



Enjoying a hike in the Buena Vista Creek Valley- One of the Endangered Open Spaces of Carlsbad.

Thanks to Janell Cannon for this photo.

We have not issued an "Action Alert" for several years- but we are doing so now : SOS for Open Space - Saving the Natural

Lands of Carlsbad. If we are not able to preserve natural lands then nothing else we do will make a difference- this must be our first priority- there is no second chance.

We need you at two critical meetings this month on Thursday June 7 and Tues June 26.

Our wonderful natural lands are a big part of what makes Carlsbad a special place to live. But many of these lands are about to be developed. We need to preserve the best of what we have left- places like the Buena Vista Creek Valley with the sacred waterfall. Places where our kids can connect with nature and everyone can enjoy a quiet walk or hear the sounds of a creek or the call of a bird. Open space gives us a high quality of life and also preserves our property values- its good for residents, businesses and visitors. Saving these lands restores the balance of nature and helps give balance to our lives and our community.

Going back to the 1980's the residents of Carlsbad have made it clear that preserving our natural lands is a high priority. We said it again when we passed Measure C in 2002- saying use some of our reserve funds for open space acquisition. We said it again in comments on the draft Envision Carlsbad plan.

Now we need you to help us say it again and attend two critical meetings- and to help us turn out even more people. The best way to demonstrate that the community cares about open space and trails is to show up and speak up at these two meetings.

1. Thurs June 7 - 5:30 Pm Community Rally- picnic tables in back of Faraday Center
1635 Faraday

We will share the latest updates, answer questions and prepare for public comments in the city staff meeting that begins at 6 pm. We will then go inside to attend the staff meeting where they will present the annual budget to the community. Our request is for some reserve funds to be set aside for open space acquisition as was authorized by Measure C ten years ago.

2. Tues June 26, 6 pm City Council adopts Budget - City Hall, Council Chambers-
1200 Carlsbad Village Dr

This is our final chance to ask the City Council to reserve funds for open space in this year's budget. Please mark your calendars , and help recruit others to attend these two meetings.

This year really is an SOS for our priceless natural lands in Carlsbad because:

- its been 10 years since the voters of Carlsbad passed Measure C- and still the city hasn't spent one dime for open space acquisition in Carlsbad
- the city is moving forward with a General Plan Update that has made increased density the priority- and not protecting natural lands
- four of the properties on the list for dense development were on the Citizen's Open Space Committee priority list for preservation. They can't be both rezoned for dense development and preserved as open space. Which will it be?
- the Buena Vista Creek Valley- ranked # 1 for preservation on the city's list, has a development application pending for 656 homes.
- The City of Carlsbad has what many would consider excess reserve funds- over 50% of the general fund expenses. (See <http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/apr/28/certain-government-reserve-funds-overflow/>) That is tax dollars you paid that they should spend on your priorities.
- The city spends millions every year subsidizing the golf course that few benefit from- but everyone pays for. Money spent on open space benefits everyone- directly for those who use it and indirectly through high property values and lowest costs to the city .

On-Line Petition

Please take a few minutes and **sign our on-line petition** at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/sos-for-open-space.html>. We will be presenting this to the Council several times this month and want to make sure that everyone who cares about saving our natural lands signs the petition and has their voice heard! Then take a few more minutes and **forward this link to everyone you know in Carlsbad.**

Quarry Creek Project and Story Pole Naming Contest

We have a winner in our story pole naming contest - Stan Katz who suggested "Stakes in the Heart of Nature"- which perfectly describes the results of McMillin's proposal to put 656 homes in the Buena Vista Creek Valley. Runners up were Cheryl Davis with "Poles of Woe" and Dave Peiser with " McMillin's Villains." Thanks to them for capturing the community's feelings about so much development in this priceless area- and to all of you who submitted names- winners all!

Future Events :

July 5th - Morning After Mess Clean-up - Oceanside beaches

Our all volunteer organization can't do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donations can make a difference- right here in your own backyard. Donations can be made through our website at <http://www.preservecalavera.org/donate.html> or by mailing a check.

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