their time to the Game and Fish Department to offer this program.
6. Special Project/Tasks Force (Robert Vaughn - no report)

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

H. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

I. ADJOURNMENT

Posted this 6th day of February, 2013, at Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, 3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona

Also posted at www.pima.gov/nrpr/geninfo/commission.htm

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