

RESOLUTION NO. 10-022

ESTABLISHING THE REFUGIO CREEK WATERSHED VISION PLAN AS GUIDING POLICY FOR THE REFUGIO CREEK WATERSHED WITHIN THE CITY OF HERCULES

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2009, the City Council approved Resolution 09-010 recognizing the need to evaluate and create a plan for the future of the Refugio Creek Watershed and authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Restoration Design Group to facilitate and provide technical services for a watershed vision plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hercules, aided by a grant from the non-profit group Common Sense California and with financial support from the California Coastal Conservancy, sponsored a community outreach effort to engage other agencies, stakeholders, residents, and the general public in watershed planning; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hercules hosted over an eight-month period (February–September 2010) a series of six public workshops and one walking tour of the watershed, lead by various experts and covering a range of watershed topics; and

WHEREAS, the watershed planning process was extensively advertised and included significant participation by a broad range of watershed stakeholders and constituents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hercules and Restoration Design Group throughout the project actively solicited and recorded participants' input, including priorities, recommendations, concerns, and constraints; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Vision Plan is a consensus representation of the community's vision and has been thoroughly reviewed by staff and the vision planning participants; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Vision Plan comprises a prioritized set of policies, programs, and projects consistent with the goals and objectives of the Hercules General Plan, including:

- “Provide for both human and environmental needs in creating a natural environment compatible with urban development by the wise use and enhancement of natural resources within the City” (Objective 1.e)
- “Promote the establishment of riding and hiking trails throughout the community and coordinate with other agencies in the planning of trail systems in the area and region” (Policy 2.g)
- “Establish a management program for the conservation and enhancement of the natural amenities in the City” (Policy 2.h)
- “Develop trail systems, open space, and other amenities that benefit the quality of life in the community” (Land Use Objective 14A)
- “Establish a strong and continuous system of trail links between the hills in the southeastern end of Refugio Valley and San Pablo Bay” (Land Use Program 14A.1)
- “Continue to improve and protect Refugio Creek as a major environmental amenity” (Land Use Program 14A.3)

- “Preserve most of the existing high quality vegetation, wildlife habitat, and land forms within the public open spaces and conservation areas” (Open Space/Conservation Program 1a.1)
- “Preserve seasonal freshwater wetlands” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 2)
- “Protect the Refugio Creek riparian corridor from encroaching development” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 3)
- “Protect riparian and wetland communities from degradation through introduction of urban pollutants in stormwater runoff” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 4)
- “Protect native plant communities and habitats for special status plant and animal species” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 6)
- “Improve surface runoff water quality” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 9)
- “Preserve and enhance scenic views within the community” (Open Space/Conservation Objective 13).

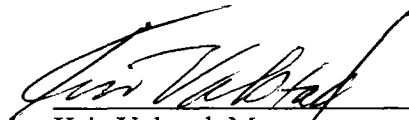
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hercules that the Council hereby establishes the Refugio Creek Watershed Vision Plan as guiding policy for the Refugio Creek Watershed within the City of Hercules.

The foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hercules held on the 9th day of February 2010 by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Balico, Kuehne, McDonald, Ward, Valstad

NOES: None

ABSENT: None



 Kris Valstad, Mayor

