

# Agenda Item

## Santiago Creek Commission

Item #: 4.1 7/23/2025 File #: 25-0256

TO: Chair and Members of the Santiago Creek Commission

FROM: Tom Kisela, City Manager

#### 1. SUBJECT

Review and discuss the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan - Segment Three vision statement.

#### 2. SUMMARY

On April 23, 2025, the Santiago Creek Commission discussed the property ownership and area map as well as the overall themes for the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan - Segment Three. By establishing themes for a vision statement first, the Santiago Creek Commission created a focus to guide project recommendations that will be included in the final Santiago Creek Strategic Plan. The purpose of this item is to finalize the vision statement that will accompany project recommendations for the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan - Segment Three.

#### 3. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Review, discuss, and establish the vision statement for the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan - Segment Three.

#### 4. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

#### 5. STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Goal 4: Improve Infrastructure, Mobility, and Technology.

### 6. DISCUSSION AND BACKGROUND

The Santiago Creek Commission (SCC) is working towards establishing a Santiago Creek Strategic Plan (Plan) that will 1) coalesce previous planning records into one document; and 2) establish a vision and set of projects delineated by segment for the City Council's consideration.

The purpose of this item is to review, discuss, and establish the vision statement for the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan - Segment Three (Segment Three). In taking the different themes identified at the April 23, 2025, SCC meeting, staff drafted the following vision statement for the SCC's consideration.

#### Proposed Segment Three Vision Statement

Segment Three extends from the 55 Freeway to Hart Park and the 22 Freeway. This segment comprises central and Old Towne Orange as it meanders to the neighboring City of Santa Ana. Segment Three's features include a mix of concrete channel and natural settings with a significant portion of this Segment adjacent to City of Orange (City) owned property. Segment Three projects recognize the value of having Cityowned property near the Creek, particularly as this highly traveled Segment flows near the City's crown jewel - the Old Towne Orange Plaza. In the spirit of Old Towne, projects within this Segment celebrate and merge Orange's history and vision for the Creek's future. Segment Three focuses on fostering a safe recreational environment encompassed with natural vegetation while offering educational opportunities through historical markers so Orange and non-Orange residents alike may learn about what makes Orange unique. Understanding this Segment quickly transitions to the City of Santa Ana, Segment Three projects seek to capitalize on the availability of City-owned parcels and deliver a bold approach that will make Orange immediately stand out and welcome all Creek visitors to the City of Orange.

Should the SCC approve the Segment Three vision statement, this statement will accompany the recommended projects for this final stretch of the Santiago Creek Strategic Plan.

#### 7. ATTACHMENTS

Draft Vision Statement