



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 27, 2010

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department
Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Report on Day of Caring and Coastal Cleanup

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission hear a report on the Day of Caring and Coastal Cleanup Day.

DISCUSSION:

United Way's 19th Annual Day of Caring

Saturday, September 25th marked the United Way of Santa Barbara County's 19th Annual Day of Caring. Sixty volunteers from the Cottage Health System planted a hillside opposite the parking lot, raked the sand in the playground, mulched the open space and did a lot of weeding at La Mesa Park. At Alice Keck Park Memorial Gardens, forty volunteers from Santa Barbara Community Church raked and weeded all of the decomposed granite walkways. Additionally, all of the surrounding concrete walkways were swept and cleaned. Overall the volunteers were very happy to be helping out. Several people let staff know that this work day was the best planned out event in their fifteen years of volunteering for United Way Day of Caring and they cannot wait until next year to volunteer in a park.

26th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day

Saturday, September 25th also marked the 26th annual international Coastal Cleanup Day. In Santa Barbara County, 1267 volunteers collected 3840 pounds of trash and 1270 pounds of recyclables at 28 beach and creek sites. Day of Caring volunteers helped the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum and Ty Warner Sea Center in cleaning up East Beach, while Santa Barbara Channelkeeper led volunteers at West Beach, the Urban Creeks Council cleaned up around the Mission Creek Lagoon and Stearns Wharf, and the Santa Barbara County Fire Department hosted a cleanups at Leadbetter Beach. This year was the first time volunteers were encouraged to "BYOB" (to bring their own reusable bag or bucket) to reduce the use of plastic bags for cleanup efforts, which kept hundreds of plastic bags from reaching the landfill. Creek and beach cleanups, community restoration projects, and educational programs continued

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throughout Creek Week, with more than 1500 participants at 23 events in Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, and Goleta.

SUBMITTED BY: Cameron Benson, Creeks Manager
Santos Escobar, Parks Manager

APPROVED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director