



Gonzales Canyon Enhancement Planning (High Level)
Stakeholder Meeting #5
June 30, 2017, 9:00am to 11:00am
West Gonzales Canyon Open Space Gate off of Old El Camino Real
DRAFT Notes - Field Visit #3

Stakeholder Attendees

Ed Christensen, San Diego Open Space Division, Senior Park Ranger
Julie Klein, Community Public Safety and Equestrian Community Advocate, Nearby stables stakeholder
Laura Ball – San Diego Open Space Division, Project Officer 2
Casey Smith - San Diego Open Space Division, Deputy Director
Jason Paguio – County District 3 Land Use Advisor for Kristin Gaspar
Corrine Busta - County District 3 Community Representative for Kristin Gaspar
Steven Hadley – City Council District 1, Community Representative for Council Member Barbara Bry
Joe Jimenez, Senior Traffic Engineer, City of San Diego, Transportation and Stormwater Dept.

San Diego Canyonlands Staff

Eric Bowlby, Executive Director

A meeting organized by Julie Klein began at 9:00 am as stakeholders met at the Open Space Gate off Old El Camino Real (east side). Parking was safest and available on the west side.

A. The purpose of this field visit was:

- **To explore and review equestrian/pedestrian trail and safety needs, specifically access across Old El Camino Real to Gonzales Canyon for horse stables on the west side;**
- **Visiting the site of the storm drain break below Rancho Las Brisas Road/trail and discussing the status of Rancho Pacifica's efforts to repair the storm drain;**
- **Reviewing trail connection opportunities from Gonzales Canyon to the San Dieguito River Park trails and beyond to Black Mountain Ranch.**

1) Equestrian/trail user access across Old El Camino Real

Joe Jimenez, Traffic Engineer, City of San Diego, Transportation and Stormwater Dept.

- reported on the status of a proposed crosswalk that would cross the Old El Camino Real at the Gonzales Canyon entrance/utility maintenance road. Joe needs to conduct a two-hour traffic evaluation to determine the usage. Julie explained that the equestrian/pedestrian community is not using the trail much because of environmental concerns and hazardous trail conditions. She submits that there would be greater usage if safety issues were addressed. She indicated that mountain bikers were using Gonzales trails frequently.
- A painted crosswalk was discussed. Joe indicated this would be contingent on the usage study.
- Julie had been in touch with Pardee Construction, the owners of the Rancho La Bella residential development, and reported they were considering the removal of three rails of a lodge poll fence along the horse trail on the west side to accommodate the access. Photo of this location is pasted below.

- Traffic calming signs, such as digital flashing speed-radar signs at strategic locations down the street were discussed; This is also contingent on the usage study.
- A speed study has been conducted however the results of which have yet to be disseminated.
- Horse-crossing signs were discussed. Joe express doubt that this would happen.

2) Storm Drain Break Below Rancho Las Brisas Road/trail

- Rancho Pacifica is hiring contractors to provide environmental documentation in pursuit of a permit to repair the drainage line and fix the sink hole. This process may take 18 months to two years.
- Erosion of the manufactured slopes coming down from the Rancho Las Brisas Trail and adjacent to the sink hole is wide spread and an important thing to address.
- The trail from the utility road leading into the canyon is eroding too. A sustainable trail could be built that parallels the utility road and that **gradually** climbs the slope to connect again with the utility road.

3) Reviewing trail connection opportunities

- Casey reported that the envisioned horse trail from Gonzales Canyon through the San Dieguito River Park all the way to Black Mountain in the east is starting to come to fruition.
- City Senior Planner John Barone is working on private property connections to make this happen, (could not make this meeting).
- The Apostolic Church property owners are agreeable to an easement for a trail connection. Julie, accompanied by a friend Andy and her ambassador horse “Scotty”, met with the church members, including a board member, at their site on the Fourth of July to further develop the relationship.

See photos on next page.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Bowlby
Executive Director
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***The Mission of San Diego Canyonlands is to promote, protect
and restore the natural habitats in San Diego County canyons and creeks.***

June 30, 2017 Stakeholders gather by the entrance to Gonzales Canyon off of Old El Camino Real to discuss traffic calming and other equestrian safety and access issues. **Photo taken by Eric Bowlby**



June 30, 2017 Pardee Construction has indicated to Julie Klein that they would agree to removal of three lodge-poll fence rails to allow access across Old El Camino Real from the horse trail that runs along their Rancho La Bella development. **Photo taken by Eric Bowlby**

