



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



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, October 8, 2010, 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).

AMENDED 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. Approval of August 6, 2010 Minutes
- D. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/ACTION REQUEST
 - 1. Presentation: Conceptual Plan: *Corazon de los Tres Rios del Norte* Project PowerPoint presentation for a proposed bond proposal for recreation, environmental restoration and flood control (Suzanne Shields, Director, Regional Flood Control District)

Pima County in partnership with the Regional Flood Control District is embarking on an ambitious riparian habitat, flood control, aquifer recharge, recreational and environmental/cultural education project. The project site encompasses the confluence of the Rillito, Canada del Oro (CDO) and Santa Cruz rivers, and is bounded by Ina Road to the north and Sweetwater Drive to the south, Dan Felix Park and Interstate 10 to the east, and Silverbell Road to the west. Proposed amenities may include two non-motorized boatable lakes that take advantage of the current sand and gravel mining pits, swimming beach, canine sports tournament site, 14-soccer field complex, amphitheater, visitor center with retail and restaurant opportunities, park trails network, cultural and environmental education interpretive stations at key sites, enhancements to the Rillito and CDO linear parks and the Anza National Historic Trail along the Santa Cruz River, and expansion of Mike Jacob Sportspark, the model airplane facility, and Dan Felix and Bosque del los Rios Botanical Garden parks at NRPR's headquarters, a BMX bicycle track, a street-skate and bike center, a velodrome, a skateboard facility, a model-airplane park, an aquatic center with Olympic swimming facilities, and improvements at the city of Tucson's Columbus Park. Funding may be sought from future general obligation bonds and federal grants.

2. Southwest Infrastructure (SWIP) Tucson Trap & Skeet Club Project Concept Plan: (Rafael Payan, Suzanne Shields, and Lee Bachmann and Michael Braegelmann of Tucson Trap & Skeet Club)

Project entails the development of a shotgun and archery sports tournament area that will be of regional and national significance. Scope items may include the expansion of the existing trap and skeet facilities, and the construction of new archery and shotgun walk-in ranges. This will be one of the largest facilities of its kind in the western United States.

3. Action: Child Care Licensure (Rafael Payan)

Regarding potential amendments to current Arizona Department of Health Services, which would exempt Pima County from state licensing requirements, a draft proposal for exemption of after-school programs was generated, and, subsequently, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (NRPR) staff met with county legislative liaison staff for a broad-based discussion on such an effort. The overwhelming conclusion was that any such effort would not receive support among legislators or other jurisdictions, due to the broad nature and application of the current law and due to the fact that it appears that all other jurisdictions are currently complying with the current law and rules. Therefore, staff does not recommend that NRPR or the Pima County Parks and Recreation Commission continue to pursue this matter.

4. Rillito Racetrack Fee (Rafael Payan)

The Rillito Racetrack Fee Committee met with the Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission and the Pima County Horsemen's Association to discuss the fees at the racetrack. The committee's report was forwarded to county administrator for review and direction.

5. Update Report: Historic Pima County Courthouse and Pima County Superior Court/Administration/Health Services Building Complex Landscaping projects (Rafael Payan/George Kuck)

NRPR has been working closely with the Planning Center and Facilities Management on two high profile landscaping projects. Much of the vegetation at these two complexes is in senescence or dead, is overgrown, requires great amount of irrigation, or is time consuming to maintain. The plants that are being installed require very little water and are well suited to our arid and hot climate, are slow growing thus need very limited maintenance, and will also serve as a model for our community to emulate in commercial-scale landscapes. Phase one of the Pima County Superior Court/Administration/Health Services Building Complex has been completed. Landscape modifications of the Historic Courthouse will take place this fall, winter and spring.

E. DIVISION UPDATE REPORTS

1. Development (Carlo DiPilato)

- a. Rillito River Park south bank (Mountain Avenue to First Avenue) and Rillito River Park south bank (Mountain Avenue to First Avenue): The scope is to build an 11' wide paved path from North First Avenue to Mountain Avenue (1/2 mile) on the south side of the Rillito, and install a second pedestrian bridge over the Mountain Avenue Wash. There is ancillary landscaping and irrigation and refurbishment of an existing DG path in the same location. The \$676,041 fund came from the Transportation Enhancement Funds and the 1997 Pima County Bond. Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) granted construction authorization; the project has been submitted for permitting to Pima County Development Services. Following permitting, the project will be bid through Pima County Procurement as required by ADOT. The project is expected to be completed by 6/30/11.

- b. Stadium District Sports Field Lighting: To install sports field lighting at the Kino Sports Complex Fields #4 and #7 to NCAA play levels for regular season collegiate games (70-foot candles in the infield and 50-foot candles in the outfield). The project has a budget of \$650,000 funded by County Administration. A proposal from the lighting JOC was received in August and the project is expected to be completed by 12/31/10.
 - c. Carmelin Castro Ítom Usím Children's Park-Yaqui Park: The project improvements consist of the construction of a main entry plaza and a secondary southern entry; installation of a pedestrian bridge over the Julian Wash; existing path realignment, path lighting, street improvements; landscape and irrigation improvements. The \$933,440 fund came from 1997 Pima County Bond. **The project should be completed in January 2011.**
 - d. Southeast Regional Park Shooting Range: All project areas under construction in '09, the interior build out of the Educational Building and the extension of the rifle and pistol range, have been completed and have received certificates of occupancy from Pima County Development Services. The final master plan development and accompanying building plans are almost 100% completion and were delivered on the promised date by the design team AMEC E & E. However, upon review by the NRPR & CIP-PMO co-operative project management team, some minor changes to the build out plans were requested of the design team. Thus the procurement process will be delay until the revised plans are received in mid-October. The construction schedule although delayed by a few weeks, is not expected to extend beyond the end of 2011.
 - e. Thomas Jay Senior Field & Bridge: Field has been seeded with miscellaneous work left to complete project. Construction phase is 95% complete.
 - f. Robles/Three Points/Altar Valley School District Recreation Facility: Construction phase is 75% complete. Major work items still outstanding are: restroom delivery and installation, sod installation, and septic system installation.
 - g. Pantano I (Kenyon to Michael Perry Park): Construction of the river park extension project is continuing on multiple fronts along the 2.6 mile pathway. Nearly all the required grading for both the hard paths and soft paths is completed, with the final ABC sub grade material scheduled to be installed later. The laying of the asphalt material on the hard paths and the installation of the DG soft paths resumed the last week in August. The main irrigation line is installed, tested, and buried along the entire length of the project, with the lateral lines and required valves to be placed as the new trees and ground vegetation are planted as the project continues towards completion. The construction of the underpass ramps and soil cement bank protection under the bridges at 22nd Street and Golf Links Road are in abeyance until the migrating bat reproductive season (22nd Street) and monsoon season (Golf Links Road) ends in September. Once all weather and biological concerns are eased the project is tentatively scheduled to have the substantially completed walk thru on the November 4, 2010, which puts Norquay ahead of schedule by 2.5 months. (At this point the project is 10 months into a 14-month construction schedule and is considered to be 83% completed based on monetary value of the contract.)
 - h. Pantano II: Planning and design to be completed by mid October 2010 with advertisement for bids mid-November 2010. Construction to completion is estimated to be six months and is tentatively scheduled to start by January 2011.
2. GeoMedia (Joy Mehulka - no report)
 3. Natural Resources (Kerry Baldwin)
 - a. Invasive Species/Buffelgrass: Pima County successfully conducted a test for the combined use of GPS and computer controlled helicopter spraying technology to address

buffelgrass on steep, rugged slopes in Tucson Mountain Park. This research project was authorized by the Board of Supervisors last summer after several public meetings. Initial study plot visits indicate that the test met all expectations and did little or no damage to native vegetation in plots. Follow-up survey work will be conducted over next four to six months to confirm initial perceptions and measurements.

- b. Natural Resource Parks: The department expects \$300,000 from an external source to support restoration activities at Canoa Ranch to improve well capabilities and other infrastructure for protection of environment and educational outreach efforts.
 - c. Ranch Property Management: A new operator will be taking over the State and Federal grazing leases associated with Empirita Ranch. A new Management Agreement will be developed over the next several months consistent with the current operating agreement. The county will also be working on acquiring State Grazing leases around Colossal Cave Mountain Park previously held by the Pima County Parklands Foundation.
 - d. The Commission may be briefed on the activities related to the Natural Resources Division including the open space program, environmental education program, and the natural resource parks. The update will cover activities and events since the June 4, 2010, commission meeting (attached).
4. Operations (George Kuck)
- a. Recent incidents of wire theft at Rillito, Curtis, and Winston Reynolds-Manzanita parks impact ball field lighting, parking lot lighting, and automated irrigation systems.
 - b. McDonald Park Off Leash Dog Facility: Approximately \$7500 in private donations were received through the Pima County Parklands Foundation to light the off leash dog facility. It is estimated that the project will cost \$30,000; NRPR will provide the labor to install the lights.
 - c. Kory Laos BMX Facility: NRPR is moving forward with securing the perimeters of this new proposed facility, and we have moved a 5,000 gallon used water tank from one of the natural resource ranches to the site to replace the stolen tank.
 - d. Rillito River Park: On September 11, 2010, the Rillito River Project group hosted a Bat Night 2010 event in the Rillito River bed east of the Campbell Avenue Bridge and watched an estimated 45,000 bats flying out from beneath the bridge, as well as other planned activities.
 - e. National Take Back Day Dispose-a-Med: A conglomeration of agencies—Drug Enforcement Agency, Pima County, Amistades Inc., Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Coalition, and Community Prevention Coalition—partnered on this event. There were 18 mounds of medications, approximately 5 gallons of liquid medications, and creams collected. The event was held at the Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center.
5. Planning (Steve Anderson)
- a. Robles Pass: The approximately 16 miles in length trail system is complete at Robles Pass linking Tucson Mountain Park to Winston Reynolds-Manzanita Park through a six-foot culvert under Ajo Way. The 1,000 acres of land is located between the Ajo

Highway and Irvington Road west of Mission Road. Trailheads will be completed at a later date using funds from the upcoming bond election.

- b. Tortolita Mountain Park: The construction of several trails in Tortolita Mountain Park are underway by the town of Marana using Pima County bond money. Marana built the Wild Burro Trailhead using the \$1.2 million fund. The balance of the bond money is being used to construct trails on lands owned by Arizona State Trust, Pima County, and the Bureau of Land Management.
- c. Cienega Creek and the Arizona Trail: Project planning for the Cienega Creek is almost complete except for the cultural resources survey. Approximately six miles of trails is left to complete the Arizona Trail. Construction will resume soon after the survey is transmitted to the Arizona State Land Department. Anticipated completion date of the Arizona Trail in Pima County is May 2011.
- d. Urban Loop Trail Development: Enclosed is the September Edition of the Urban Loop Update. The report touches on the vast amount of projects needed to make the Urban Loop a reality in the not-too-distant future.

6. Recreation (Joe Barr – no report)

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

H. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Members of the Commission may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on today's agenda. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Posted this 5th day of October, 2010.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Pima County does not discriminate based on a disability regarding admission to public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Gregoria Tucker or Ann Khambholja at 877-6000. Requests should be made at least 24 hours in advance to allow time to arrange the accommodation.