

Florida Canyon Enhancement Planning

Agenda, Workshop 1

November 15, 2018, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Balboa Park Club Santa Fe Room, San Diego

2144 Pan American Rd W., San Diego, CA 92101



1. Introductory Comments & CEP Process:

- Canyon Enhancement Planning (CEP) Brief History (**Please see attached "Introduction"**)
- 1) Build Stewardship Groups, 2) Assemble Existing Conditions Maps, 3) Outreach and Stakeholder Planning Workshops, Create Enhancement Action Plan, Seek Support, Funding and Permits, Execute Action Plans/Projects

2. Opportunities and Constraints

- Public lands: City Open Space, City Park Land, Street Right Of Way (ROW) other land owned or managed by other public entities such as utility departments, Caltrans, County, etc.;
- Does not involve private property although private property owners are important stakeholders, and, if interested and willing can involve their land;
The plan can make recommendations for acquisition of land;
- In addition to the City's Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) Regulations, there are numerous Governmental Regulatory Agencies, and Non-Profits that are essentially partners in protecting and restoring our environmental resources.

3. Canyonlands Enhancement Plan Goals:

- Balance conservation of resources with open space enjoyment and nature education opportunities, Florida Canyon is within the City's Multiple Habitat Planning Area;
- Provide public access to nature and connections to other trails or key destinations;
- Incorporate recreation in ways that are compatible with natural resources.
- Goals for Florida Canyon in Balboa Park East Mesa Precise Plan are identical to these goals

4. Stakeholder Introductions and Brief Comments

5. Briefly Review Existing Conditions Maps

- a. Orientation to website and explanation of content of existing conditions mapping, www.sdcanyonlands.org/cep (scroll down to Florida Canyon);
- b. Geotopographic and Viewshed: Slope steepness, Views, Channel location, Drainage structures, Drain Conveyance, Erosion;
- c. Socio-infrastructure: Ownership, City/School/Right-of-way/Private Vacant, Trail Conditions, Sewer Access;
- d. Vegetation Vegetation Communities.
- e. Florida Canyon Trails Conditions Map

6. Review of Socio-Infrastructure Conditions -Stakeholder Input

7. Next Meeting & Stakeholder Field Trips, we will have suggested date(s)/locations



Florida Canyon -Enhancement Planning Introduction

San Diego Canyonlands (SDCL) is a non-profit dedicated to restoration and preservation of San Diego's unique canyons and creeks. SDCL has established a Canyon/Creek Enhancement Planning (CEP) Committee to create a guide for community stakeholders that facilitates a systems approach for integrating our natural open spaces within the fabric of the urban environment.

The over-all goals are **to promote visual and physical canyon access, connections into communities, restoration, conservation, environment-based education, and ecologically sensitive recreation. Per San Diego's General Plan (2008), we seek a balance between human enjoyment of the canyons and educational opportunities and sustained and restored nature within the canyons/creeks.**

For example, it would be beneficial to create safe access to and through the canyons for people to enjoy nature and provide connections or shortcuts to other neighborhoods, schools, and activity centers. To balance this increase of human activity in the canyons with the needs of wildlife and sometimes endangered species, we could restore areas where un-approved trails have been established which would reduce habitat fragmentation and erosion and provide a safer environment for wildlife.

The Steps of Canyon/Creek Enhancement Planning (CEP)

1. **Establish a knowledgeable *Friends Group*, (Stewardship Group)**
2. **Create GIS maps of existing conditions** for analysis & opportunities assessment
3. **Assemble stakeholders, conduct a series of workshops for input and create an Action Plan,** with enhancement opportunities, priorities, and **address issues/problems**
4. **Plan Approval Process: Build local support** including civic and planning groups;
 - a. **Seek funding as needed for project permits** and/or CEQA process
5. **Implement the plans where possible with volunteers, collaborations, and partnerships**
 - a. **Seek funding for other, major improvements** and implement plans when possible

Land Jurisdiction

- Most of our proposed projects will be on **City of San Diego Open Space Division** land and will require agreement with and approvals from community stakeholders and planning groups, the Parks and Recreation Department (including the Open Space Division), Development Services Department, and City Council. **Other land to be considered are Street Rights of Way (ROWs);**
- **The land in our canyons is "Environmentally Sensitive Land" and there are regulations that are designed to protect wildlife and the natural values of the land that we will comply with both in our planning and implementation. The resource agencies, such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Army Corps of Engineers where wetlands are involved, are stakeholders and may require permits for proposed enhancement projects;**
- **Private land owners can, and hopefully will, play a role in this planning effort but it should be clear that this effort will not use private land without agreement with the land owners.**

