



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE ISSUED: March 5, 2008

REPORT NO.: 08-033

ATTENTION: Council President and City Council
Agenda of March 11, 2008

ORIGINATING DEPT: Real Estate Assets

SUBJECT: Mission Trails Flow Regulatory System

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 7

STAFF CONTACT: B. Lane MacKenzie 236-6050

REQUESTED ACTION:

Authorize the sale and granting of all required property rights, fee and easements, to the County Water Authority for the Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure. Authorize the Auditor and comptroller to accept and deposit the proceeds of the sale into Capital Outlay Fund 302453.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the requested actions.

SUMMARY:

To meet the increasing demand for drinking water for the area, the County Water Authority (CWA) will need to construct additional facilities for increased water flow and storage. The construction of the Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II (FRSII) is designed to assist the CWA achieve these goals. The untreated water delivered through the FRSII will serve the City's Alvarado Treatment Plant. The City's Water Department will then use this water to help meet the treated water needs of the City's Residents.

In order to transport water to and from the FRSII facility it will be necessary to construct pipeline tunnels through Mission Trails Park. These will parallel the existing water line that the CWA currently has in the park area. The existing vent structures will no longer be necessary and will be removed as part of the project. A stabilized river crossing will be constructed across the San Diego River near Mission Gorge Road. Temporary and permanent easements are required for the construction and removal of facilities.

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) including Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations and a Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program was prepared for the

FRS II project by the San Diego County Water Authority (SCH No. 2005041025) dated August 2006, and certified by the San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors on August 24, 2006. The FEIR concluded that the project would result in significant impacts to Air Quality, Noise & Vibration, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources, and Public Safety and Hazardous Materials. With the exception of short-term significant Air Quality and Noise impacts during construction, all direct environmental effects of the project would be reduced to below a level of significance through incorporation of mitigation measures, including measures associated with creation and restoration of vernal pools within Mission Trails Regional Park.

In addition to the mitigation measures adopted by the CWA Board of Directors to reduce impacts to sensitive biological resources, the CWA has completed a consultation process (through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) under Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act, and were issued a Biological Opinion (BO) by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As part of the BO, mitigation of impacts to San Diego Fairy Shrimp includes creation and restoration of vernal pools on land within Mission Trails Regional Park on a roughly 11.7 acre parcel currently owned by the San Diego Unified School District. Issuance of the BO to the CWA relieves the City of any responsibilities that might otherwise be necessary under the City's approved MSCP Subarea Plan. As such, any and all future obligations for this mitigation are the responsibility of the property owner/CWA.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS: The required property rights, both easement and fee, have been appraised, reviewed and approved by Real Estate Assets. These rights have been valued at \$209,000 which will be deposited into General Fund Capital Outlay 302453.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION: N/A

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

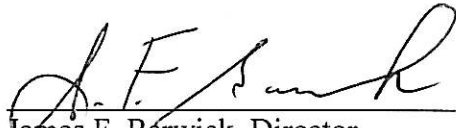
The San Diego County Water Authority has worked closely with the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizen's Advisory Committee and Task Force, Tierrasanta Community Council, San Carlos Area Council, and Navajo Community Planners, Inc. A working group, made of representatives of MTRP CAC and Foundation, SCAC, TCC, Belsera HOA, and mountain bikers was formed early in the design process to solicit input and address community concerns in the design itself. The Working Group identified a number of concerns with the project, such as trail impacts and closures, providing excavated material to the park for use within the park, keeping project webpage updated and allow people to sign up for web updates, and not allowing heavy equipment drop off or pick up during child drop off and pick up hours at DePortola Middle School.

As the project transitions into the construction phase, the Water Authority will transition its public outreach program. In order to deal with construction impacts such as construction vehicles using surface streets during school hours and trail closures, the Water Authority has created a school outreach plan and trail closure map and signage. It will continue to place articles in the local community newspapers, on its project webpage, and provide

projects to the local stakeholder groups such as the CAC and Task Force, TCC, and SCAC. The community also has a direct connect to the Water Authority through its toll-free project information line and at community events such as the Explore Mission Trails Day and TierraFest Craft Fair.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS & PROJECTED IMPACTS :

The project will increase the CWA's ability to transport raw water to meet increased demands for untreated water, particularly within San Diego, but also areas served by the National City and the South Bay Irrigation District.



James F. Barwick, Director
Real Estate Assets Department



William Anderson, FAICP
Deputy Chief & Operating Officer
City Planning and Development