

### CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE:

February 17, 2010

NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT:

COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONCEPTUAL TRAILHEAD AND TRAIL

SIGNAGE PROGRAM

FROM:

David H. Ready, City Manager

BY:

Parks and Recreation

### SUMMARY

Members of the community, the Parks and Recreation Commission and, most recently, the Eco-Tourism Task Force have identified the placement of signage at our trailheads as an important need. A Conceptual plan for trailheads and trail signage was prepared, and at its September 9, 2009 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission, voted unanimously to recommend approval to the City Council, and to have staff work cooperatively with the trail groups. Since that time, staff has coordinated with trail user groups, residents, and the Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) trail subcommittee members. Staff recommends the City Council approve the Conceptual Trailhead and Trail signage program and direct staff to work with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the MSHCP trails committee on specific text for signs prior to installation.

### RECOMMENDATION:

- Approval of the Conceptual Trailhead and Trail Signage Program,
- Direct staff to work with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the MSHCP to develop final language for the signage.
- Solicit bids for fabrication and installation.

### STAFF ANALYSIS:

The City of Palm Springs has a rich history of trail use and an exceptional inventory of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails in our open space. There is however, no consistent trailhead or trail signage program to allow those who are not already familiar with our trails, easy access. Much work has been done over the years by the different trail user groups and advocates to provide trail information, however the City has not taken a comprehensive approach for our trailheads. In response to these group's requests, staff has worked with Fierro Consulting to research existing conditions and propose a conceptual program to brand the existing Trailheads, and provide better identification at

of the trailheads. This effort was initiated by the Eco-tourism Task Force and has been presented to the Coachella Valley Trails Coalition and the Trails Sub-Committee of the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Program (MSHCP).

When the Eco-tourism Task Force convened, it determined that the creation of a sign program and trailhead delineation was of primary importance in promoting Palm Springs as an Eco-tourism destination. Staff and consultant have inventoried each trailhead location, and surveyed the existing way-finding signs. Research into previous approvals and actions was conducted to understand the varied signs and use at each location.

### Implementation:

February 17, 2010

February 18 to March 4, 2010

March 8, 2010

TBD

TBD

February 18 to March 18, 2010

TBD

April 2010

Approval of Concept plan

Finalize sign text with Tribal staff and MSHCP

Submit to Tribal staff for Tribal review

Indian Planning Commission

Tribal Council Planning

Cost proposals for fabrication and installation

Tribal Council Installations

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Fabrication and Installation costs are unknown at this time. Following approval of the conceptual design, staff will solicit bids and return to City Council for award of bid and allocation of funds. The Parks, Open Space, and Trails Foundation (now defunct) created a fund some years ago for trail related projects and there is \$83,000 in account # 261-4496-54002 which can be used for this project.

Sharon Heider, Director Parks and Recreation

David H. Ready City Manager

Attachments: Conceptual Trailheads and Signage Program

January 20, 2010 Item No. 5.C.



### **PALM SPRINGS**

### TRAILHEADS & SIGNAGE PROGRAM

### Prepared for the City of Palm Springs Parks & Recreation Department

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ 

**Fierro Consulting** 

October, 2009

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### **Appendix**

- 1) Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes March 8, 2006
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- 3) Desert Trails Coalition's "Trailhead Signage Proposal"
- 4) Recreational Trails (Figure 4-4) from General Plan

- 5) Owner's Parcel Information Adjacent to North Lykken Trailhead <sup>1</sup>
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<sup>1</sup> Documents provided from residents of the Desert Trails Coalition

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Palm Springs has an extensive trail program within and surrounding the City boundaries that can be accessed by the residents and those that visit. The majority of these trails have existed since the indigenous Native Americans were living in these areas as they used the trails for hunting, trade routes and travel amongst their neighbors. Unfortunately there is minimal directional signage and very often inconvenient parking. If one is familiar with the locations of the trails they can be accessed however newer residents and visitors to the community can be left wandering and searching without success.

There is some signage but it is inconsistent as to form and materials which a City trail policy would address. There is also a lack of any public information that promotes these natural amenities. In fact, there is also an inconsistency with the names of the trails in the City's General Plan and the trail's names that are used by the trail users.

There are eleven existing trailheads and this report addresses eight of these trailheads in more detail with specific and general recommendations. The trailheads that aren't addressed (Whitewater, Visitor Center and Tramway) have adequate parking, and are in good condition. The recommendations in this report address onsite and directional signage, parking and a branding program that will inform the public about the trails as well as assist them to have a more enjoyable and safe experience when using the trails.

### INTRODUCTION

This project is to be in two phases:

**First**, to gather and review the information on eight trailheads of the City's existing eleven; to review previous City actions, identify ownership or easements and any restrictions in relation to signage and parking and finally to meet with the interested community organizations.

**Second**, make recommendations for the removal or the installation of signage at each trailhead and make recommendation for signage and recommend parking locations for each trailhead.

As there was a difference between the names of some of the trailhead sites in the City's General Plan and the list that the Desert Trails Coalition provided this report uses the name and the spelling consistent with the City's General Plan.

### **BACKGROUND & GOALS**

The City of Palm Springs has a rich cultural history with a wonderful setting and climate, surrounded by an abundance of trails most of which were created by the Aqua Caliente Cahuilla Indians indigenous to the areas of what is now Riverside and San Diego Counties. These trails were used for travel amongst bands of the neighboring Native Americans, and for hunting and trade routes. The Aqua Caliente Cahuilla Indians settled in Tahquitz, Chino, Palm, Murray, Andreas Indian Canyons which had a good water supply, variety of plants and animals so they were able to thrive and remnants of their complex society has remained and is visible through the trail system which still exists.

Within these areas there are also two places listed on the National Register of Historic Places - The Andreas Canyon and the Tahquitz Canyon. These open space lands provide not only recreational value but they also have ecological resources and scenic value that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors.

In 2006 the Parks & Recreation Commission received a presentation from Chuck Nisbet, President of the Desert Trails Coalition outlining their organizations' concerns about trail maintenance, parking, signage, amenities and the volunteer support that was available to the City. The Commission asked how they could help with trail signs and Mr. Nisbet responded that his organization would put together a proposal which was presented to the Commission the next month. Minutes from these meetings and the Trailhead Signage Proposal that was prepared by the Desert Trails Coalition are provided in the Appendix.

### **GOALS**

Although the City's trail system has been in existence for many years, there is not a comprehensive or consistent approach to parking, access, easements, or signage. This report sets goals for implementation of:

**Primary Trailheads** – Where feasible larger areas to provide integrated parking and entrance to the trail system. Up to 15 parking stalls, including up to four equestrian sized stalls may be provided, entrance kiosk, trail signage, benches, trash cans, and ADA overlooks or access as permitted.

**Secondary Trailheads** – These will be the more common entrance to the trail system as they require less flat area and currently exist in an informal manner. These entrances may provide parking; however it may not be integrated within one site, and may use adjacent streets or rights of way for parking. The number of parking stalls is dictated by existing conditions. These entrances will provide entrance kiosk, trail signage, benches where size permits, and trash cans.

**Parking signs, Striping, Boulders or other** – as needed per the existing conditions either a, "Trailhead Parking" sign, pavement striping, or strategic boulder placement shall be used for Trailheads to delineate appropriate parking.

**Entrance Kiosks** – These structures shall be placed at each trailhead location and shall be constructed of weathered Cortan steel to mimic the existing signs. Each shall be have a covered two sided signage area. One side shall have a directional map and note the name of the trailhead in which it is located, the other side can house interpretive information.

**Directional Signage** –Throughout the City signs informing the public as to the locations of the trailheads shall be installed within the City Right of Way. Signs shall be consistent with exiting directional signs noting locations such as DeMuth Park, City Hall, etc.

**On-Trail Signage** — Placement of key on-trail signage is needed where trials intersect or change direction. Given the number of existing trials, it may be difficult for those unfamiliar with the trails to remain on the intended course as new trails enter and exit. Cooperation with the existing trail user groups and search and rescue members may assist in the placement of arrows and trail names. A simple system of commercially available recycled plastic 4" posts with various trail signs is recommended due to ease of placement within rocky soil, cost, and availability.

### TRAILHEAD SITES

### Overview

Several of the trailheads were hard to locate and with the exception of one trailhead there wasn't directional signage that could be seen. The three trailheads located near downtown were relatively easy to find however the five in the southern portion of the City were difficult to locate without a City guide who was familiar with each of the sites. As there was a difference between the names of each of the trailhead sites in the City's General Plan and the list that the Desert Trails Coalition provided this report uses the name and the spelling consistent with the approved General Plan.

After reviewing each of the trailhead locations, researching existing easements, street improvement plans, and conferring with Engineering staff, the following are recommendations for each Trailhead. Of the eight Trailheads studied, only the Tahquitz Trailhead has complications in ownership with regard to implementing parking.

### Araby Trailhead

The Araby Trailhead site is located on the south side of East Palm Canyon Drive just east of the Palm Canyon Wash Bridge at the intersection of Southridge Drive. There is adequate space available for parking but it will need parking signage which also permits equestrian parking, and delineation of parking area. The Araby Trail is on both sides of Southridge Drive but there are signage on only one side of the trail and it is hard to read because of the age of the sign and the adjacent foliage. Directional signage is needed for drivers traveling on East Palm Canyon Drive. This is an uphill hike and on one side it will take you past Bob Hope's previous home.

Where each trail begins there is limited extra space however a kiosk could be located at one end of the parking lot. This site is appropriate for a primary trailhead.



Figure 1 Existing Area for Parking at Araby



Figure 2 Existing Trailhead Signage

### Recommendations:

- 1. Provide directional signage on both sides of East Palm Canyon Drive
- 2. Provide parking signage
- Provide trail signage on both sides of Southridge Drive with Standardized Trailhead Signage
- 4. Locate a trail kiosk at one end of the parking lot
- 5. City owns sufficient right of way along East Palm Canyon to allow a Primary Trailhead. Existing right of way is 200' with a 64' road width. Recommend delineation of 17'x10' parking stalls and 20' drive isle.

### Desert Riders' Trailhead

The Desert Rider's Trailhead is located on South Palm Canyon Drive with the trail running adjacent and within the County's Flood Control Basin. People currently park within the City's right-a way along South Palm Canyon Drive, however a street widening project is underway which will remove right of way. Parking will need to be delineated as on-street parking following the street improvement to its ultimate width. There is neither directional signage nor any trailhead signage, both of which are needed. This site is appropriate for a Secondary Trailhead treatment.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Provide directional signage
- 2. Provide trail signage
- 3. Provide a trail kiosk
- 4. Stripe on-street parking following completion of street improvements
- 5. Seek access easement with Riverside County Flood Control for access along existing maintenance road.

### Garstin Trailhead

The Garstin Trailhead is located on South Barona Road off East Bogert Trail. Barona Road is a short street with only two homes which dead ends into the Riverside County Flood Control Channel. The City owns a portion of the street frontage between the residential property and the flood control channel on the north and east sides of the Barona Road.

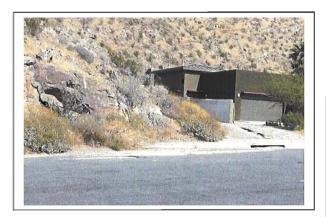


Figure 3 Beginning of City Property adjacent to private property



Figure 4 Parking Lot Opportunity on South Barona Rd. cul-de-sac

Because the City owned property is a steep rocky slope it would be extremely hard and expensive to carve any parking stalls into the side of the slope. The existing road width anticipated expansion to a secondary arterial; however no plans for this improvement are anticipated in the future. Given the additional width for a residential street, it is recommended that the road be striped to allow head in parking on the east side, and parallel parking on the west side. Additionally, site is appropriate for a Secondary Trailhead treatment with directional signage as the trail head is accessed from within a residential development.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Stripe new centerline and head in parking stalls along with parallel stalls where space permits.
- 2. Provide directional signage
- 3. Provide trail signage
- 4. Provide a trail kiosk

### Golf Course Trailhead (alternative name Museum Trailhead)

This site is accessed from the north parking lot of the Palm Springs Art Museum at the intersection of North Belardo Road and Museum Drive. It has a Kiosk naming it as the Museum Trail. It is the only trail where offsite directional signage exists. I was informed that the signage was designed and installed by the Museum. The

directional signage is on Museum Drive near the intersection of East Tahquitz Canyon Drive, located at ground level in the public right-a-way landscaping. Further evaluation should be done to see if other directional signage is necessary when approaching the trail head from the opposite direction. This Trailhead is accessed through the Museum parking lot and not through the adjacent golf course so consideration to renaming the Museum Trailhead should be given to avoid any confusion.



Figure 5 Directional Signage

Additionally, an agreement that allows the public to use the parking lot could not be located and negotiations should be confirmed so there are not any parking problems in the future. This location is a Secondary Trailhead site.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Rename this trailhead in the City's next General Plan Amendment to "Museum Trailhead"
- 2. Negotiate an agreement to permit trail users parking within the Museum's parking lot.
- 3. Evaluate if an additional directional signage is needed and place all directional signage at eye level.
- 4. Negotiate an agreement to permit trail users to cross private property

### **Murray Canyon Trailhead**

The Murray Canyon Trailhead is located adjacent to the Smoke Tree Stables and a Riverside County Flood Control Channel at the intersection of the Murray Canyon Drive cul-de-sac and South Toledo Avenue. Again, directional signage is needed as well as a trailhead sign. Parallel parking is can be delineated along both Murray Canyon Drive and Toledo. As the trail is within the County's Flood Control right-away any signage will need the County's approval if the agreement doesn't address this issue. If an easement with Riverside County Flood Control can be negotiated a Primary Trailhead could be appropriate, however the site is also consistent with a Secondary Trailhead if necessary due to access constraints.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Provide directional signage
- 2. Provide trail signage
- 3. Provide a trail kiosk
- 4. Gain access easement from Riverside County Flood Control.
- 5. Sign and stripe parking on adjacent Murray Canyon Drive

### Equestrian Only Trailhead (Alternative name North Lykken Trailhead)

The Equestrian Only Trailhead is located at the end of Ramon Road which is posted "No Parking" although there is a dirt area along the edge of the street's asphalt and because the street dead ends there could also be an opportunity to have head-in parking. After discussions with City's engineering staff, parking stalls can be delineated off-street on the unpaved city property, and because there are houses nearby recommend restricting the hours to allow parking only from dawn to dusk. This area is appropriate for a Primary Trailhead.

### Recommendations:

- 1. In the City's next General Plan Amendment process rename this site to "North Lykken Trailhead"
- 2. Provide directional signage
- 3. Provide trail signage
- 4. Provide a trail kiosk
- 5. Use boulders to delineate off-pavement parking on the north side of Ramon.

### Palm Canyon Trailhead

This site is at the end of East Escoba Drive at the end of the cul-de-sac and is marked with a wood Bud Furer Trail sign leading into the Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort which permits horses on the golf cart path. Directional signage is needed and the City should consider renaming the trailhead to the Bud Furer Trailhead and also checking if the signage that permits horses on the golf cart path are still displayed. The City's Engineering staff has confirmed the street width is sufficient to allow striping of onstreet parking on East Escoba.

### **Recommendations:**

- 1. Rename this trailhead in the City's next General Plan Amendment to "Bud Furer Trailhead"
- 2. Provide directional signage
- 3. Provide a trail kiosk
- 4. Stripe on-street parking spaces

### Tahquitz Trailhead (alternative name South Lykken Trailhead)

Located at the west end of Mesquite Avenue this trailhead has a rustic metal sign labeled "Carl Lykken Trail" and it is also on the entrance road to the Tahquitz Canyon Visitors' Center to the Lykken Trail. Directional signage is needed and parking is needed. This site is the most difficult as the City owns no right of way sufficient for parking along Mesquite. Property is privately owned or tribal owned. This site should be discussed in partnership with the Tribe or Bureau of Indian Affairs to determine future needs for parking and access due to proximity to the Tahquitz Canyon Visitor's Center.



Figure 6 Existing Trailhead Signage

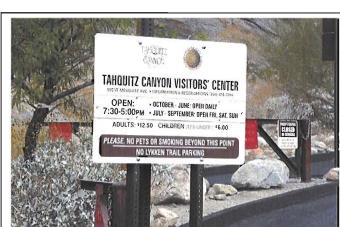


Figure 7 Gate Signage

### Recommendations:

- 1) In City's next General Plan Amendment process rename site to "South Lykken Trailhead"
- 2) Provide directional signage
- 3) Provide a trail kiosk
- 4) Determine ownership and meet with Tribe or Bureau of Indian Affairs to determine strategy for parking

### **BRANDING PROGRAM**

### Signage Overview

The trails' signage that is displayed in the City is minimal and it is an assortment of styles, materials and verbiage. There is no consistency in the existing signage. Even some of the names of the trail heads are dissimilar between the City's General Plan and what is commonly used by the community and what the existing signage reads. This is the result of the lack of a standardize trail signage program that has been adopted by the City.

The City needs to first standardize all of the Trailhead names and then adopt and implement a branding program for all of the signage within the trails program. This section offers some alternatives to consider. Although this report only addresses eight trailheads there are three more existing trailheads (Whitewater Trailhead, Visitor Center Trailhead, Tramway Trailhead) and all eleven existing trailheads should be included within any future adopted trail program.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Standardize all Trailhead Names so they are consistent with the City's General Plan, all maps and signage <u>or</u> do a General Plan Amendment to standardize all approved Trailhead names.
- 2. Develop a City trailhead policy that outlines the parameters of each trailhead site
- 3. Develop and implement a Trailhead Branding Program to include consistent signage (onsite and off-site), trail maps, and a trail section within the City's website and the City's Recreation Department Brochure.
- 4. Use any approved Trailhead Branding program with the existing Whitewater Trailhead, Visitor Center Trailhead, Tramway Trailhead and all future trailheads.

### City's Website

These natural resources aren't mentioned within the City's official website making it difficult to access the trails without prior knowledge of the trailheads. After the City implements the signage program it is recommended that a section on trails be included on its website and explore the opportunity to coordinate with the City's Search & Rescue Unit to download the GPS coordinates for all trails so that the public can download the trail coordinates onto their personal GPS units prior to using any of the trails.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Coordinate with the City's Communications Department to have a trails section created within the City's website.
- 2. Coordinate with the City's Search & Rescue Unit to download GPS coordinates for all trails on the City's website so that the public can download the trail coordinates to their personal GPS units.

### Trail Signage

Many of the trails are within private property and it is important that the trail users stay on the trail in order that the trail access is not revoked or that the trail users do not get lost. Reviewing maps of the trails maps it is evident that many trails bisect each other and the City should consider signage at each of the trail intersections to assist hikers.

In conversation with a member of the City's Search & Rescue Unit it was learned that both the Lykken and Sky Line Trails have numerous calls for service from both experienced and inexperience hikers. Some of these calls could be avoided with better trail signage and an ability to download the trails' GPS coordinates via the City's website prior to starting any hike. In that conversation it was learned that they have the trail's GPS coordinates and it is recommended that they should be formally approached with a goal for the City to acquire the GPS information and to place it on the City's website.

### Recommendations:

1. Formally coordinate with the City's Search & Rescue Unit to download GPS coordinates for all trails on the City's website so that the public can download the trail coordinates to their personal GPS units.



Figure 8 Existing Signage on Museum (Golf Course) Trail

### Trail Maps

Pocket-sized trail maps should be considered and included in the overall Branding Program. Palm Desert has a good trail map that is available at the City's visitor's center and that type of format should be considered. Trail maps can be expensive to print however a sponsor or sponsors could be considered and the cost of the maps could be under-written.

### **Directional and Parking Signage**

Directional signage is needed but these could be limited to only key locations if there was good trail map that also contained directional information that could be utilized by anyone unfamiliar with the location of the City's trailheads.

Where parking is permitted there should be signage and if there are any restrictions those should be noted. It is suggested that any parking signage should be the type and material that is commonly utilized else where in the City and the verbiage should be consistent.

### Recommendations:

- 1. Identify directional signage at each location for ease of locating all of the trailhead sites.
- 2. Parking signage should be uniform and the type and material that is commonly utilized else where in the City.

### Trailhead Signage and Kiosk or Message Centers

Each of the trailheads sites should be have signage that informs people as to which trailhead site they are using and a kiosk or message center that provides the general rules and the trails that can be accessed through that trailhead. They should be

made of metal to match existing historic signs. Presently only one trailhead has signage and only one other has a kiosk.

Kiosk's are one way that the City can transmit information to a large numbers of trail users and are relativity inexpensive as compared to the people that can be benefitted at most if not all of the trailhead sites.



Figure 9 Existing Wall Mounted Kiosk

### **Branding Program Alternatives**

- 1. The City will have to decide what type of materials that it wants to use for the signs— wood, metal or recycled plastic. The recommendation is to use recycled plastic as much as possible which will withstand the natural elements better than wood, however the potential for vandalism should be considered in the selection.
- 2. Develop a trail policy such as stated below in the following example:

Each trail head will have the following:

- Name of the site on a sign constructed of recycled plastic or salvaged Cortan Steel
- Lettering shall be a minimum of 6" high for City name and minimum of 4" high for site name
- Lettering shall be of a contrasting color from the material of the sign
- There shall be a City Logo and/or the words 'City of Palm Springs' on each sign

- A kiosk should be constructed of salvaged Cortan Steel or recycled plastic. The ability to place signage on the front and back panels of the kiosk
- Signage as to what is permitted or not on the trails (i.e.: horses, dogs, etc.
- One side of the kiosk shall have a directional map and the other side can house interpretive information.
- A trash can will be at each site
- There will be a directional signage for each trailhead
- On the trails at each intersection there will be a sign pointing the direction of each trail
- Designate where parking is permitted
- 3. Develop a branding program for the City's trail program that standardizes the signage and also informs the public about these natural resources that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors. This program will include, minimally, the City's Website, the Parks and Recreation Department's Quarterly Activities Brochure and all trails' maps and literature.

### **Power Point Presentation**

A Power Point Presentation that was made to representatives of the Parks and Recreation Commission and members of the community to demonstrate what this report was going to propose and to receive a preliminary reaction to the direction and the work that had been completed. These four slides are provided in the appendix.

### **CONCLUSIONS & SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **General Recommendations:**

- A. Standardize all Trailhead Names so they are consistent with the City's General Plan, all maps and signage <u>or</u> do a General Plan Amendment to standardize all approved Trailhead names.
- B. Develop a City trailhead policy that outlines the parameters of each trailhead site.
- C. Develop and implement a Trailhead Branding Program to include consistent signage (onsite and off-site), trail maps, and a tail section within the City's website and the City's Recreation Department Brochure.
- D. Use any approved Trailhead Branding program with the existing Whitewater Trailhead, Visitor Center Trailhead, Tramway Trailhead and all future trailheads.
- E. Coordinate with the City's Communications Department to have a trails section created within the City's website.
- F. Coordinate with the City's Search & Rescue Unit to download GPS coordinates for all trails on the City's website so that the public can download the trail coordinates to their personal GPS units.
- G. Identify directional signage at each location for ease of locating all of the trailhead sites.
- H. Parking signage should be uniform and the type and material that is commonly utilized else where in the City.
- I. City should consider signage at each of the trail intersections out in the open space.

### Specific Trailhead Recommendations:

- J. Araby Trailhead
  - 1) Provide directional signage on both sides of East Palm Canyon Drive
  - 2) Provide parking signage
  - Provide trail signage on both sides of Southridge Drive with Standardized Trailhead Signage
  - 4) Locate a trail kiosk at one end of the parking lot
  - 5) City owns sufficient right of way along East Palm Canyon to allow a Primary Trailhead. Existing right of way is 200' with a 64' road width. Recommend delineation of 17'x10' parking stalls and 20' drive isle.
- K. Desert Riders' Trailhead
  - 1) Provide directional signage
  - 2) Provide trail signage
  - 3) Provide a trail kiosk
  - 4) Stripe on-street parking following completion of street improvements
  - 5) Seek access easement with Riverside County Flood Control for access along existing maintenance road

### L. Garstin Trailhead

- 1) Request City's Traffic Engineer to permit head-in parking stalls painted on Barona Road where it adjoins the County's Flood Control Channel.
- 2) Provide directional signage
- 3) Provide trail signage
- 4) Provide a trail kiosk
- M. Golf Course Trailhead (alternative name Museum Trailhead)
  - Rename this trailhead in the City's next General Plan Amendment to "Museum Trailhead"
  - 2) Negotiate an agreement to permit trail users parking within the Museum's parking lot
  - 3) Negotiate an agreement to permit trail users to cross private property
  - 4) Evaluate if an additional directional signage is needed and place all directional signage at eye level
- N. Murray Canyon Trailhead
  - 1) Provide directional signage
  - 2) Provide trail signage
  - 3) Provide a trail kiosk
  - 4) Gain access easement from Riverside County Flood Control
  - 5) Sign and stripe parking on adjacent Murray Canyon Drive
- O. Equestrian Only Trailhead (Alternate name North Lykken Trailhead)
  - 1) In the City's next General Plan Amendment process rename this site to "North Lykken Trailhead"
  - 2) Provide directional signage
  - 3) Provide trail signage
  - 4) Provide a trail kiosk
  - 5) Use boulders to delineate off-pavement parking on the north side of Ramon
- P. Palm Canyon Trailhead
  - Rename this trailhead in the City's next General Plan Amendment to "Bud Furer Trailhead"
  - 2) Provide directional signage
  - 3) Provide a trail kiosk
  - 4) Stripe on-street parking spaces
- Q. Tahquitz Trailhead (alternative name South Lykken Trailhead)
  - In City's next General Plan Amendment process rename site to "South Lykken Trailhead"
  - 2) Provide directional signage
  - 3) Provide a trail kiosk
  - 4) Determine ownership and meet with Tribe or Bureau of Indian Affairs to determine strategy for parking

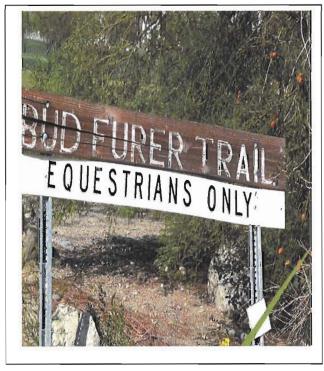
### **APPENDIX**

### ADDITIONAL PHOTO EXAMPLES



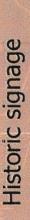
Figure 10 Freestanding Kiosk

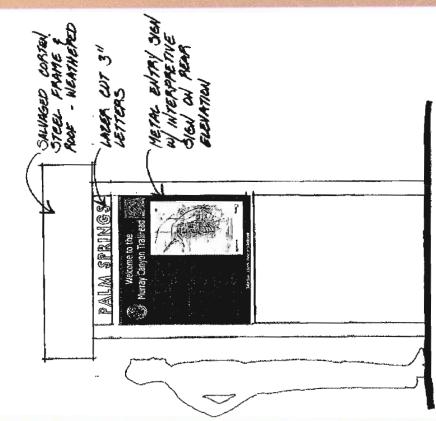
Figure 11 Trail Head Signage



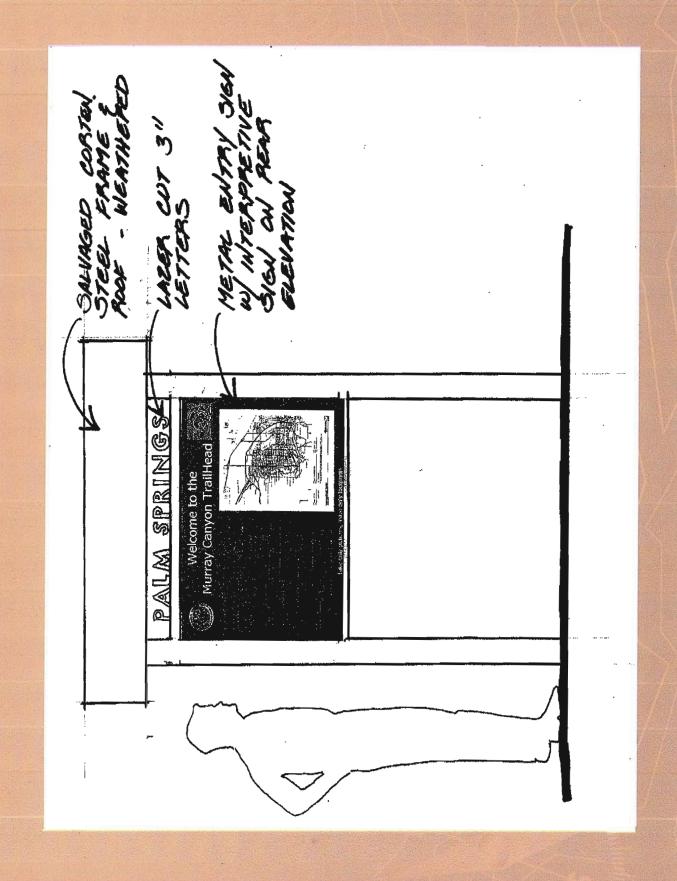
## Trailhead Kiosk







Proposed Kiosk with similar character





# Welcome to

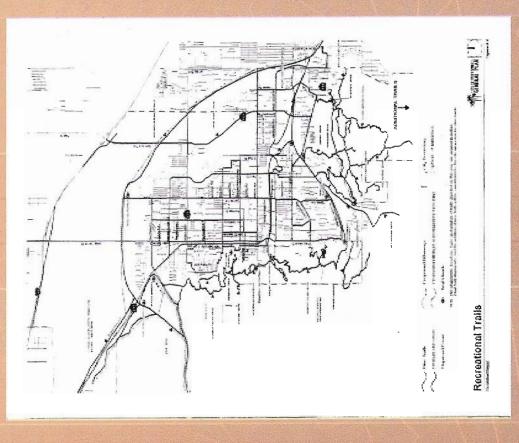


PALM SPRINGS wilderness areas offers access to some understanding this area is characterized by certain inherent way to the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National of California's most beautiful natural resources. As a gate rattlesnakes, poisonous plants and insects, extremes in Monument we invite you to enjoy your visit while dangers. Some of these include mountain lions, weather, loose rocks and rugged terrain.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- TRAIL ACCESS HOURS: DAWN TO DUSK. (occo 2-5-15)
- MINORS (UNDER 18 YEARS OLD) SHOULD BE UNDER DIRECT ADULT SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES.
- · YOU MUST REMAIN ON TRAILS AT ALL TIMES. (occo 2-5-46)
  - NO SMOKING, (occo 2-5-65)
- NO CAMPING OR CAMPFIRES (occo 2-5-17, 2-5-65)
- VEHICLES ARE RESTRICTED TO DESIGNATED ROADS. (occo 2-
  - ALCOHOL AND OTHER INTOXICANTS ARE PROHIBITED. (occo
    - DOMESTIC ANIMALS (EXCEPT HORSES) ARE PROHIBITED. 2-5-35)
- · HUNTING, WEAPONS AND FIREWORKS ARE PROHIBITED. occo 2-5-46)
- VEHICLE & BIKE SPEED LIMIT 10 MPH. (occo 2-5-29, 2-5-43) (occo 2-5-38, 2-5-37)
  - REMOVAL OR DISTURBANCE OF ROCKS, PLANTS OR OTHER
    - PARK RESOURCES IS PROHIBITED. (occo 2-5-27)

       ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS ARE



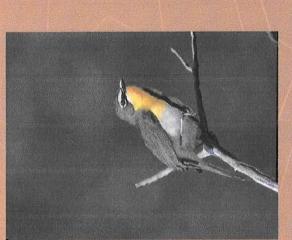
Take only pictures, leave only footprints















Take only pictures, leave only footprints

### CITY OF PALM SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday March 8, 2006

2:30 p.m.

Youth Room James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

BOLE PARTMENDER WA		NR SELECTION OF PARE		NEWCONSERVATION OF
Cosimo Aiello	X	5	1	·
Lauri Aylaian		4	2	Yes
Nancy Bentinck, Vice Chair	X	5	1	
Craig Borba (nonvoting)	х	4	2.	
Ellon Brannigan	Х	6	0	
David Darrin		2	4	Yes
Helene LeClair		. 3	3	No
Keith McCormick	X	5	1	
Joy Meredith	X	6	. 0	
Bridgette Sullenger	X	6	1	

### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Mikosell, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation Vicki Oltean, Parks and Recreation Manager, Department of Parks and Recreation Michele Cirone Collier, Special Events Coordinator, Department of Parks and Recreation Lois Ware, Administrative Assistant, Department of Parks and Recreation

### REPORT OF POSTING

The Agenda for this meeting was posted at the Leisure Center, 401 S. Pavilion Way, and City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, from 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 3, 2006, to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2006.

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded that the Minutes of the January 11, 2006 meeting be approved as written.

M/S/C (Aiello/Sullenger) 5/0 (Bentinck not present at time of vote)

### II. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Letter dated January 10, 2005 (sic) from Marie Lyons Wolgel re Potential Park or Facilities in Areas 3 and 4 of the General Plan

Director Mikosell reviewed the letter from Marie Lyons Weigel, 380 Bogert Trail, wherein she states that "we are against any passive parks being placed in our neighborhood" (Andreas Hills and Canyon - Area 3) because of several drawbacks, i.e., kids partying and committing petty crimes, broken beer and liquor bottles, cars, mallboxes and landscaping vandalized and/or destroyed, noise from car stereos, and the homeless sleeping in the golf cart paths and pushing their carts around. She asked that they be placed on any list necessary for notification and information regarding any potential parks or facilities proposed in Areas 3 and 4. Director Mikesell said that staff will investigate as to whether or not those areas have a homeowner association representative or group.

U TÀ TO OT: OTA

March 8, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission

### II. CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

### B. Letter received February 27, 2006 from Jerry Schoonfeld, President, West Coast Baseball League, re Proposal for Use of Palm Springs Stadium

Director Mikesell reviewed the letter from Jerry Schoenfeld of the West Coast Baseball League (WCBL) in Yorba Linda, wherein he sets forth a proposal for use of Palm Springs Stadium. Some of the points noted were annual base rent in the amount of \$25,000, which would go toward the construction to modernize the current facility up to \$150,000 over the lease; lease would be for five years with one five-year option; no other professional toams would be allowed to play at the stadium during the lease; and WCBL would have exclusive use of the stadium.

Director Mikesell noted that the commission instructed staff to negotiate an agroement with Palm Springs Power; the long-term lease (three years with two two-year extensions) will soon be finalized, with the same rental rate specified in the Comprehensive Fee Schedule for nonprofit corporations and including \$30,000 worth of stadium improvements per year, of which Palm Springs Power's share will be one third. This new lease will generate about \$70,000 over the seven-year period, not including improvements. Last year's agreement generated about \$13,000 from Palm Springs Power for the City. The lease will be for non-exclusive use by Palm Springs Power, which means that the City can use the stadium when the baseball season is over. He also noted that Palm Springs Power will be having a baseball game before the Fourth of July celebration this year.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**None.** 

### IV. LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

### A. Proposed Disc Golf Course at Ruth Hardy Park

Director Mikesell said that after the last commission meeting, he contacted Randy Rood of Berrien County Parks in Benton Harbor, Michigan, regarding that county's disc golf course. He also obtained general information from a website regarding the procedure for establishing and maintaining a disc golf course. Shortly thereafter, Director Mikesell said he received a telephone call from someone in Palm Desert who said that city is making plans for a disc golf course. Commissioner Alello said that he still would like to have a temporary course at Frances Stevens Park for youth to use during VillagéFest on Thursday evenings. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded for staff to investigate the feasibility of having a temporary disc golf course set up in Frances Stevens Park on Thursday evenings.

M/S/C (Aiello/Sullenger) 6/0

### B. Draft Resolution of Support for Condemnation of O'Donnell Golf Course

Director Mikesell gave a brief background of this situation and said that if the commission is serious about having O'Donnell Golf Course turned into a downtown park, then a draft resolution should be prepared for City Council's consideration. Many of the commissioners said that after receiving comments from Palm Springs residents and reading responses in the "Letters to the Editor" section of *The Desert Sun* in opposition to this proposition, they would not support such a proposal. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to not support a resolution to condemn O'Donnell Golf Course,

M/S/C (Meredith/Bentinck) 5/1 (Brannigan)

### C. Discussion re Dogs in City Parks

Director Mikesell reviewed an e-mail he received on February 21 from Scott Meredith regarding both leashed and unleashed dogs at Ruth Hardy Park and the owners who do not clean up after their pets. He also reviewed Sections 11.44.060, "Prohibited conduct generally," and 11.44.100, "Dogs in parks and recreation areas," of the Palm Springs Municipal Code. In Section 11.44.060 (1), it notes that no person shall "Hitch, fasten, lead, drive or let loose any animal or fowl of any kind, provided that this shall not apply to a dog when fed by a cord or chain not more than six feet long." In Section 11.44.100, it notes that "No person owning, or having the control or care of, any dog shall bring such dog (except a Seeing Eye dog leading a blind person) into or upon a public park or recreation area; nor shall any such person otherwise suffer or permit such dog to enter or remain in a public park or recreation area. This section shall not, however, apply to any person participating in a dog training class or dog show or other activity necessarily involving the sponsorship of, or pursuant to express permission of the city department of community services." Commissioner Bentinck said that she is at Ruth Hardy Park four mornings every week and that people do not obey the dog rules. Commissioner Meredith said that there is not a neighborhood involvement group for that area to address this concern. Director Mikeself said that the only way to alloviate some of these problems would be to establish "stations" at various

diction of all up

March 8, 2006
Parks and Recreation Commission

### IV. LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS (Continued)

### C. Discussion re Dogs In City Parks (Continued)

areas of the park where trash cans and litter bags could be placed. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded for staff to investigate the feasibility of having "stations" for dog waste in all City parks and draft a new ordinance for the Palm Springs Municipal Code that would eliminate the ambiguity of Sections 11.44.060 and 11.44.100.

M/S/C (Meredith/Bentlnck) 6/0

### V. REPORTS AND REQUESTS

### A. Commission

### 1. General Plan Update

Vice Chair Bontlinck said that the General Plan Steering Committee completed the land use section, which was presented to City Council for its review and comments. No further meetings have been schoduled following the presentation to City Council, Vice Chair Bentlinck said she will check at the next committee meeting as to the status of the parks section of the General Plan.

### 2. Committoe Reports

### Department Master Plan

None.

### b. Special Events Policy

### 1) Special Events Policy Draft

Director Mikesell gave a brief background regarding the nood for a Special Events Ordinance and asked for commissioners' comments regarding the proposed draft ordinance of February 4, 2006, prepared by the City Attorney's Office, which was sent to them several weeks ago and again in the commission meeting packet. He noted that Chair Aylalan had sent him an e-mail with her comments and suggestions, which will be taken into consideration.

Commissioner McCormick asked if the art events in Frances Stevens Park would not violate Section X.F.B., which reads, "The Event will not compete directly with existing fixed-location businesses in the City; if it does compete directly, the Event will provide offsetting economic stimulus." Coordinator Cirone Collier said that the City has a specific ordinance that protects art events and allows for six art shows per year at Frances Stevens Park, with three being conducted by local organizations.

Coordinator Cirone Collier said that the ordinance needs to address security issues and time lines for insurance requirements.

Discussion was also had about various aspects of the ordinance.

It was noted that Main Street should be involved in the review of this ordinance since there is a specific policy in place regarding rules and regulations for downtown activities and events.

Commissioner McCormick noted the possible need for more signs around event sitos.

After additional review by City staff is conducted and additions, deletions and changes are made, this matter will be brought back to the commission for its recommendation.

### c. Youth/Teen Activities

### 1) Prosentation by J. Mike Murphy, Palm Springs High School, re Battle of the Bands

NOTE: This matter was brought forward on the agenda to allow the guest speaker to make his presentation and leave the meeting for a previous commitment.

March 8, 2006
Parks and Recreation Commission

### V. REPORTS AND REQUESTS (Continued)

### A. Commission (Continued)

- 2. Committee Reports (Continued)
  - c. Youth/Teen Activitios (Continued)
    - 1) Presentation by J. Mike Murphy, Palm Springs High School, re Battle of the Bands (Continued)

J. Mike Murphy said that the high school is again having a "Battle of the Bands" on March 31 from 5:00 p.m. to midnight in the quad area. Flyers have been distributed to all high schools in the Coachella Valloy to get participants. A meeting will be held on March 17 at 6:00 p.m. for those bands interested in participating and Mr. Murphy suggested that a commissioner and staff might want to attend. He said that three cash prizes are offered at this event, and each band plays 35 minutes, with ten-minute intervals between each performance for band setup. He said that expenses are mainly for security and between 200 and 500 people usually attend these events, in past years, there have been no major problems with the youth in attendance. After discussion, Director Mikesell said that he and Manager Oltean will attend the March 17 meeting.

### d. Transionts/Homoless in Sunrise Plaza

None.

### e. Trails Maintenance

1) Presentation by Chuck Nesbitt of the Coachella Valley Hiking Club

NOTE: This matter was brought forward on the agenda to allow the guest speaker to make his presentation and leave the meeting for a previous commitment.

Chuck Nesbitt, President of the Desert Trail Coalition, said that Palm Springs is the trails capital of the Coachella Valley, with more than 60% of all public trails being located in that city. As recreational assets, he said they must be preserved, maintained and enhanced and addressed four important issues:

Parking: Trail access requires dedicated parking. As more housing is developed around trailheads, parking is an issue. As more homes are built, homeowners are not happy when hikers park in front of their residences. He said that parking is especially important for the Garstin, South and North Lykken, Ramon and Araby trails.

Maintenance: When It rains, trail orosion occurs. Erosion is particularly serious on the lower portion of the South Lykken Trail. New water breaks need to be installed and the fill-in completed to maintain this trail. Also, he noted that the decommission and removal of shortcuts would help prevent future erosion.

Signs: To make the trail more user-friendly, more and clearer signs are needed at the trailhoads. He said that recently, the City of Palm Desert installed signs at the Hopalong Cassidy Trail, which could be a model for Palm Springs trail signs. He also said that clear directional trail marker signs are needed to keep people from getting lost, especially at the Ramon and Museum trails approaches to Skyline Trail. He also noted that the Indian Canyons have wonderful examples of signs.

Amenities and Volunteer Support: Mr. Nestibit said that last December and January, the Coachella Valley Hiking Club, with funding from the Desort Trails Coalition, rebuilt the five picnic tables above the Museum Trail. He noted that the picnic tables at Murray Hill and the overlook of South Lykken Trail are deteriorating and need to be rebuilt. Funds are needed to buy materials for these projects, but volunteers from the Desert Trails Coalition will provide the labor.

When asked about the funds from the disbanded Parks, Open Space and Tralls (POST) committee, Director Mikesell said that the Planning Department had sont over a large box of files regarding POST but that he has not had sufficient time to review the many files.

Commissioner McCormick asked how the City can help with trail signs. Mr. Nesbitt said he will put together a proposal for signs and markers and will come back to the commission with that proposal.

March 8, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission

### V. <u>REPORTS AND REQUESTS</u> (Continued)

### B. Public

Andrew Starke of the Palm Springs Power baseball team spoke about the transient/homeless situation in Sunrise Plaza. He passed around photographs that showed several acts of vandalism around Palm Springs Stadium and the unsightly and unkempt conditions in that area. He noted that he has received numerous complaints in the past about this issue from his players and patrons at the baseball games.

### C. Staff

### 1. Director's Report

Director Mikesell asked if there were any questions about the Director's Report; there were none.

Commissioner Bentinck said that she had heard that the Paim Springs Riviera Resort & Racquet Club is planning to tear down the tennis courts at that location. She expressed concern about losing the tennis courts because of the Easter Bowl tennis tournament that is held there. Director Mikesell said that the hotel will be closing at the end of May and will be closed for 18 months. He said that City Council is also concerned about the hotel closure because of the loss of \$1 million in Transient Occupancy Tax (FOT).

He said he had spoken with the Anna and Kurt Haggstrom at the Plaza Racquet Club, who said they are also concerned about the loss of tennis tournaments in the community. They have given several proposals to the City, requesting financial assistance, the addition of three or four courts so that tennis tournaments can be held at their facility, and an extension of their lease. He noted that the lease expires in the year 2010 and it will be the decision of the Palm Springs Unified School District as to what happens to the facility at that time.

Commissioner Aiello said that he had obtained the DVD of "Mad Hot Ballroom" and would be happy to host a viewing at his home. Managor Oltean said that the Recreation Division has a DVD player and that arrangements could be made to have a viewing at the Leisure Conter on a specific date or at the next regularly-scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the commission will be field on Wednesday, April 12, 2008, in the Conference Room at the Leisure Center, 401 S. Pavilion Way.

SUBMITHED BY:

LOIS WARE, Administrative Assistant Department of Parks and Recreation

SCOTT MIKESELL, Director

Department of Parks and Recreation

### CITY OF PALM SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday April 12, 2006

2:30 p.m.

Conference Room
Palm Springs Leisure Center

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Rolling (nemerical)	A PROCESSOR IN THE SECOND STATE OF THE SECOND	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY O	il reces and out a community of	
Cosimo Aletto		5	2	Yes
Lauri Aylaian	×	5	2	·
Nancy Bentinck, Vice Chair	X	6	1	
Craig Borba (nonvoting)		4	3	Уеь
Ellen Brannigan		. 6	1	Yes
David Darnn	X	3	4	
Helene LeClair	· X	4	3	
Keith McCormick	Х	6	1	
Joy Meredith	Х	7	0	
Bridgette Sullenger	Х	6	1	

### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Mikesell, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation Lois Ware, Administrative Assistant, Department of Parks and Recreation

### REPORT OF POSTING

The Agenda for this meeting was posted at the Leisure Center, 401 S. Pavilion Way, and City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, from 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 7, 2006, to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 120, 2006.

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded that the Minutes of the March 8, 2006 meeting be approved as written.

M/S/C (Meredith/LeClair) 5/0/1 (Damin - not present at March 8 meeting) (Aylalan not present at time of vote)

### II. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### IV. LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Nопе.

April 12, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission

### V. REPORTS AND REQUESTS

### A. Commission

### 1. General Plan Update

Vice Chair Bentinck said that no meetings have been held for about a month. When there is something new to report, a meeting will be scheduled.

### 2. Committee Reports

### a. Department Master Plan

Director Mikesell distributed copies of the "Screencheck Draft" dated April 2006 of the Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan. He asked that the commissioners review this document and it will be scheduled for discussion at a future meeting.

### b. Special Events Policy

Director Mikesoll said that the proposed draft was given to the City Attorney for review prior to meeting with staff to discuss. It is hoped that this policy will be adopted by summer. It was decided that If the document is received from the City Attorney prior to the May 10 commission meeting, the Special Events Policy subcommittee will meet after that meeting with Director Mikesell to review. Also, it was docided that if this document is received in time, Commissioner McCormick, who is a subcommittee member and sits on the Main Street Board, will present it to Main Street for suggestions prior to the proposed subcommittee meeting on May 10.

### c. Youth/Teen Activities

Director Mikesell said that he met with Palm Springs High School representatives last month regarding its "Battle of the Bands," If the commission wants to start something similar to that activity, Ofrector Mikesell said he talked with staff at KCLB Radio regarding a summer concert series at the Palm Springs Pavilion for one Friday night for three months. The proposed dates would be June 23, July 28 and August 25. These concerts will be promoted with KCLB. Currently, six popular local bands are being reviewed. Tickets would be sold for \$15 each, with a maximum attendance of between 1,000 and 1,500 each evening. The cost would be about \$5,000 per band plus production costs, security, etc. Director Mikesell said he will have more information at next month's meeting.

### 1) Viewing of "Mad Hot Ballroom" DVD

This matter was delayed until the end of the meeting due to Director Mikesell having to leave for a previously-scheduled meeting.

Several commissioners said that they had already seen this video and several others said they could not stay for the entire presentation. Commissioners Bentinck and Meredith viewed the DVD after the meeting was adjourned.

It was suggested that staff investigate the possibility of starting a program similar to the one portrayed in the video for local fifth to eighth grade students.

### d. Transients/Homeless in Sunriso Plaza

Commissioner McCormick said he is no longer attending the Homeless Task Force meetings and asked if another subcommittee member would take his place. Commissioner Meredith volunteered to attend the Homeless Task Force meetings.

(6)

Fierro

April 12, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission

### V. REPORTS AND REQUESTS (Continued)

- A. Commission (Continued)
  - 2. Committee Reports (Continued)
    - e. Trails Maintenance

Director Mikesell distributed copies of an April 6 proposal prepared by Desert Trails Coalition (DTC) Board Member Christy Anderson regarding trailhoad sign requirements. He said the commissioners should decide if they want to support this project and, if so, to what extent. He advised that maintenance of Palm Springs trails would be under the jurisdiction of the Santa Rosa-San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Advisory Board (NMAB), He said that the DTC and NMAB will decide on the sign design and that once that determination has been made, the proposal for new signs would be presented to City Council for its approval.

Commissioner McCormick passed around photographs of trail entrances, showing that no signs are posted.

Director Mikesell said that he will respond to the DTC that the commission is in support and will move forward with the project.

Commissioner McCormick suggested that each sign be numbered and named to correspond with a trails map.

B. Public

None.

C. Staff

### 1. Director's Report

Director Mikesell asked if there were any questions about the Director's Report; there were none,

Director Mikesell said that he had received an e-mall from Commissioner Brannigan rogarding the distribution of CDBG and he distributed copies of Page 3 of the City Council agenda for April 12, showing the proposed recipients of these funds.

Director Mikesell distributed copies of a letter dated April 8 from Commissioner McCormick to the City's Special Events Coordinator, Michele Cirone-Collier, in response to Item 1 under the Recreation Division in the Director's Report regarding "Keith McCormick's Exotic Car Auction and Car Show Review," which were notes taken from the Special Events Planning Team (SEPT) meeting on February 28. His letter noted that the two-day event took in \$4.6 million and that the Spa Casino's Director of Marketing said that the casino broke records that weekend and offered two more contracts at the same location; that the Palm Springs Police Chief wrote him a thank you letter as they earned over \$0,000 operating the bars at the event for the Lions Club; that the United Way of the Desert and Greater Palm Springs Pride received the total entry monies from the car show; and that had he been informed that four of the 30 vendors still owed for temporary business licenses, he would have paid it.

Director Mikesell also distributed copies of an April 11 letter from Coordinator Cirone-Collier to Mr. McCormick, noting that the comments of the February 28 SEPT meeting were not her personal comments, but rather they were those expressed by the members of the committee. She noted that the comments regarding the Spa Casino were made at the February 28 moeting by the casino's representative, Steve Williams. She noted that any new Information received after the February 28 meeting was not reflected in the Director's Report since no further SEPT meetings had been held to discuss this event.

Commissioner Meredith, as President of Main Street, distributed copies of an April 11 letter she wrote to Director Mikesell, noting that she had polled 28 merchants between 200 N. Palm Canyon Dr. and 499 N. Palm Canyon Dr. and that they all felt that the event was beneficial to their businesses and they noticed increased sales and an unusually high percentage of upscale clientele.

April 12, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the commission will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2006, in the Conference Room at the Leisure Center, 401 S. Pavilion Way.

SUBMITTED BY:

TOIS WARE, Administrative Assistant Department of Parks and Recreation

APPROVED:

SCOTT MIKESELL, Director Department of Parks and Recreation



Board of Directors

Chuck Nisbet
President

Jane Udall Vice-President

Gary Lueders
Treasurer

Nanci Staccy
Secretary

Members at Large
Christy Anderson
Negie Bogert
Carole Gans
Tracy Kupferberg
John Schoettler
Suc Segal

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Coachella Valley Hiking Club

Desert Bicycle Club

Desert Citics Track Club

Desert Trails Hiking Club

Desert Riders

# Desert Trails Coalition

a 501(c)(3) non-profit public benefit corporation

April 6, 2006

P. Fierro

To: Scott Mikesell, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department,

City of Palm Springs

Re: TRAILHEAD SIGNAGE PROPOSAL

#### **Background**

At its March 8 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission solicited a proposal from the Desert Trails Coalition for the location, design and estimated cost of signs at major trailheads in the City.

It is our understanding that the Santa Rosa-San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Advisory Board has recently submitted a letter to the Mayor, suggesting that trailhead signs be erected that identify both the City and National Monument as trail stewards and requesting a partnership to make the signs a reality.

#### **Proposal**

Attached is a list of Palm Springs trailheads. The list identifies existing signage and recommends new signs that are sorely needed to direct people to the fabulous recreational assets that are an important part of the heritage and uniqueness of Palm Springs.

#### A. Design Principles

- 1. <u>Consistency</u>. New signs should be a uniform color, size and shape. Each sign should contain the same logo of the City and the National Monument.
- 2. <u>Durability and Maintenance Cost</u>. New signs should be metal rather than wood or plastic. Each signboard should be relatively small (24" x 24" to reduce the cost of replacement in the event of damage.
- 3. <u>Flexibility</u>. Another advantage of small signboards is the ability to add a second sign to the same pole(s) that hold the trailhead sign. The second sign could contain rules relating to limits on the use of the trail accessed by the trailhead. The rules often change; therefore, the rules

2439 S. Calle Palo Fierro, Palm Springs, CA 92264 dtcoalition@yahoo.com - 760.323-9432 are best communicated by a sign separate from the main uniform trailhead signboard.

4. Minimal Wording on Trailhead Signs. Few words ease readability, especially from a distance. We therefore recommend that the initial trailhead signs that are the heart of this proposal be simple and uncluttered. More wordy messages should be placed on separate signs. If the HCP is adopted, there will be a need in the future to erect structures to facilitate the handling of permits to monitor trail usage. These future structures could include maps of the trails in the vicinity, such as the map that is part of the sign located at the base of the Museum trail. The permit-distribution structures could also serve as a base for dissemination of rules about responsible trail usage.

#### B. Specific Signage Recommendations

- 1. Ten 24" x 24" single-faced aluminum/mctal signboards mounted on a single slotted aluminum/metal pole with the top of the signboard 6' above the ground. Each sign would have the logos of the City and the National Monument and wording as noted on the attached list.
- 2. Approximately twenty smaller vertical metal signs to identify the trail names at points where trails cross. These signs should be similar to those currently posted by BLM along the Art Smith trail. The top of the signboards are 3.5' high (measured from the ground) with signboards 4"wide and 24" high. Each sign names a trail, often with a directional arrow. These directional signs are greatly needed in the "maze" of multiple trails located in the mountains in south Palm Springs (Earl Henderson, Shannon, Clara Burgess, Wildhorse, Murray Hill, and Eagle Canyon trails).

#### C. Estimated Cost of Proposed Signage

A rough estimate of the cost of the above thirty signs is \$3500 plus installation. This is based on the following benchmarks:

- Jim Foote, interim manager of the National Monument, estimates the cost of the smaller 3.5' high BLM trailmarker signs as \$65-75 each, plus the cost of installation. Twenty of these smaller signs would cost an estimated \$1400 plus installation.
- The Coalition initially targeted the existing larger sign at the foot of the Museum Trail as a prototype for other trailheads. This sign has a painted wood frame with two wood poles and a 42"x30" signboard with significant text and a map of trails in the vicinity, covered by plexiglass. The wood is already deteriorating. We solicited a bid (attached) from a local private company for this type of sign in aluminum rather than wood. The bid was \$682 per sign plus installation, artwork and tax. This amounts to roughly \$750 per sign plus installation. The Coalition believes that smaller, simpler, and less expensive signs are appropriate.

- A reasonable extrapolation from the above two cost "benchmarks" is an estimate of roughly \$200 for each of the proposed ten 24"x24" metal pole signs or a total of \$2000 plus installation.
- The Coalition is an all volunteer non-profit without the expertise of the staffs of the City, the National Monument, or its constituent member agencies. We therefore offer this generic cost estimate only as a starting point. The expertise of staff will yield a more refined cost estimate.

Thank you for this opportunity to make recommendations for increased trailhead and on-trail signage. The Coalition strongly believes that the trails within both the City and the National Monument are spectacular amenities that will be greatly enhanced by the addition of much needed directional signage.

This proposal was prepared by Coalition Boardmember Christy Anderson. Contact numbers for Christy are: <a href="mailto:christyanderson@dc.rr.com">christyanderson@dc.rr.com</a> and (760) 469-2791.

CC: City of Palm Springs Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Jim Foote, Interim Manager of the Santa-Rosa-San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

Trail head	Trail(s) Accessed	Location of Trailbead	Parking	Existing Signage	Proposed New or Additional Signage
	North Lykken	North end of trail: Corner of Los Robles and Dolores Court	Street parking on Dolores Court	No signage. Very difficult to see beginning of trail	One 24*x24" single pole sign. Message "North Lykken Trail" with the two logos. Sign should be located on the right side of Dolores Court at the trailhead.
2	North Lykken	South end of trail: West end of Ramon near La Mirada Road	Street parking on La Mirada and Ramon	No signage, except a sign indicating parking for horse trailers only.	One 24*x24* single pole sign. Message "North Lykken/Skyline Trails" with the two logos. Sign should be located at the end of Ramon near the existing red barriers at the dead-end of Ramon. An additional smaller directional sign is definitely needed about 300° up trail from the Ramon trailhead, pointing to the almost hidden left turn necessary to access the important Skyline trail to the tram.
ro	Museum; North Lykken	West end of Palm Springs Art Museum parking lot	Museum parking lot	Already adequate: large (6' high with 30"x 42" signboard) wood/plexi- glass sign at trailhead with map and text	Map incorrectly labels trail South Lykken; correct name is North Lykken.  Lykken.  No additional signage is needed.
4	South Ly <b>kk</b> en	North end of trail: West end of Mesquite Road	Street parking on Mesquite Road near Palm Canyon Drive, about % mile from the trailhead	Decorative metal sign reading "Carl lykken Trail" at the trailhead. This sign is not visible from the	One 24"x24" single pole sign. Message "To Trailhead" with an arrow and the two logos. Arrow should point west on Mesquite Road. Sign should be located on the north side of Mesquite Road near Palm Canyon Drive where cars park to access the trailhead.
ın `	South Lykken	South end of trail: West side of South Palm Canyon Drive opposite the Indian Canyon Golf Resort	Street parking on South Palm Canyon Drive	Decorative metal sign reading "Carl Lykken Trail" is located at the trailhead but is not	One 24*x24* single pole sign. Message "To Trailhead" with an arrow and the two logos. Arrow should point west to the path leading to the trailhead. This path may be compromised by the adjacent new residential project, now under construction; continued access should be secured by the City and the developer. Sign should be located at the end of the sidewalk on the west side of South Pelm Canyon Drive near the access path/drainage canal.

visible from A second smaller sign is also needed on the access path, either the parking area or from the pointing west towards the trailhead.  4/10 mile long path between the parking area and the trailhead.	No signage.  One 24*x24* single pole sign. Message "Garstin Trail" with the two Trailhead is logos and an arrow pointing to the immediately adjacent trailhead. Sign could be attached to the existing barrier at the end of Barona see.  Road	No signage. One 24"x24" single pole sign. Message "To Trails" with the two logos. Sign should be located on the right side of Ridgemore Drive near the gate at the end of the road.	No signage.  One 24"x24" single pole sign. Message "To Trails" with the two logos. Sign should be located on the right side of Bogert Trail where the pavement ends.	Very small One 24"x24" pole sign. Message "Araby Trail Parking" with the two logos. Sign should face the dirt parking area.  A second 24"x24" single pole sign is needed. Message "Araby Trail" with the two logos. This sign should face the parking area and be to its size and
vis erit pa or fon bet pa an	Street parking Noon Barona Tra	Street parking No on Ridgemore Drive	Street parking No on Bogart Trail and Andreas Hills Drive	Off street Very sign signs and dirt lot is right.
	Northeast end of Barona Road, off Bogart Trail.	East end of Ridgemore Drive, off Bogart Trail	East end of Bogert Trail at its intersection with Andreas Hills Drive	South side of South Palm Canyon Road intersection with Southridge Drive just east of the Palm Canyon Wash bridge
	Garstin; connection to south Palm Springs multi-trail area (Earl Henderson, Shannon, Clara Burgess, Wildhorse and Murray	Andreas Hills; with connection to the south Palm Springs multi-trail area	Andreas Hill; with connection to the south Palm Springs multi-trail area	Araby; with connection to the scuth Palm Springs multi-trail area
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	One 24*x24" single pole sign. Message "To Trails" with the two logos. Sign should be located by the gate that crosses the dirt road leading up the mountain.  As noted in the Proposal letter, there is great need for approximately twenty (20) smaller vertical metal signs on a single pole with a 4" wide and 24" high sign board. These directional signs should be placed at intersections of the multiple trails located in the south Palm Springs mountain area (Earl Henderson, Shan.on, Clara Burgess, Wildhorse, Murray Hill, and Eagle Canyon trails)
orientation.	No signage.
	On and off street parking on the street adjacent to the shopping center and in the dirt area south of the end of street pavement
	South dead end of Palm Hills Drive/ Boadmoor (?), south of Hwy 111 and just east of the Rimrock Shopping Center
	Access to south Palm Springs multi-trail area
	10

#### BEST SIGNS, INCORPORATED

1550 S. Gene Autry Trail Palm Springs, CA 92264 Phone: (760) 320-3042 (760) 320-2090

### PROPOSAL

JOB NAME

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED T	ΓQ

PHONE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

DATE 3/28/2006

ADDRESS 3200 E. TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY

National Monument trail signs JOB# LOCATION

CITY, STATE, ZIP PALM SPRINGS, CA 92263-2743

0603-14778-PSP

We hereby submit specifications and estimates

Quantity Description

10 Fabricate ten - 30" H x 42" W trailhead signs and 8' post (2' in the ground) w/ all aluminum components (square tubing posts, frame, backer, etc.); digitally printed graphics of trails, locations, etc. will be incorporated into sign w/ an acrylic protective face plate. Client responsible for providing artwork for each digital print and will also be responsible for installation.

Price **Extended Price** Installation \$682.00 \$6,820.00

\$6,820.00 Subtotal \$528.55 CA Sales Tax Installation \$7,348.55 Total

'e propose hereby to furnish material and labor - complete in accordance with above specifications, for the sum of: even thousand three hundred forty eight and 55/100. \$7,348.55 Dollar

ERMS: 50% Deposit Required. Balance Due Net 15 days upon completion. NOTICE TO OWNERS

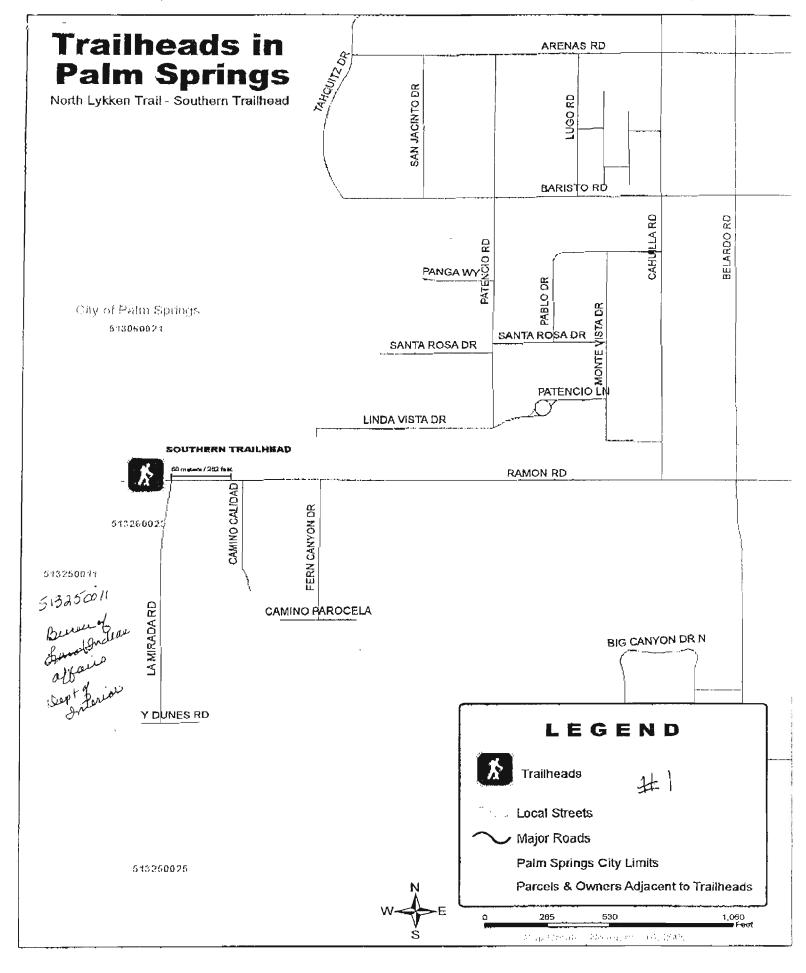
der the Machanics' Lien Law, any contractor, subcontractor, supplier, man or other person who helps to improve your property and is not paid for his labor, services or terial, has a right to enforce his claim against your property.

for the law, you may protect yourself against such claims by filing, before commencing such work of improvement, an original contract for the work of improvement of a strictling thereof, in the office of the county recorder of the county where the property is altuated and requiring that a contractor's payment bond be recorded in such office. bond shall be in an amount not less than fifty percent (50%) of the contract price and shall, in addition to any conditions for the performance of the contract, be conditioned he payment in full of the claims of all persons furnishing labor, services, equipment or materials for the work described in said contract.

te event litigation is instituated to collect any sums due and owing Best Signs, Inc., there shall be added such additional amounts as court costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

ature or payment of deposit constitutes acceptance of this agreen	nent.	
	Authorized <i>Mark Tristan</i> Signature	Mark Tristan
Acceptance of Proposal	Note: This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within	30 days.
he above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are horeby ccepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made soutlined above.	X Signature X	
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ate of Acceptance: X	X Signature	

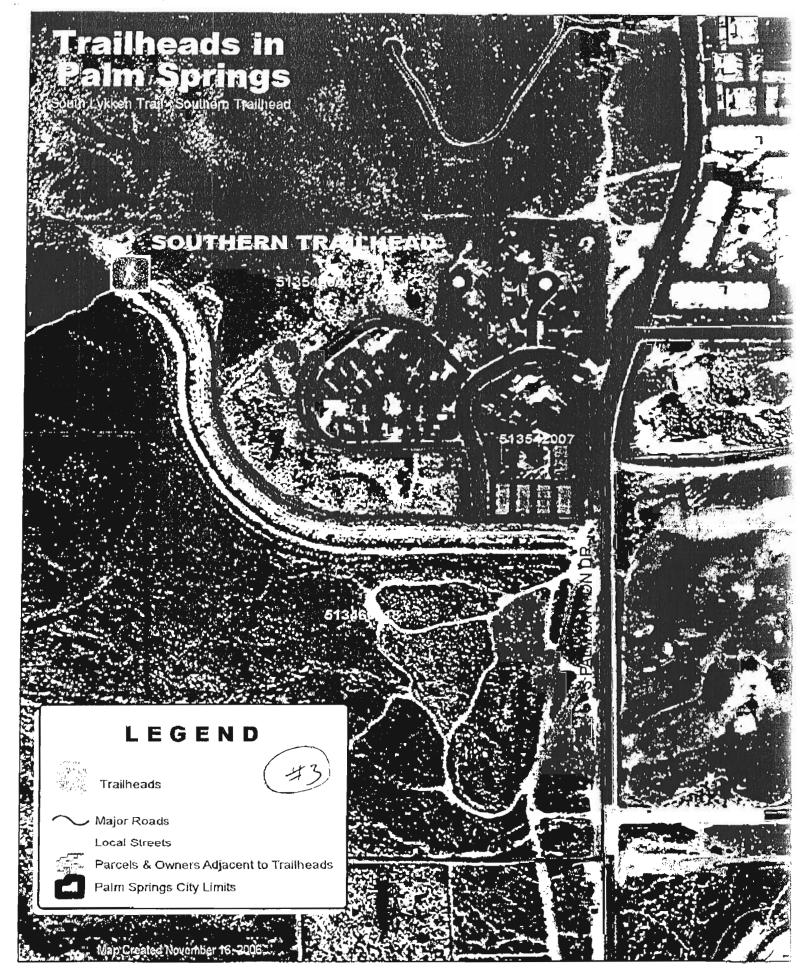
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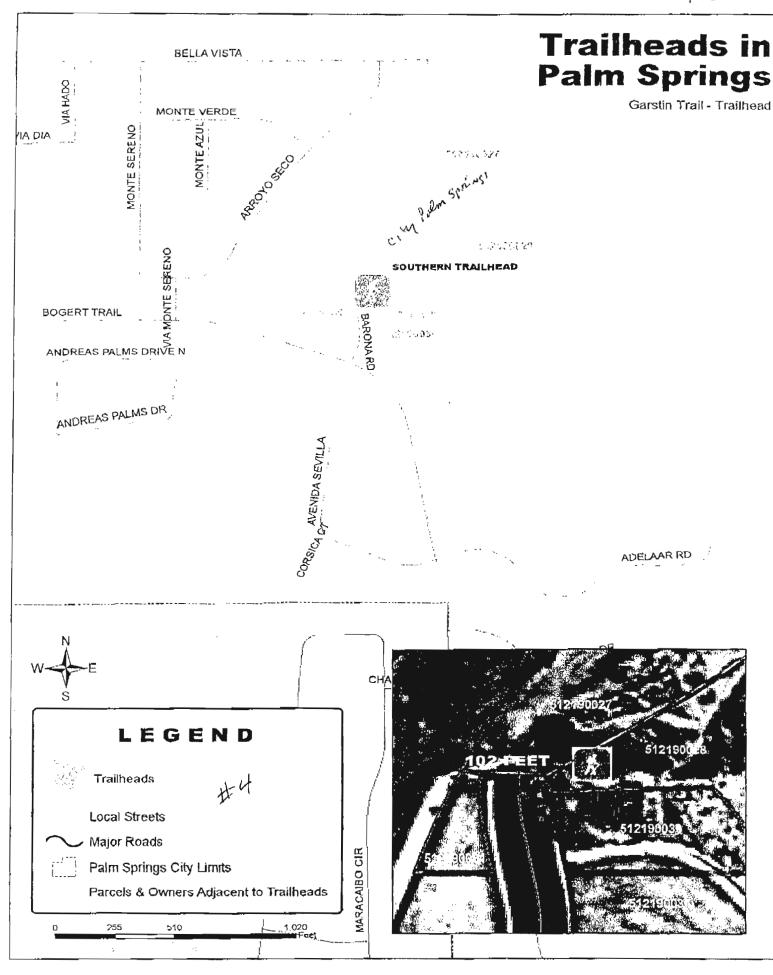
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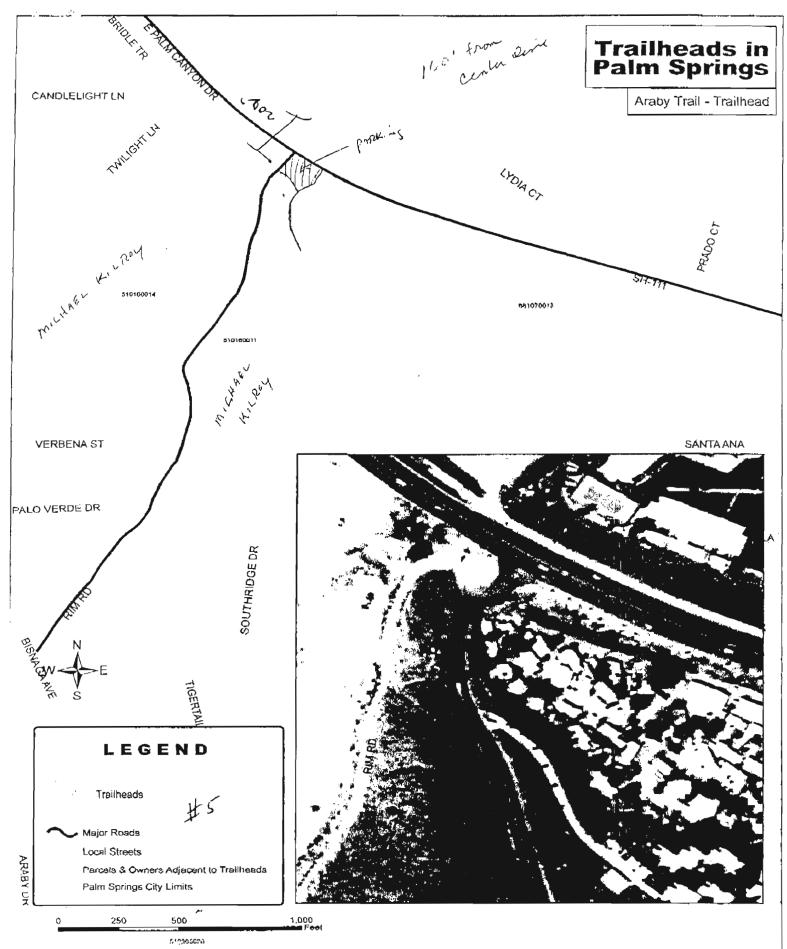
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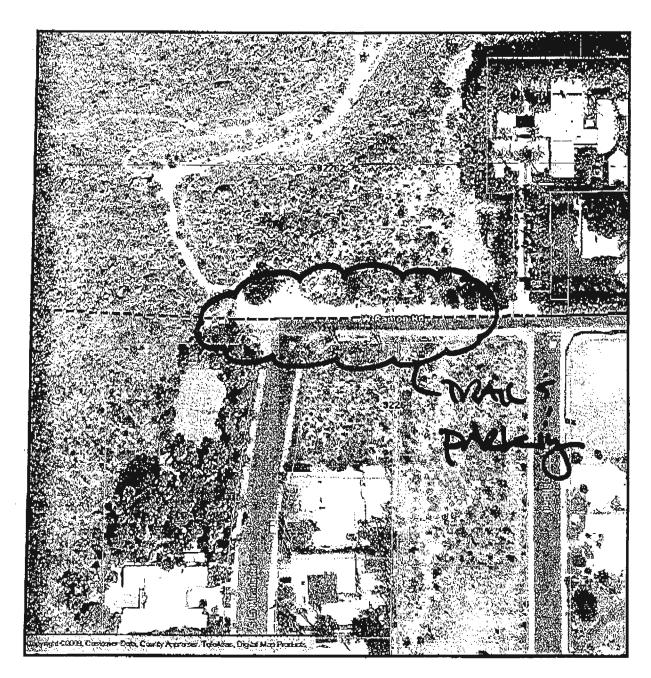


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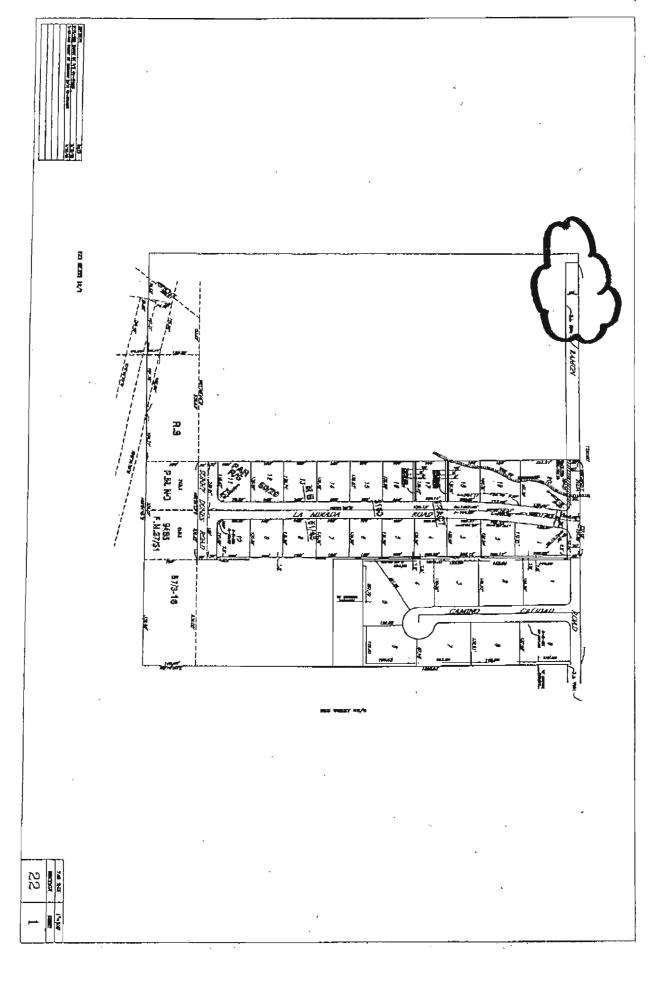


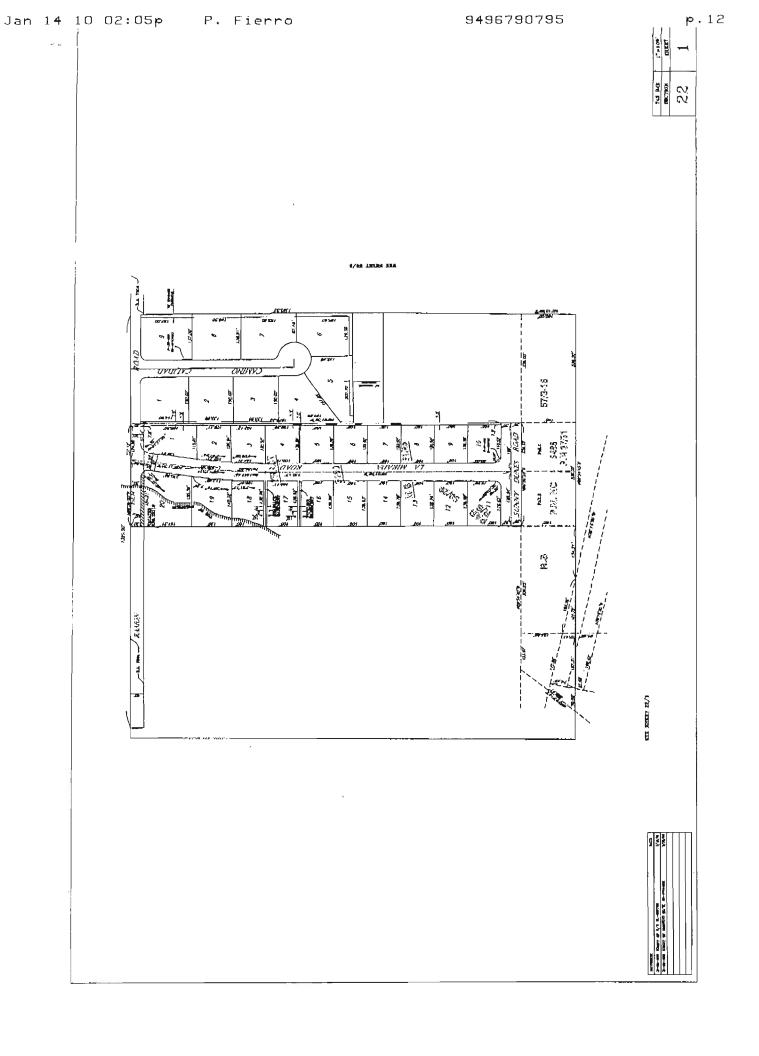


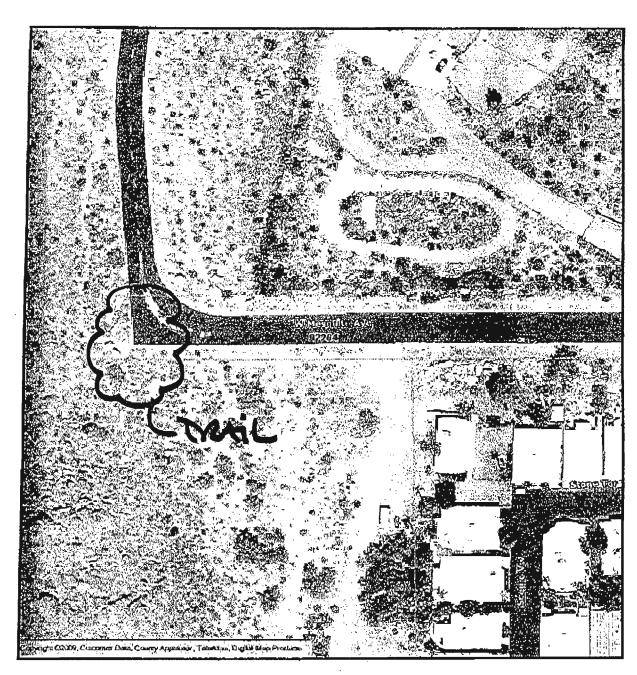
# North Lykken Trail Equestrian Trail Head



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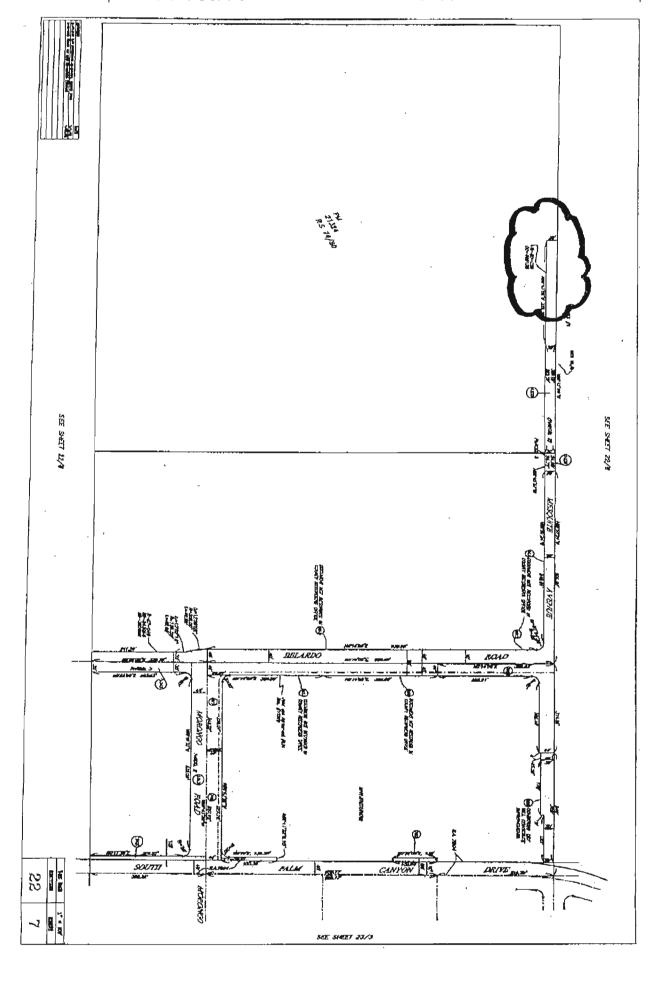


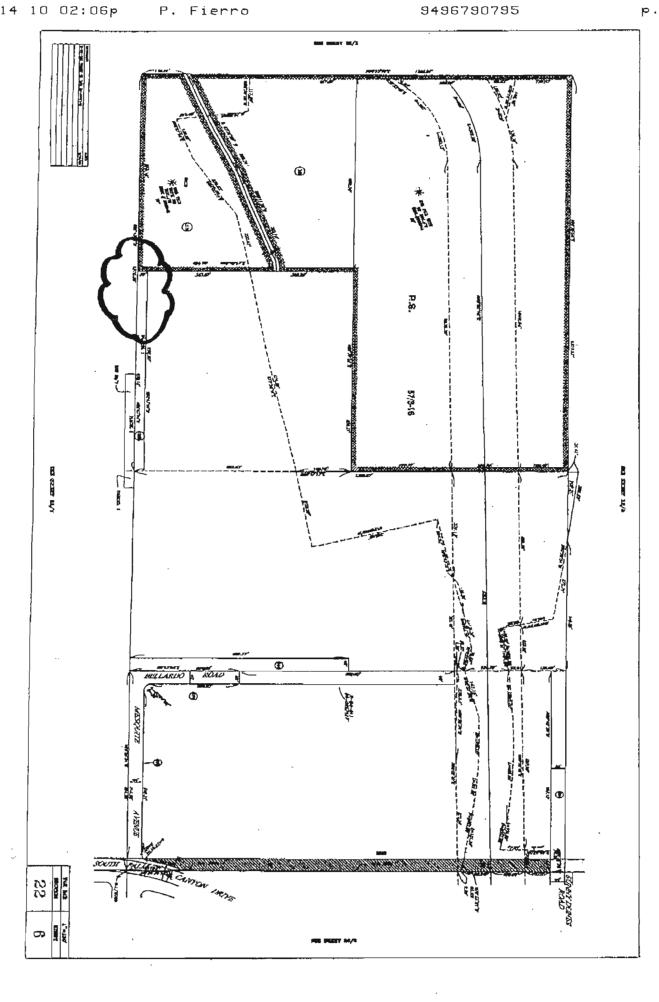
Tahquitz Canyon Trail Head

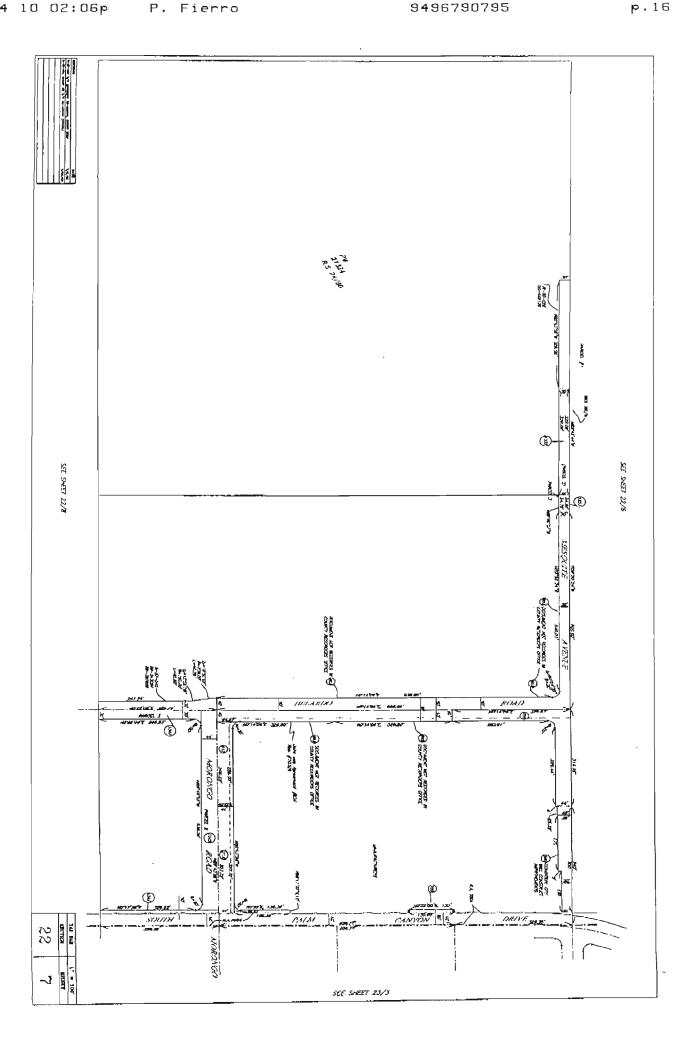


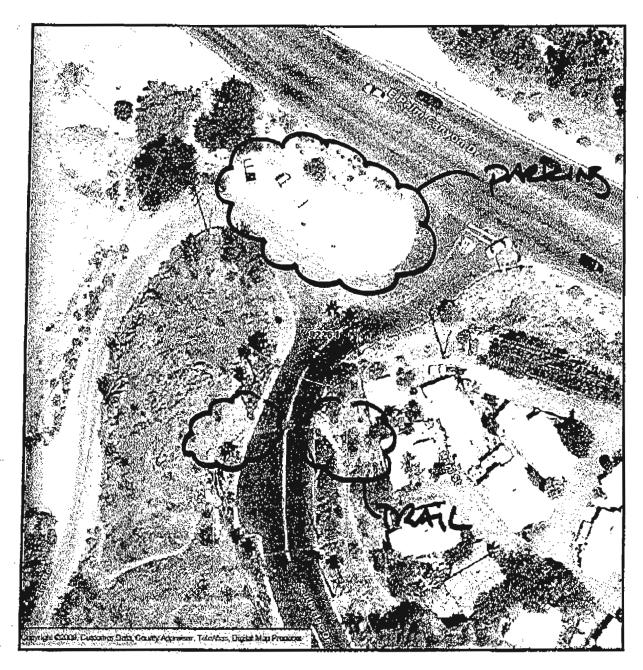
West end of Mesquite Avenue

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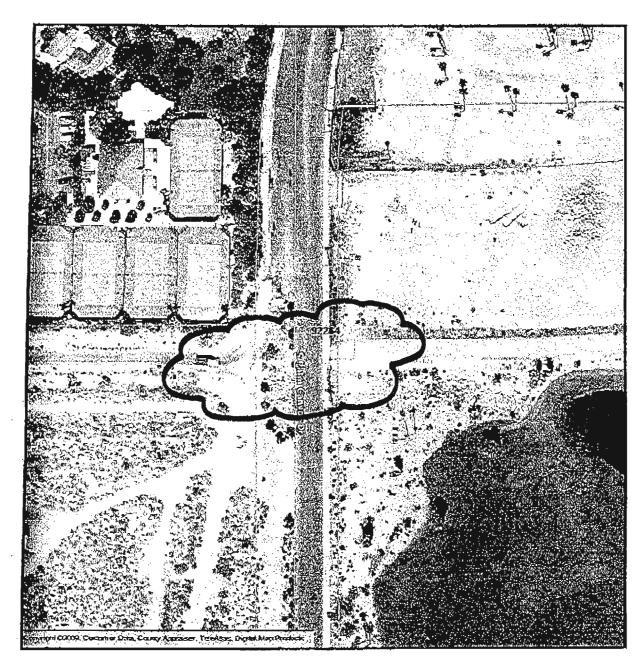




Araby Trail Head



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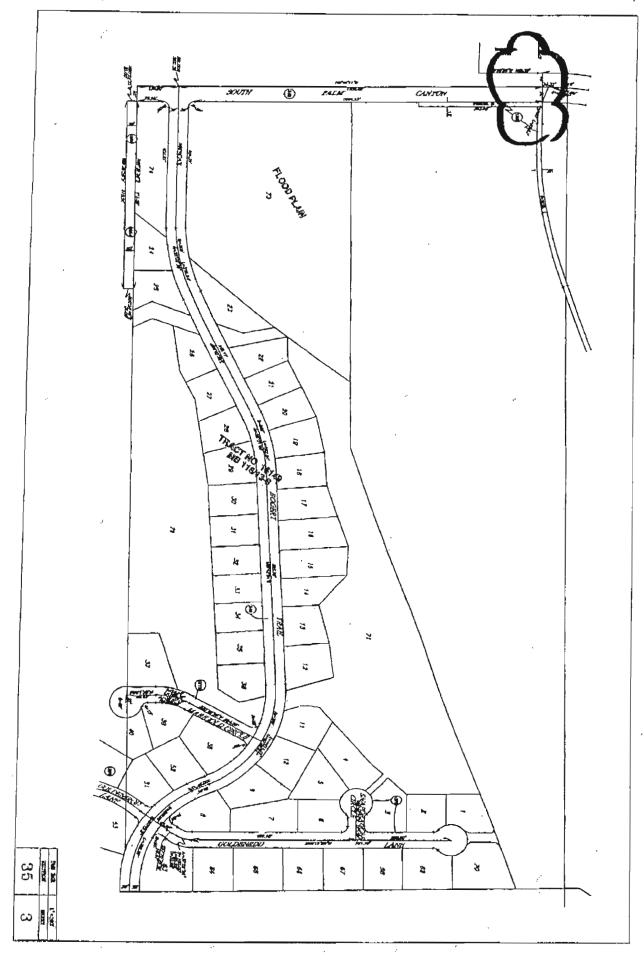


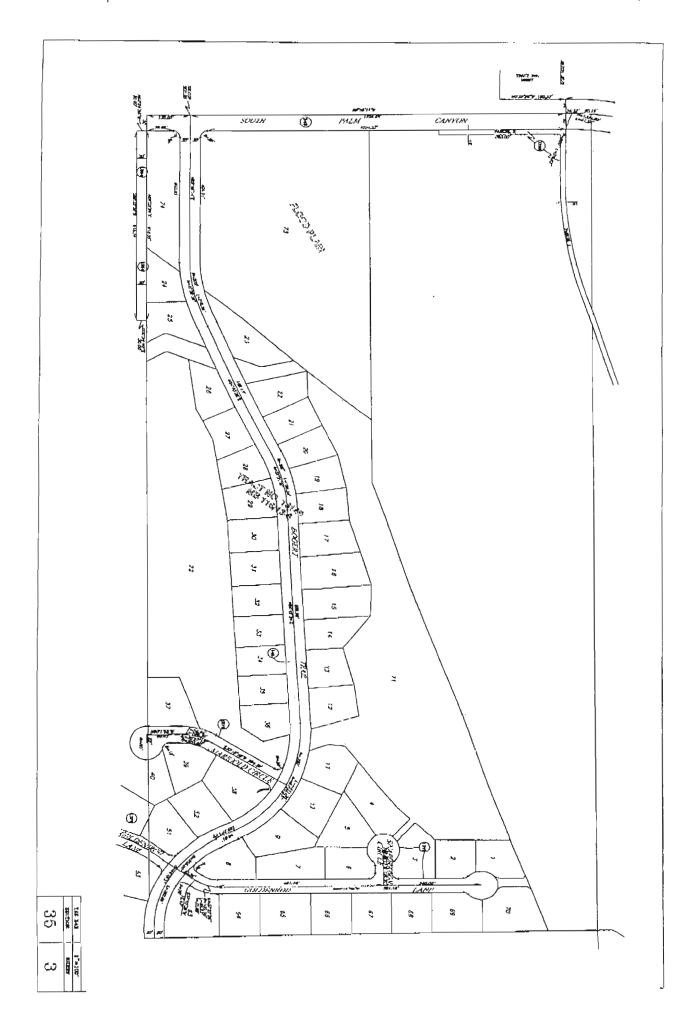


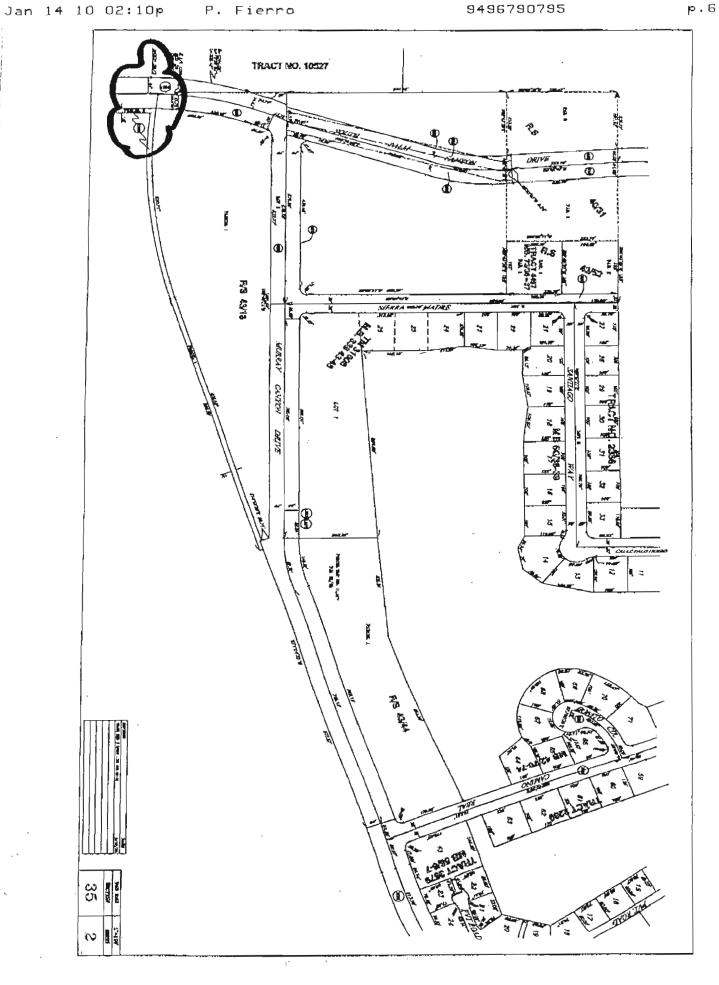
Desert Riders Trail Head

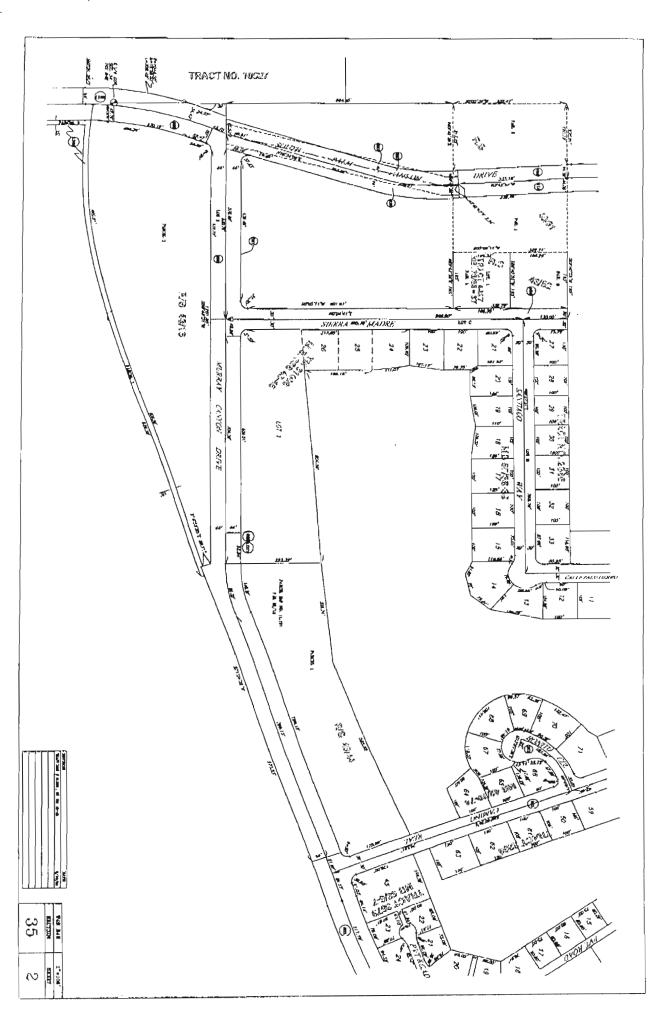
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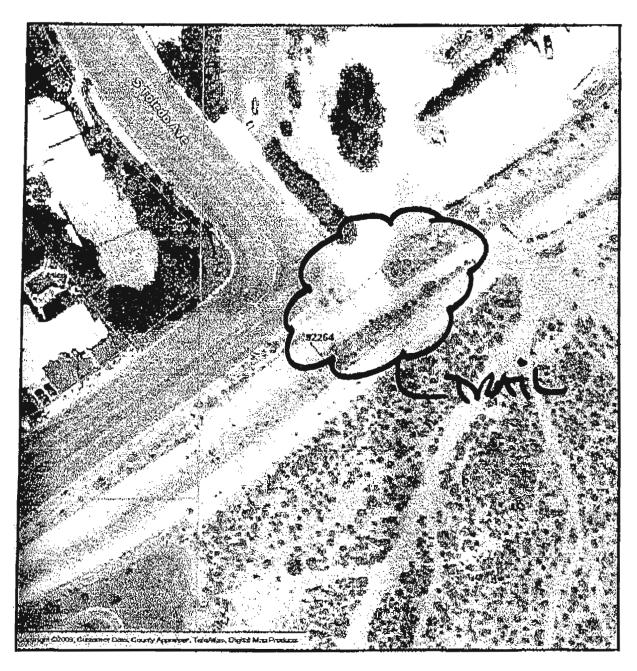
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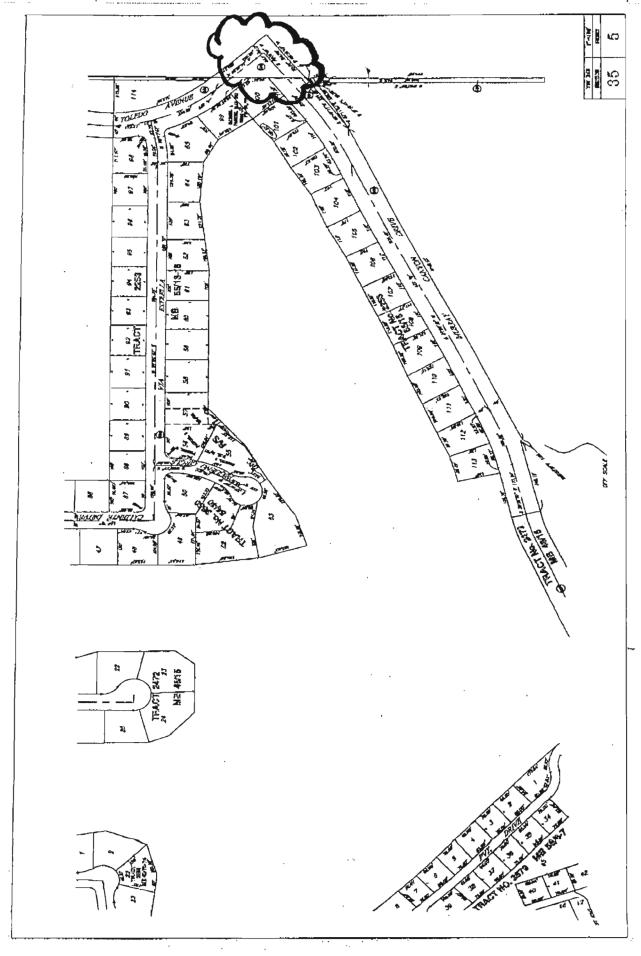


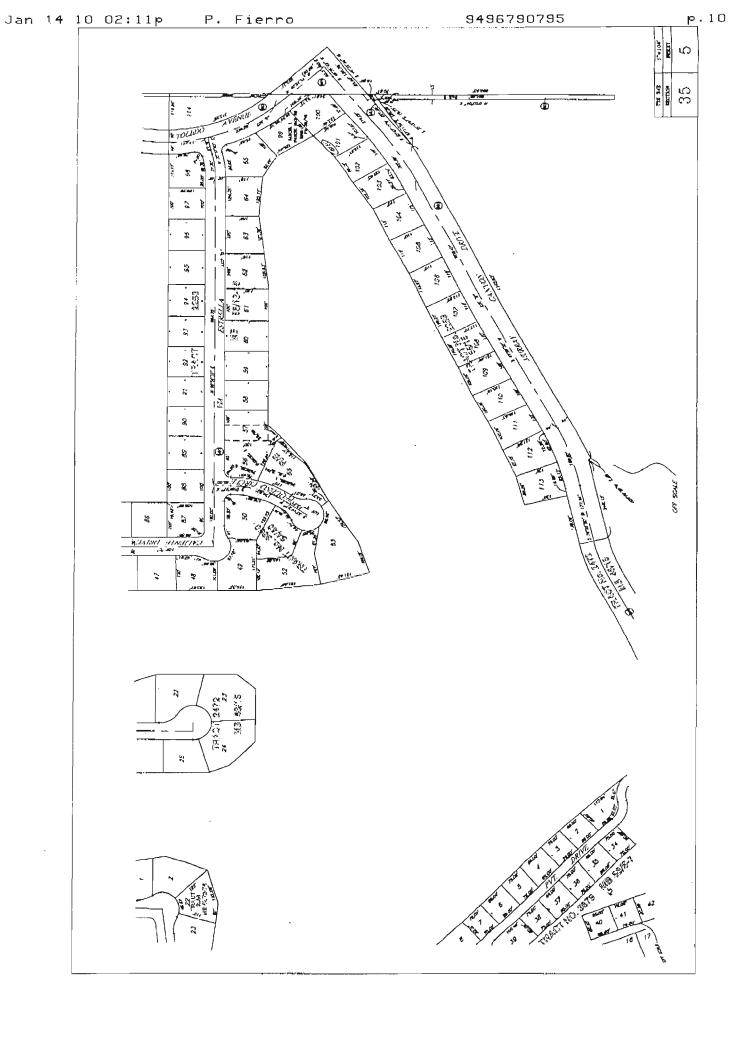


Murray Canyon Trail Head

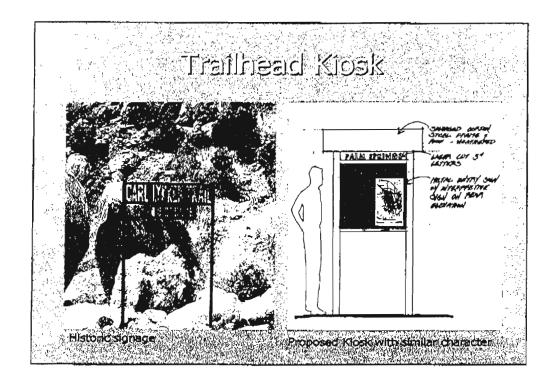


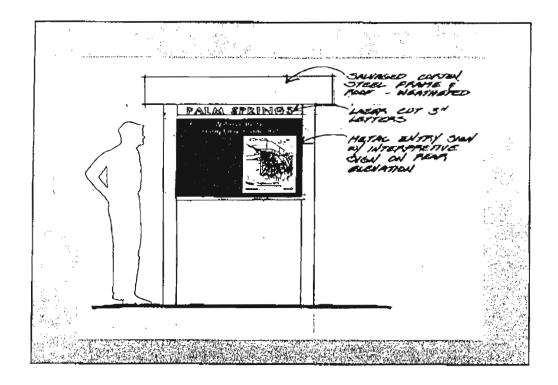
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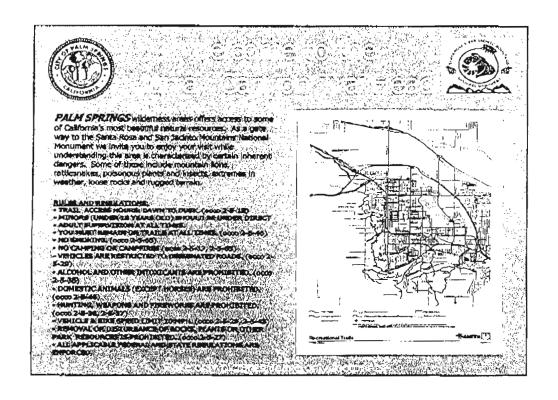


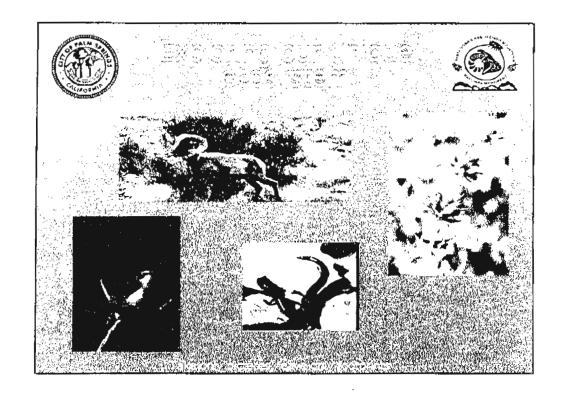


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## ADDITIONAL PHOTO EXAMPLES

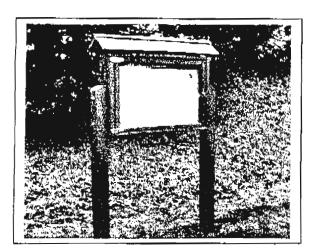


Figure 10 Freestanding Kiosk

Figure 11 Trail Head Signage

