I would like to having the following read as part of public comments for Item #10 (Village H) on Tuesday:

"My name is Paige DeCino representing Preserve Calavera.

Carlsbad has been a regional leader when it comes to protecting habitat, being the only one of its neighbors to have a Habitat Management Plan or HMP. The HMP design is a combination of large core areas with wildlife corridor linkages between them. Those corridors are critical for the health of the wildlife populations. Village H has been one of the designated corridors since the adoption of the HMP. Adding the trail and off leash dog area puts further constraints on this corridor but at least the current proposal is less intrusive into the wildlife corridor than the previous staff option. Designating the land outside of that area as hardline HMP ensures that at least that narrow strip is protected for wildlife. We believe that is critical to off set the impacts of the off leash area and to honor the promise of the HMP to protect the wildlife movement corridor.

Included within the HMP are areas defined as “sensitive habitat outside preserve area” and also, “non-sensitive habitat open space” which cover part of the Village H south parcel under discussion. We are hoping that you’ll honor the intent of the HMP to protect as much natural open space for wildlife as possible, as you directed staff to do when planning for Village H South improvements.

Furthermore, this parcel tied for 2nd place in the ranking of 16 parcels recommended for acquisition by the Citizen’s Open Space Committee and ADOPTED by the City Council in 2009. Given the greater demands on our open space, the permanent protection of Village H as natural open space is even more important now than it was in 2009. Obviously, the land now is not high-quality native habitat. But neither of the proposed designations ensure this area will be managed to protect the core biological function - that is, part of the regional wildlife movement corridor. Changing its designation to “sensitive habitat with restrictive use”, i.e., HMP hardline preserve, will provide that protection and is consistent with years of planning to protect the natural lands of Carlsbad."

Thank you.

Paige DeCino
Dear Mayor and Council Members,

First, I want to mention that Lonnie Smith, the defacto leader of this community, it not able to participate in this effort currently due to a family health emergency. He has asked me to assume this role on an interim basis until he can resume. Also, other members of our user community have been stricken by the current health situation. For them and all other members of our community who have been impacted this situation, we want to give best wishes for the best and fastest possible recoveries.

Second, as I have been stepping into this role, I want to give a personal thanks to Diane Nygaard of Preserve Calavera, who has been very generous with her time and knowledge, meeting at her home and also at the trail to ensure that our group had all the relevant information with which to evaluate the staff report.

After reviewing the staff report and consulting with Ms. Nygaard we have developed the proposal below, which is described in greater detail in the attachment. All elements of this proposal are consistent with the area footprint already agreed between staff and Preserve Calavera:

1) Council formation of an adhoc committee to oversee the design phase. It is critical in this phase that User Group membership be presented in this committee. (other members being city council member TBD, parks and rec, and Preserve Calavera). Council membership is suggested to serve as arbiter and also for executive sponsorship support.

2) A council directive to initiate a city action to change the area land designation to apply the HMP restrictions more sensibly to avoid the entire existing eucalyptus grove/trail and to extend to the areas proposed by Preserve Calavera. Such a modification would enable a later council action to restore the historical Offleash trail use over the entire length of the trail.

3) A directive to staff to include in the design phase consideration of a “shared use” mode of operation in which use days and hours would be established for onleash and Offleash use. The advantage of this approach is that would allow for all trail users to enjoy the entire trail in a loop configuration, and wouldn’t require construction of a barrier to separate the loop segments, which also offers some risk of confrontation between proximate onleash and Offleash animals.
4) A directive to staff to eliminate the parking lot, restroom and EV charging station. These are amenities that have no justification and add significant construction and maintenance costs, while also reducing the useful trail space.

5) A directive to staff to consider as design input the 17 proposed modifications by Preserve Calavera, and corresponding User Group inputs on each point. (see attachment).

Thank you for your attention.

Tom Watson

Oceanside, CA 92056

**CAUTION:** Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
Village H Community User Group Response to Staff & Preserve Calavera Option

April 14, 2020

Introduction

As this project moves past the current phase and into further stages of design, we are proposing incorporation of the following elements in the overall plan, all of which are consistent with the area footprint already agreed between staff and Preserve Calavera:

1) Council formation of an adhoc committee to oversee the design phase. It is critical in this phase that User Group membership be presented in this committee. (other members being city council member TBD, parks and rec, and Preserve Calavera). Council membership is suggested to serve as arbitrator and also for executive sponsorship support.

2) A council directive to initiate a city action to change the area land designation to apply the HMP restrictions more sensibly to avoid the entire existing eucalyptus grove/trail and to extend to the areas proposed by Preserve Calavera. Such a modification would enable a later council action to restore the historical Offleash trail use over the entire length of the trail.

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5) A directive to staff to consider as design input the 17 proposed modifications by Preserve Calavera, and corresponding User Group inputs on each point. (see below).
Modifications Required to Allow Off Leash Dogs in Wildlife Corridor at Village H

A City of Carlsbad staff response is in italicized font below each modification

Feb 16, 2020

D- Design Modifications to Staff Option

D-1 Hold construction of parking lot until justified by use

This is intended as a neighborhood amenity- not one to accommodate city wide/regional use. The area proposed for parking includes slope along Victoria which increases the area of impact for no real benefit. This is of particular concern because of documented wildlife movement across Carlsbad Village Drive that would be severely impacted by the combination of parking lot and off-leash dogs in this constrained area. Future construction would be dependent upon on actual analysis of parking demand demonstrating impact on adjacent neighborhood.

This modification is not anticipated to be addressed with the implementation of project for an off leash dog area. Staff is confident an onsite parking lot would be needed for such an amenity, to reduce the potential of off leash dog area patrons using street parking in adjacent neighborhood.

D-2 Modify gate on northeast corner to be secure from pedestrian/dog access

The revised plan assumes wildlife will continue to move along eastern side of site. Currently there is illegal access from that corner with high volume of dog waste. Current gate is often unlocked and even when closed and locked people just walk under it with their dogs.

This modification can be addressed upon implementation of a project for an off leash dog area.

D-3 Move off leash area to western edge

Buffers impacts of off leash dogs by placing pedestrian/ on-leash trail between them and area for wildlife. (Current design has off leash area next to wildlife corridor)

This modification is addressed in the latest concept plan, titled "Village H South -- Staff & Preserve Calavera Option."

D-4 Modify boundary of dog related security fencing

So it does not restrict wildlife movement in the area planned for wildlife

This modification is addressed in the latest concept plan, titled "Village H South -- Staff & Preserve Calavera Option."

D-5 Expand area for hardline open space

Corridor width is already compromised to less than what is allowed for a "pinch point". Entire area not restricted for off-leash dog use should be added to the HMP hardline preserve.

This modification is not anticipated to be addressed. The area not restricted for off-leash dog use is anticipated to be a combination of preserve, sensitive habitat open space and non-sensitive habitat open space.
D - 6 Keep trail surface, for both off leash and on leash areas per existing
   IE dirt surface with wood chip mulch along edges

   This modification can be addressed upon implementation of a project for an off leash dog area.

D - 7 Modify standard dog park fencing to be less obtrusive

   This modification can be addressed upon implementation of a project for an off leash dog area.

O - Offsite Changes to Improve Function/mitigate for Impacts to the Wildlife Movement Corridor

O - 1 Establish inspection program to ensure wildlife undercrossing of Tamarack remains open and functional.

   Thank you for opening this major barrier to wildlife movement!

   This modification is currently being addressed.

O - 2 Add “Caution-wildlife crossing” signs to each side of Tamarack to mark crossing area

   This was a condition in Robertson Ranch settlement agreement that has been ignored.

   This modification is currently being addressed.

O - 3 Maintain culverts/access to culverts to facilitate wildlife movement from the south

   This modification is currently being addressed.

O - 4 Maintain brow ditches that facilitate wildlife movement in this segment of the corridor

   Recent wildlife movement studies indicate these are important corridor connections that are facilitating wildlife movement. See att. map for brow ditch locations

   This modification is currently being addressed.

O - 5 Maintain vegetation on slope above city utility property

   This area is now being used for wildlife movement. Consider adding this to the HMP hardline to ensure vegetation is maintained in a way that supports continued wildlife movement. (Note: existing brow ditches extend into this area).

   This modification is currently being addressed. The subject area is already within the HMP hardline, and under monitoring and management by the contractor for city-owned preserves (Center for Natural Lands Management).

O - 6 Commit staff time and needed resources to develop a real plan to address the wildlife corridor pinch point issues identified in Pinch point study – city wide

   This is just one of many pinch point/constrained areas for wildlife movement. There needs to be an on-going long-term effort to ensure the wildlife movement corridors assumed to be functional in the HMP are adequate.

   This modification is currently being addressed.
M – Management actions

M-1 Regular Ranger patrols to monitor leash compliance and that fencing/gate are intact
These can be adjusted over time as conditions warrant
This modification can be addressed upon implementation of a project for an off leash dog area.

M-2 Regular dog waste removal- to include pick-up along outside of fence along CBV Dr
This will become a key area for wildlife movement and dog waste is a deterrent to use by wildlife. Currently there is a high volume of dog waste along this fence.
This modification is currently being addressed.

M-3 Restrict all night time use between 10 pm and 6 am
Studies show use impacts patterns of movement and there needs to be some restricted times in this narrow space that already fails to meet minimum requirements for a wildlife movement corridor. This will also make the addition of off-leash dogs less onerous for adjacent residents.
This modification can be partially addressed upon completion of a project for an off leash dog area. Staff can recommend imposing open hours of 8am to sunset for the off leash dog area. The gates to the off leash dog area would then be locked each night and unlocked each morning. Staff cannot recommend imposing hour restrictions on trail use adjacent to the off leash area.

M-4 Continue to monitor wildlife movement across CBV and Tamarack.
Consider wildlife crossing signs on CBV if warranted.
This modification is currently being addressed.
## Modification List Analysis

The table below summarizes User Group feedback on the plan "Modification List” developed by Preserve Calavera. In summary, we are in substantial agreement with these modification proposals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>User Group Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D-Design</td>
<td>D-1</td>
<td>Parking Lot</td>
<td>We support the modification by Preserve Calavera. A parking lot should be deferred to a later phase, and based upon actual usage since there is no basis for forecasting actual usage for a facility like this, other than the use prior 2018 facility closure, in which availability of nearby parking was never a cause for concern. The same comment applies to the idea of a restroom. Area visitors rarely if ever stay for more than an hour, and there are no other area amenities which would change that behavior. Moreover, we propose that the area currently allocated for a parking lot be used to enhance the offleash user experience through addition of a congregation area that can serve the function of the current meadow area, and also offset the loss of offleash trail area due to the habitat hardline area at the trail mid-point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-2</td>
<td>Gate</td>
<td>Agree; if city staff or other contractors require access for maintenance or emergencies, a lock can be added</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-3</td>
<td>Off-leash area</td>
<td>Agree; as mentioned above, to offset the loss of the meadow area for offleash area, we favor the development of improved offleash amenities in the area currently allocated for a parking lot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-4</td>
<td>Fencing Boundary</td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-5</td>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>We favor this idea, but request strongly that it should be employed not just to expand the existing open space, but to change it to sensibly remove the existing trail from the HMP restricted area and to add other areas to it. If the timeline for such changes is long, it can be launched soon and when implemented a Phase 2 offleash trail extension project can be launched.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-6</td>
<td>Trail Surface</td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-7</td>
<td>Off-leash Fencing</td>
<td>Agree in principal; this should be finalized in design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O-Offsite</td>
<td>O-1</td>
<td>Tamarack Undercrossing</td>
<td>Agree</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O-2</td>
<td>Wildlife Signage</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O-3</td>
<td>Culverts</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O-4</td>
<td>Ditches</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O-5</td>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O-6</td>
<td>Pinch Points</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-Management</td>
<td>M-1</td>
<td>Ranger Patrol</td>
<td>Agree; most likely a weekly check should be sufficient to identify any required maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M-2</td>
<td>Waste Removal</td>
<td>Agree; dog waste on CBV is not related to the area under discussion but is important for wildlife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M-3</td>
<td>Use Restriction</td>
<td>Agree in principal, but suggest a simple implementation of signage for the offleash area: “Offleash area open during daylight hours only.” Nobody is going to visit this area when it’s dark, so it would be a waste of staff resources to have someone with the responsibility to lock and unlock gates on a daily basis. If a timed lock system can be implemented at reasonable cost, which can be programmed and does not require daily staff interaction that could be a practical implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M-4</td>
<td>Wildlife Movement</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sheila Cobian

Subject: FW: Off Leash Area for Dogs at Village H

-----Original Message-----
From: Pamela Walls <pjwalls counsel@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 2:48 PM
To: City Clerk <Clerk@carlsbadca.gov>
Subject: Off Leash Area for Dogs at Village H

Heard this item is on the agenda and would just like to support having an off-leash area for dogs at Village H. There are a large number of residents in the neighborhood that would also support this. Please let me know if it would be helpful to have them email the City Council as well.

Thank you,

Pamela Walls

Carlsbad, CA 92010

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