



REFUGIO CREEK WATERSHED VISION PLAN

11 FEBRUARY 2009

Public Meeting

Meeting Notes / Compiled: 13 FEBRUARY 2009

- PRE-MEETING:** HERCULES PUBLIC LIBRARY
109 CIVIC DRIVE, RODEO, CALIFORNIA 94547 3:30 PM
- ATTENDING:** ROBERT REBER / CITY OF HERCULES
DREW GOETTING, RICH WALKLING / RESTORATION DESIGN GROUP (RDG)
REPRESENTATIVES OF CITY OF HERCULES, OHLONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
EBMUD, COUNTRY RUN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, COMMUNITY
MEMBERS
- CC/EMAIL:** ROBERT REBER (FOR FILE & DISTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS)
- NOTES:** PRE-KICKOFF MEETING FOR KEY STAKEHOLDERS
- NEXT MEETING:** FEBRUARY 25th 7:00 PM

INFORMATIONAL SESSION

MEETING INTRODUCTION

Robert Reber, Planner for the City of Hercules, welcomed everyone to the pre-kickoff meeting for the Refugio Creek Watershed Vision Plan (Plan). Robert explained the purpose of the pre-kickoff meeting and that Common Sense California had provided funding for the vision plan process.

VISION PLAN DEFINED

Drew Goetting, RDG, led the group in introductions. He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for key stakeholders in the Refugio Creek watershed to learn about the vision planning process. To help understand what a watershed vision plan is, Drew described the Pinole Creek Watershed Vision Plan.

Drew defined a Watershed Vision Plan as a watershed-based planning document that is meant to provide a coherent vision of future projects in the watershed. The Plan will be used as a fundraising and planning tool and has the added benefit of being a collaborative experience that brings community members together to develop goals and actions to enhance the watershed. The plan is community based, respectful of private property rights, involves only voluntary actions, and is consensus based. Drew explained the ground rules for the planning process including respect of the viewpoints of others.

The Plan will be developed during 6 community meetings and 1 field trip in the watershed. The meetings are two hours long. The first hour is for guest speakers and the second hour is for discussion. During these meetings we will identify interests and concerns, learn about the watershed, identify opportunities and constraints, and discuss potential goals and actions. This process and the resulting materials will be compiled into the Vision Plan document by RDG.

Drew fielded questions about state involvement in watershed plans and restoration projects; the distinction between vision plans, restoration plans, and watershed management plans; and the authority that these plans have once completed. Liz Warmerdam, City of Hercules, indicated that the Plan will hopefully be adopted by Hercules City Council. Robert Reber indicated that the Plan will provide input into capital improvement projects and will help the City get a jump on the open space element of the upcoming general plan update.

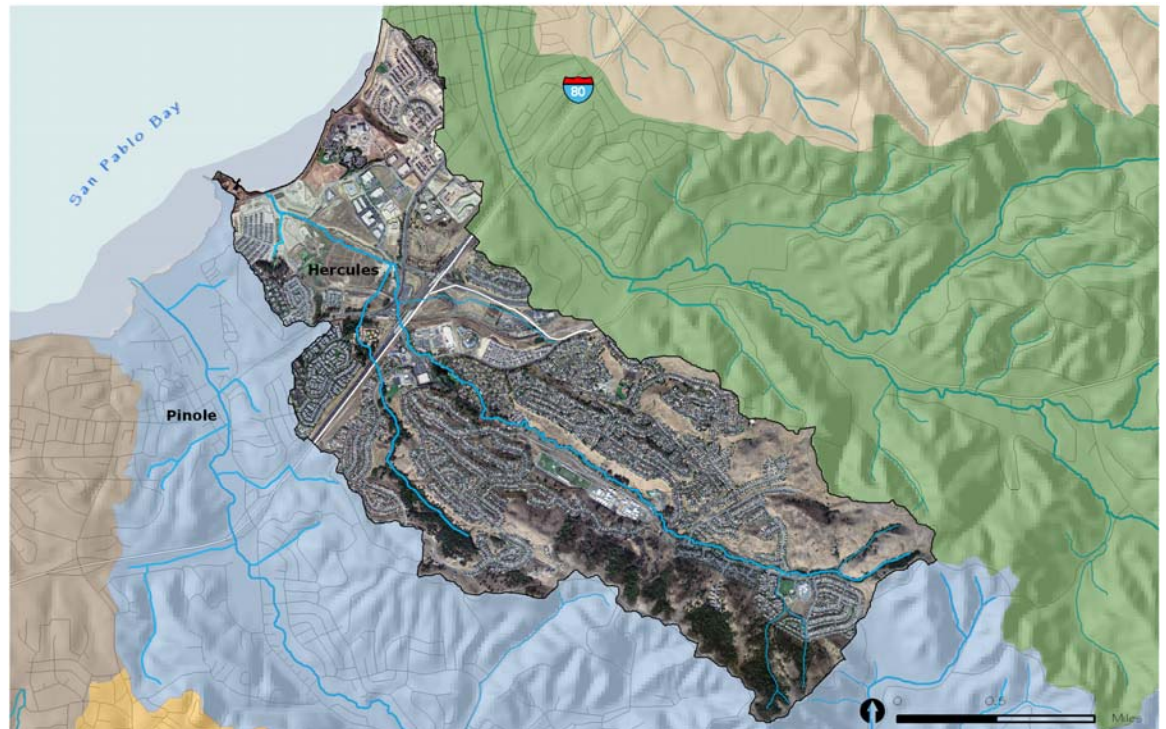
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INTRODUCTION TO THE WATERSHED

Rich Walkling introduced some basic information and elements of the watershed including size, location, population, and some anecdotal evidence of stream channel condition. He indicated that information on the watershed is available in the Contra Costa Watershed Atlas and online (<http://cocowaterweb.org/resources/watersheds/refugio-creek>). Rich pointed out that most of the watershed is within the City of Hercules and much of the City of Hercules is in the Refugio Creek watershed.



Next Rich presented images of the creek channel from a recent watershed tour and pointed out key features of the creek in different parts of the watershed.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The group discussed outreach that the city had done and that it still planned to do in advance of the kick-off meeting.

Drew closed the meeting by inviting everyone to come to the Vision Plan Kickoff Meeting on February 25 at 7pm.

These Meeting Notes represent RDG's understanding of meeting events and community member comments. If information included in these notes is incorrect or requires clarification please notify RDG within 30 days and a revised set of Meeting Notes will be distributed.