



County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program
401 B Street
Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Proposal for Annie's Canyon Trail Enhancements and Southern Mule Deer Connectivity Enhancement

Dear Proposal Review Committee,

I am writing this letter to express my full support of the project proposed by Nature Collective to restore 5.5 acres along the route and at Annie's Canyon Trail and to promote southern mule deer connectivity at two bridge undercrossings along Escondido Creek.

Annie's Canyon Trail in San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve with annual totals of around 100,000 hikers. This high use has taken a toll on native vegetation around the trail as hikers go off trail, create illicit trails, trample native vegetation, and track in invasive species. This portion of the project would restore the areas along the trails and promote hikers to stay on the trail. The second portion of the project would be to study and reduce chokepoints for the southern mule deer around the two bridges that cross the lower Escondido Creek. This would help promote connectivity for the mule deer as they move through this habitat corridor.

Restoration activities for this project invasive species control, erosion control, and planting and seeding for the restoration work at Annie's Canyon Trail. Restoration work for the southern mule deer will include monitoring, wildlife cameras, and invasive species treatments to reduce chokepoints and promote connectivity.

Sincerely,

Brian Albright, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

