



MEETING SUMMARY

Recreation Management and Visitor Use and Needs at Silverwood SRA

Meeting Details

- Date:** 16 November 2017
- Time:** 3:00 PM
- Location:** **Hesperia Recreation & Park District Offices; 16292 Lime Street**
- Objectives:** Gather information on recreation management and visitor use and needs in the region and related to local use at Silverwood Lake SRA

Attendees

Lisa McCandless, Stantec; Kirby Gilbert, Stantec; Lindsay Woods, Hesperia Recreation and Park District; Stan Liudahl, City of Hesperia Planning Department

Summary

As part of the Recreation study, this interview was scheduled with Lindsay Woods, who is the General Manager of the Hesperia Recreation and Parks District. This interview was conducted in order to get a better grasp on how the local community utilizes Silverwood Lake, and how the Tapestry development may affect the visitor use and visitor needs in the future. Lindsay from Hesperia Parks and Recreation District, and Stan from the City of Hesperia, provided the following general observations:

- The proposed Tapestry development will provide a 60% increase in funding for local schools in the future. As planned, the development will double the size of Hesperia Parks and Recreation district lands, which is currently 360 acres in total. Tapestry will provide a total of 387.4 additional acres of parks, and 94.2 acres of trails. The development plans were for 19,600 homes, however, the final approvals brought that total down to 15,663 dwelling units.
- Tapestry is a phased project that has construction planned for the next 30 years. It was mentioned that the project is 35 years in development. There are currently 15,663 dwelling units, or homes, proposed in the Tapestry Specific Plan. This proposed total reflects the most recent settlement agreement.

- Hesperia is a high desert bedroom community with over 50,000 commuters to the Greater Los Angeles and San Bernardino area. Tapestry Development will put commuters 15-20 minutes closer than current housing tracts.
- The development is a phased project that will be constructed as economics allow. The development will be built from north to south, with the areas closest to Hesperia being constructed first. Lindsay described Hesperia as a “bedroom community” and noted that the Tapestry Development has been designed as a commuter village.
- At full build out, which is estimated to be 30 years from present, Tapestry is projected to increase the population of Hesperia by one third.
- Recreation facilities proposed at Tapestry include, a community sports park, traditional parks, and trails. Proposed trails are mostly located within open space. A sports park and trails with open space are a part of the first phase.
- The proposed parks will be managed by both the homeowners associations, and Hesperia Recreation and Park District. Lindsay described how parks that are smaller and farther inward from the edge of the community boundary will be managed by the HOA. The ridgeline parks will be managed by the park district.
- After 200 homes are built a traffic impact analysis will be required.
- In west Hesperia, and west of Maple Street is the main growth area, which is currently known as the Oak Hills Area.
- A new Rancho exit off of the I-15 is proposed and infrastructure improvements to Rancho Rd are included in the Specific Plan. Highway 173 has widening planned, but only in later phases, when it will be upgraded to 4 lanes.
- Development agreements for Tapestry still need to be finalized.
- Helix consulting is preparing the EIR for Tapestry.
- A few items relating to Silverwood Lake were discussed. Lindsay mentioned that historically, the California State Parks Foundation has been known to fund improvement projects. Lindsay believes that the Silverwood bike path deterioration is an issue that could be improved with volunteer work efforts such as, clearing and maintenance. Lindsay also thinks that funding for rehabilitation of park facilities should be further researched. Lindsay mentioned that the SCORP focuses on maintenance and should be noted for future research.
- Hesperia 2034 is a coordinated effort by Hesperia Chamber of Commerce, which is working to define a long term vision for Hesperia. Hesperia’s population is currently 94,000. A survey associated with Hesperia 2034 had 1,500 respondents.

Devil Canyon Project Relicensing

- The Equestrian Council of Hesperia negotiated with the Tapestry developers to expand equestrian trail use through Tapestry developments, to Los Flores Ranch just north of Highway 173.
- Lindsay would like to see more local volunteer engagement with the park, and collaboration on volunteer opportunities. Hesperia Parks and Recreation District publishes a quarterly newsletter to the community that could be a good form of engagement for Silverwood Lake. Stan would also like to see FamCamp (BLM and CA State Parks) re-established as a program at Silverwood Lake. Lindsay believes it would be successful, and also believes more Hesperia or nearby community volunteers and programs could better re-connect Silverwood with the local community.