

## Fiesta Island General Development Plan Survey

### Survey Results

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### Results for Survey #32: Comment Form: Alt #4: Fiesta Island General Development Plan

Questions marked with a **[\*]** were required.

Filter On Checked Questions  [?]

#### Survey Time Stats

Average Completion Time: 15min 46sec (Min: 0min 0sec, Max: 238min 17sec)  
 Average Time before Quit: 5min 37sec

#### 1. I have: (please check all that apply)

attended Mission Bay Park Committee (MBPC) presentations on Fiesta Island	- 46		10.72%
attended one of the five community group meetings on Fiesta Island.	- 42		9.79%
provided verbal testimony at MBPC or local community group meetings.	- 13		3.03%
provided written comments at the summer workshop.	- 28		6.53%
sent e-mails or letters to the City / Consultant regarding the project.	- 43		10.02%
filled out questionnaires either at the workshop or since that time.	- 68		15.85%
reviewed the materials on this website.	- 102		23.78%
read articles or seen broadcasts on the topic of the Fiesta Island GDP.	- 79		18.41%
none of the above, I am just responding to this survey.	- 8		1.86%
<b>Total Answers</b>	<b>- 429</b>		

**The site plan for alternative 4 provides notes and locations on a number of proposed improvements or adjustments to the physical areas on Fiesta Island. After reviewing the Alternative 4 map (downloadable from this site), please select all of the items that you generally support. We will assume that if you don't check an item, it means you DO NOT support it.**

#### 2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN ON ALTERNATIVE 4

Water quality improvements associated with the proposed Tecolote wetland treatment ponds and the north end island marshes.	- 85		16.54%
Stormwater contaminant control associated with the bio-swales and treatment ponds that would capture and cleanse runoff from roadways and recreation areas.	- 85		16.54%
Increased protection and buffers around environmentally sensitive habitats.	- 67		13.04%

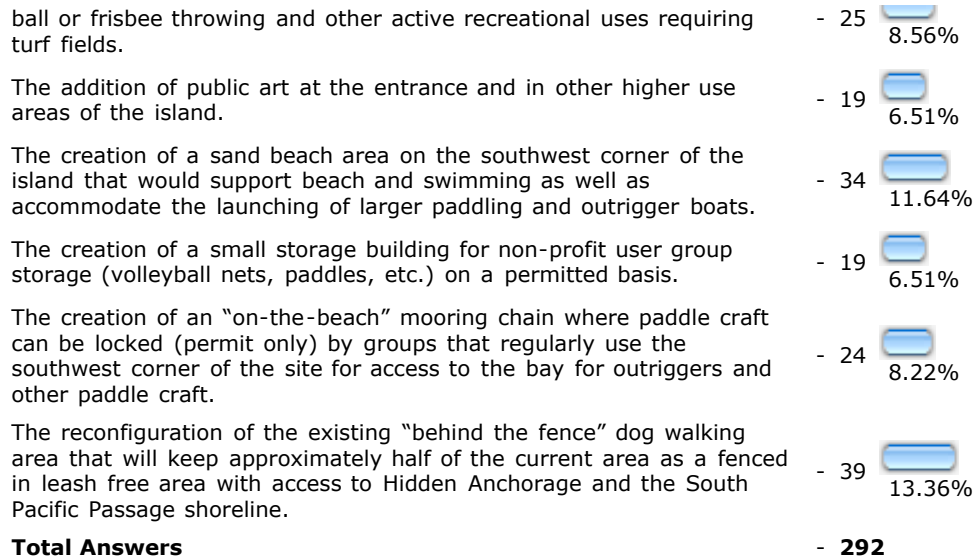
The expansion of wetland and Least Tern habitat at the north end of the island.	- 61		11.87%
The expansion and protection of habitat for the Least Tern at Stony Point (southwest corner of the island).	- 60		11.67%
The conversion of non-native invasive plant species to native upland and wetland species throughout the island.	- 62		12.06%
The addition of an environmental interpretive program with trail signage, information kiosks and story telling on interpretive panels.	- 38		7.39%
The creation of sand dunes for increased habitat areas and decreased wind blown sand, planted with natives, with a trail that affords greater views from the top.	- 56		10.89%
<b>Total Answers</b>	<b>- 514</b>		

**3. CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN ON ALTERNATIVE 4**

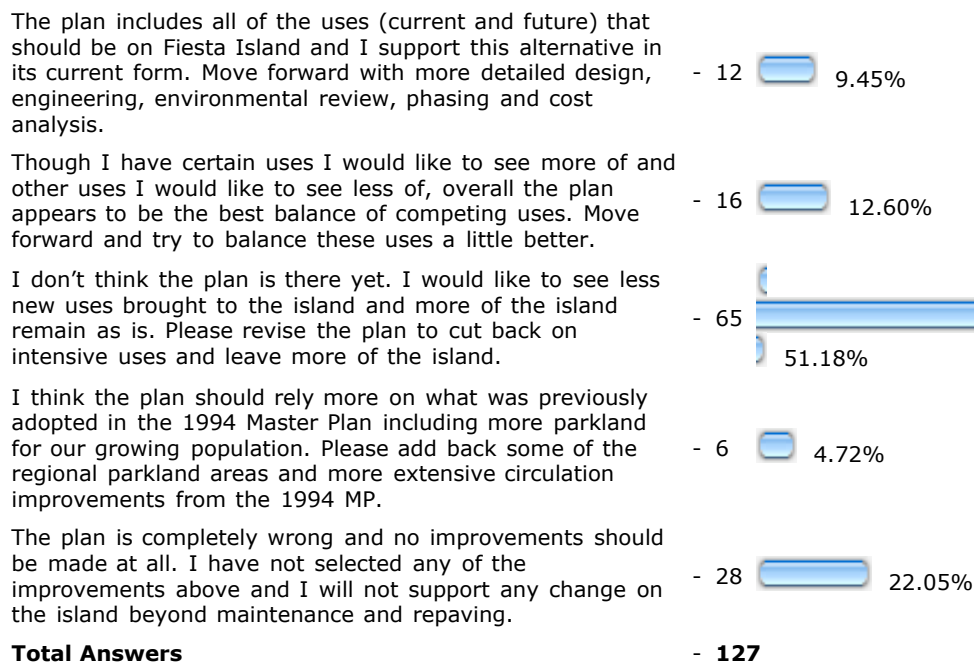
The creation of looped multi-use trails (hard surface and soft surface) on the island for walking, hiking, running, skating, recreational cycling, and equestrian use.	- 47		9.61%
The rebuilding of the entry road to allow more non-vehicular uses to safely cross the entry road land bridge and to better accommodate exiting traffic.	- 69		14.11%
The resurfacing and regrading of roads to capture run-off by draining inward and providing a wider edge with a properly striped bike lane and shoulder.	- 73		14.93%
A roadway that remains one-way with no stop signs (except approaching the primary loop road from adjacent roads or parking areas) allowing for continuous recreation movement on the looped roadway.	- 85		17.38%
The reconfiguration of the north end road to allow closing the north loop to vehicles (at regularly scheduled times), but allowing for walkers, cyclists, skaters and runners to use when closed to vehicles.	- 53		10.84%
The preservation of a significant portion of existing roadways that allow for "off the edge of the road" parking and adjacent shoreline beach use.	- 74		15.13%
The creation of new parking lots to supplement road edge parking.	- 19		3.89%
The addition of several public restrooms that will assist in water quality, health and user convenience.	- 69		14.11%
<b>Total Answers</b>	<b>- 489</b>		

**4. NEW OR EXPANDED USE IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN ON ALTERNATIVE 4**

The addition of an overnight tent camping area (beyond the camping that is allowed for youth groups).	- 23		7.88%
The relocation and consolidation of the existing sand management area to the north end to assist in managing and recycling sand on Fiesta Island as well as other beaches in San Diego.	- 45		15.41%
Keeping the Over the Line sand recreation area in its current location, but reconfigured to include more native parkland around the site, expanded slightly to the south with the inclusion of a sand/turf volleyball area.	- 48		16.44%
The addition of regional parkland that can accommodate larger group events, individual picnicking, playgrounds, and open field recreational uses to satisfy the general population's need for access to the bay and parks.	- 16		5.48%
The addition of general use open fields for kite flying, informal sports,			



**5. OVERALL OPINION OF ALTERNATIVE #4**



**6. DETAILED COMMENTS**

**Please type out any comments that you have on the plan in the block provided below. Please try to be as specific as you can on your concern and the part of the plan you are referring to or the physical location of an element on Fiesta Island that you are providing input on.**

**Total Answers - 96**  
[\[ View Answers \]](#)

**7. [\*] Please enter your zip code:**

**Total Answers - 140**

[ [View Answers](#) ]

## **8. CONTACT INFORMATION**

**If you wish to be notified of changes in the plan or upcoming meetings, please provide an e-mail or mailing address in the following block.**

**Total Answers - 77**

[ [View Answers](#) ]

**9. If you want a specific response back to a specific comment, please provide your e-mail below. General comments cannot be responded to, but a specific question or comment that asks for clarification can be responded to.**

**Total Answers - 11**

[ [View Answers](#) ]

**10. If you represent a larger group and would like to provide more detailed input as part of an organized effort, please list the name of the group and a phone number of a representative that can be contacted to set up either a phone call or a meeting. A meeting is not essential, materials from your group can be mailed to KTU+A, c/o Mike Singleton, 3916 Normal Street, San Diego, 92103 or e-mailed to [fiestaislandgdp@ktua.com](mailto:fiestaislandgdp@ktua.com).**

**Total Answers - 10**

[ [View Answers](#) ]

[ [Main](#) ]

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## Fiesta Island General Development Plan Survey

### Text Results

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#### Answers to Question 6: DETAILED COMMENTS

**Please type out any comments that you have on the plan in the block provided below. Please try to be as specific as you can on your concern and the part of the plan you are referring to or the physical location of an element on Fiesta Island that you are providing input on.**

There are **96** answers to this question.

**96.** the appeal of fiesta island is the openness and undevelopment feel of the it--it is 1 of the few places in the SD city area that retains the freedom of just "being wild" Cleaning it up alittle-taking off the non native plants,fixing erosion problems makes sense but developing it so it is like all the other parks just isn't appealing.another cookie cutter park isn't needed or desired by the folk who use fiesta island- spend that extra money on water pipes,librarys etc. i have been using F.I. for 25 years to swim & train my Newfoundland dogs.a group of us from all over southern Ca met almost every Sun or Mon from april to oct. on the NE end of F.I. .there may be 5 to25 of us with as many or more newfies. some of the newfs are as young as 3 months to 13 years old. being able to park on the shoulder right near where the training is happening helps so much with the loading/use of the boats,kayaks,canoes & all of the other gear-not so far to go dragging stuff ,dogs,children,etc.it would be hard to water train in the other leash free area because we take up a great deal of beach frontage if we training several dogs at a time. it is 1 of the few places where children can play/swim safely with their dogs in calm water without surf which the families really appreciate. we would like to see all or most of F.I. remain leash free for everyone to use. afterall a majority of the city or county parks restict the time dogs are allowed or require leashes.i am sorry if this long but am attempting to cover the concerns of many of my friends. newfondly mary p.s. see you at the meeting

**95.** We run our dogs daily and must loop 3 times to get one hour of exercise with the configuration as-is. The new option halves the area, and we would need to loop at least 6x. Please do not change this - there is NO other comparable off-leash area in San Diego. We need a fenced area to keep cars and dogs safe - for this, Fiesta Island is ideal as it is today. Option #4's "voice command" ares serve only to put the burden of liability upon the dog owner in the case of unforeseen incidents. Unfair! Please preserve San Diego's only substantial leash-free area.

**94.** With the state of city, no money should be spent to alter a natural setting. It would be an deplorable act. Development always becomes a slippery slope. It will be marked for a certain change then once changes are approved development for pure profit will come from no where and take over the island. This city needs to leave well enough alone and focus on more serious matters. THIS IS THE LAST AND ONLY NATURAL OPEN SPACE LEFT UNTOUCHED IN SAN DIEGO. DO WE HAVE TO DESTROY EVERYTHING IN THE SO CALLED NAME OF PROGRESS!

**93.** Increasing recreational use is not in keeping with elimination of non-native invasive plants, planting of native plant species, and nesting for Least Terns and other species. The public already has a huge area devoted to human play and activities. This area was once wetland and marsh. It is now sandy beach, grass and non-native trees and shrubs. Let's try to reduce noisy human activities on the island and instead, try to increase a refuge for plants, animals and quiet human uses. I support any plan that will help the native plants and animals.

**92.** I think the City has many more areas where the money proposed to develop Fiesta Island can be spent. The Island should be left as is - until other priorities are dealt with.

**91.** I consider Fiesta Island a free-form use area. The rest of Mission Bay park has been built out with structures, walkways, grass areas, parking areas, ect. Why not leave

the island in a more virgin state, (ie As created by dredging), so the public can use it as it meets there needs at the time. Once the grass goes in, the sidewalks paved, the parking lots installed, the island will move forward as a traditional park area. Who can predict what new activities will develop in the next 20 years that would lend themselves to the free-form use areas of the island as they exist today. Additionally, I would like to see more of the South end of the island, then presented in Altr. 4, to be used for the fenced off-leash area for dogs. My specific request is to continue the shoreline / water access along the South facing shore to the Southwest point by the Least Tern area.

- 90.** I am very impressed with Alternative #4. It provides a balance between public use and environmental preservation that I find highly desirable.
- 89.** Please improve the "wilderness" feel and limit public use of big groups and vehicles.
- 88.** 1. Hire a firm to restore the native vegetation that can read the information about locally native plants available on the San Diego Museum of Natural History's website. They must use locally native plants. Aloe and Agave americana are NOT native they unfortunately have replaced natives in many areas. They must not be planted on Fiesta Island. The feral cat colony on the island needs to be relocated in order to protect the Least Terns.
- 87.** As dog owners, my husband and I make use of the island at least 4 times each week for recreational purposes. Fiesta is the last wild, undeveloped preserve in the Mission Bay region, and we wish it to remain so for future generations. This is the only open area large enough to accommodate the exercising of hundreds of dogs off leash. A "reconfiguration of the existing 'behind the fence' dog walking area that will keep approximately half the current area" is a vague and arbitrary change none of the Fiesta's current and regular users will accept. The island belongs to the tax payers and thus far, our pleas to leave well enough alone have gone unheeded. The proposed reduction of the off leash areas has succeeded in fostering the rapid growth of citizen groups politically connected and unappeasably opposed to this plan and all others.
- 86.** You need to hire an expert on native plants so that ONLY locally native plants are used in any work done on this site,
- 85.** Fiesta Island could provide representative habitats of the types of areas that were destroyed in the original formation of Mission Bay -- particularly wetlands and dune communities. I would like to see it open to the public, but for low-intensity uses, such as biking, hiking, bird-watching, and picnicing. I think vehicles should not be allowed on the island.
- 84.** I am most interested in seeing native vegetation used, weed removal, and keeping the island mostly to quiet low impact uses.
- 83.** I am concerned that people feed and release feral cats in this area - feral cats impact wildlife like the endangered snowy plover and least tern and this is illegal. Cat feces also impacts water quality. Get rid of the feral cats! Get rid of the invasive plants like the Mexican fan palms! More California native plants PLEASE!!!!
- 82.** Please consider not using asphalt but keeping the road surfaces as gravel or some other form of permeable surface. This would enhance infiltration and reduce run-off and also tend to keep vehicle speed down. If you don't do this, please consider a solid barrier between the vehicle and pedestrian/bicycle traffic. I tend to favor having more places suitable for quiet enjoyment using human power rather than noisy motorized activities. It would be nice to have some real dunes here - there is plenty of turf in the Park already, but very little natural dunes.
- 81.** Please don't build the sand dunes too high or too close to the east side of the Island where the board sailors tend to be. The height & the proximity of the dunes will affect the wind that makes kiteboarding and windsurfing so appealing in that location. There is a land breeze that exists here and nowhere else in Mission Bay. The wind comes across Sail Bay, then Ski Bay. As it crosses Fiesta Island it heats up, and accelerates off the east side, making it a reliable place for high wind performance by sailboards and kite boards.
- 80.** I understand that this is in the master plan but the city can not and has no right to take this on now or soon. Stop paying for designers and consultants - put it to rest - let's revisit in five years. I'm for general maintenance - repaving and storm/sewer water works. But that is it. There is nothing wrong with Fiesta Island - it is used by many, it is fun, different, free and open to all. There is another part of Mission Bay that also is part of the master plan and it currently is not open to all - maybe we should get focused back

on that corner of the Bay.

**79.** Bicycles, joggers, skaters, runners, dog walkers, and walkers cannot possibly share a common path...cyclists need to be separated from slower traffic so no interference and collisions will happen.

**78.** Your color code/explanation of certain areas are a bit confusing. Specifically, the beach area west side of Hidden Anchorage. Your description states parking for special events. There is no mention of the dog walk area. But the color code indicates leashless dog walk area. What about the beach?? Will the "fence" be on top of the berm? This berm makes a perfect barrier and perfect place for the fence. The beach should be left as is for walkers who do not want to be accosted by dogs. Please keep the dogs, skiers & boaters safe by separating them. It looks like a fence line proposed on the border of north east area of Hidden Anchorage. That beach is where the tournaments are staged from. Please investigate what goes on there before proposing to limit the access to the water ski area. Dogs should absolutely NOT have access to the beach at Hidden Anchorage. The island is very large, find them another beach to roam.

**77.** I am a native San Diegan, and have enjoyed the use of Fiesta Island since the early 1970's. I LIKE the un-developed aspect, and the off-lead dog area. I drive from the East county to visit Fiesta Island specifically, and do not want to see any changes. There are more than enough developed areas near the bay for all to enjoy...leave this one more rustic area alone.

**76.** I am a native San Diegan, and have enjoyed the use of Fiesta Island since the early 1970's. I LIKE the un-developed aspect, and the off-lead dog area. I drive from the East county to visit Fiesta Island specifically, and do not want to see any changes. There are more than enough developed areas near the bay for all to enjoy...leave this one more rustic area alone.

**75.** I love walking my dog "leash free". I hate to see 1/2 of it gone but think you are working to accomodate everyone. Areas "open" not designating each area for a separate activity, more rural type than City type of plan.

**74.** WHY? wHY? Why does every single inch of land HAVE to be developed? Why more concrete? Why more asphalt? What is wrong with the state of the island the way it is now? Do people NOT know how to walk properly? Do they HAVE to be directed where YOU want them to go? Doesn't the environment have the right to exist WITHOUT YOU changing it? Leave the island as natural as possible. Leave the area free for us to decide WHERE and HOW we want to walk and explore it. Let our PETS have FREEDOM to walk and explore the area that now exists for them without YOU shrinking it! Leave it alone....you'll NEVER improve on mother nature. One of these days she's gong to get really cranky and fight back!

**73.** People use the island for it's open space and current layout. I am concerned about losing a significant area of the off leash area to be used for other improvements which i don't believe are needed such as turfed fields etc. adding these designed areas will only limit the uses for the existiting open space on the island

**72.** I'm excited to see some TCL invested in Fiesta Island! Its a great location but has always had that "landfill" feeling about it. Love the public art element!!!!

**71.** Most of MB park is unused other than four large holiday/events each year—I know, I live on it (Crown Shores) and I use it every day as a long-distance runner. I also bike Fiesta Island 2x/week and take my dog to the fenced off-leash section 2x/week. I counted seven park users (other than the runners & walkers on the path) today in a 12-mile run around the bay. On summer weekends, I see more, but other than holiday weekends, it's never more than a hundred or so using the lawns and rec areas. There's more than enough lawn around the bay already. I do not support decreasing the wildness of the island to add lawns and more "manicured" parkland. What we have isn't used, we do not need to waste more money and water on lawns, let alone dump chemicals into another section of land and ultimately the bay. I do not support the additional boat areas/lockers/tie-ups for catamarans/etc. I believe that these boats should have space, but not in the current area, which should remain a fenced, unpaved dog exercise beach and field. Why do we continue to allow parkland to be used only by UCSD students and alumni for their boats and facilities? Don't take away another public interest group's usage; take away the private one. I DO support adding water fountains and restrooms. I support keeping the OTL areas, even though I do not attend the tournament. I support keeping and expanding the least tern nesting areas. I support resurfacing the road and widening it to add a safer bike/rollerblading lane, and a packed-dirt (NOT PAVED) running/walking path alongside that (PLEASE would someone in public office and park planning learn that concrete is the WORST possible surface for

running/walking?? crushed rock, shells, dirt - anything but pavement, which is a recipe for knee surgeries. We do not need more paved running/walking paths in SD, we need more soft paths!) I do not support paving more of the island for parking. This and overnight camping are a recipe for disaster. We already have problems on the bay with all-night parties and gang gatherings; we do not need to add a handy and legal way for them to gather all night. I live on the bay, and I can hear the loud music of parties on Fiesta that last until the cops break them up after the 10pm curfew. Adding all-night camping and handy paved lots seems to be a recipe for more police work, angry residents, and the danger of Fiesta becoming another area of parkland that people are afraid to use, just as Mission Bay/jetty became gang-heavy and unsafe for families. I definitely do not support reducing the fenced south end of the island. This is the only large fenced area in SD county for dogs, and it includes many safe places for dogs to swim. Out of more than 10,000 park acres in the county, fewer than 420 are off-leash dog areas; reducing this fenced section would significantly drop this. 60% of SD homes own dogs. Many breeds (and many dogs) are not and never will be trustworthy off leash when playing; they are at risk of running into traffic, not biting. We need to retain the very large fenced section that all but eliminates any chance of a dog-car collision. Also, the plans so far have reduced off-leash, fenced dog beach areas significantly and forced swimming dogs to compete with high-speed ski boats and skiers, who come close to shore by necessity. This is not a problem on the Fiesta Bay side, as rec boaters there have a wide channel and give the beach a wide berth. I cannot stress enough how wrong I feel it would be to reduce the current fenced off-leash area. Stating that the bulk of the island would remain "off-leash" but not fenced is unacceptable. Any dog owner can tell you that even well-trained dogs can and do develop selective hearing when at play, and this is stated by my dear friend Lt. Johnson, a former K-9 drug agent (now retired). If her highly trained drug dog—who worked in maximum security prisons for eight years—cannot be trusted not to chase into a street while playing, neither can the neighbor's retriever. The danger is too great; this is why 90% of the dogs you see every weekend on Fiesta are in the fenced area, not the rest of the island. The current fenced walking path, hills and safe swimming areas are a boon to San Diego, and I watch from my porch every day as a never-ending stream of cars park along the fence and use the fenced area. On weekends, I've counted more than 60 cars simultaneously, sustained through most of the day. Don't take this away for grassland that no one is requesting. I counted seven park users (other than the runners & walkers on the path) today in a 12-mile run around the bay. On summer weekends, I might see more, but certainly not a crowd. There's more than enough lawn around the bay already. I also fail to understand how the city is going to pay for this and why this is being thrust upon a nearly bankrupt city. I've heard that there is nearly \$3M earmarked for it, but in light of the staggering projected costs and SD's financial problems, I find this entire exercise poor judgement to the point of mismanagement. We may need to raise taxes, yet we're spending funds we don't have to convert an already well-used hunk of land into expensive-to-maintain parkland? No one, to my knowledge, is asking for this. So why is this project being pursued?

**70.** I love the island just as it is. It is wonderful and perfect - please take our tax dollars and put them to use in other parks and areas and leave Fiesta!

**69.** why does anything need to be done? Fiesta Island is just fine the way it is, leave well enough alone. There are not many open spaces left in the city so let's preserve this one.

**68.** The environmental impact is the greatest concern for the island. That topic has to be the number one item on what ever plan is adopted. And not just best business practices/plan but effort and action that is best for the island. Yes, I am a San Diego Native, raised in La Jolla and Pacific Beach (Mission Bay High School / Class of 1965)

**67.** I don't understand why the fenced dog park has to be altered at all. The main attraction of Fiesta Island for me is that huge fenced area where my dog can run safely while I run the perimeter. Two times around equals a little over three miles and it provides a safe outdoor activity for me and my dog. My dog utilizes the entire fenced area.. running on the beach, in the middle chasing birds, and leaping over the bushes. I honestly can't think of another alternative for exercising my dog in San Diego. Fiesta Island WAS one of the last dog-friendly outdoor recreational places. Please leave the fenced dog area alone!

**66.** Please please don't reduce the "behind the fence" dog area. I see many people with their dogs playing on the island. when it is necessary to utilize the fenced area, it needs to be big enough to support playing with your dog without encroaching on others' space with their dog. The population is growing and we need to share our public spaces, but don't sacrifice the "special dog/people place" that is Fiesta Island, while creating duplication of space that exists at many other parks and places. 2nd generation native of

57 years. Thank you

**65.** The reduction of the leash free, behind fence, dog area is sad. While this is much better than the earlier options which included nothing for dogs and their people, but there is no reason to decrease it by this much. Parts of the open fields behind the (west of) the fenced area could and should be included. I use the island to cycle (so am please with the continuous loop kept open, run a dog (she and I need more space to run free). And I kayak around it, but there are many places already on the bay where I can launch - we do not need lockers and tie up areas. They will just junk up the beach. Thank You for the work on this. It is so much better than before - just not their yet.

**64.** The new plan is very difficult to see. It is very small. My only concern is the three small white marks at the edge of hidden anchorage. Are they wading areas? If so, they should be removed. Wading in Hidden Anchorage is EXTREMELY dangerous to skiers and waders alike. PLEASE, please tell me that these are not wading areas. Thank you!  
Linda Rains

**63.** 1. The current dog fenced acreage (about 100 acres) must stay intact; cutting the acreage by 2/3 to 35 acres is completely inadequate. 2. I support minor roadway improvements, but want the one-way road to remain with no paved parking at the roadway. This area is a unique resource for cyclists, walkers and runners in SD and Cal. to safely train and exercise with minimal car traffic. 3. I support efforts to maintain/improve water quality at the Island and support establishment of wetlands near the Tcolote Canyon flow to reduce water pollution into the bay. 4. The least tern area should be maintained.

**62.** Fiesta Island is delightful as it is. Having undeveloped land in the middle of Mission Bay is very desirable. I resist the compulsive urge to "improve" every piece of undeveloped land. Why not put this to the voters of San Diego? My wife and I have been using Fiesta Island for 30 years, and we see absolutely no reason to change the way it is. Denis LeClair 3464 Cooper St. San Diego, CA 92104

**61.** The only improvements the island needs are to water quality. Water quality can be improved without having to develop the rest of the island. Improve the water quality without compromising the rest of the island.

**60.** I would like to see the leash free dog area remain the same size.

**59.** The city at this time does not have the money so why not for the time being leave it as it is and let people think about it. If it ain't broke don't fix it.

**58.** We tried for over six years to get leash-free areas in city parks and were nearly completely shut down except for a few extra acres. To lose Fiesta Island is a huge loss. The numbers speak for themselves. San Diego Park and Rec doesn't consider dog owners have a legitimate use as public space. We do. And we proposed to share, but that was nixed. The city wanted to send us outside their purview. Sorry, but dog owners live here and need to socialize and exercise our best friends, keeping in mind the need to clean up and responsibly share space with others. Unless the City wants to place 400 acres of dog-owner-friendly spaces in existing parks to make up for lost space, my vote is no. Thanks for listening, Dee Carpenter

**57.** Fiesta Island is not the place of open field turfed areas or more picnic tables and picnic areas- there are plenty of these all over Mission Bay Park. Roadway and Entrance improvements are most needed. Suggestions in #4 are un-necessary and detract from the open space nature of Fiesta Island which is enjoyed by all who choose to use it- think of Fiesta Island as our central city version of Mission Trails Regional Park- it serves many of the same purposes for people who go there. I don't see suggestions to turf over Mission Trails. I would support more re-planting of native plants and tern nesting preservation but do not want to see the island developed into a carbon copy of the rest of MB park- it is sui generis, and people enjoy it for just that reason.

**56.** Please leave Fiesta Island as it is. Leash free for dogs - it's what makes San Diego such a great place to live.

**55.** I see restoration of wetlands and native habitats as a higher priority than sporting, dog, and other recreational uses. Being a San Diego Native of 50 years, I've watched as it was turned into a huge waste dump, and cut my big toe deeply end-to-end walking on the beach after one of the drunken OTL tournaments. The least objectionable recreational uses are equestrian and camping.

**54.** I support the plan that preserves the most area for off leash dog walking.

**53.** Anyone who spends any time on Fiesta Island quickly notices some fundamental things 1) The variety of uses is tremendous 2) That almost all the people using the island are from the City of San Diego and its neighbors (not tourists) 3) The amazing idea of nature and solitude right in the middle of the city!! Above all, the biggest asset of Fiesta Island is the fenced in Dog Park. Don't change it a bit!

**52.** the plan doesn't show attempts to keep off road driving from tearing up the left shoulder of the road as is the case now. Drive around the island after it rains and you will see how much damage it done by 4x4 vehicles causing ruts in the shoulder and throwing mud and rocks on the road, very hazardous to bike riders. The only portion that doesn't have this problem is the west side by the OTL field where the shoulder is protected by concrete barriers and logs. Lining the left side of the road with logs is more pleasing to the eye and fits in with the environment.

**51.** As chair of the Traffic Subcommittee for Balboa Park in 1957, I found that our recommendations to provide peripheral parking areas were largely ignored resulting in the parking gridlock now experienced. I strongly recommend providing peripheral parking areas and the introduction of novel, non-intrusive internal transportation on Fiesta Island. In this way, the park will be able to facilitate the huge future demand for the use of open space and not wind up in automobile gridlock.

**50.** I favor some of the choices shown in option 2 but there doesn't seem to be any place in the survey to select them. Overall I think alternative 4 is too restrictive.

**49.** Please leave the leash-free area and the fenced leash-free the way it is. No improvements need to be done. Do not put buildings or asphalt/cement parking on the island.

**48.** Pollution problems by personal use watercraft and boating in general should not be encouraged in mission bay which is one of the more polluted bays in the US. i feel that encouraging peple to swim and bathe in polluted water is a big mistake. Encourage people to walk, hike and picnic, but not drive or swim would be my preference. Noisy boaters and jetskiers are not conducive to a pleasant experience for tourists or San diego residents. I'm an environmentalist and would like to see Fiesta Island more of a native habitat - one of the few areas in Mission bay that would give us some peace and quiet. i'd like to see them get rid of Over the line as well. That traffic and the pollution are a big problem even if it is a moneymaker and sponsored event. It takes place at a time that would ensure no least terns would ever nest in the proposed nesting area, any nests that get started (if you really want a least tern site) would be abandoned because of the human noise and traffic noise.

**47.** I would like to see the roads repaved but would not like to see paved parking lots created. I definitely want the current fenced area to stay at 100 acres. The whole island to remain leash-free. I do not want sports fields or a swimming area added. Basically, leave the island alone, but I would accept some changes -- like better roads or improved water flow or improved Least Tern habitat areas.

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## Fiesta Island General Development Plan Survey

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#### Answers to Question 6: DETAILED COMMENTS

**Please type out any comments that you have on the plan in the block provided below. Please try to be as specific as you can on your concern and the part of the plan you are referring to or the physical location of an element on Fiesta Island that you are providing input on.**

There are **96** answers to this question.



- 46.** Except for addressing pollution and safety, the island should not be developed.
- 45.** The City of San Diego is teetering on the brink of bankruptcy, due to its pension funding problems and city council members may be going to jail. For once, let's be fiscally responsible and drop this effort for now. Let's look at it again in five years, if the city is solvent by then. In the meantime, leave Fiesta Island alone. Its just fine. If you do anything, dismantle the buildings recently put up around the Boy Scout camp.
- 44.** Pavement of any kind should be limited. I would like to see removal of all paved roads - change to dirt - but since that's likely unrealistic - I would like to see limiting of any new pavement. Vehicle access should also not be improved at all. Fiesta Island should remain mainly a refuge from city traffic while continuing to host special events from time-to-time - but everything with limited vehicle access - while improving bicycle and pedestrian access.
- 43.** Alternative 4 is a good starting point but it needs some changes. -Substantially reduce the turf area to only very small playgrounds. Regional Park does not need to have turf. Mission Trails is a very popular regional park and has no turf. Kites, frisbies, picnics, playing catch, and group events can occur on sand areas, as they do at the beach every day. Mission Bay has enough turf and the related water quality and water consumption problems already. -Eliminate the extra loop in the road that goes toward Stony Point and then comes back. -Require that dogs in the natural areas be on a leash. -Reduce the primitive camping area and expand the dune area substantially. -I strongly support the proposed nature interpretive features. -San Diego does not have a natural park that features coastal dune habitat, that historically dominated much of our shoreline. Fiesta Island is the only place left for it. Please do not blow that opportunity on more turf and large parking lots.
- 42.** 1). Plan appears to add trails outside of roadway which, would appear to limit the ability to pull off road and park. The island needs to maintain substantial parking (and the pull off should be a majority of it). The proposed parking lots don't adequately address parking issues. 2). OTL area should be reduced as most of it is a waste land and not utilized outside of OTL event. Provide only enough area to cover their event and use the rest for camping, or unimproved open area/fields but, provide more accessibility to this inner area (i.e trails). 3). Leash free fenced area only provides limited water access outside of the water ski course, not best location for joint use (i.e dogs retrieving balls into the ski course). Beach at south facing Seaworld is "foul" and unless you have a plan to clean it up, neither man nor dog should be forced there. Why not shift some water access to the west which also allows some pull off parking. Again, the parking lots shown in this area will prove to be inadequate and there are no convenient pull off areas, unless I missed them.
- 41.** Our main concern is that the fenced in dog leash-free area has been halved in this plan, which we don't support. Fiesta Island should remain undeveloped and natural as much as possible. Paved parking lots and public restrooms have no place here.
- 40.** Please leave the leash-free dog park the same size that it is now.Thanks!bonfiresd @ Yahoo
- 39.** I did not check the boxes. Please do not assume this means I do not support

specific items. On the contrary, it seems to me that Alt 4 has several benefits, it's just that it was hard to narrow my perspective into the specific questions asked. In general I like the reduced intensity alternative because: 1) It is less expensive. 2) It provides more habitat. 3) It seems to suit the type of users that currently enjoy the island better. Regarding my third point, these are not users who need to be held by the hand, told what to do, highly directed and entertained. It seems to me, as a person who regularly enjoys the island, they/we like a less controlled environment where folks can have the flexibility to bring our own BBQs, badminton nets, or whatever they/we are into. Not every park needs to be highly structured and developed, and Fiesta Island is a classic example. Let people decide how to use this beautiful jewel, and minimize the infrastructure and restrictions. Disneyland leads you by the hand and tells you where to go and what to experience, but a forest lets you explore on your own. This beautiful spot should be a place we can use our imagination and explore on our own. That said, I strongly support a FURTHER REDUCED INTENSITY ALTERNATIVE. It just seems like there needs to be more unstructured open space places where people can be individuals and can have experiences that are unique to their own tastes.

**38.** I really like the improvements in Alternative V and think it is a nice mix of uses.

What I don't care for (in general) is increased camping and/or large group use, nor allowing storage of anything by any group anywhere on the island (morning lines or storage sheds). The more natural you can keep it the better. In addition, signs, kiosks and public art should absolutely NOT be included. They are very expensive (City mgmt/purchasing) and they all tend to take away from the natural look/feel of the area.

**37.** The questions on this survey are slanted to a desired result you are looking for.

Many of us continue to tell you the same thing over and over and you are obviously deaf to reason. Leave Fiesta Island alone. Get the greedy developers out of your back pocket and leave the Island as it is.

**36.** I use the island once/week. Several of us meet to walk the leash free dog area

together. I do not want to see any major improvements to the island. The natural habitat is wonderful. I would support adding facilities such as restrooms, water fountains, and picnic benches. I would also support widening the present road to make it safer for pedestrians and bikers. I am concerned about the environmental impact to the species that now inhabit the island. I am concerned that the leash free dog area will be too small and push the dogs into the lagoon where the motor boats are. The dogs love to chase the birds and run full speed. They love to play in the water along the shore. I believe that the dog area should maintain at least 3/4 of the present area. I also do not support using monies just because they are there and the city feels they need to do something with it. I do not want to see Fiesta Island go the way of Mission Bay park. It should keep its natural beauty. I am all for improvements as I mentioned above and for improvements for run off water, etc. However, I am against developing the island similar to all of the other parks in San Diego. FI is special because of its uniqueness. There are plenty of other parks for San Diego residents to use. FI is used by many different people each day in different ways and it should remain so.

**35.** The final outcome must be brought forward for a vote. This is a public park not

a park owned by a group of consultants or policy makers. If the public wanted a park with the proposed improvements they would visit other developed areas of Mission Bay. A better job needs to be done when informing the public about these changes. Many people do not realize what is happening to Fiesta Island. How about posting an information board at the entrance to Fiesta Island.

**34.** I am one of the member of Fidosd.com group. The beauty of the island is the

natural state in the middle of the urban city, it is really unique. I take my three dogs to run free every day. They run all around the bay in the fenced area. It is about 2 and half miles. You cannot imagine how many happy and grateful dogs owners there are in this wonderful space. Please, PLEASE leave us the same space!!

**33.** Keep the off leash dog park near the same size and protect the Tern area.

**32.** I am concerned about the regional parkland. How will the addition of this

parkland be accommodated? I would not like to see the island become a parking lot to accommodate these uses. There are plenty of areas in Mission Bay that allow for picnicing, ball playing, etc. I am concerned that with the addition of these uses you will see what happens in areas of the Bay that already have these - people roping off areas for only their use, large amounts of traffic, garbage, no parking, etc. Fiesta Island is currently peaceful and easily accessible, it would be a shame for it to turn into these other parks. I like the idea of change on the island, particularly the addition of trails and an environmental interpretive program, water quality improvements, conversion of non-native areas to native, and protection of environmentally sensitive habitats. And I am pleased that the leash-free dog areas are prevalent on the Island. However, I am

concerned that more active uses could compromise all of these things.

**31.** While I applaud your decision to allow much of the island to remain leash-free for the dogs, my biggest complaint is that the fenced leash-free area is much too small. I would ask that the fenced area be at least as large as it currently is or larger to accommodate the increased usage that the projected human/dog population growth will require in the future. The island is now accommodating many groups in a way that works. Keep the island as it is so that these groups can continue to use it. There are already adequate locations throughout the park where people can go picnic, swim and play. Allow the current users to keep their space. Most of them have no other place to go!

**30.** WITH ALL OF THE USES OF THE ISLAND NOW, I DON'T SEE ADDING EQUESTRIAN USE TO THE POT, THEN YOU NEED HORSE TRAILER AREAS AND THEN THERE WILL BE ADDED TRAFFICE CAUSED BY THESE TRAILERS. I don't know what you mean by adding public art. Do you mean the sculptures that are along the harbor?

**29.** Fiesta Island is balanced equally for all. I love the rural feel that Fiesta Island has currently. I do not want millions of tax payers dollars to be spent on improving something that is GREAT as is. The maintainance budget alone would need to be increased (showers ... you have got to be kidding). If I were to remodel my house and found out that I didn't have the cash to start the job; I would not continue looking for contractors. San Diego doesn't have the cash to keep police let alone considering massive improvements to Fiesta Island. The money already allocated should be the total budget for ANY improvements. Leave Fiesta Island as it is !

**28.** You are not responding to the public! I am very unset about this! There is no one I have heard on that island that wants you in there ripping up the area for yuppie land. LEAVE IT ALONE!

**27.** Keep the off leash dog area the same and have everyone that wants to bring their dogs out to the Island to run use that area. Right now dog people think the whole island should be leash free. There are a great number of people who use the island and are not quite that secure with the notion that a dog won't bite. I think the city has dodged a bullet by not having a serious dog incident. Plus the dog owners don't pick up after their animals in the open area.

**26.** The dog use areas are still very underwhelming. The only leashed water access is the same as the ski boats, which is unacceptable. Additionally, while there are a number of off-leash unfenced areas, they are not connected. We need a way to go for a 2-3 mile walk/run, with some water access. Also, we would prefer if the inside of the roadway was fenced, allowing for safer dog access when inside the road.

**25.** This sounds good: "Fenced Leash Free Dog Walking Area (All other areas on the Island are also leash free except habitats, regional parkland & youth camping areas)" But that's not what is reflected in the plan according to another diagram. There are several areas where dogs must be leashed that are not properly reflected in the latest diagrams and are not appropriate. According to Slide 20: Dog Use Areas. There is overall a significant reduction in dog accessible areas and specifically areas that are leash-free. Have not accomodated all current users as stated in slide 21: summary of plan features. The large reduction in both fenced and non-fenced leash-free areas is completely unacceptable. This is the last place we can enjoy regular activities with our four-legged children with some freedom. My four-legged kids are far better behaved than the two-legged ones or their two-legged parents who run wild, produce trash and leave it to wash up in the waves. I do support responsible use and environmental preservation. This plan does not support these properly. Additional roads mean additional areas for oil and residue accumulation and worsened runoff. Your plan is not prepared for these problems. Creating "parking lots" is a real danger to pedestrians, especially those under 3 feet. Spaces are minimized to maximize the number of parked cars which decreases visibility. It also creates no-park areas limiting uses to the park. At this time, the space is properly utilized because people aren't forced to pack into a few "approved" spots. Limiting use means restrictions which will force congestion and overuse in a few areas. This automatically creates a public-safety problem. The city does not have the resources to fix the problems these additions will create. If there is money to be thrown around, there are a lot of other projects that need funding that will improve already regulated use areas.

**24.** Our dogs utilize the leash free areas including swimming, and the area that has been designated for off-leash fenced puts them right where the boats are. We are not comfortable letting them run without the fences, and do not let them swim where the boats launch, as we have had a near miss between swimming dog and boat. We would like the current fenced area and water access to remain the same, as the area across from Sea World seems to be the safest spot to swim.

**23.** - Reduce planned # of bathrooms from 5 to 3. - Increase size of fenced in off leash dog area to at least 60 acres, including a connection to the west beach. - Add water spigots midway between the 3 bathrooms for filling water bottles, etc. - Change the designated swimming beach to a launching beach for the dragon boats and sculling. - Replace regional parkland on southwest point with actual buffering zone consisting of upland native species and minimal trails. This would be more compatible with the least tern area and off leash dog area than the planned improved grassy areas, picnic areas, etc. - Buoys can be used to safeguard and designate part of the north shore as a swimming beach(no boats within buoys). Most people I know prefer to swim on the north side.

**22.** for the most part, I like the Alt #4 plan. I am more for keeping the island in a more primitive state. I would like to see a more maintenance free approach. Less hardscape, and low maintenance landscape. Currently the narrow road helps keep Automobile speed down. Widening the road may increase the speed regardless of the posted speed. I would like to see the road stay available to cycling practice and events. Over the years I have done just about everything on the Island. My uses now include mostly walking my dog and mountain biking on the trails with my dog. Kayaking and fishing. Thank you, Doug Johnson

**21.** I still feel the fenced leash free zone is being cut too much. I do not see how the proposed changes will be paid for?, where will the money come from, no income will be made from the proposed plans, so..... Lets see the full buget?. I don't understand why money is spent looking into this with no funds to complete the project.

**20.** Although the fenced, unleashed dog run area is still smaller than desired, I am glad that the voice of the citizen has been acknowledged and this fenced/unleashed area has at least remained in principal. If the development is improved, it will certainly be one of the best dog parks in the county and would be used more frequently. We travel in from east Chula Vista to Fiesta Island to bring out dog - please do not remove that opportunity completely - adopt option 4 (and attempt to improve if possible to include more of this fenced/unleashed dog run area). Thank you!!

**19.** In one of your comments it was stated that you intend to add a snack bar in the sand over the line area. This is a very bad idea and will only result in vandalism of the site and low quality high cost food being served to the public. Let the individual users of the Island are take care of their needs in this regard. The cost will simply become a drain on the City and a cause of debate. Andrea McGiveron President - Over-The-Line Players Association Director - Junior Over-The-Line 619 589-6633

**18.** My real concern with the plan is the wading areas in the Hidden Anchorage. Wading in a waterskiing area is completely unsafe! The wading areas are in boat & skier traffic areas, and two are in narrows on either side of the narrow entrance to Hidden Anchorage. Waders will swim at some point, and this is unsafe. Perhaps no wading while boats are in use is more appropriate. However, overall I have safety concerns with this portion of the plan. Leash-free dog areas near Hidden Anchorage are also dangerous for the same reasons. Dog owners are apparently not smart enough to keep their dogs out of the water when boats & skiers are in the area. This is another objection I have to this plan (if I am interpreting the written survey questions correctly). I have not reviewed in detail the remainder of the plan, but I do question what happened to the 1994 plans?

**17.** The shoreling near hidden anchorage for dog leash free area is a satisfactory compromise. Thank you for all the areas for dogs and their owners to exercise together.

**16.** Dear Mike, I oppose the wading areas in Hidden Anchorage. My feeling is to keep boats in the water and dogs on the beach. Sincerely, Tom Taurone

**15.** This is by far the best plan yet if changes are made. However, I still question spending money for improving an already well-used and liked resource, when there are so many other areas that can be used for the purposes being added to Fiesta Island. I like the idea of habitat protection and interpretive trails. One of my primary uses of the island is for off-leash dog play and training. This plan is far better than the earlier proposals, which I did not support at all. There are still more restrictions with this plan than there are currently, but if the island will be developed I would accept the current configuration. I would not want to reduce the off-leash dog area any further than this plan does.

**14.** I frequently use the water-ski area so my comments and knowledge are limited to that. My concern with Hidden Anchorage is that if additional park or wading areas are included in this area it could create dangerous situations for the skiers and any children who might be tempted to go in the water. With fluctuating tides the cove width can be

limited and difficult for fast-moving turning boats.

**13.** The Hidden Anchorage water ski area allows for boats to be moving at water skiing speeds (as much as 40 mph) relatively close to the shoreline. No water access from the shore (other than the skiers) should be allowed. In particular, dogs swimming out from the shore create a significant hazard to themselves, skiers and boats. Dog owners should not be allowed to throw balls and other items into the water in Hidden Anchorage that entice innocent dogs to swim out from the shore.

**12.** I feel that Fiesta Island is approaching it's max use capability, especially on weekends and holidays. Additional uses and users, such as turf/grass, picnic, play areas will increase traffic, litter and congestion to the point that I, personally, would look for alternatives to activities I have taken part in at Fiesta Island for several years (kayaking, hiking, biking, using the firepits and picnicing). Improvements need to be made for environmental and some safety concerns, but to open Fiesta Island, for no other reason than to bring more people onto the Island, is in my opinion, wrong. Use the money where it can be better spent and do not bring the problems that plaque Mission and Pacific Beach to Fiesta Island.

**11.** Thank you for including the various dog use areas. I like the inclusion of various off-leash areas and on-leash areas.

**10.** Re: the southwest portion, currently fenced dog leash free area: Leave the existing size fenced dog area. Do not extend the road, ban dogs to allow wading, do not build restrooms or storage buildings. Keep all 3 sides with water access (except for the lease terns which may or may not return, but are fenced off in any event). Many dogs are not reliably "under voice control." They need areas for spread out activities -- and all areas of the fenced park are used 14 hrs a day, every day, by many many dogs. To squish them all into one tiny swim area is to ask for fights (human & dog) over balls/frisbees and space. Leave the fenced dog area large as it is. It's the most intensive use year-round of the island, and the rest of the island can be for bikes/cars/picnickers, walkers, etc.

**9.** I would like to see turf areas minimized, connections between natural areas with dogs excluded from these areas.

**8.** This is one of the few large open water area for working dogs. Please consider keeping access for this purpose.

**7.** I believe Fiesta Island should be left alone. It is the only place in the City where you feel as if you are in the middle of nowhere while actually being in the City. It is peaceful, quiet and full of animals such owls, squirrels, snakes and birds. I have family and friends who visit from all over the world who have all commented on the tranquility and undeveloped beauty of the island. I also would like to see the fenced unleashed dog area left alone. While the master plan did not address this issue - I was also disappointed to learn that Alt.#4 only provides for 41 of the existing 90+ acres. If the plan was to move forward I would support adding restroom facilities with minimal improvement and changes.

**6.** I support the alternative Plan number 2.

**5.** I do NOT support a swimming beach -- there are enough places in Mission Bay and our local beaches for people to swim. I would like the fenced dog area to remain largely the same size. I disagree with the statement above that the proposed fence area is about half the size of the current fenced area. I think it's more like 1/3 the size. The dog users are the biggest YEAR ROUND users of the island. The cyclists, the kite flyers, the rocketeers, the canoe people ... ALL of those groups use the island year round. Their interests in the island should be maintained. I have no problem with storage sheds, etc. for those groups. I have no problem with increased Least Tern areas and increased buffers between those areas and the off leash dogs ... I support better marshlands at the Tecolote river mouth and improved water flow. I do NOT support "general use fields" (as I see them now, as specifically "groomed" fields) or increased parking.

**4.** --The Youth camp areaa should NOT be open to dog. --Enchanted code, in fornt of the youth camp should also be available for sailboats. --Enchanted Cove should not be available for kite boarding. --A small floating pier for the youth camp would be a good idea.

**3.** I'm concerned that my tax money will be spent creating trails and recreation areas over what are essentially already trails and recreations areas. With Parks & Rec having to cutback on other parks programs, where is the financial backing coming from to support creating something that is essentially already created? In addition, I have heard no

community support for this project, so I truly wonder why it is being pursued at this time. Who is it exactly that is supporting this redevelopment of an already developed area? Paving trails to make trails doesn't work, it isn't necessary and the improvements proposed will be far too costly to maintain or justify. I don't support it at this level, and I don't know that it can be justified in the future as a development and improvement, either. The \$2 million dollars or so would be better allocated to existing Parks & Rec areas to help fund where they are currently being cut back.

**2.** I am appalled that the "New" plan puts Dogs under the propellers of Boats, while I see that change is bound to happen, I see know reason why Fiesta Island should not remain Leash Free and no Road incursion into the current Fenced area. I believe we can coexist Humans, Dogs, Horses, Camels (Yes Camels also use Fiesta Island) as we do in several Parks around San Diego. A notable park is Grape Street and 30th at the end of the Driving Range, where Dogs and Humans coexist. You also state above that Half the Current fenced in Area will be for Dogs, a half of 98 Acres was 49 Acres when I went to School.

**1.** mike

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