

STEVENS & PERMANENTE CREEKS WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING

June 7, 2006

Sunnyvale Community Center

Board Room

550 E. Remington Dr., Sunnyvale

Summary of Record

1. List of Participants: See Appendix

2. Agenda unchanged

3. Introductions and announcements

4. Habitat Conservation Plans:

Ken Schreiber, Program Manager, Contracting with County and reporting to six partner agencies, made a presentation on Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs). Partner agencies include Santa Clara County, San Jose, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. An HCP will be developed for an area including Coyote, Uvas, Llagas/Pajaro watersheds but not the baylands. Partners signed agreement to collect data and carry out the HCP. Monitoring and adaptive management will be required in perpetuity. A website is being developed. Ken can be contacted for more information at 408-299-5789.

5. Endorsement letter for City of Cupertino Grant

Cupertino applied for a grant from the State Resources Agency—California River and Parkways Grant Program for the Stevens Creek Corridor Park and Restoration Project. Earlier SPCWC supported a Department of Water Resources grant for part of this project. The City of Cupertino has asked SPCWC to provide a letter supporting the project.

The project extends from Stevens Creek Blvd. to McClellan Road. Stretches of creek would be realigned to increase sinuosity, lengthen the creek and remove fish passage barriers. Riparian habitat on both sides of the creek would be restored. Picnic area would be reduced, from a capacity of 4,000 people to 800 people. But, the number of days each year the picnic area will be used by large groups would increase from only a few days per year to 100 days per year. In addition, the park would be open to the public 365 days per year. The number of people using the park could double according to one member.

A summary of budget items for the proposal was distributed and a report with drawings circulated. In the discussion that ensued the following concerns were expressed:

- Meadow will be reduced. Community gardens will move into meadow, as 4H moves into gardens, to make room for the trail.
- Concerns about maintaining natural stream function to maintain hydrologic stability—e.g., drawings show riffles in middle of curve where pools should be.

- Removal of hundreds of trees. Some of these are native trees, including heritage oaks. Some trees sacrificed for the trail, some for the stream realignment. Proposal is to replace these trees with seeds.
- Impact of number of people/days on native plants and soil condition.
- Concern the 8 foot wide trail, would impact the user experience in the nature preserve.
- Snack bar may generate garbage that will end up in the creek.

As there was no one present from the city of Cupertino to address these concerns, it was decided that Mondy would draft a letter expressing the concerns of the council members present at the meeting and distribute it to the council email list prior to delivery.

6. Next meeting August 2, 2006, 4 PM in Sunnyvale

APPENDIX

Stevens/Permanente Creek Watershed Council

Contacts List for meeting of June 7, 2006

Name Organization E-Mail Phone

Mondy Lariz

Gary Bailey

Aaron Grossman

Kristy McCumby-Hyland

Marty Seldon

Deborah Jamison

Vivian Blomenkamp

Claire Elliott

Cheryl Turner

Janet Pelinka

Gail Brownell

Katherine Preston

Ken Schreiber

Emily Bromley