

**Notes from the First Meeting of the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance  
December 5, 2004**

Meeting Goal – to get those with the longest/most active involvement in the watershed together in the same room to update them on the RC Assessment and to talk about if/how/when to collaborate as a watershed. While Van Leer has been working with stakeholders separately, this is the first time they met as an Alliance.

Present:

Ben Stevenson, chair, Rose Canyon Rec Council;  
Jim Harrison and Marlene Shaw, members, Marian Bear Natural Park Rec Council (Chair Deron Bear was at the Chargers game but will attend the next mtg);  
Karin Zirk, organizing a new group called the Friends of Rose Creek, to focus on the creek from 52 South to Mission Bay;  
Chris Klein and Carolyn Chase, San Diego Earthworks;  
Debby Knight, Friends of Rose Canyon; and  
Charlie Herzfeld, Friends of Rose Canyon and University City Planning Group.

Ann Van Leer, contractor to Earthworks, convened the meeting

Didn't attend but wants to help:

Isabelle Kay, UCSD Natural Reserve System, (Kendall Frost Preserve in Mission Bay)

A status report was provided by Van Leer, noting that the existing conditions report will be out at the end of the month or first part of January with the website up by the end of this month (address to be: [rosecreekwatershed.org](http://rosecreekwatershed.org)).

The group discussed some of the major evolving issues including: public safety concerns in the lower creek (eastern Pacific Beach), invasive species removal, improving recreational access including the concept, (plus lively discussions of the pros and cons) of a continuous bike path from the upper watershed to Mission Bay, possible removal/reduction of the concrete flood control channel, environmental education/interpretation opportunities (such as offered by Aquatic Adventures at the mouth of the San Diego River) and historic/cultural interpretation (such as preservation/interpretation of the railroad trestle in Rose Canyon). Van Leer provided a status report on discussions with Miramar to say that the base is cooperating with the project on a variety of levels including providing maps.

ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT:

The group had suggestions of items they'd like to see incorporated in the existing conditions report. They have to do with both existing conditions and major items planned for the watershed. They included:

Wildlife Movement – major corridors through the watershed such as under/over the freeways, 52, 805, 15, 5/plus major roads.

Community Plan/pending items – If there are relevant references, they should be noted (for that portion of each community plan within the watershed);

Miramar issues:

- ✓ as a commercial airport - That there is a process underway to locate a new commercial airport and Miramar is on the list for consideration (for at least 2 alternative sites);
- ✓ that the base has a variety of major projects planned or under consideration;

Landfill – (and the nursery) as sources for invasives seeds.

NEXT STEPS:

The Alliance will meet again in January and include additional possible members including a rep. from each of the larger community council(s) and/or business council(s) in the watershed (UC, La Jolla, PB, Clairemont) plus bicycle and pedestrian representatives.

Submitted by Ann Van Leer