

DATE: May 23, 2016

TO: Watershed Conservation Authority Governing Board

FROM: Robert Romanek, Project Manager

THROUGH: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 16: Consideration of 1) a resolution to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project; and, 2) a resolution to approve the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA): 1) adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project; and, 2) approve the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project Site is located in unincorporated West San Dimas island of Los Angeles County, which is surrounded by the corporate limits of the City of San Dimas (City). A location map is included as Exhibit A. WCA owns approximately 54 acres of Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space property and the City owns approximately 6.9 acres. The western portion of the Project Site, where the West Phase is located, is open space comprised of native woodlands and disturbed, non-native grassland.

The initial West Phase is proposed to include site clean-up, passive recreational elements, habitat enhancements, and the planting of a vegetated screening buffer. This phase will accomplish the necessary improvements to provide public access over a portion of the Project Site. As identified in the attached Exhibit B, recreational elements include trail development and trail-side amenities (interpretive signage, benches, etc.) that will create a looped spur trail connection to the existing LA County Antonovich Trail. Public access will only be made from the Antonovich Trail, accessible from four nearby County-operated trail staging areas. Site clean-up includes removal of buildings from a portion of the Project Site under City ownership.

BACKGROUND: In 2008 the WCA and the City acquired the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space property. The City contributed \$1 million for the purchase of its 6.9 acre share, while the WCA provided the remaining \$8.24 million through a grant received from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) for the total purchase price of \$9.24 million. The property was acquired into public ownership to conserve the existing open space in perpetuity and provide appropriate low-impact recreational access.

In 2011 the WCA, along with the City, undertook a conceptual site planning and programming process for the approximately 60.9-acre parcel to identify a vision for intended public access, passive recreational use, and habitat enhancements and conservation. The firm of AHBE Landscape Architects was hired to facilitate a two-step process: 1) Site Analysis and Assessment and 2) Outreach and Concept Development.

The community outreach portion included a number of meetings with community stakeholders and leaders, participating in interviews designed to solicit feedback about their visions for the site, and to identify priorities and concerns as the planning process commenced. The stakeholder interviews included representatives from the adjacent Homeowners Associations; California Department Fish & Wildlife; City Commissioners (Equestrian, Parks & Recreation and Planning); LA County Department of Parks & Recreation; LA County Fire & Sheriff Departments, to name a few. The results of the interviews envisioned the site as an area for passive recreation and preservation of open space.

After the initial stakeholder interviews, the WCA staff, AHBE, and City engaged the community in the visioning of the site by hosting three (3) public workshops (September 29, 2011, November 15, 2011 and March 6, 2012) for the community to participate in the design process and provide input on how they would like to see the site developed into an open space resource.

Attached as Exhibit C, the resulting Conceptual Master Plan identified the predominant public use activity as passive recreation that highlighted the existing natural landscape. The plan includes development of educational and interpretive features to inform visitors about the native California environment and cultural resources. The plan further lays out the management of invasive plants and re-vegetation with native species. Additionally, the plan identified four (4) alternatives as options for vehicular and pedestrian site access (see Exhibit D).

The WCA Board adopted the Conceptual Development Plan at the September 20, 2012 Board meeting and further directed staff to seek funding to complete environmental documents and to develop a Phase 1 Plan to move the project from conceptual to construction documents (see a copy of WCA Resolution 2012-20 as Exhibit E). Staff subsequently collaborated with the City to identify an initial Phase 1 of development, located on the western portion of the Project Site.

In February 2013, the City and the WCA submitted a joint letter to Supervisor Antonovich requesting funding assistance through the Fifth Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess Funds. The request was successful and the City received an \$850,000 discretionary Proposition A grant award from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District. As submitted for Proposition A funding, the scope of this initial project included demolition of structures located the City's portion of the Project Areas, planting of a landscape buffer along western and southern property line, and development of the Meadow Trail (referenced in Exhibit A) connecting the Antonovich Trail to a pedestrian access point within Loma Vista Park within the Vista Verde neighborhoods of San Dimas.

In preparation of the Proposition A funded project, the City and WCA initiated a review of possible environmental impacts in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). WCA was selected as the CEQA lead agency through agreement with the City. In September 2014, the City retained the services of Morse Planning Group to prepare environmental documents (Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration) on behalf of the WCA. On June 23, 2015 the City Council conducted a public meeting to consider a recommendation to the WCA Board on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. During the meeting significant concerns were expressed by the residential neighbors to the Project Site. As a response, City staff was directed by the City Council to work with the concerned neighbors to identify opportunity to modify the project to address their concerns prior to bringing the CEQA recommendation back before that body for consideration.

City and WCA staff met with a group of neighbors over several months to review the identified concerns, discuss alternatives and consider a variety of project adjustments. These meetings resulted in a draft

resolution with certain project updates. On February 20, 2016 the City, WCA and neighborhood representatives conducted a Trail Preview event at the site allowing residents to view the site and the West Phase trail location.

WEST PHASE PROJECT UPDATES: In a series of meetings with a group of interested neighbors the WCA and City worked to understand the identified concerns and discussed how the project could be adjusted to address those concerns while still maintaining the original intent of the property acquisition. The by-product of those discussions resulted in City actions to revise the project. WCA staff are in general agreement with the concepts presented in these updates and is welcoming of further community outreach and engagement. As related to WCA authority and jurisdictions, the following updates are applicable:

1. The City has agreed to subject any project changes and any future phases to additional community input. Community input will include, as a minimum,
 - a. A notice mailed to all property owners within 1000 feet of the property;
 - b. Notice to any persons or groups providing a written request to be notified;
 - c. Community outreach and neighborhood meeting(s); and,
 - d. San Dimas City Council review at a noticed public meeting.
2. There will be no public access, either pedestrian or vehicular access, directly through the Via Verde neighborhood with the development of the West Phase and there will be no public vehicular or pedestrian access allowed in any future phase without community input as defined in Number 1 above. WCA staff will not pursue access directly through the Via Verde neighborhood for a minimum of five years. However the WCA may conduct feasibility studies and seek grants during this time period.
 - a. Non-vehicular public trail access from the Antonovich Trail is part of the West Phase development and will continue in the use of the West Phase trail.
 - b. The City agrees to re-evaluate the traffic study in the future if access is considered.
 - c. Limited access will continue as currently managed by the City.
 - d. Construction access for the West Phase will be allowed by the City through an emergency access gate on Calle Bandera.
3. All trails and any other use or activity will be designed to maximize separation and minimize visibility between recreation and residential uses. Where feasible, any trail will be located within canyon ravines outside of residents' viewshed. A landscape buffer will be included, as appropriate and feasible, for each project phase is develop in order to meet these objectives.
4. The West Phase trail loop will be located as identified in attached Exhibit B and will comply with criteria set forth in Number 3 above.
 - a. The landscape buffer will include plantings both adjacent to the residences and, where appropriate, adjacent to the trail to address Number 3 above.
 - b. Landscape materials will be selected which minimize any disruption to existing view sheds from residences.
5. The existing WCA buildings may remain as is and will be further evaluated for any future use or demolition when a funding source has been identified and/or funding becomes available. A community review, as set forth in Number 1, will be conducted prior to use of these buildings.

6. There will be no connection between west and east phase trails without community input as set forth in Number 1.
7. The City intends not to expand Loma Vista Park into the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project Area without community review as set forth in Number 1.
8. The City and WCA may continue clean up and maintenance of the project site as appropriate and as funding becomes available.
9. The City intends to cooperate with the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department relative to currently existing access points to facilitate their use as primary access points for the Walnut Creek Open Space and Habitat project.

These revisions are compatible with the Conceptual Master Plan for the property and commit the WCA and City to additional community review with future phases. The most substantive change is the public access prohibition from the Via Verde neighborhood for a minimum of five years.

It should be noted that the Initial Study has not been revised although there is a commitment by the City to perform a new traffic study if access from Via Verde is ever considered in the future. City staff has reviewed the adequacy of using the existing County trailheads as the only means of access to the proposed Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space with the County Department of Parks and Recreation, and shared a favorable conclusion with WCA staff, including the identification that those sites generally have adequate parking. Streets serving those trailheads also have adequate capacity to serve expected users for the new West Phase trail loop.

The project revisions do not result in any greater environmental impacts than those examined in the Mitigated Negative Declaration so no revisions to the environmental document are required. In fact, the intended purpose of CEQA has been fulfilled by responding to concerns about environmental impacts. Upon completion of the WCA responsibilities to act as lead agency related to CEQA, the WCA and City will be able to proceed with the currently funded first (or West) phase of the project.

IDENTIFICATION AND DISCLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The scope of services for Morse Planning Group included addressing and evaluation of the Concept Plan, reports and technical studies generated for the project. The analysis was patterned after the Initial Study Checklist recommended by the CEQA Guidelines and used in the environmental review process for potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

For the evaluation of potential impacts, the questions in the Initial Study Checklist are stated and answers are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study. To each question, there are four possible responses:

- **No Impact.** The project will not have any measurable environmental impact on the environment.
- **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will have the potential for impacting the environment, although this impact will be below established thresholds that are considered to be significant.
- **Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated.** The project may have the potential to generate an impact which may be considered as a significant effect on the environment,

although mitigation measures or changes to the development's physical or operational characteristics can reduce these impacts to levels that are less than significant.

- **Potentially Significant Impact.** The project may have an impact which is considered significant, and additional analysis is required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

The environmental factors checked below were evaluated and analyzed for the level of impact this project would have on these factors. Mitigation measures were then created to reduce the level to a less than significant impact.

✓	Aesthetics	✓	Land Use and Planning
	Agriculture and Forest Resources		Mineral Resources
	Air Quality	✓	Noise
✓	Biological Resources		Population and Housing
✓	Cultural Resources		Public Services
✓	Geology and Soils		Recreation
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	✓	Transportation/Traffic
✓	Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Utilities & Service Systems
✓	Hydrology & Water Quality	✓	Mandatory Findings of Significance

The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for review and comment to the public, agencies, and organizations. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was also circulated to State agencies for review through the State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research. The 30-day public review period ran from May 12, 2015 to June 10, 2015.

A community meeting took place on May 19, 2015 at City Hall during a regularly scheduled City of San Dimas Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to provide the community an opportunity to comment on the environmental document up for review. Approximately 1,000 postcards were mailed to residents surrounding the project area. The meeting was also posted on the WCA's and City's websites. The notice was also posted at all regular posting areas. The document was available for review on the WCA's and City's websites in addition to a hard copy being available at the San Dimas Public Library, City Hall, and WCA office.

Written comments were received from the following agencies during the 30-day public review period:

1. County of Los Angeles Fire Department, May 26, 2015
2. California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), May 28, 2015
3. County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, June 4, 2015
4. San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, June 9, 2015
5. County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, June 9, 2015
6. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, June 10, 2015

Written comments were also received from the public during the review period. Comments received from the agencies and the public fell into two-categories: 1) Project-Related or 2) CEQA-Related. A memo outlining the comments received from both the agencies and the public, and the responses to the comments is attached as Exhibit F and are incorporated as part of the public record for the action

proposed under this item. Due to the page length of Exhibit F (81 pgs) it is provided only in the online version of this staff report. Exhibit F is not included within the printed version of the Board packet.

As identified in City Council Resolution 2016-19, attached as Exhibit G, the City of San Dimas, as a CEQA responsible agency on the Project, has considered the public comments received, and after exercising its independent judgments and review, has recommended that the WCA adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Resolution also identifies that the City Council has approved the West Phase of the Project.

Section 4 of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration identifies the mitigation measures that will be implemented to reduce the impacts associated with the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. CEQA was amended in 1989 to add Section 21081.6, which requires a public agency to adopt a monitoring and reporting program for assessing and ensuring compliance with any required mitigation measures applied to proposed project. As stated in Public Resources Code Section 21081.6,

... the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project which it has adopted, or made a condition of project approval, in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment.

Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 provides general guidelines for implementing mitigation monitoring programs and indicates that specific reporting and/or monitoring requirements, to be enforced during project implementation, shall be defined prior to adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is 188 pages in length, with an additional 334 pages of technical appendixes. In lieu of attaching this document, due to its size, it has been posted to the WCA's website and may be accessed as a PDF from www.wca.ca.gov/walnut_creek_habitat. The Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project is attached as Exhibit H.

FISCAL INFORMATION: The proposed resolution to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project directs the Executive Officer, or designee, to file a Notice of Determination (NOD) within five (5) working days after approval of the Project, as required by CEQA Guidelines. There are costs associated with the filing of the NOD, including a mandatory filing fees levied by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in the amount of \$2,210.25 and a posting fee of \$75.00 levied by the Los Angeles County Clerk. These fees total \$2,285.25. WCA will seek reimbursement from the City, which is committed to incurring the cost for CEQA compliance for this collaborative project.

Implementation of the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project is funded in whole by the City through a discretionary Proposition A grant award from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District. This includes a professional services agreement with the WCA for project management and oversight in the amount of \$45,000.



Exhibit A

Territory Map

Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space

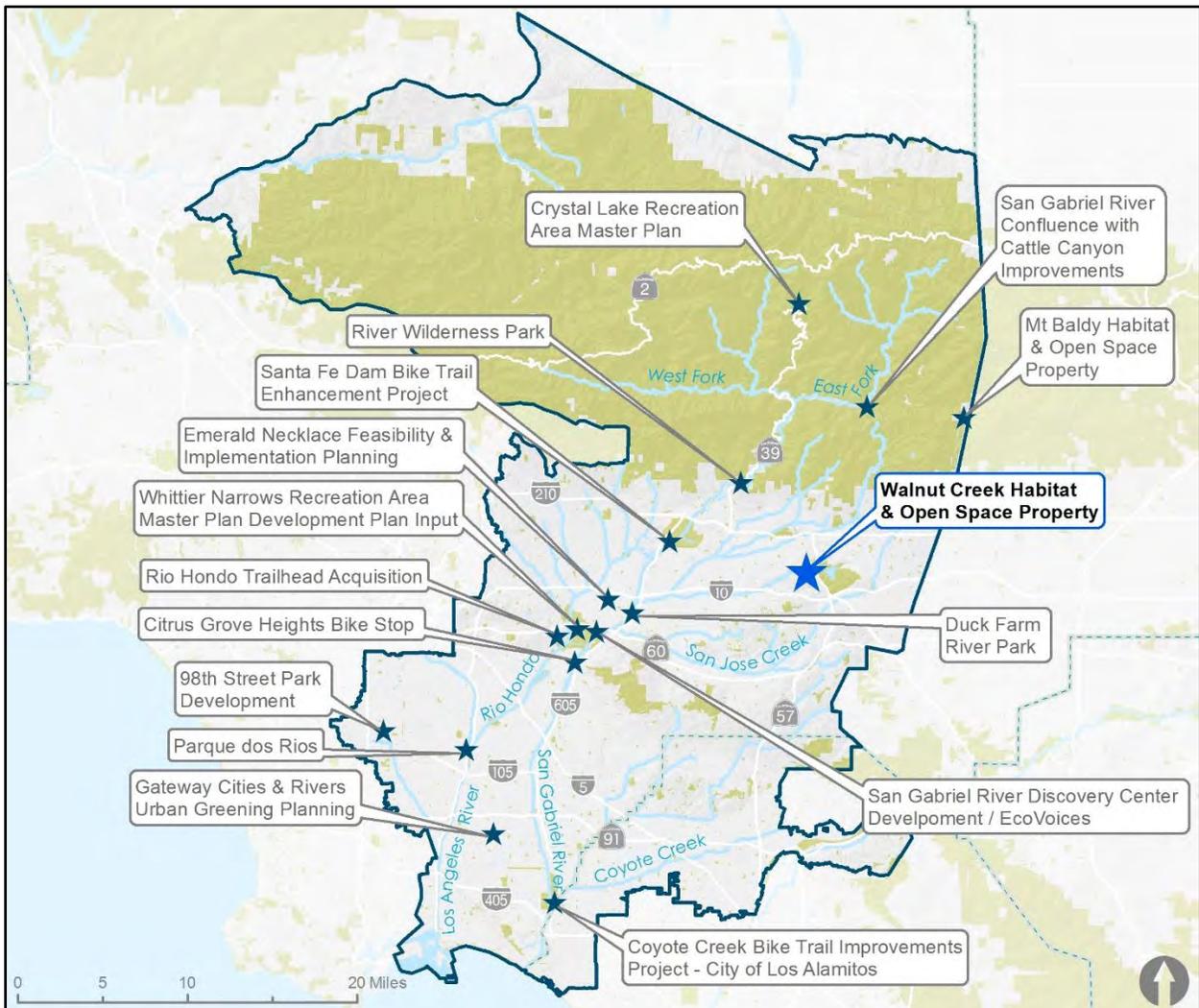


Exhibit B: Conceptual Site Plan - West Phase Only

Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space Project

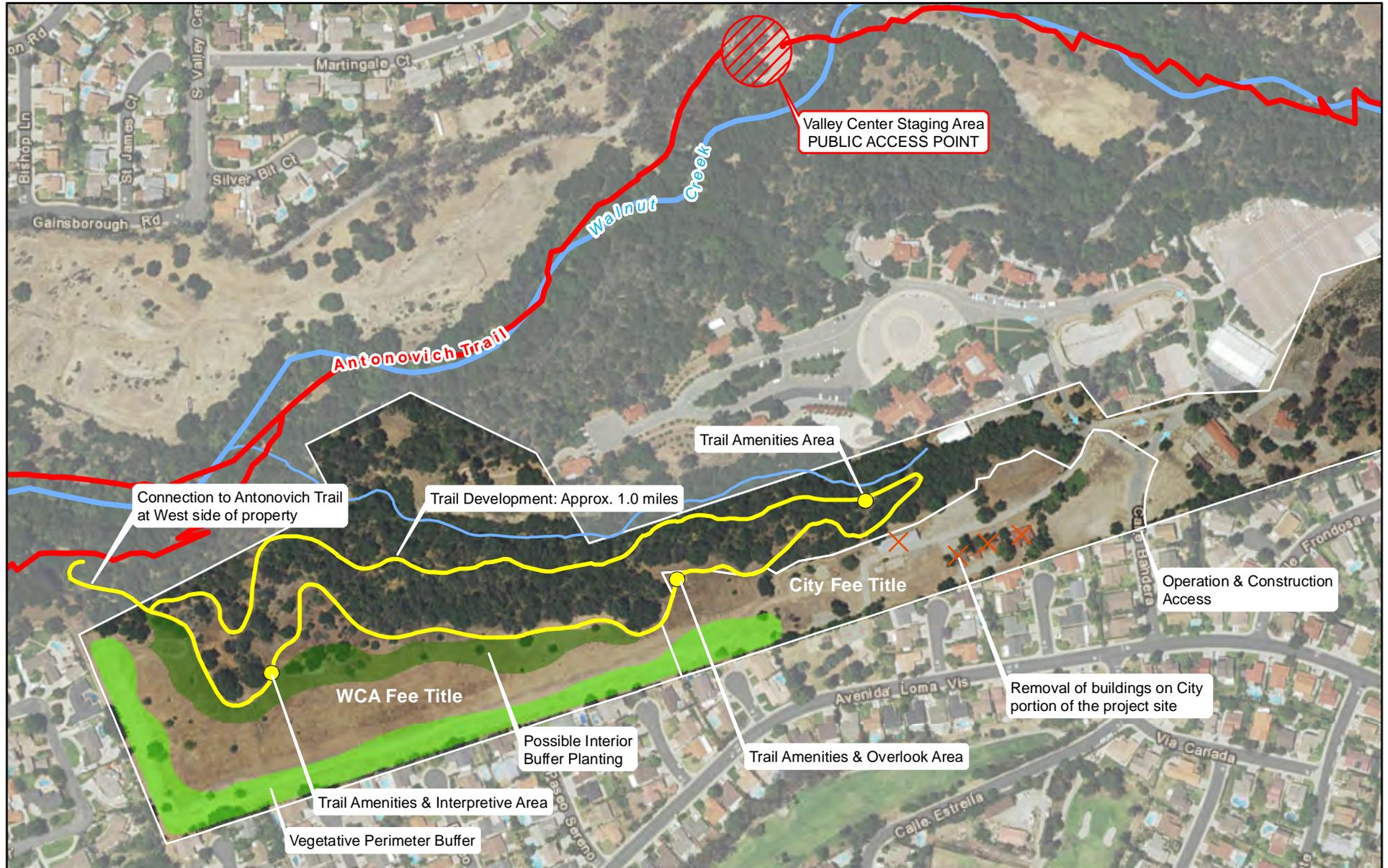
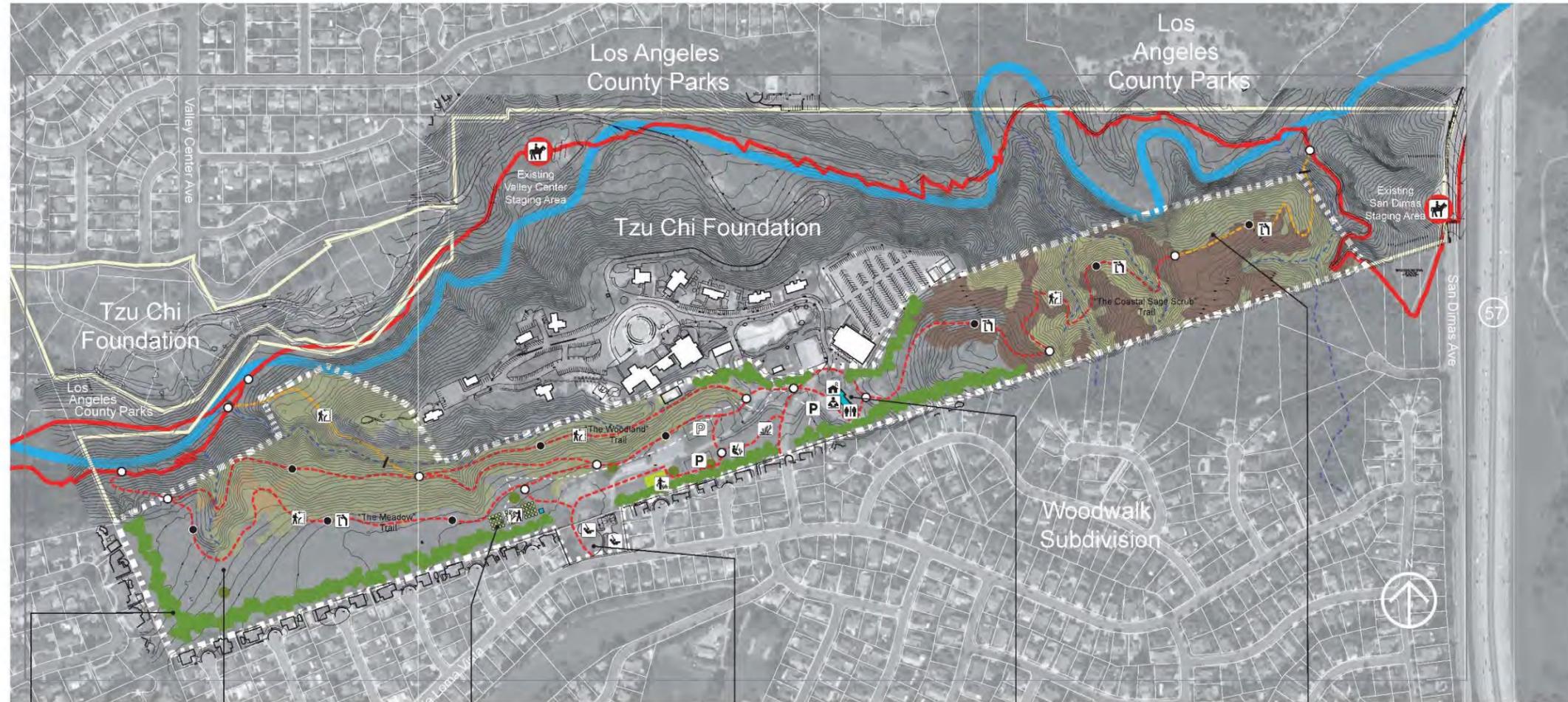


Figure dated May 10, 2016; prepared by Rob Romanek

CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN



Native Plant Buffer. Shrubs, trees and groundcovers will be used to screen visibility into adjacent residential properties along the entire site boundary

Areas of the site that have been disturbed from previous development and land uses will be planted with native plant species in an effort to recreate a native habitat on the site

Orchards formerly found on site can be recreated to create community orchards with mandarins, navels, and blood orange varieties. A community garden is also proposed

Loma Vista Park. The existing park will be modified to at least incorporate a pedestrian path into the new park site, with a gate. Native planting will surround the new path. See Access Alternative on Board 2

The former Auto Shop will be converted into a multi-purpose building for the general public and WCA use. Program includes a ranger residence, a public restroom, outdoor gathering and flexible meeting/educational spaces

A network of site trails will traverse the site highlighting vistas and natural resources of site. Access to and from the Antonovich Trail will be provided. Interpretive signage, benches and trash receptacles will be located along the trail system as hiker amenities.

Legend	Antonovich Trail	Trail Amenity Area	Existing Native Specimen Tree	Overlook Area	Orchard	Horse Staging Area
	Walnut Creek	Trail Junctions	Existing Native Habitat: Oak/Walnut Woodland	Native Plant Growing Area	Community Garden	
	Seasonal Tributary Drainage	Stream Crossing	Existing Native Habitat: Coastal Sage Scrub	Existing Playground	Overflow Parking	
	Multi-Purpose Trail	Building	Native Vegetated Buffer	Natural Play Area	Parking	
	Potential Trail Connections	Ranger Residence	Self Guided Educational Trail	Outdoor Classrooms	Restroom	

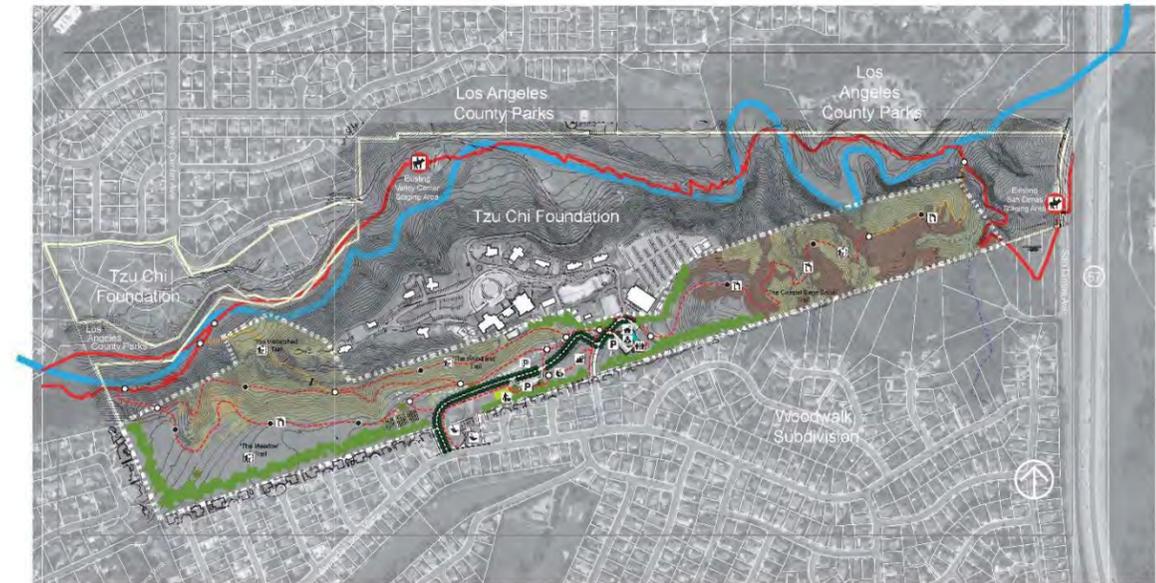
WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE



ACCESS ALTERNATIVES



Alternative 1 - One Way Access
 This alternative proposes a one way vehicular circulation drive through the site, with ENTRY through Loma Vista Park, and EXIT through the existing Calle de Bandera Gate. Pedestrian entry and exit would be provided at both gates. Note the direction of traffic could be reversed.



Alternative 2 - Loma Vista Gate as Primary Entry and Exit Gate
 This alternative proposes a new drive and gate at Loma Vista Park as the site's primary vehicular entry and exit point. Pedestrian entry and exit would be provided at both gates.



Alternative 3- Two Way Access with both Loma Vista Park and Calle de Bandera
 This alternative proposes shared entry and exit at two points within the site, one at a new gate at Loma Vista Park and one at the existing Calle de Bandera Gate. Pedestrian entry and exit would also be provided at both gates.



Alternative 4 - Calle de Bandera Gate as Primary Entry and Exit Gate
 This alternative proposes the existing drive and gate at Calle de Bandera be the site's primary vehicular entry and exit point. Pedestrian entry and exit would be provided at both the Calle de Bandera gate and through Loma Vista park.

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE

September 20, 2012 - Item 12

RESOLUTION 2012-20

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ADOPTING THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE CONCEPTUAL PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District); and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, this action will authorize the adoption of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Conceptual Plan; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
3. ADOPTS the staff report dated September 20, 2012.
4. ADOPTS the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Conceptual Plan.

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: Sziel Second: Mejia

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstentions: 0

Resolution 2012-20

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On September 20, 2012


Teresa Villegas, Chairperson

ATTEST: Not Present
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General



Memorandum

Date: May 10, 2016

To: Watershed Conservation Authority Governing Board

From: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
Rob Romanek, Project Manager/Acting Environmental Coordinator

Subject: Comments Received on Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Declaration for Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS – DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for review and comment to the public, agencies, and organizations. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was also circulated to State agencies for review through the State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research. The 30-day public review period ran from May 12, 2015 to June 10, 2015.

Comments received in writing during the 30-day public review period from the public and local and State agencies are noted below. Copies of the written comments are included at the end of this memorandum.

Agency Comments

Written comments were received from the following agencies during the 30-day public review period:

1. County of Los Angeles Fire Department, May 26, 2015
2. California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), May 28, 2015
3. County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, June 4, 2015
4. San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, June 9, 2015
5. County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, June 9, 2015
6. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, June 10, 2015

Public Comments

Public Comments were received from the following individuals or groups during the 30-day public review period:

1. Henry and Nancy Rodriguez, June 10, 2015
2. Diane and Hamed Sadoughi, June 10, 2015
3. Sandra Garcia, June 10, 2015
4. Glen and Barbara Anderson, June 10, 2015
5. Judy Hammond, June 10, 2015
6. Dr. Ervin and Dawn Trilles, June 10, 2015
7. Van Lam, Nicole Durkan Lam and Family, June 10, 2015
8. Daryl and Catherine Weatherspoon, June 10, 2015
9. Moses W. Tung, June 10, 2015
10. Tracie Jorgensen, June 10, 2015
11. Thomas A. Diaz, June 10, 2015
12. Dr. Marvin Ersher, June 10, 2015
13. Petition and (17) Signatures, June 10, 2015
 - a. Orlando, Nicole, Alexia, and Alyssa Cepeida
 - b. Ben, Kandy and Michelle Keller
 - c. Aliza and Adrian Cepeida
 - d. Britney Perez
 - e. Sandra, Seth and David Ireland
 - f. Arden and JoAnn Bates
 - g. Martin Maldonado
 - h. E. Richard Ginkel
14. Bob Smith, June 9, 2015
15. Dori Lewis, June 9, 2015
16. Elaine A. Baker, June 9, 2015
17. Mark and Elaine Baker, June 9, 2015
18. David and Sandra Ireland, June 8, 2015
19. Dr. Michael Carney, June 8, 2015
20. Nicole Cepeida, June 8, 2015
21. Harold Denning, June 8, 2015
22. Unidentified Via Verde Resident, June 7, 2015
23. Al and Diane Hernandez, June 7, 2015
24. Michelle Cowles, June 5, 2015
25. Sherri Harrier, June 4, 2015
26. Gaston and Maria Cristina Gonzalez, June 3, 2015
27. Changlu & Linda Lu, May 31, 2015
28. Teresa and Ken Gemmer, May 29, 2015
29. Michael and Patricia Tang, May 28, 2015
30. Thaddeus Gallizzi, May 28, 2015
31. Nicholas Ohanyan, May 27, 2015
32. Brian and Carol Ann McNerney, May 25, 2015
33. Albert Salgado, May 21, 2015, May 22, 2015,
34. Umberto Yacon, May 21, 2015
35. Sonny Oleas, May 21, 2015
36. Don Meredith, May 18, 2015
37. Glenn T. Ford (representing Ford Management Company HOA-Via Verde Tract 31117), May 18, 2015

Additionally, the City of San Dimas received comment cards submitted by the following individuals or groups:

38. Sean, May 22, 2015

39. Danny Haborern, May 22, 2015
 40. Chikahide& Keido Date, May 26, 2015

COMMUNITY MEETING

A Community Meeting was held as part of the City of San Dimas' Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting on May 19, 2015, and provided the opportunity for the public to provide comments on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. The minutes from the May 19, 2015 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are attached.

AGENCY COMMENTS

Responses to the CEQA-related comments from public agencies are provided below.

Agency: County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation provided recommended wording changes for Section 2.0, Project Description. All the recommended wording changes will be included in the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Agency: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works provided comments on the following topics: air quality, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, noise, and utility and service systems.

Air Quality

Mitigation Measure AQ-1 will be revised in the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to remove language referencing the City Engineer and the County of Los Angeles, which will be replaced with language changing the responsibility to be with construction contractors.

Geology and Soils

Mitigation Measure GEO-3 will be revised in the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to reflect the comment.

Hydrology and Water Quality

It is not anticipated that additional hydrologic analysis will be prepared for the project. However, should new hydrologic analysis be conducted, the analysis will be provided to the Department of Public Works for review.

Noise

Mitigation Measure NOI-1 will be revised in the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to remove language referencing the City Engineer or the County of Los Angeles, and be replaced with language changing the responsibility to be with construction contractors.

Utility and Service Systems

The analysis will be modified in the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to address the comment and includes mitigation measures for the recycling of construction materials and operational

recycling efforts. In addition, the impact conclusion will be changed from Less Than Significant to Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

- UTIL-3 The Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas shall require construction contractors to comply with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 20.87, Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling and Reuse.
- UTIL-4 The Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas shall implement on-site recycling programs for paper, glass, plastics, and metal.
- UTIL-5 The Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas shall implement either an on-site or off-site composting program.

Agency: County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning

The County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning Works provided comments on the following topics: responsible and trustee agencies, project description, aesthetics, biological resources, and land use and planning.

Responsible and Trustee Agencies

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning will be added as a Responsible Agency.

Project Description

The clarifications requested will be incorporated into the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Aesthetics

As requested, the Los Angeles County General Plan will be added as a source.

Biological Resources

Clarification regarding the timing of the mitigation measures will be included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

Land Use and Planning

The clarifications requested will be incorporated into the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments received from the public fall into two-categories: 1) Project-Related or 2) CEQA-Related.

Aggrigation of Project-Related (Or Non-CEQA-Related) Comments

1. Privacy/Buffers
2. Crime/Vandalism
3. Access to Park and Parking
4. Opposition to Conceptual Master Plan

Comment: Privacy/Buffers

Response: The proposed conceptual project includes a vegetated buffer along the property's interface with adjacent residential units. This buffer of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers will serve as a privacy screen between the residences and public access to the site's trails and proposed program amenities. The buffer will vary in dimension, but will have a minimum width of 50 feet.

West Phase includes approximately 2,800 linear feet of native plant buffer, inclusive of flowers, shrubs, groundcover and trees. The West Phase buffer extends westerly from Loma Vista Park to the westerly park boundary and then northerly along the western property line of the Walnut Creek Open Space, as well as easterly from Loma Vista Park to include approximately three properties east of Calle Bandera along the Open Space property line.

The purpose of the buffer is to discourage access or approach to the residents, and to screen visibility into residential properties. The buffer zone will vary in dimension, but will be a minimum of 50'. The varying grades along the property line will be taken into consideration in the design of the landscape buffer, and a planting plan will be selected to best serve the purpose based upon topography.

Comment: Crime/Vandalism

Response: The project has been revised to be limited to pedestrian only access in West Phase with not access through Loma Vista Park.

During the "open" hours, the open space users will be more visible and monitored with use. It is less likely that crime and vandalism will occur or be associated with an open, visibly accessible area than in a closed, "off limits," hidden and less accessible area. In parks and in open, accessible recreation spaces, use creates greater observation, visibility and oversight, which discourages inappropriate activity.

The San Dimas Sheriff's patrol will have enforcement of after-hours use and for any illegal or unauthorized use or activity. In addition, the Rangers (California Peace Officers) generally rotate their patrols and time spent at Watershed Conservation Authority sites based on activity levels and when warranted such as if vandalism issues arise. They would also still be on-call 24/7, as they are now, through the ranger services dispatch.

Comment: Access to Park and Parking

Response: For West Phase, access to the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space area will be limited to pedestrian-access only with a connection through the Antonovich Trail. Automobile access will be determined during later phases of project implementation and funding. Visitors to the Habitat and Open Space area can park off-site on nearby public streets. Should concerns be raised regarding off-street parking for the Habitat and Open Space area, the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or the City of San Dimas will initiate a process to determine the appropriate action(s) to address the concerns.

Comment: Opposition to the Conceptual Master Plan

Response: The Conceptual Master Plan was developed after an extensive public process in 2011 and 2012. This Plan was adopted by the Watershed Conservation Authority Board and at the conclusion of that process. Upon accepting the Master Plan the WCA authorized staff to seek funding for West Phase only. Subsequent phases have not been defined and will require future WCA Board direction when funding becomes available. Any changes to the Master Plan will require WCA Board consideration and a public review process.

West Phase includes:

- Pedestrian access through Loma Vista Park
- Demolition of several buildings adjacent to Loma Vista Park
- Meadow Trail and portions of the General Trail, including connection to Antonovich Trail at the westerly end of the property.
- Landscaping buffer (as much as funding accommodates).

The CEQA process must be completed prior to proceeding with the development of this open space property. CEQA does not permit projects to be “piecemealed”. As a result the CEQA analysis is based upon the current Master Plan even though West Phase is the only portion of the project intended to be constructed at this time. Future substantive changes to the Master Plan may require additional CEQA analysis.

Aggrigation of CEQA-Related Comments

The following CEQA-related topics were raised:

1. EIR Should Be Prepared
2. Increased Noise Levels
3. Fire Hazards
4. Traffic Increase in the Neighborhood
5. Poor Air Quality
6. Impacts to On-Site Biological Habitats

Comment: EIR Should Be Prepared

Response: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that all impacts with or without mitigation were below the significance thresholds for all environmental topics. The following topics were determined to be less than significant with the imposition of mitigation measures: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, Hydrology & Water Quality, Noise, and Utilities & Service Systems. All other topical areas were concluded to have no impacts or less than significant impacts. Given that no significance thresholds were exceeded, CEQA does not warrant the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Comment: Increased Noise Levels

Response: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration acknowledges that the proposed project would result in noise generated during construction and includes mitigation measures requiring construction contractors to comply with the Los Angeles County Code, Section 12.08.440, Noise Control Ordinance, including hours of construction, noise levels to residential structure, and equipment requirements.

With respect to operation of the proposed project, noise from park uses would primarily occur during the daytime activity hours (sunrise to dusk). A potential noise impact to surrounding residential uses is from the visitor center, which is part of a future phase that will require approval by the Watershed Conservation Authority. A mitigation measure has been included to set a standard for both the interior and exterior noise levels of the visitor center to ensure noise levels are within the acceptable County standards.

In addition, the proposed project includes a vegetated buffer along the property's interface with adjacent residential units. This buffer of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers will serve as a privacy screen between the residences and public access to the site's trails and proposed program amenities. The buffer will vary in dimension, but will have a minimum width of 50 feet

With respect to traffic noise, the noise of cars entering and exiting the parking areas, closing doors, and the movement of people would not generate noise greater than the existing daytime traffic noise. The proposed project would generate, at the most, 12 trips during the peak hour during the week and 21 and 26 vehicles, respectively on Saturday and Sunday. The volume, less than one vehicle per minute would result in a negligible noise increase to receptors adjacent to the project site.

Comment: Fire Hazards

Response: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reviewed fire-related hazards in both Section 4.8, Hazards and Hazardous Materials and Section 4.14, Public Services. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declarations acknowledges that the project site is located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone and includes Mitigation Measure HAZ-2, which includes a number of measures to be employed during both construction and operation. Some of the measures are to prohibit smoking in the park, prohibit fires in the park, and limiting use of park on red flag days. Any on-site brush clearance or fuel modification would need to be done in accordance with applicable Los Angeles County codes and ordinances. In addition, the proposed project would be required to comply with the Los Angeles County Code, Title 32, and Los Angeles County Fire Code as applicable.

Comment: Traffic Increase in the Neighborhood

Response: The traffic analysis estimated that the 60.9-acre Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project would contribute 200 to 300 additional trips over the course of a 24-hour period, with nominal trips in the morning peak hour and 10 to 20 trips in the evening peak hour. The analysis also indicated that the Project trips would represent roughly 20 to 30% of the existing daily traffic volume on Avenida Loma Vista adjacent to the project site for full project build-out. The weekday daily traffic volume on Avenida Loma Vista adjacent to Loma Vista Park is currently 1,100 to 1,250 trips per day. This daily traffic volume is well

within the technical capacity of a two-lane street that ranges from 10,000 to 12,000 vehicles per day and below the 2,000 daily trips generally considered to be typical on residential streets.

As it relates to the additional project trips estimated for the area, it should be pointed out that the project trip estimates reflect potential trip-making for the entire 60.9-acre Project. Only the West Phase of the project is to be implemented at this time. West Phase is roughly less than 1/3 of the acreage of the total project and will not include public access through Loma Vista neighborhood. In implementing the West Phase, less than half of the trail system for the project will be completed, and none of the other proposed uses will be implemented with West Phase. The additional traffic associated with West Phase, therefore, would be substantially less than the full project trips reported in the traffic analysis for the entire project.

Also, as pointed out in the traffic analysis, the trip estimates for the entire 60.9-acre project represents less than 1/2 to 1/3 of the trip-making potential of prior residential projects originally envisioned for the site. It should also be noted that the current zoning on the site allows 3 units per acre with a 10,000-square-foot minimum, which would yield 183 dwelling units. A residential development of 183 units would generate over 1,700 daily trips.

Comment: Poor Air Quality

Response: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reviewed air quality impacts in Section 4.3, Air Quality. The section reviewed both construction and operational impacts, and concluded impacts were less than significant. A mitigation measure has been included to require all construction activities to comply with the South Coast Air Quality Management District Rules 402 and 403, which stipulate measures to suppress dust prevention both on- and off-site. The operational impacts would be primarily from mobile sources (cars); however, the number of trips estimated for weekdays, Saturday, and Sunday do not result in air emissions that exceed the South Coast Air Quality Management District's thresholds.

Comment: Impacts to On-Site Biological Habitats

Response: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reviewed species and habitat impacts in Section 4.4, Biological Resources. A focus of the proposed project is to maintain, preserve, and enhance the existing habitat resources. The section does acknowledge the potential to impact on-site species and habitat based upon the conceptual plan; but also includes ten mitigation measures. As each phase of the proposed project moves forward, impacts identified in the Section 4.4 can be further reduced by employing the identified impact reduction strategies such as the size of disturbance, protection of native vegetation, avoidance of oak trees, avoidance of riparian areas, avoidance of nesting birds, and avoidance of impacts to the California Coastal Gnatcatcher. These strategies along with the ten mitigation measures ensure that on-site biological resources impacts are mitigated to less than significant levels.

AGENCY COMMENT LETTERS



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

May 26, 2015

Rob Romanek, Project Manager
City of San Dimas
Watershed Conservation Authority
100 North San Gabriel Canyon Boulevard
Azusa, CA 91702

Dear Mr. Romanek:

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT/NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, "WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT", PROPOSING TO IMPLEMENT THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE CONCEPTUAL PLAN, ENVISIONS A NEW PARK SITE ON THE 60.9-ACRE PROJECT, WEST OF STATE ROUTE 57 AND WEST OF SOUTH SAN DIMAS AVENUE, SAN DIMAS (FFER 201500081)

The Notice of Intent to Adopt/Notice of Availability Mitigated Negative Declaration has been reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, Forestry Division, and Health Hazardous Materials Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

Paragraph one should be corrected as follows:

Fire protection and paramedic services ~~are provided to~~ *in* the City of San Dimas under ~~contract to the~~ *are provided by the* Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County/Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD).

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

- | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| AGOURA HILLS | CALABASAS | DIAMOND BAR | HIDDEN HILLS | LA MIRADA | MALIBU | POMONA | SIGNAL HILL |
| ARTESIA | CARSON | DUARTE | HUNTINGTON PARK | LA PUENTE | MAYWOOD | RANCHO PALOS VERDES | SOUTH EL MONTE |
| AZUSA | CERRITOS | EL MONTE | INDUSTRY | LAKEWOOD | NORWALK | ROLLING HILLS | SOUTH GATE |
| BALDWIN PARK | CLAREMONT | GARDENA | INGLEWOOD | LANCASTER | PALMDALE | ROLLING HILLS ESTATES | TEMPLE CITY |
| BELL | COMMERCE | GLENDORA | IRWINDALE | LAWNDALE | PALOS VERDES ESTATES | ROSEMEAD | WALNUT |
| BELL GARDENS | COVINA | HAWAIIAN GARDENS | LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE | LOMITA | PARAMOUNT | SAN DIMAS | WEST HOLLYWOOD |
| BELLFLOWER | CUDAHY | HAWTHORNE | LA HABRA | LYNWOOD | PICO RIVERA | SANTA CLARITA | WESTLAKE VILLAG |
| BRADBURY | | | | | | | WHITTIER |

Rob Romanek, Project Manager
May 26, 2015
Page 2

LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

1. This property is located within the area described by the Forester and Fire Warden as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). All applicable fire code and ordinance requirements for brush clearance and fuel modification plans must be met. Contact the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Brush Clearance Unit at 626 969-2375 for additional information.
2. This project does not propose new construction of structures or any other improvements at this time. Therefore, until actual construction is proposed the project will not have a significant impact to the Fire Department's Land Development Unit. If futures structures are proposed, contact the Fire Prevention Engineering Unit at 323 890-4125 for additional information on submittals.
3. The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Land Development Unit are to review and comment on all projects within the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles. Our emphasis is on the availability of sufficient water supplies for firefighting operations and local/regional access issues. However, we review all projects for issues that may have a significant impact on the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. We are responsible for the review of all projects within contract cities (cities that contract with the County of Los Angeles Fire Department for fire protection services). We are responsible for all County facilities, located within non-contract cities. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Land Development Unit may also comment on conditions that may be imposed on a project by the Fire Prevention Division, which may create a potentially significant impact to the environment.
4. Should any questions arise regarding subdivision, water systems, or access, please contact the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Land Development Unit's Inspector Claudia Soiza at (323) 890-4243.

FORESTRY DIVISION – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

1. The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance.

Rob Romanek, Project Manager
May 26, 2015
Page 3

2. The areas germane to the statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division have been addressed.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION:

1. The Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD) of the Los Angeles County Fire Department has no comment or objection to the project.

If you have any additional questions, please contact this office at (323) 890-4330.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin T. Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

KEVIN T. JOHNSON, ACTING CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION
PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

KTJ:ad

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DISTRICT 7, OFFICE OF REGIONAL PLANNING
 IGR/CEQA BRANCH
 100 MAIN STREET, MS # 16
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3606
 PHONE: (213) 897-0219
 FAX: (213) 897-1337

RECEIVED

1N15-623
 JUN 08 2015

WATERSHED CONSERVATION
 AUTHORITY



*Serious drought
 Help save water!*

May 28, 2015

Mr. Rob Romanek
 Watershed Conservation Authority
 100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Boulevard
 Los Angeles, CA 90630

Re: Walnut Creek and Open Space
 Vic: LA-57/ PM 9.467
 SCH# 2015051047
 IGR# 150538ME-MND

Dear Mr. Romanek:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the proposed Walnut Creek and Open Space Project.

The project site is approximately 60.9 acres and is located in an unincorporated Los Angeles County West San Dimas Island, which is surrounded by the corporate limits of the City of San Dimas (City). Locally, the project site is located west of State Route (SR) 57 and west of South San Dimas Avenue in the southwestern portion of the City. The project proposed the development of a new park with the predominant activity being passive recreation. The connectional plan includes the options for vehicular and pedestrian site access.

The nearest State facility to the proposed project is State Route 57. Caltrans does not expect project approval to result into a direct adverse impact to the existing State transportation facilities.

Storm water run-off is a sensitive issue for Los Angeles County. Please be mindful that projects should be designed to discharge clean run-off water. Additionally, discharge of storm water run-off is not permitted onto State Highway facilities without a storm water management plan.

As a reminder, any transporting of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which require the use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will require a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends that large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.

Mr. Romanek
May 28, 2015
Page 2 of 2

Please continue to keep us informed of this project and any future developments, which could potentially impact the State Transportation Facilities. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact project coordinator Miya Edmonson, at (213) 897-6536 and refer to IGR/CEQA No 150538ME.

Sincerely,



DIANNA WATSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse



San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

Item 16

California Natural Resources Agency

Governing Board of the Conservancy

Frank Colonna, Chair
Environmental Public Member

Dan Arrighi, Vice Chair
Central Basin Water Association

James Rodriguez
California Environmental
Protection Agency

Denis Bertone
San Gabriel Valley Council of
Governments

Linda Noriega
San Gabriel Valley Water
Association

John Laird, Secretary
California Natural Resources
Agency

Ana J. Matosantos
Department of Finance

Troy Edgar
Orange County Division of the
League of California Cities

Margaret Clark
San Gabriel Valley Council of
Governments

Gloria Molina
Los Angeles County Board of
Supervisors

Patrick O'Donnell
City of Long Beach

Vacant
Orange County Division of the
League of California Cities

Edward Wilson
Gateway Cities Council of
Governments

Ex Officio Members

Janelle Beland
Department of Parks and
Recreation

John Donnelly
Wildlife Conservation Board

Colonel R. Mark Toy
US Army Corps of Engineers

Ignacio Ochoa
Orange County Public Works
Department

Stephen Johnson
San Gabriel River Water Master

Bernie Weingardt
Angeles National Forest
US Forest Service

Gail Farber
Los Angeles County Department
of Public Works

Executive Officer

Mark Stanley

June 9, 2015

Robert Romanek
Watershed Conservation Authority
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

RECEIVED

IN15-632

JUN 09 2015

WATERSHED CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY

Re: Draft Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

Dear Mr. Romanek:

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) is submitting comments on the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, or Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) was established as an independent State agency within the Resources Agency of the State of California to preserve urban open space and habitats in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements.

The goals of the RMC are described in "Common Ground", the Conservancy's Watershed and Open Space Plan (found at <http://www.rmc.ca.gov/plan/intro.html>). The Plan presents a simple vision for the future: **restore balance between natural and human systems in the watersheds**. The centerpiece of the Plan is a series of "Guiding Principles" that cities, federal, state and local agencies, communities, groups and individuals can use to plan preservation, restoration and establishment of future open space, water resources, and habitat projects. More than 60 cities in Los Angeles County have adopted this document. The Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas are recipients of grant funding from the RMC for the acquisition and planning of this project and we are pleased to see the beginning of implementation moving forward.

Staff has received and reviewed the Notice of Intent/Notice of Availability Mitigated Negative Declaration and finds the environmental analysis for the 60.9-acre project satisfactory. The proposed project will provide important open space, increase access to the impressive natural landscape around Walnut Creek, and include landscape improvements that will increase the integrity of the surrounding landscape. The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy expects the proposed improvements to provide great public and environmental benefits.

We are in full support and have no further comments. Please feel free to contact this office if you have further questions on these comments at (626) 818-1019.

Sincerely,



Mark Stanley
Executive Officer



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

June 9, 2015

Sent via email: agarcia@ci.san-dimas.ca.us

Ms. Ann Garcia
City of San Dimas
Community Development Department
245 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

Dear Ms. Garcia:

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT/ NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY MITIGATED
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT**

The Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project has been reviewed for potential impact on the facilities of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for which we offer the following comments:

Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Page 2-3, North, (starting from 2nd paragraph)

- Please correct as follows:

The County of Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation facilities located north of the project site include the Lyman Staging Area, ~~the~~ Walnut Creek Community Regional Park, and ~~the~~ Valley Center Trail Staging Area.

~~The~~ Lyman Staging Area, located in the 1900 block of Scarborough Lane in San Dimas, hosts a shaded parking area for horse trailers along with several picnic areas. There are no hitching posts or water troughs. ~~Trail paths lead~~ The 1.3 acre trail staging area provides access to three County trails, including the Antonovich Trail and Bonelli Trail to the east, and the Schabarum Trail to the south.

~~The~~ Walnut Creek Community Regional Park, located at 1100 S. Valley Center Drive in San Dimas, is a 117-acre linear park, with a 1.10 acre Valley Center Trail Staging Area providing access to Antonovich Trail along Walnut Creek. 2-acre equestrian staging area. ~~The staging area allows access to the Walnut Creek trail~~

Ms. Garcia
 June 9, 2015
 Page 2

~~system. The staging area has parking space available for 10 trucks and horse trailers. Visitors enter from Valley Center Drive and Gainsborough Road. This staging area connects to both Michael D. Antonovich Trail and Schabarum Trail, and has space for day parking of horse trailers and trucks.~~

Pages 2-3 and 2-4, East

- Please correct as follows:

South San Dimas Avenue and SR-57 are located directly east of the project site. ~~In addition, the~~ County of Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation's San Dimas Staging Area is located on South San Dimas Avenue between the 57 Freeway underpass and Paseo Aldeano, and offers has a small ~~area for parking~~ parking lot for cars, trucks, and horse trailers, and picnic tables for day use. There are no water troughs or hitching post. This .4 acre trail staging area serves as a trailhead for Antonovich Trail and Bonelli Trail. Antonovich Trail is a 3.8-mile multi-use (equestrian, hiking, biking) trail extending west along Walnut Creek, through Walnut Creek Community Regional Park. Bonelli Trail is a 9.5 mile multi-use (equestrian, hiking, biking) trail extending east through Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park, a 1,800 1,797-acre facility featuring a 250-acre lake (Puddingstone Reservoir). In addition, Bonelli Park offers a wide variety of recreational activities including boating, jet skiing, fishing, swimming, family and group picnicking, nature walks, hiking, jogging, and biking. Concessionaires offer RV camping, hot tubs, wedding facilities, and horseback riding. the Raging Waters theme park theme is located within the regional park as well.

Page 2-7, Second bullet point

- Please correct as follows:

A network of trails will traverse the site, highlighting vistas and natural resources on-site. Access/connectivity to and from the ~~Michael D.~~ Antonovich Trail will be provided.

Antonovich Trail, situated along an active creek, has been re-routed off the actual trail easement in various locations due to unpredictable water course patterns. The County is currently working in conjunction with the property owner to remedy this matter by establishing a variable width trail easement. The exact location of the new trail easement depicting the connection between existing and planned trails shall be verified once more precise documents pertaining to the "Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project" have been prepared.

Interpretative signage, benches, and trash receptacles will be located along the trail system as amenities.

Ms. Garcia
June 9, 2015
Page 3

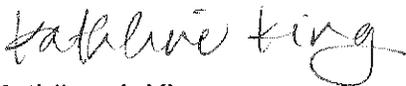
Page 2-8, Trail System, 2nd paragraph

- Please correct as follows:

The overall trail system includes varying levels of terrain difficulty, accessibility, and vegetation, providing options appropriate to all user types. Along with site-specific opportunities, the proposed system will have at least one connection, and potentially two additional connections, to Michael D. Antonovich Trail, a multi-use (equestrian, hiking, and biking) a-hiking-and-equestrian trail that winds through several plant communities and connects to the Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park Trail. -a part of the Los Angeles County multi-use trail system Both Antonovich Trail and Bonelli Trail belong to the County of Los Angeles trail system. More information on the County's trail system is available on <http://trails.lacounty.gov>.

Thank you for including this Department in the environmental review process. For questions regarding trails, please contact Ms. Catherine Ricci at (213) 639-6058 or cricci@parks.lacounty.gov. For any other questions or inquiries, please contact Ms. Julie Yom at (213) 351-5127 or jyom@parks.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,



Kathline J. King
Chief of Planning

JY:CR:tls/ Response to City of San Dimas, Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

c: DPR (N. E. Garcia, K. King, C. Lau, F. Moreno, C. Ricci)



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning



Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

June 4, 2015

Ann Garcia
City of San Dimas, Community Development Department
245 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

*Monica
6/4/15
W. Garcia*

Dear Ms. Garcia:

**COMMENTS ON THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT
DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

This is in response to the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration. The proposed project involves the demolition of most on-site buildings and the creation of a 60.9 acre habitat and open space recreation area all located within the unincorporated Los Angeles County area.

The project site is currently covered by the Los Angeles County General Plan and Title 22 (Zoning Code) of the Los Angeles County Code. Please see the following comments provided by the Department of Regional Planning (DRP):

Statutory Authority and Requirements/Responsible and Trustee Agencies

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Los Angeles County should be added as a Responsible Agency, including the Departments of Regional Planning and Public Works who will be responsible for issuing various approvals prior to project implementation.

Project Description

- *2.1 Project Location:* The project description should describe what specific parcels are involved, including APN's as well as parcel ownership, especially if any future exemptions will be sought out.
- *2.3 Existing Zoning and General Plan:* based on the information being provided, it appears the zoning being described is accurate. The current zoning of RPD, A-1 and O-S may require a CUP for the existing project. Please check with the DRP, Land Development Coordinating Center for final determination.

The existing land use designation under the current County General Plan is 1, which permits building of single-family residential density of 1-6 du/ac. Under the new County General Plan that will be effective this year, the new land use designation will be Open Space. In addition, with the effective date of the new General Plan, the project site will be covered by a zoning overlay known as the Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) and may require additional review by the DRP.

- *2.4.1 Project Background:* Based on the existing project description, it is not clear who will be responsible for operating and maintaining this project. Please clarify. It is also not

Ms. Ann Garcia
 June 4, 2015
 Page 2

mentioned that even though responsibility for carrying out the project might be the Water Conservation Authority, that the project site is in the unincorporated area and subject to County review. In the opening sentence, replace "60.9-acre parcel" with "60.9-acre project site".

- *2.4.2 Project Objectives:* In the last sentence, replace the word "species" with "community."
- *2.4.3 Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Conceptual Plan:* Please clarify whether the former Original Cottage J will have a full-time resident in the ranger residence or if it will be used more as an office and any parking to be provided for employees.

Access Alternatives and Parking: Will this park be operated by the City of San Dimas or County of Los Angeles? If County, then operational hours should be consistent with County standards.

- *2.4.4 Project Phasing:* Is this MND for all phases of the project or Phase 1 only? Please clarify.
- *2.5 Phasing and Permitting of Improvements:* A conditional use permit may be required for the new park as well as development in the SEA's. An Oak Tree Permit may also be required. Please check with DRP, Land Development Coordinating Center.

Aesthetics

- The County's General Plan should be cited as a source.
- Will any grading or alteration of topography be required? Please indicate the maximum quantity anticipated.

Biological Resources

- Generally, there is not enough detail in the conceptual plan to quantify the various impacts, including number and types of trees encroached or removed, acreage of jurisdictional areas impacted, etc. Please provide details.
- The mitigation measures generally lack a timing specificity in terms of when they will be implemented and whether monitoring will take place and how often. All of the measures should include a provision that compliance must be verified prior to the impacting activity being permitted (typically prior to grading, building, or demolition permit).
- As this project is located in the new County General Plan's new East San Gabriel Valley SEA, review by the SEA Technical Advisory Committee may be required.
- *Special Status Plants:* The San Dimas USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle should be replaced by use of the 9-quad.

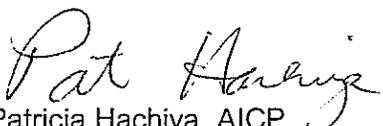
Land Use and Planning

- It should be clarified that the project site is located in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.
- The existing General Plan designates the project site as residential category 1 which allows a density of 1-6 du/acre. The new General Plan, when effective, will designate the site as Open Space. There should be discussion on consistency with the County General Plan.

Ms. Ann Garcia
June 4, 2015
Page 3

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (213) 974-6461, or at phachiya@planning.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,


Patricia Hachiya, AICP
Supervising Regional Planner
Impact Analysis Section

PH:ph

June 10, 2015

Ms. Ann Garcia
Community Development Department
City of San Dimas
245 East Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, California 91733

Dear Ms. Garcia:

**INITIAL STUDY – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS-MND)
WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT
ASSESSOR’S MAP NO. 8385, PAGE 16, PARCEL NO. 905
CITY OF SAN DIMAS**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the IS-MND for the Walnut Creek and open space project on a 60.9-acre project site. The project is for the preservation of the natural setting of the site and education about California’s unique environment, in order to foster an appreciation and connection to the natural landscape. The proposed park will include native plant buffer of shrubs and trees to adjacent residential properties, plant native plant species, a community garden, a pedestrian path to Loma Vista Park, and a former auto shop to be converted into a multi-purpose building for the general public and Watershed Conservation Authority, restrooms, and flexible meeting/educational spaces. The proposed project will be implemented in phases as funding becomes available.

For specific revisions, additions, or deletions of wording directly from the project document the specific section, subsection, and/or item along with the page number is first referenced then the excerpt from the document is copied within quotations using the following nomenclature:

Deletions are represented by a ~~strikethrough~~.

Additions are represented by *italics* along with an underline.

Revisions are represented by a combination of the above.

The following Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works comments are for your consideration and relate to the environmental document only:

Ms. Ann Garcia
June 10, 2015
Page 2

Air Quality

1. Mitigation Measures (MM) AQ-1, page 4-10; this MM requires prior to issuance of a grading permit, the city engineer (Los Angeles County or City of San Dimas) shall confirm that the grading plan, building plan, and specifications comply with SCAQMD Rule 402 and 403. Public Works has no authority or jurisdiction to monitor or clear the mitigations associated with SCAQMD or air quality and will not be the agency responsible to monitor or clear the MM. Revise accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding the air quality comment, please contact Ruben Cruz of Land Development Division at (626) 458-4910 or rcruz@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Geology and Soils

1. The supporting Appendix F Geotechnical Feasibility Evaluation (Aragón Geotechnical, Inc. report dated June 8, 2011) is not signed or stamped by a licensed professional. If this report is used in support of the environmental document it should be signed and stamped by those individuals in responsible charge of the statements and observations made in the report.
2. MM GEO-3, page 4-71 and 4-72; this MM is to submit a Geotechnical Report to Los Angeles County Public Works Department and to comply site grading requirements. This MM is normally part of the permitting process and some of MM has specific design requirements that have specifically been assigned to Public Works as the responsible agency. This has proven to cause unnecessary project delays in the project and therefore it is recommended that any MM that includes normal plan check process or specific design requirements should be eliminated from the MM. Revise accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding the geology and soils comment number 1, please contact Brian Smith of Geotechnical and Materials Engineering Division at (626) 458-7972 or bsmith@dpw.lacounty.gov.

If you have any questions regarding the geology and soils comment number 2, please contact Ruben Cruz of Land Development Division at (626) 458-4910 or rcruz@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Ms. Ann Garcia
June 10, 2015
Page 3

Hydrology and Water Quality

1. Sources Cited in Walnut Creek Watershed, Page 4-88; the proposed Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project is directly adjacent to Walnut Creek in multiple locations. It appears as though the project may also include trail connections that cross Walnut Creek. As such, any development and facilities constructed as part of the project should take into consideration the fact that large flows (in excess of 600 cfs) may occur and develop quickly within the portion of Walnut Creek directly adjacent to the project. This is especially a possibility during storm season and storm events due to natural runoff of the surrounding area which drains into Walnut Creek and/or during releases from Puddingstone Dam. Safety of life and property should be a priority in the development of the site and take into account the proximity of Walnut Creek to the project. In addition, a detailed hydrologic analysis for the project area should be performed to show how the peak flow rates shown on "Table 4-1, Page 8" of the report were calculated. We would like the opportunity to review the project's updated hydrology study upon completion.

If you have any questions regarding the hydrology and water comment, please contact Del Quevedo of Water Resources Division at (626) 458-6310 or dquevedo@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Noise

1. Short-Term Noise Impacts, Mitigation Measures, MM NOI-1, page 4-107 and 4-108; this MM requires Public Works Building and Safety as the monitoring agency regarding noise impacts. Public Works has no authority or jurisdiction to monitor or clear the mitigations associated with noise impacts and will not be the agency responsible to monitor or clear the MM. Revise accordingly.
2. Short-Term Noise Impacts, Mitigation Measures, MM NOI-1, bullet point 4, page 4-107 and 4-108; revise the following sentence:

"Construction haul routes shall be designed to avoid noise sensitive uses (e.g., residences, convalescent homes, etc.), ~~to the extent feasible~~"

MM that includes phrases such as "to the extent feasible" or "as appropriate" should be deleted from the MM. This wording is very vague and should be modified so that it can be easily enforced by the responsible agency. In addition,

Ms. Ann Garcia
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Page 4

a haul route is required base on the amount of the proposed earthwork. The document did not include the amount of earthwork (cut, fill and over-excavation) to substantiate if a haul route is required. Revise accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding the noise comments, please contact Ruben Cruz of Land Development Division at (626) 458-4910 or rcruz@dpw.lacounty.gov

Utilities and Service Systems

1. Item G, page 4-138; daily solid waste generation in Los Angeles County will exceed the available daily disposal capacity at a future time. The construction and demolition of the proposed project and the operation over the life of the project will increase the generation of solid waste and negatively impact the solid waste management infrastructure. Therefore, environmental documents should identify what measures will be implemented to mitigate the impact. Mitigation measures may include the recycling of construction and demolition debris and the development of infrastructure in the project to facilitate recycling. Visit <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/CD/resources.cfm> online or contact Environmental Programs Division at (626) 458-3564 for the list of approved construction and demolition debris recycling facilities.

If you have any questions regarding the Utilities and Service Systems comment, please contact Nilda Gemeniano of Environmental Programs Division at (626) 458-5184 or ngemenia@dpw.lacounty.gov.

If you have any questions or require additional information please contact Mr. Ruben Cruz of Land Development Division at (626) 458-4910 or rcruz@dpw.lacounty.gov.

RC:

P:\dpub\SUBPCHECK\Plan Checking Files\Projects not associated with a TR-PM-CUP-Single Lot-Permit\APN 8385-016-905\IS-MND\2015-05-13 IS-MND SUBMITTAL\Walnut Creek Habitat IS-MND DPW Response.docx

PUBLIC COMMENT LETTERS

From: hjrocks13 [mailto:Hjrocks13@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 5:14 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Project

Hello:

I wanted to take this opportunity to express our concern and request to STOP the Walnut Creek Project that is currently being considered in the Woodwalk Via Verde community of San Dimas.

After discussing this with several neighbors, listening to concerns about the project and investigating further, we believe that this project will be detrimental to and negatively impact our community.

Respectfully,

Henry & Nancy Rodriguez
832 Avenida Loma Vista
San Dimas, Ca 91773

From: Diane Sadoughi [mailto:dsadoughi@apu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 8:07 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Opposed to Walnut Creek Access through Via Verde

Dear Ms. Garcia,

It is my understanding that the city is considering access to Walnut Creek through Loma Vista Park. As a Via Verde resident who lives on Avenida Loma Vista I want to express my deep concern about this plan. Specifically, this will increase traffic, crime, vandalism, and noise on the street. Therefore, my husband and I would like you and the commission to know that we are **STRONGLY** opposed to allowing access via our residential street. Please deny the plan on behalf of the residents of Via Verde.

Thank you,
Diane & Hamed Sadoughi
1372 Avenida Loma Vista
San Dimas, CA 91773

From: Sandra Garcia [mailto:svgarcia@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 9:32 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat

I am against the Walnut Creek project as I have resided in Via Verde on Avenida Loma Vista for 28 years and moved here due to the quiet and safe neighborhood. I have also contributed time and energy to my community and feel I should have input as to whether this project proceeds. The planned habitat would have a devastating impact on my neighborhood. There are so many reasons why the entrance on Loma Vista would be devastating. Parking is limited already! The park would no longer be a safe neighborhood city park but one that would be overcrowded and would cause a loss of the secure feeling I've had during my morning and evening walks. There would be a total loss of privacy for our home and my visitors would have a problem finding parking near my home. In addition total strangers would be in the neighborhood day after day leading to more needed security, traffic congestion, disturbing traffic patterns in the area, traffic accidents, and it would be unsafe for children at the park. There would also be an increase in noise and poor air quality.

I would be forced to move as home value would also go down.

Sincerely,
Sandra Garcia

From: Barbara Anderson [mailto:k92wife@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 9:51 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek project

Good morning,

The purpose of this e-mail is to convey our strong opposition to the Walnut Creek project.

We have lived at 1108 Avenida Loma Vista for over 20 years. We have seen our traffic and crime greatly increase over that period of time. We fought for many years to get speed humps installed in an attempt to get the drivers to slow down. Initially we were met with great resistance from the city and were given several excuses as to why they could not be put in. After the city finally came up with a protocol for the speed humps, we did the work to get them in. We would say that it has helped some, but traffic is still an issue on our street. We have raised two daughters at this house and we have never felt it was safe enough to let our kids play or ride bikes out front.

And now the city wants to do this project?!?!?! We downloaded and read most of the 200+ page report on this project and they want to add hundreds of vehicles to our daily traffic problems?!?!?! You want to make OUR neighborhood park in to the access project?!?!?! You want residents to ride their bikes to the area but if you increase parking and traffic on Loma Vista it won't be safe. The parking at the Antonvich Trail has become so crowded that they are starting to park at the top of Loma Vista near San Dimas Ave. The sheriff's department has a volunteer unit sitting at this parking area almost daily to deter the problems they've had with vehicle break ins. Does the city really think this won't be a problem when this project opens? It will also bring in undesirables that will lead to loitering, graffiti and narcotic problems. If you build it, they will come. No matter what the good intentions are of the city, this project is not good for the local residents. If the city continues to shove this down our throat, we will be organizing a recall effort for all those who vote to approve this project. They are supposed to represent US, they work for us. So far they have turned their backs on us and given us the middle finger. I have not heard one person who lives in my neighborhood come out in favor of this project. The city needs to listen to us now or they will hear from us later.

Glen & Barbara Anderson

From: judyhammond84@yahoo.com [mailto:judyhammond84@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 10:07 AM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Project Comments -- EIR

I just completed a fast read of the draft EIR study online regarding the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. I am outraged. I cannot believe the City of San Dimas would even entertain a plan that would have such a negative effect on its residents in Via Verde. I have neither the time nor the expertise to provide comments regarding such aspects as water, wildlife, etc. My comments will be limited to the access plan, as I live on Avenida Loma Vista west of San Dimas Avenue and am among the residents who would be most adversely impacted.

The report says that traffic would be increased by 20-30 percent on Avenida Loma Vista, bringing the daily total traffic volume to 1,500 vehicles; and that my section of Avenida Loma Vista already has 3,800-4,300 vehicles per day. The report says that while a two-lane undivided street can handle 10,000-12,000 vehicles per day, residential streets with homes on one or both sides would ideally carry less than 2,000 vehicles for a "livable residential environment." That means my street is already more than 100 percent higher than the "livable" standard, yet you want to add 30 percent more cars. No one can argue that the street is already busy and is difficult at times for residents to back out of their driveways. The EIR acknowledges there would be a noticeable increase in traffic, but says it would not exceed the capacity. Excuse me, but are you saying it will have a bad effect, but that is not of concern because it could be worse? That is outrageous.

You are proposing to provide entry through a gate at the park, with visitors parking on the residential streets. Later, you propose to provide access through a new street at the park and Calle Bandera. Three parking lots would be built inside the project, providing 64 parking spaces.

Do you not see this as dangerous to the children who play at the park? Not only due to traffic, but also due to strangers in the area. Do you not see the negative aspects of having people from out of the area park on the streets? I would have never let my daughter play at the park when she was small if there had been such a development as you are proposing.

We are told to report to the Sheriff's Department whenever we notice anyone in the neighborhood that doesn't belong here. Now you are introducing a daily influx of strangers.

Access to the park would be allowed from dawn to dusk, with a gathering area for outdoor meetings. Do you not care that this is our neighborhood?

We moved into our home in 1979 and have fought numerous attempts to use Avenida Loma Vista to access proposed and existing developments at the site of the Walnut Creek project. The City of San Dimas always joined with us in our fight and we were able to keep the County from approving these developments. I feel betrayed that my own city now is proposing to develop the property, disregarding the wishes of the very residents it had earlier fought to protect.

If you are determined to develop the site, give access off San Dimas Avenue. That was the plan for the last proposed housing development, a proposal backed by the City. Via Verde residents have not asked to have that site developed, so please do not make us pay the price for someone else's dream.

Judy Hammond
1025 Avenida Loma Vista, San Dimas

From: Dawn [mailto:5smiles5@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 10:58 AM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Project

Ms. Garcia,

As residents of Via Verde, and especially on the curve of Calle Frondosa, we are corresponding to ADAMANTLY oppose the implementation of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. Itemized below are our major concerns:

- Our house sits on the north side of the Calle Frondosa curve, backing directly up to the project. Our view will be of all of the activity and population traffic up and down the project. Our family would be robbed of the privacy we paid dearly for. The ENTIRE reason we purchased our home here, and not in LaVerne or Glendora was the view of the wild land and the sense of being NOT in the city. This project will take this whole existence away. Right now there is scheduled to be an observation tower placed right behind our home, allowing others to see every inch of our property!
- We have consulted with several realtors who have all told us that the property values of ours and other homes will plummet due to the problems associated with this project. These include:
 - o Traffic increase too large to be managed within a tract living environment.
 - o Increased burglary risk with the influx of people coming into the area from outside communities
 - o Trash and graffiti. Michael Antonovich Trail is currently overrun with graffiti and trash.
 - o As our house backs directly up to the wild lands, and with current water restrictions and dry conditions the fire danger will be exponentially worse, especially for those homes with direct exposure to the project.
- Overall, everything that makes living where we are currently wonderful, will now be negated.
- With the Michael Antonovich trail directly next to the proposed project, and Bonelli Regional Park just across the freeway it seems the City of San Dimas has adequate outdoor recreational opportunities for the population. Both of these projects already bring in large numbers of outside people to enjoy the community and its many amenities.

Placing this project in the middle of a residential area, all the while expecting families to accept the taking of their privacy, quality of life and security seems cavalier and frankly, against the best interests of the people the city council is charged with protecting. We realize that monies have been spent to purchase this land, but that does not necessitate further tax payer dollars be spent for completion of a project that the majority of the citizens currently oppose. Has any time been spent speaking with citizens who do not currently live in Via Verde? Do they know how their tax dollars will be spent? We cannot speak in strong enough terms how much we oppose this project and urge the council to stop action on this project.

Sincerely,

Dr Ervin and Dawn Trilles
Dr Trilles 626 485 9365
Dawn Trilles 626 485 9370

From: Nicole Lam [mailto:nmlam80@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:20 PM
To: Ann Garcia; fifthdistrict@lacbos.org
Cc: Van Lam; Curt Morris; Denis Bertone; Emmett Badar; John Ebiner; Jeff Templeman
Subject: Walnut Creek Watershed Conservancy Project - Opposition

Dear Ms. Garcia and Mr. Antonovich,

We are contacting you to voice our opposition to the proposed Watershed Conservancy Authority's project regarding Walnut Creek.

Our deepest concerns lie with the road that will eventually cut through Loma Vista Park, the parking lot that will rest behind it, increased road traffic on Avenida Loma Vista, and the increased foot traffic, including from transients that visit and make Walnut Creek their home.

Although we just finalized purchase on our home on Avenida Loma Vista (we moved in June 3rd), we are very familiar with the City of San Dimas, as Nicole resided here from the age of 6 months to 21 years old, not to mention family ties here. We recently moved from Glendora, and we need to communicate why we left Glendora and specifically chose the Via Verde area of San Dimas to continue raising our three children. If you are at all familiar with the current state of affairs in Glendora, then you will know that there is a deep divide regarding development along Route 66, such as the project on the corner of Glendora and Route 66. It was done hastily and without input from the citizens. It will severely impact the lives of all of the residents, due to increased traffic, obstructed views, and increased population.

If you are familiar with Glendora, you will also know that transients have all but overrun the city. If you put a road and access from Walnut Creek directly into Via Verde and onto Avenida Loma Vista, you really need to consider not only the increased traffic, but also the increase of those on foot. It is well-known that transients frequent and sleep in Walnut Creek. We don't need added crime and drug use in the neighborhood. Think about if it was your home on Avenida Loma Vista. Would you like to look out your windows and watch wandering "visitors" all day?

Another example of this is what happened in Rosedale in Azusa when Garcia Trail was so popular (before the Colby Fire). On any given day, cars were parked as far as the eye could see along Sierra Madre and all throughout the streets of Rosedale. Residents were beside themselves. It was known that social media and hiking blogs recommended the trail to those from not only L.A. County, but Orange, San Bernardino, and Ventura as well. Do we want that kind of publicity and again, traffic and people, in our quiet RESIDENTIAL neighborhood? No, we don't. We don't need the crime, the noise, and the busyness. If we did, we would not have chosen Via Verde as our home.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Van Lam, Nicole Durkan Lam and Family
912 Avenida Loma Vista
San Dimas
Home: 909.599.1082

From: Daryl E Weatherspoon [mailto:daspoons@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:29 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek

Hello Ms. Garcia

I am writing to voice my objection to the Walnut Creek project. As an 18 Via Verde resident we are opposed to the negative impact on our neighborhood that this will bring. Just driving down San Dimas Ave on a weekend and seeing the mass amount of vehicles parked legally and illegally, and all the trash that is left behind at the entrance to the trail is truly disturbing. To think that the same could become Loma Vista Ave in the future is horrible. Our tranquility and quality of life will suffer. Please do not let this happen.

Thank-You

Daryl & Catherine Weatherspoon
Via Verde Home owners

From: MosesW Tung [mailto:moseswtung@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:24 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat Project

Dear Ms. Garcia,

My name is Lily Tong, my mother (Chow Hung Tong) and my 2 brothers (Moses and Vincent). We are residents of 1212 Calle Bandera, San Dimas, CA 91773 since 1980.

We have been attending all the meetings in the San Dimas City Hall regarding Walnut Creek Habitat and open space project Study.

We are 100% concerned about that the Walnut Creek Habitat project will consequently have the negative environmental impact not only onto the San Dimas neighborhood but the habitats itself.

The wild life of Walnut Creek needs a peaceful place to live, not a recreational area for the city or the Mountain Rivers Conservancy.

In addition, we are fed up by our government officials for not listening to the wishes of the San Dimas residents nor the wild life of Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Moses W. Tung
(213) 324-5915

From: Tracie Jorgensen [mailto:tannjorgensen@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:56 PM
To: Robert Romanek
Subject: san dimas project

I live on Avenida Entrada and while I don't oppose a new project I do oppose bringing traffic into our community - a family community where kids still play football, ride bikes, stakeboard on Avenida Loma Vista.

There is already a crime problem at the head of the Antoivich trail daily. A sheriffs car is stationed there almost daily.

Keep the access out of our family neighborhood. Why would you we welcome outsiders to take up parking on our streets, make use of our local park, and invade our quiet neighborhood on a daily basis.

I feel so bad for the people who live on Loma Vista - their lives will be ruined.



THOMAS E. DIAZ
ATTORNEY AT LAW

June 10, 2015

Ms. Ann Garcia
City of San Dimas
Community Development Department
245 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

Subject: Comments on the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

Dear Ms. Ann Garcia,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project (Project). I am an attorney and San Dimas Parks and Recreation Commissioner who lives on Calle Frondosa in the City of San Dimas which is one of the streets that borders the Walnut Creek Habitat property.

I together with my neighbors from the Woodwalk/Via Verde Community have expressed concerns with the Project as currently planned. The following comments are provided in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

It is not Clear What the Scope of the Project is

The Project is described in Section 2.4.3 Description of the Project as joint partnership between the City of San Dimas and the Water Conservation Authority (WCA) and the reader is referred to Exhibit 2-4, Conceptual Plan and Exhibit 2-5, Phase 1 Plan. However, Section 2.4 only provides a vague description of Phase 1 and does not specify what the other phases are.

While the IS/MND states that the are Access Alternates, the impacts caused by these are not studied and analyzed. For example Appendix H for Traffic discusses Temporary and Permanent effects but it is not clear what access alternative or alternative were studied and analyzed.

In addition, the parking was not studied and analyzed for each of the access alternatives. It is insufficient to state there were no significant impacts concerning the parking, a study must include the impacts that the lack of parking would cause.

Should you have any questions concerning the above matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (909) 542-0201. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Diaz

142 E. BONITA AVE. #204
SAN DIMAS, CA 91773
TELEPHONE (909) 542-0201
FACSIMILE (626) 606-3990

1

Dr. & Mrs. Marvin Ersher
1312 Paseo Alamos
San Dimas, CA 91773

RECEIVED
6/10/15

JUNE 10, 2015

SUBJECT: WALNUT CREEK NEGATIVE
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

MY CONCLUSION:
SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
SIGNIFICANT MITIGATION NEEDED
TRAFFIC AND PARKING

① STUDIES AND EVALUATION
NEEDED ON SIMILAR PROJECTS
NEEDED IN OTHER AREAS SUCH
AS THE CITIES OF CLAREMONT
AND MORGANA AS APPLIES TO HABITAT

② TO ENCOURAGE TRAFFIC TO
HABITAT THROUGH VALLEY CENTER
AND ANTONOVICH STAGING AREA

MITIGATION: PERMIT PARKING SIGNAGE
PERMIT PARKING ONLY ON
HOMA VISTA AVE AND ALL
CUL DE SACS

③ PARKING - MITIGATION
DEVELOPED PLAN FOR
STAGGERED NO PARKING / PERMIT
ON AVENIDA HOMA VISTA
AND ALL CUL DE SACS

Dr. & Mrs. Marvin Ersher
1312 Paseo Alamos
San Dimas, CA 91778



Walnut Creek Habitat STUDY
Negative Environmental Impact
Report

- ④ Mitigation to parking
on Avenida Home Vista and
Culda Sees
 - Ⓐ Build a larger parking
lot in the Habitat
of 100 spaces or more
 - Ⓑ OFF AREA PARKING ^{puente}
such as on ^{of Ave}

Marvin Ersher, M.D.

EVERYONE IN VIA VERDE IS AGAINST THE WALNUT CREEK PROJECT.

HERE ARE 20 REASONS WHY. PLEASE ADD YOUR CONCERNS AND CALL THE CITY.

TELL THEM TO STOP THE PROJECT NOW OR RECALL OUR CITY COUNCIL

WITH COUNCIL PEOPLE WHO LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE!!!

DO IT TODAY-- CALL 909-394-6200

1. LOWER HOME VALUES DUE TO INCREASED TRAFFIC, VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI
2. LOSS OF STREET PARKING BECAUSE IT WILL BE PERMANENTLY OCCUPIED BY VISITORS/OUTSIDERS
3. TRAFFIC CONGESTION - 20 TO 30% INCREASE IN VEHICLE TRAFFIC ON AVIENDA LOMA VISTA
4. LOMA VISTA PARK RUINED AND OVERRUN BY THOUSANDS OF VISITORS,
5. INCREASED FIRE HAZARDS ESPECIALLY DURING DROUGHT YEARS
6. LOSS OF PRIVACY FOR RESIDENTS LIVING NEXT THE HABITAT
7. INCREASED NOISE LEVELS FROM TRAFFIC, VISITORS, AND HABITAT EVENTS
8. MORE TRESPASSING ONTO RESIDENTS PROPERTIES BY VISITORS/OUTSIDERS
9. ADDITIONAL POLICE NEEDED DUE TO INCREASED VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI
10. INCREASED SAFETY ISSUES RELATED TO TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIANS
11. 1,500 ADDITIONAL VEHICLES PER DAY ON AVENIDA LOMA VISTA
12. OUTSIDERS AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT WALKING THOUGH OUR STREETS
13. INCREASED HEALTH PROBLEMS DUE TO TRAFFIC POLLUTION, STRESS, AND ACCIDENTS
14. NEED FOR MORE HOME SECURITY MEASURES AGAINST BURGLARIES
15. RESIDENT'S FEEDBACK IS INGNORED AND ONLY LIP-SERVICE IS GIVEN
16. POOR AIR QUALITY AND ASSOCIATED HEALTH ISSUES
17. THERE ARE NO BENEFITS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD, ONLY NEGATIVE EFFECTS
18. TOTALLY INADEQUATE BUFFER/BARRIER BETWEEN HOMES AND HABITAT
19. LACK OF TRUE COLLABORATION WITH RESIDENTS IMPACTED BY THE PROJECT
20. LOSS OF NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE

CALL ALBERT @ 909 374 8325 IF YOU CAN HELP US SPEAD THE WORD

PETITION

RECEIVED
6/10/15

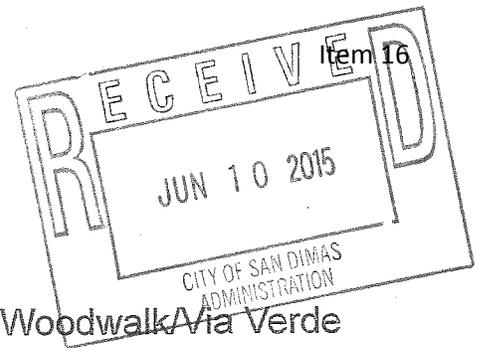
To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dimas:

We, the undersigned residents of the City of San Dimas, Woodwalk/Via Verde Community petition the Mayor and the City Council to cancel the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project because of it's negative impact on our community.

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
1. ORLANDO CEPEIDA	1328 PASEO FORTUNO SAN DIMAS, CA. 91773	
2. Nicole Cepeda	1328 Paseo Fortuno San Dimas, CA. 91773	
3. Alexia Cepeda	1328 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas, CA. 91773	Alexia Cepeda
4. Alyssa Cepeda	1328 Paseo Fortuno San Dimas, CA. 91773	Alyssa Cepeda
5. Ben Keller	1310 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas CA	Ben Keller
6. Kandy Keller	1310 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas, CA	K. Keller
Michelle Keller	1310 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas, CA	Michelle Keller
Aliza Cepeda	1325 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas 91773	Aliza
Adrian Cepeda	1328 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas 91773	Adrian
Brittney Perez	1328 PASEO FORTUNO San Dimas CA 91773-	Brittney Perez

Need Your Help To Protect Our Community. Please Ask Your Neighbors to Sign. I Will Pick-Up Petition When
y. Call Albert @ 909 374.8325. City Deadline for Public Comments is June 10. Call the City @ 909 394-6200

PETITION



To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dimas:

We, the undersigned residents of the City of San Dimas, Woodwalk Via Verde Community petition the Mayor and the City Council to cancel the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project because of it's negative impact on our community.

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
1. Sandra Ireland	1355 Paseo Anacapa San Dimas CA 91773	<i>Sandra Ireland</i>
2. Seth Ireland	Same as above 1355 Paseo An	<i>Seth Ireland</i>
3. David Ireland	1355 Paseo Anacapa San Dimas CA 91773	<i>David Ireland</i>
4. Arden Bates	1550 Ave Loma Vista San Dimas, Ca	<i>Arden Bates</i>
5. JoAnn Bates	1550 Ave Loma Vista San Dimas CA	<i>JoAnn Bates</i>
6. MARTIN MALDONADO	1348 PASEO ANACAPA	<i>Martin Maldonado</i>
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

We Need Your Help To Protect Our Community. Please Ask Your Neighbors to Sign. I Will Pick-Up Petition When Ready. Call Albert @ 909 374.8325. City Deadline for Public Comments is June 10. Call the City @ 909 394-6200.

PETITION

RECEIVED
6/10/15

To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dimas:

We, the undersigned residents of the City of San Dimas, Woodwalk/Via Verde Community petition the Mayor and the City Council to cancel the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project because of it's negative impact on our community.

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
1. E. Richard Ginkel	1341 Paseo Anacapa San Dimas, CA 91773	E. Richard Ginkel
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

We Need Your Help To Protect Our Community. Please Ask Your Neighbors to Sign. I Will Pick-Up Petition When Ready. Call Albert @ 909 374.8325. City Deadline for Public Comments is June 10. Call the City @ 909 394-6200.

From: CharlieHorse43 [mailto:charliehorse43@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:40 AM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek and Open Space Project and the Mountain River Conservancy

Ann Garcia,

Prior to any action on this project or any other project that pertains to Via Verde, it is imperative that an Environmental Impact Report be completed and that the citizens concerns be duly considered.

I, as a home-owner resident of Via Verde for 16 years and living very near the Loma Vista Park, am against the Mountain River Conservancy project.

I have discussed this with my neighbors who are also against this project. I support my neighbor, Brian McNerney, who has been the leading voice of our neighborhood.

Thanks,
Bob Smith
909-971-0423
Charliehorse43@gmail.com

From: Dori Smith [mailto:dori@extecsoftware.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 2:50 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek/Loma Vista Park

Dear MS Garcia,

I am a homeowner/resident of Via Verde (since 1999) and live in close proximity to Loma Vista Park at 1378 Avenida Loma Vista. I feel it necessary to inform you and the City Council that I and surrounding neighbors are against the redesign and/or inclusion of Loma Vista Park into the Walnut Creek Open Space Conservancy Project.

We feel access to a nature trail through our neighborhood would not be beneficial, but would in fact be detrimental to our community by way of noise & garbage pollution, etc. I know there was an Environmental Impact study performed initially when the Conservancy was trying to acquire the property. But, was there an impact study completed on this particular section of the Walnut Creek Project?

I support & stand with Mr. Brian McNerney who has been the leading voice of our neighborhood.

Blessings & Best Regards,
Dori

Dori Lewis
Glass Inc International
Inland Empire Tech Center, LP
dmlewis@glassincintl.com
14055 Laurelwood Place, Chino CA 91710
(909) 628-4212 Chino Head Quarters
(626) 339-5774 Accounting Office Direct

Save trees...Please print this email only if necessary.

From: lainiebaker@verizon.net [mailto:lainiebaker@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

Hello Ms. Garcia:

I am writing to you as a very concerned resident in the Via Verde neighborhood. I live on a street that will be GREATLY impacted by this city plan. My family has resided at 1307 Paseo Fortuno since 1994. My house is next to the empty 40 acres the Baptist College originally owned. There have been many plans over the past 21 of what to do with this property.

I am writing to you as instructed by your office to please advise you that this would be a terrible idea for our neighborhood. On my short cul-de-sac alone there are many young children who play outside in the street with all the neighbors who are all long term residents of Paseo Fortuno. The safety of these children is a big concern for all of us (ONE OF MANY) when many more cars will be turning on our street or parking.

Cutting through the park and splitting it with a street will leave our park even less protected then the speed bumps will EVER do.

The park has been used constantly and the City put in speed bumps a few years ago to ensure the safety of our littlest residents. This plan threatens our community in so many ways. I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to this issue of putting in this Open Space Project due to the safety, protection and the risk of losing all of this plus our quiet and safe streets to live on and walk through or now drive through.

1. The added traffic congestion, loss of street parking due to so much traffic for this venture. 2. Need for more home security with added non residents cluttering our neighborhood. 3. Increased fire hazards. 4. Traffic congestion 5. Loss of privacy (my house backs up to this land) 6. Noise levels (I thought coyotes howling when they got a kill was a bit disconcerting but HUMANS and what they do I love the coyotes.

I could go on about how upset my husband and I are at this intrusion and upset and the other negative affects on our lives in secluded Via Verde. I will close this email now as the deadline is today.

But PLEASE HEAR US.

Thank you for your attention to my email.

Elaine A. Baker
1307 Paseo Fortuno
San Dimas, CA 91773

From: bakersd4@verizon.net [mailto:bakersd4@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 4:30 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space Project

To Whom It May Concern:

Let me add my voice to the opposition of the proposed project for the Walnut Creek open space. The impact on our Via Verde community is significant. There can be no doubt that if the project were to proceed as proposed there would be a substantial increase in traffic and curb side parking in our neighborhood. I do not believe that the overall impact of that can be over stressed with increased public access there will be an increased risk of vandalism and crime which inevitably leads to decreased home values. Therefore the impacted home owners should have a voice. As a home owner at the end of a cul-de-sac, my property abuts the open area. My concern is that the loss of privacy would have a negative impact on my home value. There does not appear to be a good solution proposed for the installation of an adequate barrier or buffer between the private property owners and the publicly accessible open space.

I am not opposed to the concept of the Open Space Project, only in how it is going to be implemented.

Please take my concerns seriously as you move forward.

Mark and Elaine Baker
1307 Paseo Fortuno
San Dimas, CA 91773

From: Sandra Ireland [mailto:sermershiem1@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 8:50 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Strong Opposition to the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

Dear Ms. Garcia, Mayor and City Council,

I called to state our opposition and was informed that I needed to send this in writing/email to Ms. Garcia.

We are emailing to file our strong opposition to the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. This project will have a NEGATIVE impact on our community. We have lived here for 23 years. The residents of Via Verde have fought this project for a long time and it seems that our officials are choosing to not listen to what the residents of Via Verde want!

You will be changing a park that has a long history to our neighborhood and is used a lot! You will be bringing in loads of traffic, crime, noise, fire hazards, vandalism, privacy issues and more! Would you want to live next door or a couple of streets down from this project? Please cancel this project.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

David and Sandra Ireland and our 3 Children
1355 Paseo Anacapa
San Dimas, CA 91773

From: Michael Carney [mailto:lovemc@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 3:49 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Opposition to gate in Loma Vista Park

Hi Ann,

Thanks for returning my call.

I wish to express my opposition to a gate in Loma Vista Park to access the proposed Walnut Creek Project.

This will create significant traffic and other problems for the Via Verde area. The gate, the access, should be on San Dimas Avenue.

Sincerely,
Dr. Michael Carney
1400 Avenida Loma Vista

From: Nicole Cepeida [mailto:ncepeida@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat

Ms. Garcia:

As a resident of Via Verde, I am appalled at the proposed Walnut Creek Habitat project. It is disheartening to know that our nice, quiet and safe neighborhood will be invaded by outsiders seeking the use of a proposed trail. I live 2 blocks from Loma Vista park. My family will be affected by this intrusive plan allowing access to outsiders. We have been residents of Via Verde for 11.5 years. We chose this neighborhood to allow our children to play outside, ride their bikes and frequent the park that is safe and PRIVATE. Why would anyone living in our neighborhood want this? Would you want this for your community and neighborhood? Maybe you live in an apartment and can't relate. I can't help but to think that there are NO other access alternatives for this project? Why can't the WCA, RMC and LACFD "highlight the existing natural landscape, and educate 'VISITORS' about the native plant communities" somewhere else?

I have four (4) children ranging from 13 years old to 4 years old. We still have several years of the use of our community park. I like the feeling of safety and knowing that my children can enjoy our neighborhood without the busyness that this proposed project will bring. Our neighborhood will no longer feel safe and quiet. I have been on the Antonovich trail and while on a hike, there have been questionable individuals lingering on the outskirts of the trail. You have to be realistic in knowing that this proposed new habitat is going to bring out less than stellar citizens. I would assume these people are the ones that will park in my neighborhood and linger in the now 'Open' Loma Vista park. It is not a surprise to know that there are drug users that frequent the Antonovich trail because they leave behind their drug paraphernalia. It is also known in our community that there are break ins to-vehicles while trail seekers walk the trail. I frequently see Police officers patrolling San Dimas Ave.

It has also been brought to my attention that Cal Poly Pomona gave the Baptist church the land that is now being proposed for this project. This land was given to the church under the condition that the land NOT be sold or developed. While my neighbors have been trying to fight this project and have attempted to pull the records citing this stipulation between CPP and the church, there are surprisingly no known records on file. I find that very suspicious.

I hope my concerns and the concerns of all my neighbors and community does not fall upon deaf ears. We have a wonderful and quiet community that is great for raising a family. If I wanted to live in a noisy and busy community, we would have purchased our home in a different area.

Please listen to our concerns. My whole family is upset by the potential project and what it will mean for us and our neighbors.

Kind Regards,

~Nicole Cepeida

From: amhld@aol.com [mailto:amhld@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 10:46 AM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat

This project has been stalled way to long by a small but vocal group of selfish self interest homeowners whose only desire is to do nothing there. The planers have done a very thoughtful job on this project. The limited access was part of a first phase approach. There is a need for off street parking and should be included in the first phase otherwise you will be hearing the whine clear to downtown San Dimas.

Thank you to the Conservancy and the city for stepping up and buying this property. Continue with your great plan as quickly as possible so all of us less vocal residents can begin to enjoy this wonderful gift you have given us. Or sell it and build high density housing to be accessed thru the public streets of Via Verde.

Thank You, Harold Denning, San Dimas

Re: Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space Project

Dear City Council,

I would like to express my thoughts;

Traffic – A major concern is the increased amount of traffic, both vehicle and pedestrian. This may possibly cause an increase in the crime rate as there are more people who are not part of the community using Avenida Loma Vista as a thoroughfare to access to park. Currently the street already has traffic for everyday entry and exits into the community, increasing the number of cars and even buses on this narrow road could cause unneeded congestion. In a case of an emergency, with Avenida Loma Vista being the main road to all of the small streets in the track, the congestion could contribute towards a situation where emergency vehicles cannot reach the intended patient.

Disruption to natural habitat – One of the main goals of this park is to allow children and others to enjoy nature in its purest state. However, by allowing more traffic either on the streets or on hiking trails, this will disrupt the natural habitat and may cause the very animals that people are going to see to flee the area and relocate to another remote, uninhabited area. If the animal and wildlife are no longer there, the park would no longer be servicing as a location where people can come and learn about California's wildlife.

Loss of privacy and view – The plan to plant vegetation between the houses and the trail might not allow the proper privacy to the residents facing the park. People will be able to maneuver between trees and bushes allowing them to come onto the Via Verde resident's property which violates privacy. Furthermore, California is in a severe drought and ensuring the survival of these trees would be difficult. Is there a possibility for a more secure structure to be built so that the homes by the trail are not accessible, such as minimum of 6 foot fence at least 100 feet from the property line?

I believe the City Council will put Via Verde Homeowners concerns first, as you lived in one of these homes impacted by this project.

Possible considerations

Would it be able to Improve the existing Michael Antonovich trail.

Would it be possible to create a larger parking area on San Dimas Ave so that people don't have to enter the residential area?

The Vegetable garden and orchard available to residents with pedestrian access.

Via Verde Resident

From: Hernandez, Diane [mailto:D.Hernandez@bonita.k12.ca.us]
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2015 10:41 AM
To: Curt Morris; Denis Bertone; Emmett Badar; John Ebner; Jeff Templeman
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat - Via Verde

Dear City Council,

Our family has lived in Via Verde for nearly 30 years. We were attracted by the quiet, peaceful and rural atmosphere. We have supported the schools, local business as well as the City Council. We hope the Council and the Mayor's Office will support us with regard to the Walnut Creek Project.

Our primary concerns are as follows:

1. The potential for additional traffic, parking and congestion on Avenida Loma Vista and surrounding streets.
2. The loss of Loma Vista Park. Resident children/adults in this community would lose the benefit of walking and playing safely at the park.
3. After the trail on San Dimas Ave. was renamed the "Mike Antonovich" trail, we have experienced an increase in visitors that brought with them parking problems, drug & alcohol use, an increase in break-ins/theft and graffiti. In addition there is a huge increase in after-hours use which places additional strain on local law enforcement.
4. The Via Verde area of our city has been identified a 'fire hazard' area for decades. Fire insurance rates will increase for all of us and the current water restrictions will add to the potential hazard by the actions of just one careless visitor.

While we can appreciate the City's desire to make use of its million dollar investment, residents believe creating an 'attractive nuisance' will have a negative impact on their financial investments. Monies spent by the city and the homeowners, thus far, have been for the benefit of the homeowners and the community. Opening this area in the currently proposed manner accomplishes neither. San Dimas is already a generous host and good neighbor to outside visitors via Horsethief Canyon, Raging Waters, and Bonelli Park.

Respectfully,

Al & Diane Hernandez
1272 Paseo Los Gavilanes

From: Michelle [<mailto:mmlcowles@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 11:06 PM
To: Ann Garcia; Denis Bertone; John Ebner; Jeff Templeman; Emmett Badar; Curt Morris; Jerry;
903calle@gmail.com
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat Project

I am opposed to the plans regarding the Walnut Creek Habitat Project. I live in Via Verde and work for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District. I have seen nothing but problems at Etiwanda/Safire Falls Preserve-from graffiti, trespassing, parking issues, and tragic life saving measures. I have read the Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration and believe an EIR should be done to address traffic and other issues that are skimmed over in the study. Have you looked at the parking issues at the Claremont Loop? Our community does NOT NEED these problematic issues. San Dimas has always been a safe, family community in which we live and thrive. The City needs to STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN!! This is NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR COMMUNITY.

Michelle Cowles
1441 Paseo Manzana
San Dimas, 91773

From: Harrier, Sherri L [mailto:Sherri.Harrier@edwardjones.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 10:07 AM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek habitat and Open Sapce Project
Good Morning,

I have been a resident of San Dimas, in the Woodwalk/Via Verde area for 17 years. I am writing this email in protest of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. I know this will have a negative impact on our community.

We love our quiet little community, and this is the reason we moved here. Loma Vista Park has always been a wonderful place to take the kids, dog or just go to sit and enjoy nature.

If this project is given the green light, there will be more traffic and visitors which will lead to crime and undue stress on the neighborhood.

Please STOP this project!!

Thank you and have a wonderful day!
Sherri Harrier
Branch Office Administrator

659 E. 15th Street Suite A
Upland, CA 91786
909-931-7558 / 888-822-4569 fax
Sherri.Harrier@edwardjones.com

Please note: We may not take instructions affecting your account by email. This includes requests to place trades, transfer funds and change personal account information. Please contact our office at 909-931-7558. If after office hours please call our trades department at 800-441-2357 for such requests.

Sherri Harrier
Branch Office Administrator
Edward Jones
659 East 15th Street Suite A
Upland, CA 91786
(909) 931-7558
www.edwardjones.com

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If you do not wish to receive any email messages from us, excluding administrative communications, please email this request to messages@edwardjones.com along with the email address you wish to unsubscribe.

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From: mrirep@roadrunner.com [mailto:mrirep@roadrunner.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 2:22 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Project

After speaking with Theresa Brawn and other individuals from the City, with whom I shared my frustrations for being ignored and after not receiving responses to messages left, I was directed to send this note to you by email.

As a resident of the City of San Dimas and specifically the area of Via Verde I share my complete opposition to the Walnut Creek Project.

All of us, have attended multiple meetings at City Hall and each and everyone of us have expressed our feelings, concerns and complete opposition to the Walnut Creek Project, clearly and emphatically in front of every member of the City Council. And yet, over and over again, all of them, continue to ignore and disregard our concerns and position on this delicate issue. This is the same City Counsel who got the VOTES FROM ALL OF US TO BE SITTING IN THOSE CHAIRS TODAY!!!

WHY ARE THEY NOT LISTENING!!!!!!
THEY NEED TO START LISTENING.

This so called project will directly and negatively impact the safety, value and balance of the Via Verde area with no positive impact.

It will severely increase the traffic of strangers in our areas.
It will disturb the peace and beauty we came here for.
It will destroy the quality of life in this area.
It will bring outsiders at all hours of the day and night right in front of our doors.
It will increase the vehicle traffic on Avenida Loma Vista in the thousands.
and on and on and on.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL, THIS INSANE, AND UNNECESSARY PROJECT MUST BE HALTED COMPLETELY.

WE, THE CITIZENS OF THIS AREA WILL NOT STOP UNTIL WE RECEIVE THE SATISFACTION WE EXPECT.

Gaston and Maria Cristina Gonzalez
562-757 4417

From: albert salgado [mailto:903calle@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 6:19 PM

To: Ann Garcia

Cc: Jim Coupas; Curt Morris; Denis Bertone; Emmett Badar; John Ebiner; Jeff Templeman; Glen Ford; VVerde-Jerry Gardner

Subject: Walnut Creek Project Cost to City

Dear Ann,

Please tell me what the cost will be for the total project improvement and what will the city be responsible to pay?

I look forward to your response. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Albert Salgado

903 Calle Frondosa

San Dimas, CA 91773

909 592 6396

From: Linda Liu <lintaisheng@yahoo.com>
Subject: Walnut Creek habitat & Open Space Project
To: garcia@ci.san-dimas.ca.us
Date: Sunday, May 31, 2015, 12:52 AM

Good morning Ann,

I'm a Via Verde resident of San Dimas.
Please stop Walnut Creek habitat Project.

Changlu& Linda Liu
1334 Paseo Anacapa
San Dimas, Ca 91773

From: Gemmer, Teresa M. [mailto:TGemmer@semprautilities.com]
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2015 3:58 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project

Ms. Ann Garcia,

I am a resident of the Via Verde Community and it has come to my attention that the original agreement/plan that limited park access through a pedestrian gate constructed at the Loma Vista Park on Avenida Loma Vista is being changed. Apparently, the plans have been changed and access has been expanded that would introduce many non-residents into the community raising concerns again regarding burglaries, noise, traffic, vandalism and safety to the residents of Via Verde.

I am opposed to the expanded access and to any plan that deviates from the original agreement. I appreciate your consideration to the potential impact these changes can cause to the community.

Sincerely,
Teresa and Ken Gemmer
Via Verde Residents since 1998
Cell: 909-773-2996



5/28/2015

Ann Garcia
Community Development Department
City of San Dimas
245 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

Ms. Garcia,

Recently I attended a meeting in the San Dimas City Hall Council Chambers, conducted by the Parks & Recreation Commission to discuss the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project Study. This project has been discussed in the past and it was agreed to that there would be limited access to the park and that pedestrian access would be available through a gate to be constructed in Loma Vista Park on Avenida Loma Vista. I still have an e-mail from councilman Dennis Bertrone dated September 3rd 2012, thanking me for "My positive and common-sense approach" to the plan.

Now that a grant of \$800K has been received, it seems the original plan that all the parties agreed on was too aggressive for the size of the area, and is back in play. It appears that no Environmental Impact Report was asked for to consider fire concerns, burglaries, noise, traffic vandalism or privacy issues. Once again it appears the City and the Mountain Rivers Conservancy are completely ignoring the input of the Via Verde Homeowners on this project.

It is important that the citizens in the area make their feelings known to the commission by June 10th or else there is a real chance that our local government will sneak this project in without the support of the people. We are fed up by our government officials refusing to listen to the wishes of their citizens. This decision affects all of us!

Sincerely,

Michael & Patricia Tang
Via Verde Residents

Community Development Department

From: Thaddeus Gallizzi [<mailto:thaddeusgallizzi@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2015 11:52 AM

To: Ann Garcia

Subject: walnut creek habitat - public comment

hello -

unfortunately i missed the mtg May 19. i have checked the city of website for the minutes from the meeting and cannot find them - can you provide a link to the minutes for me?

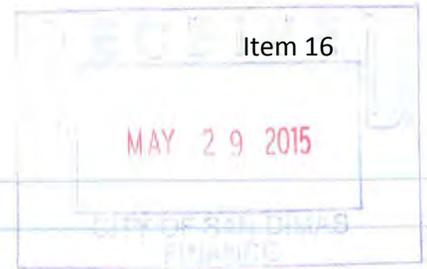
specific comment from me at this time: is as follows - pls confirm receipt.

thank you.

1. WHY ISNT THERE CONSIDERATION FOR AN AUTO ENTRANCE USING VALLEY CENTER OFF BADILLO? seems most logical. Via verde has a history of over zealous traffic haters. thats why we have so many stops, so many speed bumps, 25 mph speed limit and why sheriff stake themselves out here to catch speeders and those rolling thru the myriad of stops. Routing people unfamiliar with our speed limits and all our stops is a recipe for future aggravation from all parties - nobody wins. Of course if this idea gets any consideration, you'd need to create adequate walk-in entrances from the via verde side.
2. USE CALLE BANDERA AS SINGLE ENTRY AND EXIT POINT FOR TRAFFIC. (assuming item #1 is not possible). The portion of the neighborhood at loma vista park is already difficult for residents to traverse with the speed bumps and i can only imagine the ongoing frustration of visitors dealing with speed bumps. more importantly - the speed bumps which border the park are there due to the concern for children at play and other park users -creating an entry or exit point at the park simply doubles the impact versus having one sole entry exit point. it would eliminate an otherwise quiet car-safe area in the neighborhood for small kids. simply put - if you must impact the neighborhood with entry and exit do it in only one place. the residents on calle bandera suffer due to the increased traffic but they also benefit from a property which is adjacent to a valuable open space project that they can easily walk right into and enjoy - which at the very least maintains their property values.
3. COMMUNITY GARDEN IS A GOOD IDEA - KEEP IT IN THE PLAN. With sustainable living and healthy lifestyle consciousness growing- inclusion of this type of area serves an additional segment of the population in addition to those who want the area for the recreational use.
4. MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING-Not sure why this is for Auto restoration ? - but I can go along with that if it serves education and high schoolers. This building and it's grounds should also offer a sort of annex to city hall for via verde area residents for small community events, educational talks, parks and Rec programs etc. With either indoor or covered outdoor space (similar to the structure at Horse Thief Canyon just east of the dog park located in the northwest corner of the large grass area- which can serve us all for this purpose.
5. CREATE GOOD SIGNAGE ALONG SAN DIMAS AVENUE. Drivers will need clear direction signs and updates to existing - We still need better street signage for directions to locate Raging Waters and freeways along San Dimas Avenue and the addition of the walnut creek area will exasperate it. There also needs signage for horse crossing and small animals along SD Ave. We currently have one sign that is located at the corner of San Dimas Ave and Puddingstone Dr which is not legible at all - the letters are 2 inches high. The result is constant road kills and during peak Raging Water season drivers who are doing U turns and turning into Via Verde neighborhoods.

Please let me know if there is anything I can assist with as a resident in this undertaking.

Thaddeus P. Gallizzi
1314 Paseo Placita
San Dimas CA 91773
Email: ThaddeusGallizzi@gmail.com
Cell: 626.260.7490



Ann Garcia
Community Development Dept.
City of San Dimas
245 E. Bonita Ave.
San Dimas, CA. 91773

Nicholas O. Ohanyan
1328 Paseo Morelos
San Dimas, CA. 91773

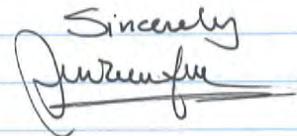
5/27/2015

Re: Walnut Creek habitat and Open Space Project Study

It seems like the above project is back in the City of San Dimas Community Development Department. In the past, I had opposed to the project, because it would cause more traffic, more noise, more pollution, on Avenida Loma Vista where the main access to the project would take place.

I understand that no Environmental Impact Report was considered with regard to noise, traffic, vandalism, burglaries, fire concerns and privacy issues.

Being a resident at the above address for 37 years, I am totally and absolutely opposed to the above project with regard to access from Avenida Loma Vista, because of the above issues that are not addressed.

Sincerely


From: BRIAN MC NERNEY [<mailto:bredbrian@verizon.net>]
Sent: Monday, May 25 2015 3:16 PM
To: Ann Garcia; emmettbadar@aol.com; jtempleman@ci.sandimas.ca.us; Dennis Bertone; Rob Anderson; jcoupas@wattawax.com; Arden Bates; cycleman@bigplanet.com; ceo@lavernechamber.net; fordmanagementcompany@gmail.com; Jerry Enis
Subject: Walnut Creek habita and Open Space Project Study

This project was fully dissected three years ago in 2011 and it was stated at that time that the Via Verde residents were willing to accept pedestrian access to the area through Loma Vista Park but not vehicle access.

When Via Verde was planned it was under developed by design. There are no churches, schools or industrial business parks in Via Verde. This has worked well for over 40 years and doesn't need to be changed now. This is a residential neighborhood meant to be enjoyed by families. Now that the city has received Grant Money of over 800k there seems to be a rush for getting to Phase 2 and 3 without even looking at how effective Phase 1 will be.

There has been an increase in crime in our area since the picnic tables were put in at the Antonovich trail and the usage has increased and brought people to our area who don't live here but now have discovered Via Verde. One of the nice assets of Via Verde is the limited access to the area. Basically, there are now only two ways in and out. If a road is put in through the park, it would not be that difficult for the Tzu Chi Foundation to hook up their property so that there could be immediate access to Valley Center Rd. and then right into Covina. This could open up all sorts of increased criminal activity in Via Verde.

After the recent Parks & Recreation Commission meeting I met Mr. Jim Coupas. He invited me to visit his home the next day and see what problems he faces. I visited 1013 Kaya Frandosa and Jim took me to his backyard. I will be 71 in three weeks but I put one foot on a brick by his fence and I was able to step out of his yard into the Habitat. It was that easy!! Jim told me he was robbed and with the help of the license plate number they tracked a car to four young kids who broke in and stole from his home to make money for their proms. They first discovered the area after visiting the Trail and saw how easy it was to get into the yards. This is a major problem.

I think a full blown Environmental Impact Study needs to be completed to look at things like:

- 1.) Fire Concerns
- 2.) Burglaries
- 3.) Traffic
- 4.) Noise
- 5.) Vandalism
- 6.) Privacy Issues

Another concern is the potential loss of property value in the Community because of the expanded nature of this Habitat and the problems it will bring. I have spoken to the two Realty firms in Via Verde and they are concerned about it and feel it will only have a negative effect on home prices.

Within a few miles of us we have Raging Waters, Bonelli Park, the Antonovich trail, Puddingston. To me this Green Belt already exist so access to the Habitat should be limited to pedestrian access at best, with

a gate that closes at dusk so to eliminate drugs, drinking, illegal sex and others things that tend to happen at night in parks.

If the project goes forward we need a "time table" for when you plan to introduce each Phase and how much each Phase will cost and what is the projected increase in traffic.

In March of 2012 when this last came up, I decided to mark off the feet from the curb on Loma Vista to the back fence that currently exist in Loma Vista Park. It was approximately 165 feet in total to reach the fence. Let's say we add another 200 feet behind the fence for your parking lot, etc. That is a total of 365 foot. For that amount of footage the City is going to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to take out the park, build a new road just to have people drive that short distance to park their cars, vans or buses and continue on foot. To me that is totally stupid.

There is enough parking on Loma Vista for at least 30 to 35 cars to park on both sides of the road and the people walk into the Habitat. That is more than double what is available for the Antonovich Trail. The park itself is used by the people who live here for birthday parties, picnics, basketball games. If you allow a road to be built the people who live here will suffer and the dynamics of the present park will radically change.

I don't know when was the last time you visited the Antonovich Trail. I was there in early March with some people from out of town and it was cluttered with trash. I run the La Verne Chamber of Commerce and today after our Memorial Day Celebration I went to the office to return things I had on my table at the Celebration. We were closed for 3 days because of the holiday. In our front yard I found 3 used cups, donut wrappers, two beer cans and a few other things. I picked them up and put them in the garbage. Basically human beings are pigs and the more they go somewhere without supervision, the dirtier things get. I think the possibility for fires, excessive trash is real. We have enough challenges with the drought than adding more layers on doesn't help.

I have taken time to document my concerns because I love living in Via Verde and this way of life. I think we have to use common sense when we look at projects and not make something more than it should be. I will be interested in seeing your responses. Hopefully they will be specific.

Thanks for your time.

Brian & Carol Ann McNerney
1322 Paseo Corto
San Dimas, CA 91773

From: Blaine Michaelis
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2015 1:21 PM
To: Lmlawcwm@aol.com; Ebner, John (john.ebner@hoag.org); emmettbadar@aol.com; ddbertone@aol.com; jeffreywtempleman.assoc@verizon.net
Cc: Theresa Bruns; Larry Stevens
Subject: FW: Traffic and Neighborhood Quality of Life

From: albert salgado [<mailto:903calle@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2015 11:16 AM
To: Curt Morris; Denis Bertone; Emmett Badar; John Ebner; Jeff Templeman
Subject: Re: Traffic and Neighborhood Quality of Life

Dear City Council:

I recently attended a community meeting where the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Project Plan hosted by the the Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas was discussed. What I learned alarmed me! The purpose of the Initial Study is to address the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of the project. At the meeting I learned that upon its full development, the habitat project is expected to add approximately 200 to 300 trips per day, with 10 to 20 peak hour trips to the neighborhood, and the largest increase in traffic occurring on Avenida Loma Vista, a 20 to 30% increase in traffic for this street, bringing the daily traffic volume to approximately 1,500 vehicles per day. Studies show that as traffic volumes increase, the safety of our streets declines along with property value, air quality, and the quiet we enjoy in our homes.

I also learned that the primary access points at which the traffic increase will occur will be at Loma Vista Community Park and Calle Bandera. Where are all of the 1,500 visitors going to park? There are no parking facilities at the park. What can we expect? Possibly a very congested Avenida Loma Vista with lost or frustrated visitors driving aimlessly around our neighborhoods looking for a parking space. I further became aware that the plan includes bringing bus loads of students to this location. Where are the buses going to load and unload students?

My neighbors have shared with me their belief that the plans for a buffer are totally inadequate. They have real concerns about loss of privacy, increased fire hazards, increased noise levels, encroachment on their properties and a degradation of home values. After the meeting, I must say that I share their alarm.

I fear we will lose our neighborhood quality of life. A lifestyle that many of my neighbors have worked their entire lives to achieve. Using our neighborhood to access the habitat is a misguided idea because it is harmful to the welfare of our community. Other more appropriate locations should be selected to serve as access points to the habitat.

Ours is not a choice borne upon the increased enhancements of the city environs, but rather whether or not we may expect to see the City of San Dimas keep its commitment to the preservation of tranquil and pleasant neighborhoods or trade local values for the shinier baubles made possible by corporate encroachment.

Sincerely,

Albert L. Salgado
903 Calle Frondosa
San Dimas, CA 91773
909 592 6396
903calle@gmail.com

From: albert salgado [mailto:903calle@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Habitat Draft Initial Study-Traffic Evaluation

Dear Ann:

My home is adjacent to Avenida Loma Vista. I am strongly opposed to Loma Vista Park and Calle Bandera as access points to the Habitat. The reason is obvious - **an increase of 20 to 30% in traffic; an additional 200 to 300 trips per day; an additional 1,500 vehicles per day!** Moreover, parking near and around Loma Vista Park is very limited which would result in traffic congestion and safety issues for both drivers and pedestrians. If you can take the time to talk with the residents of our neighborhood living on or near Avenida Loma Vista, you will find that most if not all residents share my view. As a member of a local HOA, I know for a fact that we have in the past attempted to convey this same message to staff but to no avail. I believe that there should be honest stakeholder collaboration with residents affected by the project that goes beyond an occasional community meeting with strict procedural protocol. I suggest that you may want to contact residents directly or the various HOAs in the areas to be impacted to gather more accurate and real time feedback. I am sure you will become aware of the strong opposition for using Loma Vista Park and Calle Bandera as entry points our neighborhood. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Albert L. Salgado
903 Calle Frondosa
San Dimas, CA 91773
909 592 6396

From: Ysandimas@aol.com [mailto:Ysandimas@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 4:08 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek

Please do not let that Avenida Loma Vista in San Dimas be used as an entrance to the Walnut Creek Habitat. Avenida Loma Vista is already congested. Let me inform you that my-self and most of the resident of Avenida Loma vista are afraid every time they have to get out of their garages due to the congestion.

I reside for the past 25 years on Avenida Loma Vista and believe me the traffic and noises are much too much already. I DO NOT WANT MORE TRAFFIC ,I DO NOT WANT MORE POLLUTION and no more NOISES. As a Loma Vista resident for the past 25 years I have already much to much of them and I firmly oppose of the Walnur Creek Habitat and demand that Avenida Loma Vista NOT be used as an entrance to the Walnut Creek Habitat. If allowing to use Avenida Loma Vista as an entrance the City will loose many of their resident. AGAIN I AM DEMANDING AS A RESIDENT OF AVENIDA LOMA VISTA Not to allowe Avenida Loma Vista to be used as an entrance to the Walnu Habitat.tCreek.

Umberto Yacon.a resident of Avenida Loma Vista in San Dimas Cal.91773.-

From: Sonny Oleas [mailto:ynnoso@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 4:27 PM
To: Ann Garcia
Subject: Walnut Creek Project

I live on Avenida Loma Vista (since 1985), I am the original owner. I have seen the changes of progress and the transformation San Dimas has gone through, for the most part they have been for the benefit of the residents and neighboring communities. However, I am not sure how any phase of Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project got approved, when many of the residents of Avenida Loma Vista and neighboring streets opposed it. Avenida Loma Vista has become a busy street and the additional traffic will heavily impact the safety of the residents; although we do not have car accidents on a daily basis, there have been some car Vs. car or car Vs. property incidents. Presently, there are many close calls on a daily basis when residence owners exit their driveways. I am sure the city is not looking for something major to happen, such as a serious or even death causing accidents due to the additional traffic volume. We the residents of Avenida Loma Vista have opposed this project and have stopped it from taking place, which part of NO is it that the city and/or council members do not understand? or is it that some council members have a personal vested interest in this project? I hope there has been a full disclosure and impact reports have been done by independent agencies that have no ties either to the city, city council members, The Water Conservation Authority or anyone endorsing this project. This project should be abolished or look at the alternate routes that been present, do not impact the residents and place them at additional risk, not only for property values and crime, but for the possible loss of life or limb the additional traffic will present.

OPPOSED

Sonny Oleas
900 Avenida Loma Vista

From: Don Meredith <mereduht@aol.com>
To: Agarcia <Agarcia@ci.sandimas.ca.us>
Cc: cmorris <cmorris@ci.san-dimas.ca.us>; dbertone <dbertone@ci.san-dimas.ca.us>; ebadar <ebadar@ci.san-dimas.ca.us>; jebiner <jebiner@ci.san-dimas.ca.us>; jtempleman <jtempleman@ci.san-dimas.ca.us>; MAntonovich <MAntonovich@lacbos.org>
Sent: Mon, May 18, 2015 11:01 pm
Subject: Walnut Creek Wilderness Hearing and Proposal

Ms. Garcia,

I received the noticed for the May 19, hearing last Wednesday. I have been trying to follow the varying proposals over the past several months. That said, **any proposal that has a roadway and vehicle entrance into Loma Vista Park is unacceptable to me. Additionally, any proposal that has an amphitheater in the wilderness area is also unacceptable.**

In reviewing the various plot maps, I see that they having parking lots within the confines of the project. These parking lots appear to be behind the homes located on Loma Vista. I find this troublesome in that the homeowners bought those houses with no expectations of a parking lot being located behind them. Like two of our city councilman I have many years of law enforcement experience and believe that those lots will lead to gatherings of individuals to socialize in while using alcohol or narcotics. A good example of the attraction it creates is illustrated by how crowded the dirt lot on San Dimas Ave at the entrance to the Michael D. Antonovich trail has become since the picnic tables were placed there.

I agree with a pedestrian gate from Loma Vista Park and would like to see that done as soon as practical, but no roadway or vehicular traffic through the park, and definitely no amphitheater. With the 4 different options present it is difficult to see which direction the leadership of San Dimas is taking.

I have lived in the Via Verde area if San Dimas since 1978 and never envisioned the tranquility of my neighborhood would face potential issues of roadways through Loma Vista Park, Parking lots behind residential areas and a possible amphitheater within Walnut Creek.

reference

http://watershedconservationauthority.org/plans/walnut_creek.html

Don Meredith
1321 Paseo Placita
San Dimas
909 821 1070

Comment Card: 5/22/15

Sean – Will there be more of a security presence given the increased traffic?
(909) 896-0110, cujocazares@yahoo.com

Comment Card: 5/22/15

Danny Haborern – send any information as it becomes available.
dansarrows@verizon.net

Comment Card: 5/26/15

Chikahide& Keido Date – We live more than 30 years at 1170 Avenida Loma Vista, San Dimas. Our house is located just across the street of the Avenida Loma Vista park. We do not agree to open the park and make the entrance to access Walnut Creek. The reasons are:

1. Lose our privacy
2. Increasing more traffic on the street
3. We do not like to be made a stop sign in front of our garage by the city.

We wish that we can live in safe and peaceful environment. Thank you.

1170 Avenida Loma Vista, San Dimas, CA 91773

(909) 599-2900

pekopoko19@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor:

Last night I attended a meeting in the San Dimas City Hall Council Chambers, conducted by the Parks & Recreation Commission to discuss the Walnut Creek habitat and Open Space Project Study. This project has been discussed in the past and it was agreed to that there would be limited access to the park and that pedestrian access would be available through a gate to be constructed in Loma Vista Park on Avenida Loma Vista. I still have an e-mail from Councilman Dennis Bertrone dated September 3rd, 2012 thanking me for "My positive and Common-Sense approach to the Plan".

Now that a grant of \$800k has been received, it seems the original plan that all the parties agreed was too aggressive for the size of the area is back in play. It appears that no Environmental Impact Report was asked for to consider fire concerns, burglaries, noise, traffic, Vandalism or privacy issues. Once again it appears the City and the Mountain Rivers Conservancy are completely ignoring the input of the Via Verde Homeowners on this project.

It is important that the citizens in the area make their feelings known to the commission by June 10th or else there is a real chance that our local government will sneak this project in without support of the people. I, for one, am fed up by our government officials not listening to the wishes of their citizens.

All comments should be directed to:

Ann Garcia
Community Development Department
City of San Dimas
245 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773
A Garcia@ci.san-dimas.ca.us
Phone: 909-394-6200

Brian McNerney
Via Verde Resident

THIS
DECISION
AFFECTS
ALL OF
US!!

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING “APPROVED” MINUTES:

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
May 19, 2015
City Council Chambers – City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Kenney at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Kevin Kenney, Chairperson
Susan Davis, Commissioner
Frank Neal, Commissioner
Tom Diaz, Commissioner
Jose Martinez, Commissioner
Baylee Smith, Commissioner

Larry Stevens, Assistant City Manager, Development Services
Theresa Bruns, Parks and Recreation Director
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager
Ann Garcia, Administrative Aide
Steve Farmer, Landscape Maintenance Manager
La Toyia Ward, Recreation Coordinator
John Ebner, City Councilmember
Collette Morse, Morse Planning Group

Absent: Kathryn Perkins, excused

Prior to Agenda Item 3, Approval of Minutes, Chairperson Kenney thanked the audience in attendance and reviewed the agenda and informed the audience of the public comment process that would follow agenda item 4a, Presentation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and Receive Public Comment.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 17, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONER NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2015 MEETING AS SUBMITTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAVIS AND APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 5-0, WITH COMMISSIONER DIAZ NOT YET IN ATTENDANCE.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Presentation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and Receive Public Comment

Director Bruns gave a brief history of the Walnut Creek Habitat Open Space Project including the acquisition in partnership with the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA), planning, public input process and review. In 2012 a phased plan was accepted and approved by City Council. In 2013 an application for \$850,000 of funding from the 5th Supervisorial District Prop A funds was successful allowing for implementation and completion of Phase I of the plan. Phase I includes, trail development, landscape buffers, pedestrian access through Loma Vista Park and demolition of some existing structures. The CEQA process must be completed prior to the initiation of Phase I.

Assistant City Manager Stevens reviewed the purpose of the CEQA process and noted that analysis must be completed and reviewed according to CEQA guidelines. The entire Walnut Creek Open Space concept plan was reviewed and the intent is that this is the final review for the entire plan unless changes are made to the plan. Notice was given of the public comment process including a mailed notification to all residents within 1000 feet of the boundaries of the project location and the surrounding unincorporated area, as well as via the media, notices at City Hall, the library and the City website. The actual CEQA report is available for public review on the City website, at City Hall and at the San Dimas Library.

The public has until June 10 to submit comments on the report. All comments will be included in a written summary provided to City Council. The report will be considered by City Council at the June 23, 2015 meeting. Additional notice to residents will be given prior to that meeting. The WCA will review the plan for approval at its board meeting on July 16, 2015. For the CEQA process the City is considered the “responsible” agency for the plan and the WCA is considered the “lead” agency for the plan. The lead agency makes the final decision on the plan. The City Council will make a recommendation to WCA.

Assistant City Manager Stevens noted that all public comments at the meeting tonight should be related to the CEQA report.

When City Council approved the plan they only approved Phase I and current funding is only for Phase I. Other issues related to other phases can be addressed at that time as there will be opportunities for public comment. Assistant City Manager Stevens then introduced Collette Morse of the Morse Planning Group, the firm that developed the CEQA plan, to review the main aspects of the plan.

Ms. Morse presented a Power Point presentation to the Commission (attached). She noted that the study reviewed potential impacts of the project and any subsequent action that is needed.

The plan has 17 areas of review. The CEQA process requires that 87 questions be addressed to determine impact and extent of the impact. The presentation included a map of the project with the phased design and improvements. It reviewed the key aspects of Phase I; the CEQA process, pedestrian access through Loma Vista Park, development of the General Site Trail and Meadow Trail, connection to the Antonovich Trail on the west side of the property, removal of the buildings on a portion of the site and a perimeter buffer.

Ms. Morse presented the list of all the topics reviewed in the initial study, conclusions, and mitigation measures if needed. She reviewed the levels of impact as determined by the study from no impact, to less than significant to significant. For Phase I of the project no mitigation measures were noted.

Ms. Morse reviewed the traffic study process that identified streets associated with the project and traffic flow impacts. She noted that the study concluded that a 20% to 30% increase in traffic flow was possible but that the traffic load did not exceed the capacity of the streets or warrant a conclusion.

She concluded by noting that based on the CEQA study an Environmental Impact Report is not needed and concluded the presentation.

Assistant City Manager Stevens again reviewed the public comment process and that there would be not responses on the report unless required to clarify a detail of the report or requested a point of additional information. He also reiterated that the CEQA review includes impacts for the complete concept plan and only Phase I improvements are to be completed at this time.

Chairperson Kenney thanked Mr. Stevens and Ms. Morse for the presentation and invited public comment.

John Margis, a resident who lives in Via Verde south of the project spoke and noted that he felt a review of section 4.16 of Transportation and Traffic question A should be reviewed. He stated that it addressed the worst case scenario of an “active park” design and requested that this portion of the report also address the impacts of the current Phase I design which calls for a “passive” park and the traffic load related to such use.

James Murphy a resident in the Via Verde area commented that the project calls for trail development and that the result would be increased traffic. He noted that he believed the project should call for parking in the park rather than on the street behind the park.

Glenn Ford of Ford Management spoke representing 58 homeowners, of the homeowners association in track 3117 of the Via Verde neighborhood. He stated that the association had a meeting to share concerns of the impact of the project and asked for him to speak on behalf of the group and to present their concerns. The group had composed a letter that outlined the concerns and then he addressed some of them. He noted that the proximity of the habitat project was a concern and that residents wanted a buffer for sound and privacy. They have a concern for safety from trespassers that might result in increases in burglary. There is an issue with the trail being on the perimeter of the property and that it provides a visual access into homes. The residents hope the trail can be relocated. Speeding and traffic on surrounding streets is a concern. There is a general concern for a loss of property value for those homes closest to the project and fear that this loss of property value will trickle out to other homes. He presented the association letter to Assistant City Manager Stevens.

Gene Osling, a resident whose home backs up to the project property spoke to note that he considered the traffic report portion, “offensive.” He felt that a 20% - 30% increase in traffic in a developed area was a concern. He requested that a pathway access through Loma Vista Park be eliminated. He stated people will park on streets near Loma Vista Park and will be parking in front of resident’s homes.

Albert Salgado, of 903 Calle Frondosa spoke to share his concerns about traffic safety. He sees the increase in traffic as a danger to children who would be trying to get out of the way. The street in front of Loma Vista Park is a downhill and drivers forget how fast they are going. He stated the increased traffic will be a safety hazard.

Chairperson Kenney thanked the audience for their comments and then invited comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Davis had no comment at this time.

Commissioner Diaz stated that the report did not discuss the impact on emergency vehicle access or increased parking congestion. A 20% - 30% increase in traffic may not translate well to people and the traffic analysis should be looked at further.

Commissioner Martinez noted that regarding the 20% to 30% traffic increase cited in the presentation, at what point should mitigation action occur and what mitigation action would be required.

Commissioner Neal stated that Avenida Loma Vista is not made for two way traffic and parking. There is very little parking on the north side and it would be difficult for a bicyclist and automobiles to pass at the same time.

Commissioner Smith had no comment at this time.

Commissioner Kenney noted he used to live in the area and used to walk with his children to Loma Vista Park. He observed that folks speed by houses. He expressed concern about the traffic impacts and the problems with traffic on the street. He stated that if it was a park that only the nearby community attended it would not be a problem but agreed that it is a security issue. Many people come from out of the area to go to Bonelli Park, and this project will likely draw many users as well.

With no further comments Assistant City Manager Stevens thanked the members of the community for their comments. He reminded members they were welcome to use the comment cards or submit comments by email or letter. He advised community members to call City Hall if they had questions. All comments will be compiled and responded to at the conclusion of the comment period and should be up on the City website by June 20, 2015. Chairperson Kenney asked how the responses would be addressed. Assistant City Manager Stevens replied that they will likely be grouped by topic area and there will be an opportunity for revisions or adjustments to the report. Notices will be given five to six days prior to the City Council review meeting. At their meeting City Council will make a recommendation on the Mitigated Negative Declaration to the WCA.

The public comment portion of the meeting was concluded.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Director of Parks & Recreation

1. Update on Via Verde Park Plan

Director Bruns advised the Commission that staff is continuing to work with a landscape architect to redesign the playground pads and entry. Plans will be presented at the July Commission meeting.

2. Update on Water Conservation Efforts

Director Bruns stated that there has been an Executive Order from the Governor's office on water conservation and introduced Landscape Maintenance Manager Farmer to give an update on the Departments water conservation efforts.

Manager Farmer stated that the City has 176 landscaped acres. Typically in winter and wetter months the Department backs off on the water schedule but due to the fact that for the last 2 years there has been very little rain they have not been able to do that and have had to increase watering of turf and landscape due to the high temperatures. Due to the Governors order of a 28% reduction in water use, irrigation for turf medians has been turned off. Turf will be turning brown and will be lost. Landscaped medians will be retrofitted to be irrigated by either drip or neo spray systems in order to maintain the urban forest. During the transition to new systems, mulch will be installed at the base of trees for the short term to retain moisture and decomposed granite transitions to rock installed for a nicer finish, and to retain material. Landscaped medians will be maintained in the current condition.

Director Bruns stated that it is a difficult task but it is required. The transition will take place in steps and she asked for the public's patience. The City has several major thoroughfares with turf that will be transitioned to drip or Netafin system to maintain trees but turf will be lost. Commissioner Diaz stated he has heard about

rebate plans for turf replacement and asked if the City has applied for any rebates. Manager Farmer replied that we have submitted seven median projects for consideration. Director Bruns noted that the challenge is that live turf must be replaced and the medians may lose live turf before they can be replaced. It is not likely that the timing will work to qualify for the rebates.

Commissioner Martinez stated that in his work with his water district he is very familiar with the challenges being faced and shared his insight. He stated that the drought is legitimate and urgent. He noted there are rebate programs for turf replacement but there is a temporary hold due to demand although applications are still being accepted.

He inquired if Golden State Water, the water purveyor for San Dimas has made any announcements regarding reductions. He said the medians will go brown and that he recommends posting signs on the medians noting that the City is doing its part to conserve water. He stated that water districts are trying to come up with plans but it is a complex situation. He recommended asking Golden State Water for flexibility in the irrigation schedule. He noted it might be worthwhile to discuss since the City has been using smart irrigation technology for several years.

Director Bruns stated that the City has been very proactive with smart controllers. The City is committed to conservation and maintaining playing fields to playable standards for liability and safety reasons. There was discussion from Manager Farmer on the irrigation schedule and the number of days and duration. The frequency of days may not change but the duration can in order to keep playing field turf healthy.

Commissioner Martinez again offered any assistance he might have to staff in order to troubleshoot issues. Director Bruns stated that she will be meeting with the golf course staff and Golden State Water staff next Thursday to discuss water conservation. Commissioner Kenny asked if the City uses any reclaimed water. Director Bruns noted that there is no access to reclaimed water in San Dimas.

3. Update on Via Verde Avenue Median Island Landscape

Director Bruns stated that a contract has been entered with a landscape architect to design a drought tolerant landscape plan for the Via Verde Avenue median. Manager Farmer noted that there is 99,000 square feet of turf on the median. Director Bruns noted that the concept will be similar to the look that is at the north end of San Dimas Avenue with the goal being to maintain trees.

4. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Manager Raya distributed the calendar of events through July noting that summer is a very busy time of the year. He highlighted the start of summer classes, day camps and Music in the Park and the Family Campouts.

B. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Davis- No comment.

Commissioner Smith – Not comment.

Commissioner Neal – No comment.

Commissioner Diaz – He thanked all who prepared the Walnut Creek presentation and all who came out to comment.

Commissioner Martinez – He shared that it is his last meeting and it has been a privilege and an honor to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. He thanked staff and Commissioners for their commitment and hard work.

Commissioner Kenney- He thanked Commissioner Martinez for his service and wished him the best. He noted it was a pleasure working with him.

C. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Ebner shared that the Council reviewed a plan for the downtown that involves removing the wooden sidewalks, modifying landscaping and making street improvements. It should improve the look and experience of the downtown. The final plan will be reviewed by City Council shortly. He added that the Parks and Recreation Department has several capital improvement projects in the budget and that it has not had that number in many years. Director Bruns noted that eight of fifteen projects listed on the CIP project page of the budget are Parks and Recreation Department projects. Councilmember Ebner noted the budget is scheduled to be adopted by City Council on June 9. He thanked Commissioner Martinez for his service of six years.

D. Members of the Audience

John Margis shared the efforts his homeowners association has made towards water conservation. These include removal of 25,000 square feet of turf and qualifying for the rebate available as well as transitioning to mulch and changing landscaping. The next phase is to look at smart technology irrigation.

ADJOURNMENT

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:34 P.M.



Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager

RESOLUTION 2016-19**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIMAS, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, RECOMMENDING ADOPTION OF THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT AND SETTING FORTH STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF ANY FUTURE PHASES**

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2015 the City of San Dimas held a public meeting to consider a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project;

WHEREAS, there was significant opposition to the project presented both in writing and in testimony at said meeting;

WHEREAS, the City Council, after considering the community input, directed Staff to work with project partners and area residents to address the identified concerns prior to any action on the Mitigated Negative Declaration;

WHEREAS, the area residents and Staffs have met on several occasions over the ensuing months to discuss area residents' concerns and consider alternatives to the project;

WHEREAS, the Mitigated Negative Declaration is an informational document intended to evaluate potential environmental impacts and mitigate them where feasible;

WHEREAS, the Conceptual Master Plan serves as the project description for the purposes of the environmental analysis but is not approved or adopted by this action;

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act also intends to allow changes to a project as a result of the environmental review and public input thereon provided that any project changes create no greater environmental impact than those identified in the environmental document;

WHEREAS, City Staff, Watershed Conservation Authority Staff and a group of concerned area residents from the adjacent neighborhoods have jointly agreed that certain changes to the project address many of the concerns raised by area residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF SAN DIMAS CITY COUNCIL AGREES THAT ANY FUTURE PHASES SHALL BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES:

1. Any project changes and any future phases will be subject to additional community input. Community input shall include, as a minimum:
 - a. A notice mailed to all property owners within 1000 feet of the property;
 - b. Notice to any persons or groups providing a written request to be notified;

- c. Community outreach and neighborhood meeting(s); and,
 - d. City Council review at a noticed public meeting.
2. No project changes or improvements beyond the currently funded west phase shall be considered for a minimum of five years. The City may conduct feasibility studies and seek grants during this time period.
3. There will be no public access, either pedestrian or vehicular access, directly through the Via Verde neighborhood with the development of the west phase and there will be no vehicular or pedestrian access allowed in any future phase without community input as defined in Number 1 above.
 - a. Non-vehicular public trail access from the Antonovich Trail, and across portions of the Watershed Conservation Authority property, is part of the west phase development and will continue in the use of the west phase trail.
 - b. The City agrees to re-evaluate the traffic study in the future if access is considered.
 - c. Limited access will continue as currently managed by the City.
 - d. Construction access will be allowed through Calle Bandera for the west phase.
4. All trails and any other use or activity shall be designed to maximize separation and minimize visibility between recreation and residential uses. Where feasible, any trail shall be located within the canyon and below the rim. There shall be a landscape buffer as appropriate and feasible to meet these objectives for each phase as they may develop.
5. The west phase trail loop shall be located as identified in attached Exhibit A and shall comply with criteria set forth in Number 4 above.
 - a. The landscape buffer shall include plantings both adjacent to the residences and, where appropriate, adjacent to the trail to address Number 4 above.
 - b. Landscape materials shall be selected which minimize any disruption to existing view sheds from residences.
 - c. Buildings identified for demolition on Exhibit A shall be removed.
6. The existing WCA buildings may remain as is and will be further evaluated for any future use or demolition when funding source has been identified and/or funding becomes available. A community review as set forth in Number 1 will be conducted prior to use of these buildings.

7. Any future trail for the east phase shall not extend westerly of the Frondosa Knoll and shall meet the standards in Number 4. A community review as set forth in Number 1 shall be conducted prior to finalizing the trail location.
8. There shall be no connection between the west and east phase trails without community input as set forth in Number 1.
 - a. There shall be no expansion of Loma Vista Park into the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project Area without community review as set forth in Number 1.
9. The City may continue clean up and maintenance of the project site as appropriate and as funding becomes available.
11. The City shall cooperate with the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department relative to currently existing access points to facilitate their use as primary access points for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF SAN DIMAS, AS A RESPONSIBLE AGENCY, RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACTING AS LEAD AGENCY.



Curtis W. Morris, Mayor City of San Dimas

ATTEST:



Debra Black, Assistant City Clerk

I, Debra Black, Assistant City Clerk, hereby certify that Resolution 2016-19 was adopted by the City Council of San Dimas at its regular meeting of April 26th, 2016 by the following vote:

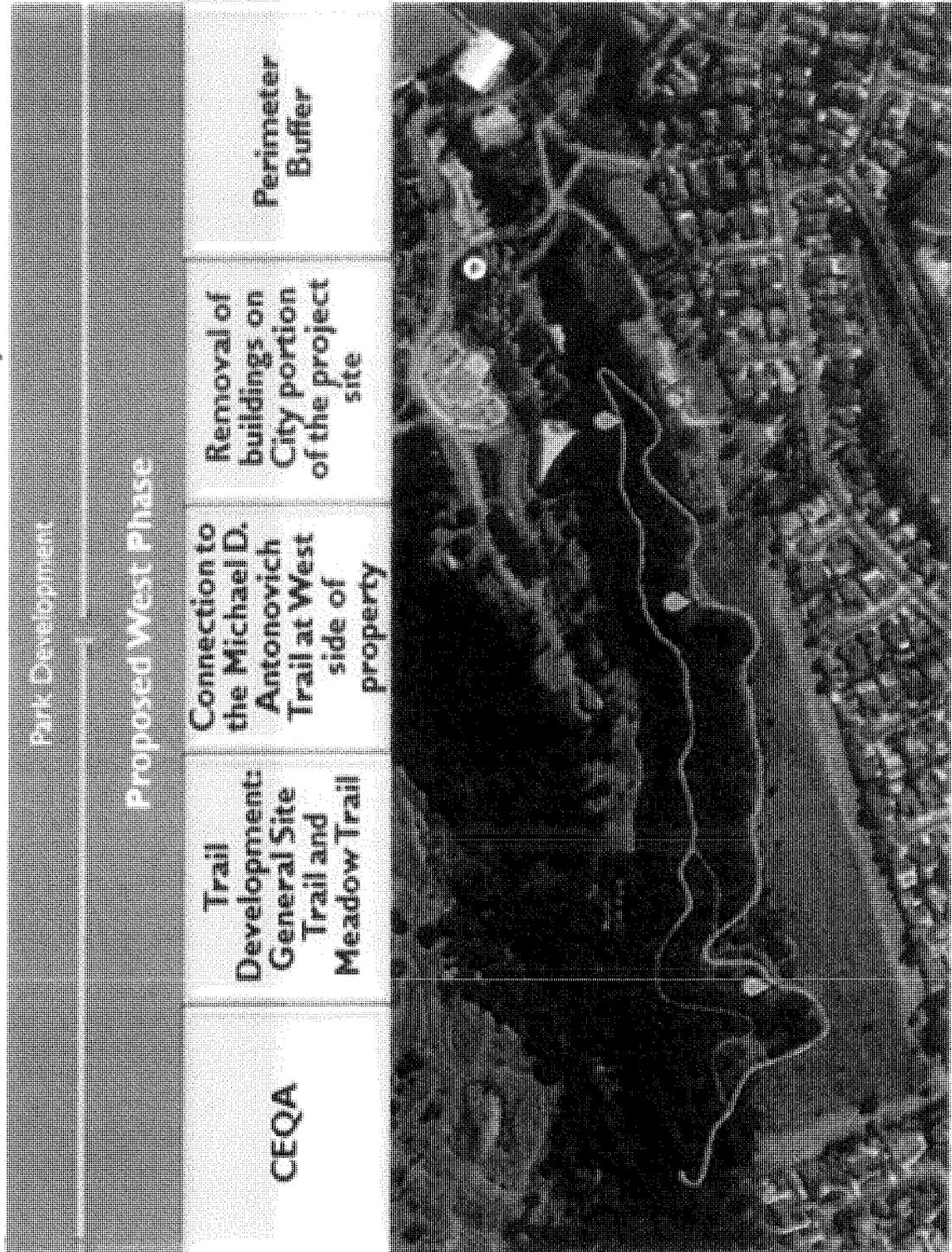
AYES: None
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Badar, Bertone, Ebner, Templeman, Morris



Debra Black, Assistant City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

Proposed West Phase Plan Development



Park Development

Proposed West Phase

CEQA	Trail Development: General Site Trail and Meadow Trail	Connection to the Michael D. Antonovich Trail at West side of property	Removal of buildings on City portion of the project site	Perimeter Buffer
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7.0 **MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Section 4.0 of this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration identifies the mitigation measures that will be implemented to reduce the impacts associated with the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project. The *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)* was amended in 1989 to add Section 21081.6, which requires a public agency to adopt a monitoring and reporting program for assessing and ensuring compliance with any required mitigation measures applied to proposed development. As stated in *Public Resources Code* Section 21081.6,

... the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project which it has adopted, or made a condition of project approval, in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment.

Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 provides general guidelines for implementing mitigation monitoring programs and indicates that specific reporting and/or monitoring requirements, to be enforced during project implementation, shall be defined prior to adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The mitigation monitoring table below lists those mitigation measures that may be included as conditions of approval for the project. These measures correspond to those outlined in Section 4.0. To ensure that the mitigation measures are properly implemented, a monitoring program has been devised which identifies the timing and responsibility for monitoring each measure. The Watershed Conservation Authority will have the responsibility for implementing the measures, and the various County of Los Angeles departments will have the primary responsibility for monitoring and reporting the implementation of the mitigation measures.

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
AESTHETICS						
AES-1	Night lighting shall be low intensity directional lighting focused away from open space and residential uses. The Watershed Conservation Authority may utilize hoods, filtering louvers, glare shields, and/or landscaping as necessary to achieve a standard of no more than 2 foot-candles above the ambient light level, measured at the nearest residential property line. The lamp enclosures and poles shall be painted or be or a natural finish to reduce reflection.	During Operations	Watershed Conservation Authority			
AIR QUALITY						
AQ-1	The construction contractor shall comply with SCAQMD Rule 403, excessive fugitive dust emissions shall be controlled by regular watering or other dust prevention measures, as specified in the SCAQMD's Rules and Regulations. In addition, SCAQMD Rule 402 requires implementation of dust suppression techniques to prevent fugitive dust from creating a nuisance off-site. Implementation of the following measures would reduce short-term fugitive dust impacts on nearby sensitive receptors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All active portions of the construction site shall be watered every three hours during daily construction activities and when dust is observed migrating from the project site to prevent excessive amounts of dust. ▪ Pave or apply water every three hours during daily construction activities or apply non-toxic soil stabilizers on all unpaved access roads, parking areas, and staging areas. More frequent watering shall occur if dust is observed migrating from the site during site disturbance. 	During Grading and Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas Los Angeles County Public Works Department (Building and Safety)			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any on-site stockpiles of debris, dirt, or other dusty material shall be enclosed, covered, or watered twice daily, or non-toxic soil binders shall be applied. ▪ All grading and excavation operations shall be suspended when wind speeds exceed 25 miles per hour. ▪ Disturbed areas shall be replaced with ground cover or paved immediately after construction is completed in the affected area. ▪ Track-out devices such as gravel bed track-out aprons (3 inches deep, 25 feet long, 12 feet wide per lane and edged by rock berm or row of stakes) shall be installed to reduce mud/dirt track-out from unpaved truck exit routes. Alternatively, a wheel washer shall be used at truck exit routes. ▪ On-site vehicle speed shall be limited to 15 miles per hour. ▪ All material transported off-site shall be either sufficiently watered or securely covered to prevent excessive amounts of dust prior to departing the job site. ▪ Reroute construction trucks away from congested streets or sensitive receptor areas, if feasible. ▪ Operate all construction vehicles and equipment with emission levels that meet current air quality standards. ▪ Minimize idling times either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of <i>California Code of Regulations</i> [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points. 					

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES						
At each phase of project development, the following mitigation measures shall be reviewed by the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas to determine which measures are or are not applicable based upon the areas to be disturbed for construction and/or operation. For each phase of project development, all applicable mitigation measures shall be implemented.						
BIO-1	The need for ground disturbance and/or vegetation removal should be decided as soon as possible to determine if special status plant and wildlife surveys are necessary. Focused surveys can only be performed during selected periods of the years and early coordination with the project biologist will avoid potential construction delays.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
BIO-2	Several special status plant species have the potential to occur at the project site. If project construction requires any ground disturbance, a series of focused botanical surveys (up to three) would be necessary to coincide with the peak flowering periods of the various special status species. If focused surveys are necessary, it is recommended that the surveys focus on plant species listed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as 1B.1, 1B.2, and 2.2. If found on-site with potential impact areas, mitigation may be required depending on the size of the population found. Because no State- or Federally-listed Threatened or Endangered plant species are expected to occur on-site, consultation with the resource agencies would not be required. Plants that are listed as 4.2 do not have the sensitivity that warrants mitigation for impacts, unless deemed otherwise for select species (e.g., Southern California black walnut) by the lead agency.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
BIO-3	Several special status wildlife species potentially occur on-site; however, only one of these is listed as Federally Threatened: coastal California gnatcatcher. Potentially suitable habitat for the gnatcatcher is present within the coastal sage scrub vegetation that is located primarily in the eastern portions of the project site. Because this species is a year-round resident of southern California, focused surveys are recommended in areas containing potentially suitable habitat in order to determine its presence or absence from the project site. Impacts to this species can be avoided by working outside of the recognized breeding season (February 15 through August 30) and by avoiding the removal of any potential nesting habitat at any point in the year. If this species occurs on-site and the project removes habitat for this species, approval by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) would be required.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority		
BIO-4	Potential impacts to other special status bird species that may nest on-site can be protected through compliance with Migratory Birds Treaty Act (MBTA). It is recommended that any vegetation removal should occur between September 1 and January 31. If clearing occurs between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist should perform a pre-construction survey to detect any active nesting locations. If the biologist finds an active nest within the construction area and determines that the nest may be impacted, the biologist will delineate an appropriate buffer zone around the nest depending on the species and the type of construction activity. Any active nests observed during the survey will be mapped on an aerial photograph. A project/species-specific foot buffer, determined by a biologist, is to be designated around a nest to allow construction to proceed while minimizing disturbance to the active nest. The biologist shall serve as a construction monitor during those periods when construction	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas		

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
	activities take place near active nest areas in order to ensure that no inadvertent impacts on these nests shall occur.				
BIO-5	The remaining special status wildlife (amphibians, reptiles, and mammals) that potentially occur on-site are listed as California Species of Special Concern. Although these species are not awarded special protection by the resource agencies, consideration shall be given to avoid potential habitat for these species to the greatest extent practicable. The majority of these areas are likely to occur with the scrub and woodland communities on-site. Avoiding these habitat types through project design will allow for more habitat to be retained on-site and available for these and other more common species known and expected to occur.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority		
BIO-6	Invasive plants can have significant impacts to native vegetation types. The applicant shall prepare landscape plans and/or plant palettes and have them reviewed by a qualified biologist. The review shall ensure that no invasive, exotic plant species are used in any landscaping adjacent to any open space and the suitable substitutes are proposed.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas		
BIO-7	Lighting could inadvertently result in an indirect impact on the behavioral patterns of nocturnal and crepuscular (i.e., active at dawn and dusk) wildlife remaining in the project area. Wildlife present in these areas may already be somewhat acclimated to current lighting associated with adjacent development. However, the uses that could be allowed with the project (i.e., parks and recreational areas and trails) would include additional ambient lighting which could affect small, ground-dwelling animals that use the darkness to hide from predators, owls, and other specialized night foragers and wildlife that primarily move at night. Outdoor lighting shall be designed and installed so that all direct rays are	During Construction and Operation	Watershed Conservation Authority		

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
	confined to the development areas and adjacent open space is protected from glare.					
BIO-8	Prior to any ground disturbance within or near drainage features, a formal jurisdictional delineation shall be completed to identify potential impacts to wetlands and riparian resources that may be subject to the permitting requirements of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB), and/or the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority			
BIO-9	Coast live oak, southern California black walnut, and other trees occur on the project site. To comply with Los Angeles County Code Section 22.56.2060 (Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance) and the San Dimas Municipal Code Chapter 13.36 (Ordinance No. 1163), a tree inventory survey shall be conducted in areas depicted on Exhibit 4-1, Vegetation Types (Page 1) and Exhibit 4-2, Vegetation Types (Page 2) suitable for the trees identified in either Code and affected by development. Tree inventory shall be completed by a Certified Arborist in order to gather data on all protected trees and to apply for the necessary permits prior to any impacts occurring.	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
BIO-10	For each phase of project development, the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall consult with a qualified biologist or wetland/jurisdictional delineation specialist to 1) review the proposed plans and 2) confirm if any construction or operational impacts would occur within the drainage areas shown on Exhibit 4-3 and Exhibit 4-4. If the qualified biologist or wetland/jurisdictional delineation specialist determines there is the potential for impacts within the	During Project Design and Prior to Project Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>drainage areas shown on Exhibit 4-3 and Exhibit 4-4, the following are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A pre-application meeting with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and Regional Water Quality Control Board to discuss site conditions; biological and jurisdictional resources; the proposed project; impacts to these resources resulting from the proposed project; proposed minimization measures and the mitigation program to offset these impacts; and the regulatory permit process, including the decision to prepare and submit an Approved Jurisdictional Determination or a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination. ▪ Preparation of a Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (HMMP) for regulatory agency review. Mitigation ratios for impacts to USACE jurisdictional resources shall be based on the USACE's Standard Operating Procedure for Determination of Mitigation Ratios (USACE 2012). ▪ Submittal of United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Permit, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and/or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, as applicable. 					

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
CULTURAL RESOURCES					
At each phase of project development, the following mitigation measure shall be reviewed by the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas to determine if the measure is or is not applicable based upon the areas to be disturbed for construction and/or operation, and shall be implemented if deemed applicable.					
CUL-1	A qualified archaeologist shall be retained to monitor grading related to improvements in the eastern and western thirds of the project site, or elsewhere if resources are discovered. In the event that archaeological resources are inadvertently unearthed during excavation and grading activities, the contractor shall cease all earth-disturbing activities within a 100-foot radius of the area of discovery. The qualified archaeologist shall evaluate the significance of the find and the appropriate course of action. If avoidance of the resources is not feasible, salvage operation requirements pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 shall be followed. After the find has been appropriately avoided or mitigated, work in the area may resume.	During Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority		
CUL-2	In the event that construction would require substantial excavations into the Quaternary deposits in the western portion of the site, a qualified paleontologist shall be retained by the Watershed Conservation Authority to conduct construction monitoring of the project site. If fossils are found during monitoring, the paleontologist shall prepare a report summarizing the results of the monitoring program including methods of fossil recovery, preparation, and curation, and a description of the fossils collected and their significance. A copy of the report shall be provided to the Watershed Conservation Authority and the City of San Dimas. The fossils and a copy of the report shall be deposited in an accredited curation facility for permanent curation.	During Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority		

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
CUL-3	In the event of the discovery of a burial, human bone, or suspected human bone, all excavation or grading in the vicinity of the find shall halt immediately, the area of the find shall be protected, and the Los Angeles County Coroner immediately notified of the find. The provisions of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 relative to Native American involvement, burial treatment, and re-burial, if necessary, shall be met.	During Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
GEOLOGY AND SOILS						
At each phase of project development, the following mitigation measure shall be reviewed by the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas to determine if the measure is or is not applicable, and shall be implemented if deemed applicable. This measure is applicable to areas where slopes are 10 percent or greater and where buildings will be constructed.						
GEO-1	Prior to the issuance of building permits, subsurface drilling shall be conducted to verify the preliminary spectral acceleration values shown in Table 6.4-1 in the Geotechnical Feasibility Evaluation determined for existing and future buildings founded atop deep unit "Qofs" older fan sediments and determine final spectral acceleration values. The final selection of design coefficients shall be made by the structural consultant based upon local guidelines and ordinances and expected building response, and incorporated into the building design.	Prior to Issuance of Building Permits	Watershed Conservation Authority			
At each phase of project development, the following mitigation measure shall be reviewed by the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas to determine if the measure is or is not applicable, and shall be implemented if deemed applicable. This measure is applicable to areas in close proximity to landslide areas shown on Exhibit 4-5 where trails will be constructed.						
GEO-2	Prior to the installation of the multi-purpose trails in the western portion of the project site, a geotechnical engineer shall be retained to determine the appropriate geotechnical engineering measures needed relative to landslides. The recommendations of	Prior to Installation of Trails	Watershed Conservation Authority			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
the geotechnical engineer shall be implemented during site grading and construction.					
At each phase of project development, the following mitigation measure shall be reviewed by the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas to determine if the measure is or is not applicable, and shall be implemented if deemed applicable. This measure is applicable to areas needed to support structural fill or new foundations.					
GEO-3	<p>Prior to issuance of grading permits, a geotechnical report shall be prepared and incorporate or revise as necessary the following measures from the Geotechnical Feasibility Evaluation. The geotechnical report shall be submitted to the Los Angeles County Public Works Department for review and approval. The recommendation of the geotechnical report shall be implemented during site grading and construction.</p> <p>Site Grading Requirements Compacted engineered fills shall be placed and compacted in accordance with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Demolition and removal of all abandoned, hidden, or buried improvements including foundations, slabs, pipes, tanks, cables, or leach-line on-site wastewater or disposal systems from structural fill areas. If a well is discovered on-site, it shall be properly sealed and capped by a licensed drilling contractor in accordance with Los Angeles County requirements. The geotechnical engineer must receive a copy of the well closure report. The geotechnical engineer shall perform observations of all site demolition work on an as-needed basis to document the nature and depths of buried improvements as they are removed. b. Clearing and grubbing of grasses, shrubs, trees, and all major roots shall be completed as determined by site conditions. c. Excavation of undocumented fill, disturbed or porous sediments, or other unsuitable material as determined by the 	Prior to Issuance of Grading Permits	Watershed Conservation Authority		

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
<p>geotechnical engineer shall be performed in accordance with an approved soils investigation report.</p> <p>d. Observation and acceptance of all stripped areas shall be made by a qualified professional engineer and/or engineering geologist prior to placing fill.</p> <p>e. Scarification of exposed bottoms to specified depths, moisture-conditioning by adding moisture or drying back to specified water contents, and proof-rolling with heavy rubber-tire equipment (earthmoving scrapers, large loaders, or similar) for initial compaction and to detect soft zones prior to fill placement.</p> <p>f. Fill soils shall be uniformly moisture-conditioned by mixing and blending, and placed in lifts having thicknesses commensurate with the type of compaction equipment used, but generally no greater than 6 to 8 inches.</p> <p>g. Engineering field observation and testing shall be conducted throughout fill placement to verify that specified minimum compaction and soil water contents are being uniformly achieved. Field density tests shall be performed in accordance with the approved geotechnical investigation report and applicable Los Angeles County codes and requirements.</p> <p>Slope Design Criteria</p> <p>a. If site programming requires manufactured cut and fill slopes (not applicable to foot trails), graded slopes on-site (not applicable to foot trails) shall be designed and built in accordance with the following:</p> <p>b. All fill slopes shall be constructed at maximum slope inclinations of 2:1 (horizontal:vertical).</p>					

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Cut slopes in the native older fan sediments shall be excavated and reconstructed as stabilization fill slopes, if 5 feet or greater in height. d. The surfaces of all fill slopes shall be compacted to where they equal or exceed minimum compaction for mass fill, and shall be free of slough or loose soils. e. Slope-specific geological evaluations to verify the preliminary opinion in the Geotechnical Feasibility Evaluation that bedrock slopes in volcanic rock may be feasible and stable at inclinations of up 1:1. f. The ground surface adjacent to the tops of slopes shall be designed and graded to drain water away from the slopes. Brow ditches shall be required for new cut slopes intercepting ascending ground above the cut. g. Erosion control measures shall be implemented for all slopes as soon as practicable after slope completion, per applicable City of San Dimas and Los Angeles County Codes or ordinance. 						
HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS						
HAZ-1	To comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1403, prior to structural demolition/renovation activities, demolition materials containing asbestos-containing materials and/or lead-based paints shall be removed and properly disposed of at an appropriate permitted facility per existing Federal and State regulations.	Prior to Demolition of Structures	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
HAZ-2	The Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall implement the following fire prevention measures during construction and operation, as applicable.	During Construction and Operation	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION					
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM					
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued grazing and/or trail mowing to reduce fire fuel levels. ▪ Prevent the establishment or control invasive plant species that can increase the risk for fire. ▪ Develop and maintain emergency access routes through the property. ▪ Limit driving on undeveloped areas to maintenance and emergency vehicles. ▪ Prohibit smoking within the park. ▪ Prohibit all persons from lighting or maintaining fire of any kind, unless a special use permit has been issued. ▪ Prohibit the use of powered hobby motors and rockets that utilize a combustive fuel or rocket motor. ▪ Prohibit the use of power tools during periods of high and very high fire hazards. ▪ Limit public use of the park on red flag or high fire risk days, as determined by the National Weather Service or any other governmental agency. ▪ During periods of high and very high fire hazard, prohibit the driving of maintenance vehicles into undeveloped areas of the property except for emergencies. 					
HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY					

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
HWQ-1	The Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall prepare and electronically submit the Permit Registration Documents (PRD) to the State Water Resources Control Board at least 30 days before the start of construction, which includes the submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI), risk assessment, site map, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, annual fee, and a signed certification statement.	Prior to Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
HWQ-2	The Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall prepare and implement an approved Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. The proposed project shall conform to the requirements of an approved Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (to be applied for during the Grading Plan process) and the NPDES Permit for General Construction Activities No. CAS000004, Order No. 2013-0001-DWQ, including implementation of all recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs), as approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).	Prior to Issuance of Grading Permit	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas Los Angeles County Public Works Department			
HWQ-3	Upon completion of project construction and stabilization of the site, the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) to the State Water Resources Control Board to indicate that construction is completed.	Upon Completion of Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
HWQ-4	For activities involving landscaping, habitat restoration and/or removal of exotic plant species, the Watershed Conservation Authority shall strive to utilize biological or non-chemical means, , but can utilize chemical pesticides or herbicides to control exotics and pests.	During Operation	Watershed Conservation Authority			
NOISE						

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
NOI-1	<p>The construction contractor shall comply with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All construction equipment, fixed or mobile, shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers and other State required noise attenuation devices. ▪ Property owners and occupants located within 250 feet of the project boundary shall be sent a notice, at least 15 days prior to commencement of construction of each phase, regarding the construction schedule of the proposed project. A sign shall also be posted at the project construction site. All notices and signs shall be reviewed and approved by the Director of Public Works (or designee), prior to mailing or posting and shall provide a contact name and a telephone number where residents can inquire about the construction process. ▪ Construction noise reduction methods shall be used where feasible. These reduction methods include shutting off idling equipment, installing temporary acoustic barriers around stationary construction noise sources, maximizing the distance between construction equipment staging areas and occupied residential areas, and electric air compressors and similar power tools. ▪ Construction haul routes shall be designed to avoid noise sensitive uses (e.g., residences, convalescent homes, etc.), to the extent feasible. ▪ During construction, stationary construction equipment shall be placed such that emitted noise is directed away from sensitive noise receivers. ▪ Construction activities shall not take place outside of the allowable hours specified by the Los Angeles County Code Section 12.08.440 (7:00 AM and 7:00 PM on weekdays and 	<p>Prior to Issuance of Grading Permit</p> <p>During Grading and Construction</p>	<p>Watershed Conservation Authority</p> <p>City of San Dimas</p>			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance			
			Initials	Date	Remarks	
	Saturdays; construction activities are not permitted on Sundays or federal holidays).					
NOI-2	The construction contractor shall equip all construction equipment with properly operating mufflers or other noise reduction devices.	During Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
NOI-3	The construction contractor shall limit noise-generating construction activities, such as demolition, grading, and paving, on the southern project boundary.	During Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas			
NOI-4	Design the visitor center to provide interior noise levels not to exceed 50 dBA Leq. If the visitor center is to include exterior areas when interpretative presentations are to be made, or there would be other outdoor activities that require conversation, the exterior area shall be designed to have a maximum hourly noise level not to exceed 60 dBA Leq.	During Building Design and Construction	Watershed Conservation Authority			
UTILITIES						
UTIL-1	Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall submit construction drawings to the Golden State Water Company, and, as necessary, shall pay all applicable connection fees and comply with Golden State Water Company permitting and fee requirements.	Prior to Issuance of Building Permit	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas Golden State Water Company			

WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION						
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM						
Mitigation Measure		Monitoring Timing/Frequency	Monitoring Agency	Verification of Compliance		
				Initials	Date	Remarks
UTILI-2	Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Watershed Conservation Authority and/or City of San Dimas shall submit construction drawings to the Los Angeles County Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District and County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, as applicable, and shall pay all applicable connection fees to Los Angeles County Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District and County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County.	Prior to Issuance of Building Permit	Watershed Conservation Authority City of San Dimas County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Los Angeles County Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District			

May 23, 2016 - Item 16

RESOLUTION 2016-22

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ADOPTING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the WCA has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of this Resolution, the WCA prepared and adopted a Conceptual Master Plan for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project, identifying the proposed development of public access, passive recreational amenities, education features to inform visitors about the native California environment and cultural resources, and the removal of invasive plant species and re-vegetation of native species; and

WHEREAS, the WCA has evaluated potential environmental effects of the project through the preparation and circulation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration ("MND") incorporated herein by this reference. This process included the following actions:

- A. A public notice of the availability of a draft Initial Study and MND was sent to residents surrounding the project areas, and to organizations and individuals who requested notice with the notice specifying the period during which comments would be received, the date, time, and place of a community meeting to provide comments.
- B. A Notice of Preparation was transmitted to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2015051047) on or about May 10, 2015 for distribution to responsible, trustee, and state agencies with jurisdiction over the resources affected by the Project. The Notice of Preparation was also filed with the County Clerk on or about May 15, 2015.
- C. The 30-day review period for the MND was initiated on May 10, 2015 for public review and distribution to responsible, trustee, and public agencies with jurisdiction over the resource affected by the Project. Copies of the draft documents were available for review at the office of the WCA, San Dimas Public Library, San Dimas City Hall, as well as on the WCA and City of San Dimas' websites (www.wca.ca.gov and www.cityofsandimas.com).
- D. Comments and recommendation on the MND were received by the WCA before the end of the 30-day review period on June 10, 2015.

WHEREAS, in connection with the approval of a project involving the preparation of an initial study/mitigated negative declaration that identifies one or more significant environmental effects,

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California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the decision making body of the lead agency to incorporate feasible mitigation measures that would reduce those significant environment effects to a less-than-significant level; and

WHEREAS, whenever a lead agency approves a project requiring the implementation of measures to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment, CEQA also requires a lead agency to adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation; and

WHEREAS, the WCA is the lead agency on the Project, and the WCA Governing Board is the decision-making body for the proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, all actions required to be taken by applicable law related to the preparation, circulation, and review of the MND have been taken; and

WHEREAS, a MND has been prepared consisting of the Initial Study, all comments and recommendation received during the public review period, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Dimas, is a responsible agency on the Project. After considering the public comments received, the evidence and testimony before it, and after exercising its independent judgments and review, the San Dimas City Council recommended that the WCA adopt the MND, adopt CEQA findings, adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program, and approve West Phase of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the WCA made its decision to adopt the MND for this Project in light of the record as a whole as set forth in these findings; and

WHEREAS, the WCA, in adopting the MND for this Project, of which these findings are a part, did so through the exercise of independent and review after finding substantial evidence, in light of the record as a whole, to support the adoption of the MND; and

WHEREAS, the WCA has made its decision to adopt the MND in the light of all the testimony and evidence presented at or prior to the close of the noticed public review period, including letters, reports, comments, analyses, etc., which the WCA after review and comment by its staff critically reviewed, corrected, and augmented where necessary, as set forth in the record and procedural findings on this Project, NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. **ADOPTS** the staff report dated May 23, 2016.
2. **ADOPTS** the MND presented to the WCA, which reviewed and considered the information contained in said MND prior to deciding whether to approve the proposed Project.
3. **FINDS** the MND has been thoroughly reviewed and analyzed by the WCA staff.
4. **FINDS** that the draft documents circulated for public review reflect the WCA's own independent judgment and the MND as certified by this Resolution also reflects the independent judgment of the WCA.

- 5. **ADOPTS** the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program set forth in the MND, incorporated herein by the reference, as the mitigation monitoring and reporting program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project
- 6. **FINDS** for the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and CEQA Guidelines.
- 7. **DIRECTS** the Executive Officer, or designee, to oversee the implementation of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.
- 8. **DIRECTS** the Executive Officer, or designee, to file a Notice of Determination within five (5) working days after approval of the Project.
- 9. **DIRECTS** the Executive Officer, or designee, to make the project plans and other related materials that constitute the record of the proceedings upon which its decision is based available at the WCA office, 100 North Old San Gabriel Canyon Road, Azusa, California to facilitate public access to these documents.

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On May 23, 2016

Brian Mejia, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General

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RESOLUTION 2016-23

RESOLUTION OF THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY APPROVING THE WEST PHASE OF THE WALNUT CREEK HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE PROJECT, FOR WHICH AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; and

WHEREAS, the WCA has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the description of the West Phase of the Project is, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, an initial study/mitigated negative declaration prepared for this Project concluded that implementation could result in a number of significant effects on the environment and identified mitigation measures that would reduce the significant effects to a less-than-significant level; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the approval of a project involving the preparation of an initial study/mitigated negative declaration that identifies one or more significant environmental effects, the Californian Environmental Quality Act, as amended ("CEQA"), requires the decision making body of the lead agency to incorporate feasible mitigation measures that would reduce those significant environment effects to a less-than-significant level; and

WHEREAS, whenever a lead agency approves a project requiring the implementation of measures to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment, CEQA also requires a lead agency to adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation; and

WHEREAS, the WCA is the lead agency on the Project, and the WCA Governing Board is the decision-making body for the proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of this Resolution, the WCA reviewed, considered, and adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project in accordance with the requirements of the CEQA and state and local guidelines implementing CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project are, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse effect on wildlife resources, as defined in Section 711.2 of the California Department of Fish and Game Code; NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. **ADOPTS** the staff report dated May 23, 2016.
2. **FINDS** all actions required to be taken by applicable laws in connection with the approval of the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project have been taken.
3. **APPROVES** the development of the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project.
4. **FINDS** for the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and CEQA Guidelines.
5. **DIRECTS** the Executive Officer, or designee, to oversee the development of the West Phase of the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Project.

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On May 23, 2016

Brian Mejia, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General