



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING
SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREAS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



**MINUTES OF THE SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL AREA
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEATAC)
MEETING OF January 11, 2016
Approved by SEATAC May 2, 2016**

SEATAC MEMBERS

Sabrina Drill, PhD
Ty Garrison
Tom Scott, PhD

REGIONAL PLANNING STAFF

Diane Aranda, Planner
Anthony Curzi, Planner
Sam Dea, Supervising Regional Planner, Special Projects
Joe Decruyenaere, Biologist
Steven Jones, Planner, SEATAC Coordinator

Agenda Items:

- A. Approval of minutes from SEATAC meeting of December 7, 2015
- B. Coordinator's Report and New Business Discussion
- C. Review Item
Project: Entrada North — Project No. R2013-02833-(5), VTTM 071377, CUP No. 201300151, Oak Tree Permit No. 201300036, Parking Permit No. 201300010, ENV No. 201300241
- D. Consent Item
Project: Crown Castle Wireless Telecommunications Facility – Project No. 2015-03222-(5), CUP No. 201500128, ENV No. 201500234
- E. Public Comment—Pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code

A. Approval of minutes from SEATAC meeting of December 7, 2015

SEATAC Motion:

Motion/second by Scott/Drill: Move to approve the draft minutes.

Vote--Aye: Scott and Drill / abstaining: Garrison.

B. Coordinator's Report and New Business Discussion

- Andrew Nickerson (of ERB) has indicated a wish to serve on SEATAC and his resume will be forthcoming.
- Recognition for committee members' services is being discussed within the Department.
- Appointment of SEATAC members to official department volunteers is subject to

standard protocol (e.g., live scan).

- Committee discusses additional ways to attract and retain qualified committee members including college talks and staff field trips.
- Agenda items will be taken out of order, with Item D preceding Item C.

C. Consent Item

Coordinator points out that agenda items are being taken out of order.

- 1. Crown Castle Wireless Telecommunications Facility – R2015-03222-(5)**
RCUPT201500128, RENVT201500234
AIN: 2826017802
ADDRESS: Palo Sola Truck Road, Chatsworth, CA 91313.
USGS Topographic Quad: Oat Mountain
APPLICANT: Crown Castle
PLANNER: Anthony Curzi
SEA: Santa Susana Mountains/Simi Hills

Case materials and SEA Resource descriptions are posted under January 11, 2016:
<http://planning.lacounty.gov/agenda/seatac/>

Project Description:

The project is a request for a conditional use permit to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing unmanned wireless telecommunications facility and a 542 square foot equipment shelter.

SEATAC Action Requested:

Provide a determination of project consistency with the SEA Compatibility Criteria.

SEATAC Motion:

Motion/second by Scott/Drill: The project is consistent with the SEA Compatibility Criteria.

Vote—Aye: unanimous

D. Review Item

- 2. Entrada North—R2013-02833-(5), VTTM TR071377, RCUPT201300151,**
ROAKT201300036; RPKPT201300010, RENVT201300241
AINs: 2826-004-019, 020, 028, 030, 033, and 041 – 043; 2826-005-007 – 010, 012,
and 013; 2826-006-008 and 009; 2826-007-021; 2826-008-028 and 034; 2826-009-
081; 2826-163-001, 002, 008 – 011, 013, and 031; and 2866-003-008 – 011
LOCATION: south of State Route 126, west of I-5 and The Old Road
USGS Topographic Quad: Newhall
APPLICANT: Newhall Ranch
SEA: Santa Clara River

Case materials and SEA Resource descriptions are posted under January 11, 2016:
<http://planning.lacounty.gov/agenda/seatac/>

Project Description:

Entrada North proposes to develop a mixed-use subdivision of a 456-acre site including 1,150 multi-family dwelling units, 2,624,400 square feet of commercial retail and office uses, 270-room hotel, 45,000 square-foot public facility, 268 acres of open space lots, and an outdoor amphitheater near Six Flags Magic Mountain at Magic Mountain Parkway. Entrada North also includes 22 acres of infrastructure improvements external to the subdivision map along with other infrastructure improvements internal to the subdivision map. The project includes 2.1 million cubic yards of balanced grading including movement of soil from Site A (hilly site) to Site B (flat site requiring additional elevation out of the flood zone).

SEATAC Action Requested:

Review and comment on Responses to SEATAC Comments document.

SEATAC Comments & Motions:

Comments:

1. Greater assurance is needed that plant stock will be properly handled after being rejected for use in on-site restoration. Provide details on disposal (that won't result in dispersal of pests or pathogens on or off site) and sufficiency of personnel to conduct inspection of material.
2. Natural recovery subsequent to "acts of God" may not be assured without adequate refugia or time for initial establishment of restoration plantings. Indicate availability of sufficient refugia and increase monitoring time to at least five years rather than three. Weed control should be implemented for the life of the project.
3. Indicate explicitly that intact native riparian habitats will not be disturbed for the sake of restoration planting; that the minimum amount of material and alteration to habitats will be utilized in restoration, and that restoration materials (both plant material and soils for use in pots) will be collected on site in order to reduce the likelihood of pathogen introduction.
4. Revise responses to Comment 5 regarding diseases and pests. Statements regarding seed and plant sources neglect to consider the possibility of disease and pest introduction from non-local material; emerging pests and diseases are not likely to be ephemeral, nor are they uncommon in intact natural vegetation.
5. Provide recent references to substantiate response to Comment 9 of the Response to Comments report dated November 2015.
6. State explicitly that relocation of animals is likely to result in mortality and may be inconsistent with the SEA Compatibility Criteria. Also state that hygienic technique will be used when handling animals.
7. Arroyo toad and pond turtles utilize upland habitats far beyond the floodplain, and pond turtles may nest unsuccessfully in agricultural areas. This should be made explicit in the document and considered in descriptions of possible impacts in

light of survey results for the site.

SEATAC Motion:

Motion/second by Ty/Drill: Further SEATAC review is needed, revise the BTR and Response to Comments to incorporate the above comments and recommendations.

Vote—Aye: unanimous

E. Public Comment—Pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code:

No public comment was made.

Procedure: SEATAC meetings are informal working sessions, open to public for observation and brief comment related to biology. Members are appointed volunteers in an advisory capacity. Minutes are prepared by planning staff from notes and the video record. Visitors are advised to take notes or refer to the event video posted on the SEATAC webpage at <http://planning.lacounty.gov/agenda/seatac>. Issues not discussed by SEATAC do not imply tacit approval. New or clarified information presented in subsequent submittals may raise new issues and may require further analysis. Minutes and motions are approved at the next SEATAC meeting. Draft minutes may be requested by the public prior to SEATAC approval, but are subject to revision.
