

**Santa Ana River Partnership  
Technical Advisory Committee**

**October 3, 2005, 9 a.m.  
City of Corona  
400 South Vicentia Avenue  
Corona, CA 92882**

Paul Frandsen, Riverside County Regional Park & Open-Space District  
Dan Nove, Riverside County Regional Park & Open-Space District  
Maureen Gayk, Riverside County Regional Park & Open-Space District  
Katherine Gifford, Riverside County  
Patricia Lock Dawson, City of Riverside  
Brenda Flowers, City of Riverside  
Ralph Nuniz, City of Riverside  
Henry Escalera, Guest, Jurupa Area, Riverside  
Ellen Kleinbeck, Guest, Jurupa Area, Riverside  
Daniel Cozad, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, City of Riverside  
Viren Shaw, City of Corona  
Jim Real, Jurupa Park & Recreation & Riverside County Regional Park & Open-Space District  
Cheryl Russell, Jurupa Community Services District  
Brian Petree, City of Norco  
Maureen Snelgrove, San Bernardino County  
Tom Potter, San Bernardino County  
Lemuel Randolph, City of San Bernardino  
Kevin Thomas, County of Orange  
David Jump, City of Redlands  
Gerardo Mouet, City of Santa Ana  
Terry Lowe, City of Anaheim  
Sue Leto, City of Yorba Linda  
Robert Styles, City of Costa Mesa  
Don Heinbuch, City of Fountain Valley  
Jim Engle, City of Huntington Beach  
Kathy Weatherman, State Parks  
Gary Watts, State Parks

**Highlights of Meeting and Summary of Actions**

**Present:** County and City Parks Directors and other stakeholders from within Santa Ana Watershed (see above membership/participation.).

**Purpose of Meeting:** This was the first official meeting of the Santa Ana River Partnership's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC.) The group assembled to discuss development of the Santa Ana River Parkway from crest to coast.

**Overview of Meeting:** Members of the group have been meeting irregularly over the last few years, but not officially as a TAC. The group discussed establishment of the SAR Partnership by elected officials in the region. The group reviewed and discussed establishment of a two tiered system to direct development of the Parkway. Such a system would include a TAC as well as a Policy Advisory Group, or PAG, comprised of elected officials. The two groups would ideally communicate their activities through one central coordinator.

### **Topics Addressed in Meeting**

**Need for a formal “Partnership Agreement”:** The group discussed the need for a memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement between all jurisdictions and stakeholders within the watershed. The group discussed the need for public input via a citizens’ advisory group. The format and timing of which would need to be decided. Also, staff expressed concern that they may not be able to solicit cooperation from their electeds and identified the need for other, already engaged elected officials, to invite other elected officials to the table. The Agreement would need to identify a single point of contact for leading TAC and communicating with PAG. Paul Frandsen indicated that he would be acting as lead for the TAC and Patricia Lock-Dawson, under agreement/direction from the three county supervisors, would direct the PAG.

**Proposition 50 Grant Application:** SAWPA is preparing a grant proposal to the Resources Agency for Proposition 50 River Parkway funds to finish the segment in Prado Basin. Daniel Cozad asked for letters of support and promised to send out a draft letter for review and modification.

**Meeting with Secretary Chrisman:** Tom Potter, San Bernardino County Parks, reported that elected officials from three Counties and the City of Riverside, the Wildlands Conservancy, and Senator Robert Dutton recently met with the Secretary of the Resources Agency (Michael Chrisman) in Sacramento to discuss the parkway and funding. He remarked that it went very well and all three Counties made persuasive arguments for directing funds to the SAR.

**“Blue Ribbon Committee” Efforts Along the River:** Several cities reported that they were establishing committees to develop concept/vision plans for the parkway in their jurisdictions. The City of San Bernardino recently finished such an effort. The cities of Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley, Yorba Linda, Santa Ana and Garden Grove are all in engaged in such efforts at different levels of completion.

**Project Reports along the River:** All members present reported on the status of their projects along the river.

*Jurupa Special Services District:* Finishing portions of the trail in Eastvale area along the railroad track and adding 19,000 feet of parkland.

*City of San Bernardino:* Recently convened a Task Force to discuss development of parkway. Task Force report is out in draft.

*City of Riverside:* Partnering with Wildlands Conservancy to develop an outdoor classroom at Fairmount Park. The city is also working with the Army Corps of Engineers

to conduct a feasibility study to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in Lake Evans. Coordinating with County of Riverside at Martha McClean-Anza Narrows Park.

*City of Corona:* Recently completed the SAR Parkway Trail Plan by Dangermond Group. The report is available on CD and on their website.

*Jurupa Parks and Recreation District:* Will be presenting a master plan to their commission that contains design standards for developers. Also, working on a public education program to illustrate the value of trails and open space (i.e., importance of trails and open space on quality of life.)

*Riverside County Parks:* Engineering is completed on the 4.5 miles of parkway through Hidden Valley to Norco. That will make the trail continuous from that point to the San Bernardino County line.

*San Bernardino County Parks:* Just received \$750K from the federal government for Mentone Wash area. Acquiring lands in the area and also working on revising their master plan for parks along the river.

*Orange County Parks:* The bikeway is now completed, so focusing on trail linkages to other parks. In the process of purchasing Green River golf course. Also, putting in parks in river bottom, south of I-5 freeway.

*City of Norco:* Received grant funding to complete trail from Hidden Valley.

*City of Redlands:* Focus is on community trails. Election in November will bring change in leadership, potential funding for open space and trails. Recently finished an MOU with Flood Control to link up trails in the city to SAR trail.

*City of Anaheim:* Recently completed an MOU with their Water District to develop a 116-acre outdoor recreation park in the Burris Pit area north of Anaheim Stadium. Mayor is interested in “greening” the river through Anaheim and developing east-west linkages to trails.

*City of Santa Ana:* Embarking on a “blue ribbon” committee for the river on October 11. All of the river that runs through the city is concrete, except for Riverview Golf Course. Blue Ribbon Committee may be discussing the possibility of removing concrete in river bottom and putting in parks. Committee will also be talking about the need for security and maintenance and how these will be funded over time.

*California State Parks:* No trail improvements at this time, but using Prop 12 funds at Coal Canyon to restore 24 acres of coastal sage scrub to link Santa Ana Mountains to Chino Hills State Park.

*City of Huntington Beach:* Focusing on Orange Coast River Park. Acquiring natural areas along Pacific Coast Highway adjacent to river. Also, putting in a neighborhood park on Edison lands with trails that link up to SAR trail.

*SAWPA:* Working with the Corps of Engineers to move brine line. Moving could result in trail opportunities. Using grant funds to develop park on east side of Chino Hills State Park. Also, received grant funds to update Santa Ana River Trail Map which will show access points and trail highlights. The map is expected to be done next year.

*Private Citizens:* Expressed support for the Parkway effort and are interested in being able to ride trail from crest to coast. Also, expressed interest in participating in some sort of public advisory group.

*City of Yorba Linda:* Adopted General Plan amendment which will connect trails within the city. Ideally want bridge over the SAR to connect up to SAR trail, but cost may be prohibitive.

*City of Costa Mesa:* Focusing on Fairview Park (north end of Orange Coast River Park.) Received LWCF funds to develop nature center and are also working on restoring coastal sage scrub habitat in western portion of park. Also, finished design work on a 28 acre wetlands restoration and development.

**Other items of interest:** The group agreed to meet next sometime in January. The date is to be determined, but will be coordinated by Riverside County Parks. Maureen Snelgrove, San Bernardino County Parks also indicated that the next SAR symposium will be held in April or May and asked for all jurisdictions to provide maps for a poster session. Patricia Lock-Dawson agreed to collect this information and act as a clearinghouse/central repository for such information.

**Action items:**

- SAWPA will submit Proposition 50 grant; asks for letters of support.
- Patricia Lock-Dawson will solicit assistance from electeds to encourage participation of other electeds; will also schedule next meeting of PAG in late October/early November.
- Patricia Lock-Dawson/Brenda Flowers will provide copies of City of Riverside's Santa Ana River Task Force report to cities embarking on similar efforts.
- Paul Frandsen will provide a draft Partnership Agreement or MOU at next meeting.

**Next Agenda Items:**

- Update on SB 153 and Proposition 50
- Symposium coordination
- Partnership Agreement