



AGENDA

Environmental Oversight Committee

Committee Members

Lisa Bartlett, Chairman
Melanie Schlotterbeck, Vice Chairman
Charles Baker, Caltrans District 12
Veronica Li, US Army Corps of Engineers
Dr. David Chapel, Grand Jury Association of OC
Lori Donchak, OCTA Board of Directors
David Mayer, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Derek McGregor, DMc Engineering
Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
Jonathan Snyder, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Anthony Villa, Taxpayers Oversight Committee Representative
John Walsh, CA Wildlife Conservation Board

Orange County Transportation Authority
600 South Main Street, Room 154
Orange, California
February 3, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

1. **Welcome**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of November 4, 2015 and December 2, 2015 Minutes**
4. **Harriett Wieder Restoration Project Update**
Dan Phu and Lesley Hill, OCTA

The Bolsa Chica Conservancy (BCC) presented a status update to the EOC at the November 4th EOC meeting. The EOC requested that staff provide monthly status updates and that BCC return every three months with a progress report. A status update for the project will be provided.

5. **Resource Management Plans Update**
Dan Phu and Lesley Hill, OCTA
Monte Ward, OCTA Consultant

OCTA released the resource management plans (RMPs) for the OCTA Trabuco and Silverado Canyon Preserves on Nov. 11, 2015. The release included the Ferber Ranch, O'Neill Oaks, Hafen, Saddle Creek South, and MacPherson Preserves. These RMPs will be available for public review for a 90-day period in order to solicit public feedback on these documents through February 8th. OCTA held two public meetings (Saturday, November 21st and Wednesday, December 9th). Public comments are being collected and

Public Comments: The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice to members of the public of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Members from the public wishing to address the Committee will be recognized by the Chairman at the time the Agenda item is to be considered. A speaker's comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA at (714) 560-5725, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.



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Environmental Oversight Committee

will be reviewed with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Wildlife Agencies). The remaining RMPs will be released at a later date and will utilize a similar public outreach process. The RMPs are subject to the review and approval of the Wildlife Agencies.

6. 2016 Hike and Equestrian Ride Master Calendar

Marissa Espino, OCTA

As an effort to increase public access on the OCTA Preserves, a 2016 Hike and Equestrian Ride Master Calendar was established. Access events will be taking place about every other month and include hikes on the Ferber Ranch, O'Neill, and Aliso Canyon Preserves as well as equestrian rides on Ferber Ranch.

7. Public Comments

8. Committee Member Reports

9. Next Meeting – March 2, 2016

10. Adjournment

Public Comments: The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice to members of the public of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Members from the public wishing to address the Committee will be recognized by the Chairman at the time the Agenda item is to be considered. A speaker's comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA at (714) 560-5725, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.



Minutes

Measure M2 Environmental Oversight Committee

Committee Members

*Chair Lori Donchak, Chairman
Melanie Schlotterbeck, Vice Chairman
Charles Baker, Caltrans District 12
Lisa Bartlett, OCTA Board of Directors
Dr. David Chapel, Grand Jury Association of OC
David Mayer, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Derek McGregor, DMc Engineering
Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
Jonathan Snyder, US Fish & Wildlife
Anthony Villa, Taxpayers Oversight Comm.
John Walsh, CA Wildlife Conserv. Board.*

*Orange County Transportation Authority
600 South Main Street, Room 154
Orange, California
November 4, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.*

Member(s) Absent

Veronica Li, US Army Corp of Engineers

1. Welcome

Chairman Lori Donchak called the Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC) meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Jonathan Snyder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of October 7, 2015 Minutes

Chairman Lori Donchak asked if there were any additions or corrections to the October 7, 2015 EOC minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the October 7, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

4. Restoration Projects Update

Lesley Hill, OCTA, said at the October 7th EOC meeting the Bolsa Chica Conservancy (BCC) gave a status update of their project – the Harriett Wieder Restoration Project. The EOC requested that the BCC return to the November 4th EOC meeting to present a milestone schedule for the Project.

Grace Adams, Executive Director of BCC, gave a report on the proposed milestones for the Harriett Wieder project.

Dan Silver asked why there is still a partial private ownership of the project. Ed Mountford, Senior Vice President of the California Coastal Communities, said the Harriett Wieder Regional Park is made up of 50% land that is publically owned and 50% of land that is privately owned. In 2006, an irrevocable offer of dedication was made to the County for the portion of the property that was private ownership. The County indicated it was not in a position to accept the irrevocable offer of dedication so the property remains under the California Coastal Communities ownership.

An EOC member asked when they expect the County to accept the irrevocable offer of dedication. Stacy Blackwood, O.C. Parks Director, said there are still active oil operations and the County is reluctant to take ownership of the property until all active oil and other private industry activities have ceased, and there is sufficient evidence that all environmental mitigation and remediation requirements have been met in order to ensure there are no operations on site which might impact the safety of the public.

When asked about the conservation mechanisms, Stacy said the conservation mechanisms will be mirror images of each other and remain in place in perpetuity.

Chairman Lori Donchak asked if the November 30th timeline for O.C. Parks and the private owners to submit an updated deed restriction is a realistic deadline. Stacy said she believed they have a solid working draft today and do not anticipate any issues.

Chairman Lori Donchak asked when the deadlines were for planting this area. David Pryor, Bolsa Chica Conservancy's Ecologist, said they can start planting as late as July.

Director Lisa Bartlett said eventually they will all fit together, but currently all they have is a proposed milestone schedule. Different components may need to be stretched out as far as the time frame is concerned. It is a work in progress and the EOC will just need to work with them.

Chairman Lori Donchak provided a summary of the discussion:

- General positive support for the project
- Appreciation for the approach going forward
- Staff to return in December with a revised milestones schedule
- No contracts should be executed before the next EOC meeting
- Bolsa Chica Conservancy to return within three months with a progress report

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to:

1. Endorse the Bolsa Chica Conservancy's proposed milestone schedule with the suggestion to revise the schedule range to definite dates with buffers which will be reviewed in the next meeting;

2. Direct staff to begin to execute an Agreement to move forward with the Harriett Wieder Restoration Project and issue a monthly status report until the restoration project begins;
3. Direct staff to reflect the proposed milestone schedule into the agreement in order to assure that the schedule is adhered to and to include an escape clause for OCTA if EOC agrees status of project is not sufficiently proceeding within schedule;
4. Direct Bolsa Chica Conservancy to return to the EOC on a quarterly basis with a progress report.

5. Resource Management Plans Summary

Dan Phu, OCTA, said OCTA will be releasing the Resource Management Plans (RMPs) for the OCTA Trabuco and Silverado Canyon Preserves on November 11, 2015. The release will include the Ferber Ranch, O'Neill Oaks, Hafen, Saddle Creek South, and MacPherson Preserves.

Lesley Hill gave an overview of the RMP being released. She said the RMP is somewhat of a living and breathing document -- priorities change and management changes. It is something that is revisited on a regular basis about every five years.

Dan Phu gave a brief review of the RMP's financial section.

Monte Ward, Measure M Consultant, reviewed the input from the stakeholders.

Melanie Schlotterbeck, asked if the future land holder is going to be responsible for the updates or OCTA. Dan Phu said this has yet to be determined, but OCTA envisions whoever takes over the title and the management responsibilities is going to get the entire package.

Monte Ward added that the Conservation Plan is basically an agreement between the Wildlife Agencies and OCTA and it is approved by both entities. The RMPs are only approved by the Wildlife Agencies. Once the Conservation Plan agreement is approved, the Wildlife Agencies need to sign-off on the RMPs.

6. Public Comments

Delma Johnson had a correction on her public comments to the RMP. She also urged OCTA to take a look at the merge of the Hickey Trail, the Canyon Connector Trail, and the Rose Canyon Trail. They also connect to the regional trails.

7. Committee Member Reports

Dan Phu said he will be providing a biennial status update to the OCTA Board which occurs around June and December. The December 2015 Staff Report will cover three items: 1) The August 10, 2015 Inter-Agency Puma Regional Coordination Meeting; 2) Release of the Resource Management Plans; and 3) Recap of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy, Harriett Wieder Restoration Project

8. Next Meeting – December 2, 2015

The next EOC meeting will be December 2 at 2:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.



Minutes

Measure M2 Environmental Oversight Committee

Committee Members

*Melanie Schlotterbeck, Vice Chairman
Charles Baker, Caltrans District 12
David Mayer, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Derek McGregor, DMc Engineering
Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
Jonathan Snyder, US Fish & Wildlife*

*Orange County Transportation Authority
600 South Main Street, Room 154
Orange, California
December 2, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.*

Member(s) Absent

*Chair Lori Donchak, Chairman
Lisa Bartlett, OCTA Board of Directors
Dr. David Chapel, Grand Jury Assoc. of OC
Veronica Li, US Army Corp of Engineers
Anthony Villa, Taxpayers Oversight Comm.
John Walsh, CA Wildlife Conserv. Board.*

1. Welcome

Vice Chairman Melanie Schlotterbeck called the Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC) meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Charles Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of November 4, 2015 Minutes

Due to lack of a quorum Vice Chairman Melanie Schlotterbeck tabled approval of the November 4, 2015 meeting minutes until the next EOC meeting.

4. Harriett Wieder Restoration Projects Update

Grace Adams, Bolsa Chica Conservancy (BCC), gave a status update of their project – the Harriet Weider Restoration Project.

Jonathan Snyder commented the Wildlife agencies' review of the land protection assurance documents will not occur in a week. It could be a month or two before this happens but he does not anticipate it will be a problem or this will hold up the project. Melanie Schlotterbeck asked if OCTA intended to include them in the contract. Dan Phu said it is OCTA's intention to include the BCC Proposed Milestone Schedule and any revisions to it into the contract.

Derek McGregor asked if they had a map of the two pieces of property in question. Dan Phu said the total project is roughly eight acres. Approximately four acres are within the City of Huntington Beach's jurisdiction but owned and operated by O.C. Parks. The other half of the project is currently under private ownership. Talks have begun to allow O.C. Parks to eventually take on the portion of the project currently owned by a private land owner.

Derek McGregor asked if a coastal permit had ever been issued. Dan Phu said on the County portion within the City of Huntington Beach's jurisdiction there was a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) issued. It is his understanding BCC has talked to the city and they believe they can piggyback on the city's permit.

Grace Adams said to clarify – The entire area is within the Harriet Weider Regional Park of about 106 acres. In 1997 (approximately) the County of Orange put together a General Development Plan. Fifty percent (50%) of the property itself is in City of Huntington Beach's jurisdiction, 50% is under the County's jurisdiction but the entirety is managed by O.C. Parks. Both the City of Huntington Beach and the County applied for a CDP for their respective jurisdictions for phase one implementation of the General Development Plan. The CDP for the City's portion of the General Development Plan had already occurred. Residents in the area had asked for a playground for the area. However, the County portion of the CDP has not been utilized. They are working with the County and the Coastal Commission to make it applicable.

Derek McGregor asked how much of the \$475,000 have been used. Monte Ward said the money for the project has been awarded but no funds have been used.

The EOC discussed the Proposed Milestone Schedule and whether some of the milestones are going to be able to be made.

5. Resource Management Plans Summary

Lesley Hill gave a brief overview on the progress of the Resource Management Plans (RMP).

Monte Ward went over some of the RMP input from the public. He said public access is part of the RMP and it is the most visible and the area of the most interest expressed by the public. He identified some of the trail systems on OCTA property. He said a trail system has been identified that primarily utilizes the access roads that were there when OCTA obtained the property.

In the comments received so far there has been quite a lot of comments on how the Foothill Trabuco Specific Plan system fits in with the preserve. Monte Ward said what is generally being said is that when there is a trail link or system being implemented up to OCTA's boundary then they can talk about how they would accommodate that trail system. The other issue is if you implement a trail on OCTA's preserve that just goes

boundary to boundary on private property it creates its own issues in terms of management and interest of the neighboring property owners.

6. Public Comments

Delma Johnson, resident of Trabuco Canyon since 1977. Delma Johnson talked about the Foothill Trabuco Specific Plan in terms of connections to the regional control system. Comments on the Trabuco Canyon trail closure should have been addressed within the comment phase of OCTA's DEIR/EIS that closed on February 6, 2015. She has not seen any written or verbal indication that OCTA addressed the issue of their trail closures or defined how they are going to mitigate the potential significant environmental impact to the Trabuco Canyon community within the California Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

Harry Huggins, Friends of Harbors Beaches and Parks. Harry Huggins said his group is fully in support of the preservation efforts OCTA is taking.

7. Committee Member Reports

Dan Silver said he is fully in favor of the '*staged*' approach to property access. There are cases where parts of habitat preserves have been overrun by mountain bikers who have trespassed, cut fencing, and generally vandalized property. He would recommend the "go slow" approach giving his experience.

Melanie Schlotterbeck said she had read a couple of the RMP's and noticed there were no cost estimates or information on the endowments. Can we expect to get this information at some time? Dan Phu said approximately one year ago they set the endowment at \$784,000 per year on an annual basis to manage all properties. Some of the properties were more expensive to manage than other properties. The endowment framework has been approved by the EOC and the OCTA Board but the actual endowment has not been set up yet. Next year when it is time to set up the endowment OCTA will need to get new cost estimates.

Melanie Schlotterbeck said it is her recommendation they add the endowment information at a later date as an appendix. They will get more specific on what the costs will be.

Monte Ward said once the RMPs are completed we are anticipating having serious discussions with potential long term land managers. At this time we get much more specific in terms of what the costs will be.

Melanie Schlotterbeck said it sounds like there is going to be an evasive species plan and a fire management plan individualized for each RMP. OCTA set aside \$2.5 million to do the NCCP/HCP. Do these other plans get incorporated under this or are they an additional expense? Dan Phu said things like this were built into the framework of the plan.

8. Next Meeting – January

The next EOC meeting will be January 2 at 2:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Melanie Schlotterbeck said four or five years ago her niece was diagnosed with a neuromuscular disease with a life expectancy of two years. Today is her niece's sixth birthday and she would like to adjourn the EOC meeting in her honor. The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.