



**Workshop Notes
Community Meeting
Hahamongna Watershed Park Annex
City of Pasadena**

Thursday, May 4, 2006
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, Salvation Army
960 East Walnut
Pasadena, CA 91106

The following is a condensed version of the input provided during the May 4, 2006 community meeting. Input regarding additional issues and concerns was sorted into groupings based on similarity and then synthesized to eliminate duplication while preserving the essence of the individual statements. The draft goal statements and vision statements were similarly sorted and grouped by theme and synthesized to eliminate duplication. Documentation of the original input and the steps undertaken to develop this summary is available from the City of Pasadena.

Issues & Concerns

Existing tenants/uses

- Preserve equestrian uses/facilities on site
- Continue existing leases/uses
- Continue existing leases/uses with some modifications (consolidation of facilities, improved facilities/maintenance/best management practices, more public benefit/interaction)
- Long term uses should have long term leases
- Insure trail access

Potential New Uses

- Incorporate visitor/nature center/education/recreation/cultural/training facilities and programs that serve diverse communities
- Develop interpretive facilities/amenities/programs
- Minimize any new development
- Use existing nursery for native plant propagation and education
- Develop programs that have a synergy with existing tenants & horses (i.e. composting program between equestrian and nursery uses, etc.)
- Trail hub (i.e. Rim of the Valley, gateway to Angeles National Forest, make trail connections, etc.)
- Provide for all trail uses while minimizing user conflicts

What will happen to old structures?

- Renovate and reuse existing structures (i.e. nature center, environmental/outdoor education, art classes, recreation/visitor information)

Natural Resource Protection

- Preserve and enhance open space and natural resources (including oak protection, native landscaping, etc.)
- Protect habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors

Water resources

- Integrate and demonstrate best management practices to protect water resources (i.e. fertilizer and pesticide use, waste/manure management, etc.) Watershed would be adversely affected by turf fields that require fertilizers pesticides and herbicides

Access & Parking

- Minimize roads and parking to extent feasible
- Consider fee-based parking to fund park
- Consider off-site parking
- Enhance public transit connections to park
- Minimize fencing around and within the park

Safety & Security

- Provide security for site (i.e. patrols, emergency phones, etc.)
- Concerns about homeless camping at site
- Minimize security lighting to reduce impacts to wildlife
- Separate bike and car use for safety

Funding/finance

- Identify potential revenue generation/earned income alternatives to offset improvements, operations and maintenance
- Do not charge user/parking fees

Planning process

- Work with Master Plan to integrate and create trail and path system to central and lower Arroyo Seco

Design & visual resource considerations *(note: this category was added to the list of broad themes that emerged from the April 5 workshop, based on the input received on the May 4 workshop)*

- Maintain and enhance the rustic/natural character of site and buildings
- Minimize new development on site (including keeping any new structures/development in scale with area to minimize intrusiveness)
- Protect and enhance viewsheds (i.e. mitigate JPL structures through new paint colors, screening, etc.)
- Provide visual integration of facilities (i.e. equestrian facilities)

Goals

Resource protection

- Preserve natural habitat
- Preserve wild nature of land-not manicured urban park

Recreation & Education

- Continue equestrian uses on site
- Develop nature center and environmental/watershed education programs that serve a diverse population, including “disadvantaged” youth
- Provide 24 hour trail access through site

Vision Statements

Equestrian uses

- Equestrian uses are integrated into park, providing a range of public programs including riding lessons and events, therapeutic riding for current and future generations
- Thriving equestrian facilities are managed to be compatible with natural resource protection and other park uses/users

Open space and natural resources

- A natural park where open space and natural resources, including habitat, are preserved and enhanced
- Recreation and other uses are compatible with complimentary to the natural park

Funding/management

- As a public facility, the park has a sustainable & diverse funding base
- Creative mechanisms for operating and maintaining the facility and delivering programs, such as partnerships, are utilized

“Hub” or “focal point” concept

- As part of HWP, the Annex will function as a focal point for the Arroyo Seco and a gateway and hub for connecting trail and open space networks, including the Angeles National Forest and future Rim of the Valley corridor.
- As part of HWP, the Annex will be a regional center for environmental & outdoor education with programs serving Pasadena & the surrounding area
- The Annex will be a showcase for environmentally sound and integrated uses.

Character

- As a natural park setting, the Annex will be rustic in character by utilizing natural materials that reflect the surroundings, minimizing the size and quantities of structures, and minimizing the presence of vehicular traffic/presence within the site.
- Sustainable, “green” design will be utilized to minimize impacts, demonstrate environmental building and best management practices and provide more visual/design consistency throughout the site.

Nursery

- A native plant nursery provides the materials for habitat restoration and enhancement in the Arroyo while providing education opportunities.

Nature/Culture/Education center/programs/activities

- The Annex will include a model visitor/nature/watershed/environmental/cultural center that incorporates themes related to the natural environment, First People of the area, watershed issues and recreation

- The facilities provide a broad range recreation and education programs for the public that are compatible with the concept of a natural park.

Trails, recreation

- The Annex provides staging for trails within the HWP
- The Annex provides a setting for passive recreation uses.