January 3, 2017

TO: San Diego Mayor Kevin Falconer San Diego City Council De Anza Revitalization Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee Mission Bay Park Committee San Diego Park and Recreation Board

As partners of the Pacific Beach EcoDistrict we support the De Anza Revitalization Plan from the perspective of the Pacific Beach EcoDistrict Framework. Representatives from our organizations have attended all public meetings related to the De Anza Revitalization Plan and read all relevant documents. We support the eleven page "Response to the De Anza Revitalization Plan Alternatives" adopted by the Pacific Beach Planning Group (PBPG) on November 30, 2016 with particular emphasis on the following points:

- 1) Prevent "planning in a silo" by cooperating closely with adjacent concurrent planning efforts, land uses, and future transit oriented development along and around Mission Bay Drive.
  - a) Make a serious effort to pursue joint use agreements with Mission Bay High School, and Barnard Elementary in terms of tennis courts, athletic fields, adventure/creative play areas, and a resource/nature/visitor center. These do not all have to be located within the De Anza Revitalization Plan area. (Also consider moving some proposed uses to Fiesta Island, the dirt lot on the north end of Crown Point Park, or other underutilized areas of Mission Bay Park to reduce the number of competing interests in the De Anza Revitalization study area.)
  - b) Consider areas of the De Anza Revitalization Plan which front Grand Avenue and Mission Bay Drive as entryways to Pacific Beach and Mission Bay Park as a whole and design accordingly.
  - Require key planners of the De Anza Revitalization Plan to meet regularly and coordinate with the key planners of the concurrent projects of the Balboa Avenue Station Specific Plan, ReWild Mission Bay, and the SANDAG Rose Creek Bikeway projects.
- Embrace the Ecotourism concept as described on page 7 of the PBPG document.
- Meet regularly with key planners of the ReWild Mission Bay project and use their input, including the technical reports and input from their public meetings to inform plans for expanded and improved habitat restoration in the De Anza Revitalization Plan. Recognize that competing uses of the De Anza Revitalization Plan do not have to be balanced within the planning area. The De Anza Revitalization Plan should attempt to move towards creating a balance within the entire park.
- 4) The community garden is an important element that supports the EcoDistrict Principles and will serve as an example for visitors to this area.
- We purposefully re-include a statement removed from section 4.1 of the PBPG response regarding the future of Mission Bay Golf Course (MBGC). Eliminate MBGC from the planned area for the following reasons:
  - a) There is a national and regional trend toward golf course closures and declining golf play retention and especially amongst lower cost facilities like MBGC. Reducing to a 9-hole is not an option. Daily fee, lower-priced, and 9hole courses continue to be the segments that are disproportionately represented among course closures.
  - There are many other golf courses and driving ranges in the region, both public and private, that offer a similar or superior golf experience at similar or higher value and in a preferred setting.
  - The economic viability of a golf course within the constraints of this site are not feasible, MBGC loses \$600,000 to c) \$800,000 per year.
  - Too many acres will be used for too few members of the public to enjoy. d)
  - A golf course or driving range are not compatible with adjacent proposed land uses.
  - A golf course will require much more water consumption than other types of active recreation or passive land use being proposed and therefore challenges the goals of the Pacific Beach EcoDistrict.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matthew Winter, President beautifulPB

Pacific Beach Town Council

James Peugh, Conservation Chair San Diego Audubon SO AUDUBOA

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