

# Water-based Recreation Task Group Charter

## (Goals and Working Agreements)

April 2006

### Goal of the River Plan Water Recreation Task Group

- ◆ Advise the River Plan Staff on:
  - Water Recreation user groups, user needs & user perspectives
  - Water recreation facilities and water access for activities
  - Service improvements and future user facility needs
  
- ◆ The following issues or items are outside of the purview of the Task Group.
  - Deciding where new facilities will be built
  - Resolving in-water conflicts
  - Regulatory issues governed under waters of the state
  - Issue being addressed by other task groups.

### Task Group Membership

- ◆ Task Group members will be selected by the Task Group Staff based on the following criteria:
  - Interest in and knowledge of issues to be discussed by the group.
  - Ability to consider multiple perspectives and the larger context of river planning.
  - Availability
- ◆ The Task Group will be formally convened from May 1 until June 30, 2006.
- ◆ Tentative Presentation of Task Group recommendations to the River Committee is scheduled for August.
- ◆ The Task Group will be jointly led by Parks and Planning staff
- ◆ Member terms run for the duration of timeline outlined in the Task Group charter.
- ◆ Should a member fail to participate in meetings or resign from the Task Group prior to the completion of the task/timeline, a replacement member will be appointed by the Task Group Chair and staff.

### Arriving at an Outcome

1. Recommendations reached via the consent of all members will have the most viability and value to the River Plan process. The Task Group should strive to craft and recommend approaches and solutions that are workable for a wide range of river-related needs and interests.
2. If consensus cannot be reached on particular recommendations, the group should narrow the alternatives to the extent that they can and forward them to the River Plan Staff for consideration.

### Role of the Task Group Members

1. Review and comment on the issue paper, existing conditions and current studies to ensure that all aspects of the issue are on the table.
2. Develop criteria for an optimal solution.
3. Perform field visits as necessary and attend meetings.
4. Provide River Plan Staff with an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the various alternative solutions.
5. Review the draft River Plan North Reach when it is finished.

6. Inform constituencies of the Task Group's work and relay any comments back to the Task Group Staff.

## **Role of the Task Group Staff**

1. The Task Group Staff will run the Task Group meetings.
2. The Task Group Staff will maintain control of the process for the good of the Task Group as a whole.
3. Group discussions will be based on agendas developed by Task Group Staff.
4. Task Group Staff will distribute agendas at least 5-7 days in advance of any task group meeting, and will coordinate with any other parties presenting information at those meetings in order to include meeting materials with the agenda.
5. Task Group Staff will develop the notes from the Task Group meetings and distribute them within two weeks following the meeting.

## **Process Agreements**

### **Protocols**

1. The Task Group Staff will preside over the meetings, except in instances when a third-party facilitator is designated.
2. Alternate members will be named and recognized in the event the original member is unable to attend.
3. Meetings are open to any person who may wish to be heard regarding any item on the agenda. It is up to the discretion of the Task Group Staff when public comments will be received at the meeting.

### **Attendance and Participation**

1. Because of the timeline and the scope of the task, it is important that members make every effort to be present at meetings.
2. As a courtesy, Task Group Staff should be notified in advance if a member is unable to attend.
3. Meetings will start and end on time.
4. Pagers and phones OFF or in QUIET mode.

## **Individual Agreements**

We will:

1. Listen and be open to the diverse points of view represented on the Task Group.
2. Treat each other with civility and respect.
3. Strive to further understanding of the needs and interests of the broad range of communities that are stakeholders in the activities and plans for the river.
4. Provide fair and balanced information to our constituencies about the issues that come before the Task Group and the Committee's discussions.

## **Confidentiality and Contact with the Media**

Members may choose to respond to media inquiries, but agree to honor the group process and not use it to promote individual "agendas" or presume to represent the positions of other members or the group.