

ENDANGERED HABITATS LEAGUE

DEDICATED TO ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE



February 27, 2026

Terra Lawson-Remer, Chair
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Meeting Date: March 3, 2026
Agenda Item No. 14
Distribution Date: March 2, 2026
Batch No. 01

RE: Item 14, March 3, 2026, Capital Improvement Needs Assessment, Fiscal Years 2026-27 though 2030-31

Dear Chair Lawson-Remer and Board Members:

Endangered Habitats League (EHL) endorses the goal of the Capital Improvement Needs Assessment (CINA) in “protecting the health and wellbeing of the region, safeguarding ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity throughout the County.” This is primarily accomplished through land acquisitions undertaken by the Dept. of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to assemble the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) preserves.

Over the decades since MSCP adoption, the County’s general fund has made steady and vital contributions to preserve assembly, as high as \$10 million annually. These funds have leveraged even greater state and federal dollars. In FY2025-6 budget, no new monies were allocated, as decreased federal funds put great stress on the entire County budget.

As your Board plans ahead via the CINA, we want to make sure that the needs assessment is realistic. It currently shows \$2M in FY2026-27 for MSCP land acquisition and then \$7M in the out-years. We much appreciate the turn-around from last year, but given the very high cost of land and the expanded need created by the pending North County MSCP, a greater amount is justified. We respectfully ask you to consider whether an annual amount of \$10 million is feasible. FY2026-27 presents a particular opportunity as state bond act monies are now available and can be leveraged. With land, if opportunities close, they often never re-open.

It is also important to note that the MSCP benefits not only wildlife and recreation but saves substantial time and money for the public and private sectors through permit streamlining for infrastructure and housing. This is an investment that to some extent pays for itself.

We appreciate your support for the MSCP and thank you for your consideration of greater levels for DPR land acquisition in the CINA.

Yours truly,

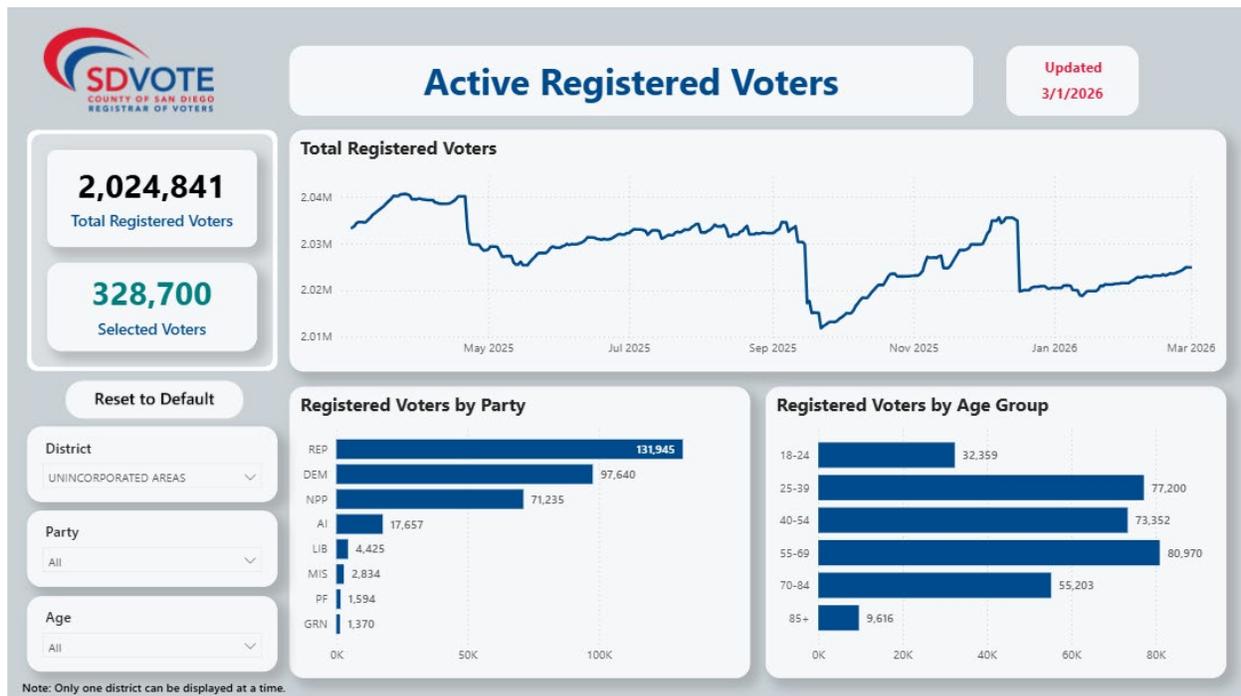
Dan Silver
Executive Director

BOS General Session – 2026.03.03
Public Comment – Item #14
Alisha Morrison

I am in support of this item 99.99% with one question and perhaps stimulate some discussion.

Q: Listed on the Major Maintenance Implementation Plan (MMIP) the Public Safety Group (PSG) Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Firearms Training Center Site – the type of work is “General Maintenance” How or why does the County have ties to this location to require need for Capitol Improvement Needs? Doesn’t this location fall under Federal jurisdiction?

My main point to address is under the **Transparency and Community Engagement** there is a GREAT NEED for an Intergenerational Outreach for in-person events, so no person of any age group is disenfranchised for an opportunity to participate. The next planning cycle for CINA in-person events, I would like to request additional forms of communication so outreach will be more successful in reaching the public, especially for those individuals who do not partake in any form of electronic communications (e.g. email, government websites, social media platforms, etc.) Because of the 2,500 approximate attendees in a population of 500,000 unincorporated residents (328,700 selected voters) that is approximately 65.74% - that is sad.



Utilize: News Media, Newspapers (not in the legal section where you need a microscope to read) **BUT** write an actual article what the outreach is about, educate the public and how community engagement is important for the community to benefit, reach out to Community Planning and Sponsor Groups, Civic Groups to make announcements, put up postings at libraries, community bulletin boards at Parks & Recreation Centers, include leaflets mailed with Property Taxes of the four dates.

“One County” does not necessarily mean “One size fits ALL” Each community is Unique in its own way with different needs, and within those communities some needs rank higher in priority, for example, the Tijuana River at the Saturn Blvd. hotspot. After experiencing it myself, I understand the urgency for a sustainable infrastructure solution, but there also needs to be a solution at the SOURCE of pollution.

One additional request moving forward – at the bottom of the attachments, include a key to provide the name of the “Group” acronym (e.g. LUEG: *Land Use & Environment Group*, PSG: *Public Safety Group*, FG3: ??? what is this group? I had to Google it). Having a key will help the public better understand the acronyms without having to search for it.