



Minutes

Measure M2 Environmental Oversight Committee

Committee Members

Lori Donchak, Chairman
Melanie Schlotterbeck, Vice Chair
Dr. David Chapel, Grand Jury Assoc. of O.C.
Baron Barrera (for Chris Flynn), Caltrans District 12
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.

Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street, Room 07
Orange, California
Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at 2:30p

Member(s) Absent

Lisa Bartlett, Board of Directors
Veronica Li, US Army Corp of Engineers
John Walsh, CA Wildlife Conserv. Board

Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA Clerk of the Board, telephone (714) 560-5676, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

1. Welcome

Chairman Lori Donchak called the Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC) meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of February 7, 2018 Minutes

Chairman Lori Donchak asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 7, 2018 EOC minutes. A motion was made by Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck, seconded by Dr. David Chapel and passed unanimously to approve the February 7, 2018 EOC meeting minutes as presented.

4. Restoration Projects Tour Recap

Lesley Hill provided a recap of the EOC tour of restoration projects. The committee visited Bee Flat Canyon and Lower Silverado Canyon. Lesley showed pictures of the

tour and projects. She introduced Matthew Major from Irvine Ranch Conservancy (IRC).

The committee discussed the progression of the projects and talked about the use of seeding strips to separate functional groups and prevent erosion.

The committee thanked the IRC for all of their work and their ingenuity on the projects.

5. Restoration Project Update

Lesley Hill said OCTA teamed up with the California State Parks on the North Coal Canyon and Chino Hills State Park Projects. She said these projects have been delayed due to contractual complications. Lesley introduced Ken Kietzer and Kelly Elliott with the California State Parks.

Kelly Elliott said the California State Parks entered into a contract with OCTA and had every intention of doing really good work on the North Coal Canyon and Chino Hills State Park Projects.

Ken Kietzer provided an overview and background of the projects. He described how the Orange County Conservation Corp was working with the California State Parks on the mitigation plans. The director of the Orange County Conservation Corp reevaluated how much work would be done by Corp members and the amount that would have to be subcontracted out. The California State Parks also reached out to the IRC to see if they could help on the project. Unfortunately the California State Parks ran into contractual problems with the way this project would be funded through State of California.

Kelly Elliott said the California State Parks would like to continue to offer the park land as a mitigation opportunity site. She said the contracts previously signed between the State Parks and OCTA would need to be dissolved and a new route would need to be found to get the work done. Ken Kietzer said the good news is the restoration plans are in place and the CEQA evaluation has been completed.

Lesley Hill discussed the next steps on the project and lessons learned. She said the overarching agreement between entities is to keep the contracts as they are because of what they do for the species and see if OCTA can find some cost savings ideas on implementation by going out to bid on the projects. Dan Phu said the restoration plans are in place and that will help to narrow the scope of work which will help with future bids. He also said we have learned a lot from other projects since 2012 when this project was originally contracted.

The committee asked if the money allocated for the project was a point of concern. Ken Kietzer said the margin on the scope of work is narrow and that is why the California State Parks tried to work with the youth corps. Also, discussed was the

cost of irrigation as large part of the budget on the project and changes to the original scope of work. Ken said the Orange County Conservancy Corps felt they could do the work on the project with a narrow margin on the budget. The IRC believed they could at least do the work in Chino Hills State Park with the budget, but had some new ideas on how exactly to do the restorations.

The committee thanked the California State Parks for their work on the project thus far and asked how they might have done things differently. Ken Kietzer said what they learned in this process is the State of California requires the partner on the project to bring funds into the project, rather than being paid for their work on the project. He said the scope may need to be changed due to funding requirements.

Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck said this location is fantastic for opportunities and OCTA does not have another property available. She encouraged staff to contact her for contacts when sending out the Request for Proposals.

The committee discussed options to increase funding. Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck said she may have some funding contacts as well and please contact her.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck, seconded by Dan Silver and passed unanimously to direct staff to proceed with a competitive bidding process to identify a qualified entity(ies) to implement the North Coal Canyon and Chino Hills State Park restoration projects, as discussed herein.

6. Trabuco Rose Preserve Family Event

Marissa Espino announced the Trabuco Rose Preserve Family Event on June 9, 2018. She said currently there are 90 RSVP's to the event. Marissa shared the new names of the properties after the renaming campaign.

- Wren's View Preserve in Trabuco Canyon, previously O'Neill Oaks.
- Trabuco Rose Preserve in Trabuco Canyon, previously Ferber Ranch
- Bobcat Ridge Preserve in Trabuco Canyon, previously Hafen
- Live Oak Creek Preserve in Trabuco Canyon, previously Saddle Creek South
- Pacific Horizon Preserve in Laguna Beach, previously Aliso Canyon
- Eagle Ridge Preserve in Brea, previously Hayashi
- Silverado Chaparral Preserve in Silverado Canyon, previously MacPherson

7. Public Comments

Paul Thier, Ferber Ranch property neighbor, voiced concerns about a gate on an easement adjacent to the OCTA Ferber Ranch property. Mr. Thier said he has a legal easement on the property and this gate would be a conflict of the legal easement he has negotiated with OCTA. He thanked OCTA for weed whacking the property to create a fire break.

Chairman Lori Donchak asked staff to communicate the comments to the appropriate OCTA legal counsel and staff.

8. Committee Member Reports

Vice Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck spoke about her participation in a Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) webinar on conservation in March. She was also a keynote speaker at Stop Polluting our Newport Annual Meeting. She said she spoke about OCTA's work along with other work in the community.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2018.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.