

# **Meeting Participation Guide and Talking Points**

## **Regional Board Meeting for Toll Road Permit**

### **Weds, June 19, 2013 – 1:00 PM**

**Time:** The toll road item will be heard around 1:00 PM. We encourage you to arrive early if you plan to testify so you can fill out a speaker card. Organized presentations by the TCA and the Save San Onofre Coalition will start after 1:00pm—followed by public comment (this is your chance to speak). After public comment, the Board will deliberate and then vote.

**Place:**

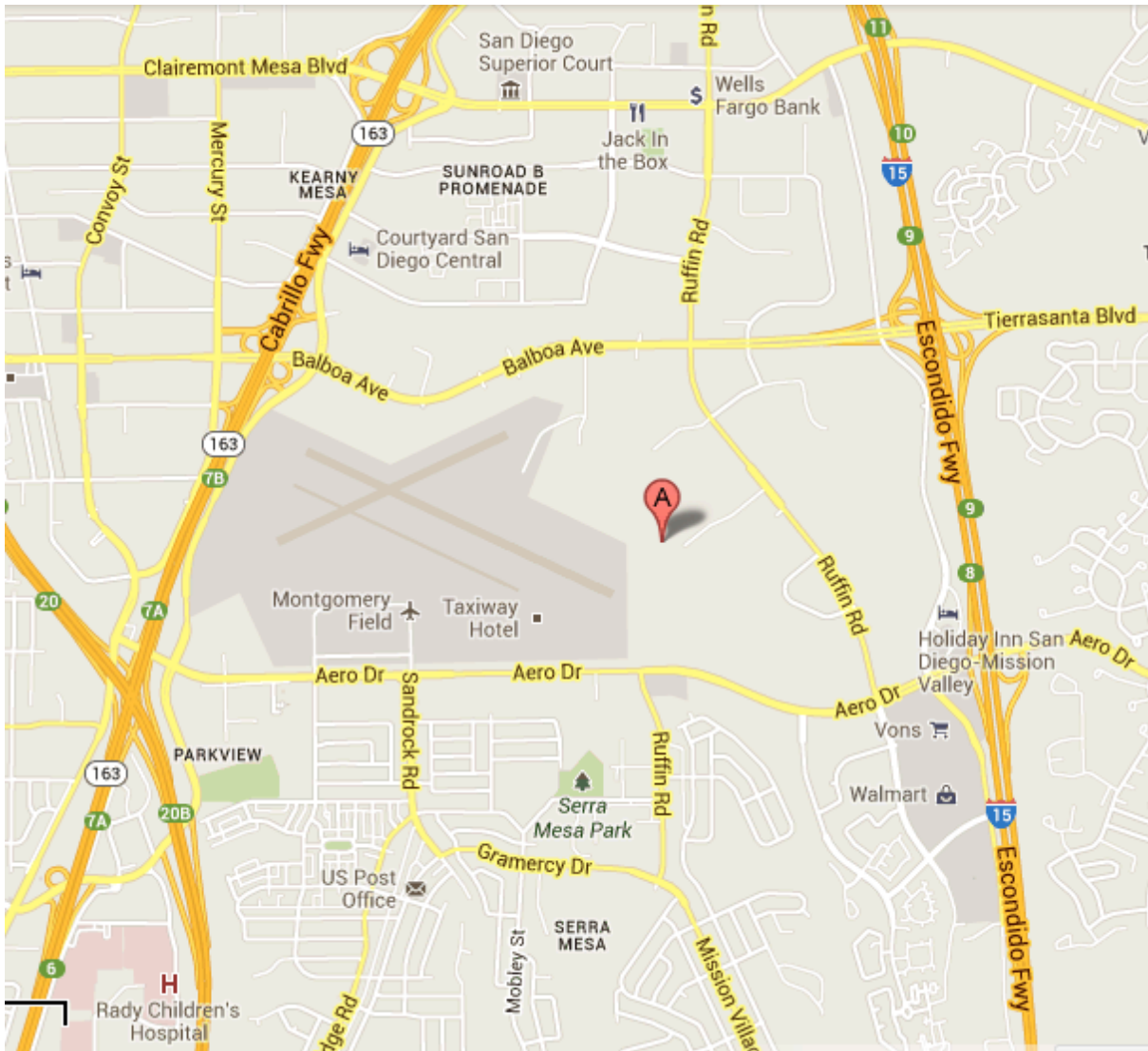
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Board Meeting Room

9174 Sky Park Ct, San Diego, CA 92123

Go here to see info about carpools and parking.

<http://savetrestles.surfrider.org/2013/06/water-board-hearing-logistics-and.html>

**Dress:** Wear an old Save Trestles/Save San O shirt. We will have shirts for sale. Posters and signs will be provided.



**Questions:** For more info, visit [www.SaveTrestles.org](http://www.SaveTrestles.org) ; or email: Stefanie Sekich at [Ssekich@surfrider.org](mailto:Ssekich@surfrider.org) or Mark Rauscher [mrauscher@surfrider.org](mailto:mrauscher@surfrider.org)

## TALKING POINTS FOR REGIONAL BOARD HEARING:

### **Speaking Before the Regional Board:**

- Fill out a comment card, and indicate that you are speaking on Item 9 write “I oppose Tesoro WDR permit” on your card
- When speaking say your name and your hometown.
- Have a polite and positive tone--the Board will be more receptive to your message.
- Use a personal story or connection. Public speeches are always more effective if you speak from your heart.
- Tell the Board *why* you oppose building the road, using very concise words. It’s important to make the connection about how the first segment of the road could lead to construction of the full to San Onofre State Beach. Don’t jump into arguments about Trestles and San Onofre. Make the connection between building the road in segments first.
- **Pick 2-3 points from below (PLEASE use your own words):**

### **General Talking Points:**

- The Transportation Corridor Agency (TCA) is trying to carve up the same road that was rejected in 2008 by the California Coastal Commission and the Bush Administration. *Their segmentation approach is a guise to build the entire road down to San Onofre State Beach.*
- TCA has said in the media, and at their Board meetings, they plan to complete the full road down to Interstate 5. ***BUT they do not have a plan on where it will go or how it will be funded.***
- “Segmenting” is illegal under state and federal law; and without a complete environmental review for the entire 16-mile road, there is no way to analyze the full impact of the project. The California **Attorney General filed a lawsuit against the TCA last month calling the “extension a dead-end “road to nowhere” and claims its real purpose is to pave the way for a 16-mile road linking 241 to Interstate 5 near the San Diego County line”**. The Save San Onofre Coalition also filed a lawsuit to block this illegal road.
- By itself, the extension serves no independent utility, which raises the question of whether this is simply an incremental strategy to revive a proposal that has already been denied on its merits.
- TCA’s application is overlooking impacts to important wetlands, the San Juan Creek, and the surrounding watershed—which could affect the coastal zone and ocean resources.
- Experts believe the watershed is ALREADY under too much “development stress” and more projects (like a toll road) would further harm the watershed, potentially expose water and sewer lines and pose a safety risk to humans.
- In 2008, thousands of people attended hearings to oppose the TCA’s road; please respect the will of the people and do not allow the first section of this road to be constructed.

### **Directly Applying to Board’s Decision-Making:**

- The TCA's application does not currently meet the standards as required by the Southern Orange County Hydromodification Management Plan (HMP) and they do not have to submit documentation of how they will comply until 2013. That's putting the cart before the horse. **Make them prove how they will impact beneficial uses and sediment flow BEFORE you give them a permit.**
- In terms of water quality, it's standard procedure to obtain baseline water quality information **before** the initiation of a project, in order to design appropriate project BMP's, and make before and after project comparison. TCA has yet to develop adequate baseline water quality data for the project area.
- The tentative order has been revised to require TCA to undertake a water monitoring program but allows the initial stage of this monitoring program to happen concurrent with project construction, making it impossible to accurately determine pre-project water quality conditions.
- Without adequate pre-project data, it will be impossible to evaluate proposed BMP's or assess effects of the project. TCA should be required to develop at least 2 years of baseline data before construction begins, in order to minimize the impacts to vulnerable streams and habitat in the project area and downstream

#### **Impacts to Native American Cultural Sites:**

- The proposed project will result in the destruction of five archaeological sites, including some dating to the early Holocene. Archaeological sites dating to this time period are rare in Orange County and have become even more so given the destruction of hundreds of archaeological sites due to modern development, including toll roads.
- The five archaeological sites possess religious, cultural, and historic significance to the Juaneno/Acjachemen tribal community. The Juaneno/Acjachemen have already lost hundreds of their ancestral archaeological sites due to modern development, including the construction of toll roads in Orange County.
- These cumulative losses make the five sites threatened by this project even more significant and their potential destruction even more devastating.
- These sites represent a traditional cultural landscape that embodies Juaneno/acjachemen roots, ancestors, and patrimony and are an important part of the cultural history and heritage of Orange County and the nation.

I urge the Regional Board to DENY waste discharge requirements permit for the Tesoro Extension project.