



## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** December 17, 2008

**TO:** Park and Recreation Commission

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

**SUBJECT:** Recognition of Horny Toad Employees for Volunteer Clean-Up and Restoration of Mission Creek

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission recognize Horny Toad employees for their volunteer clean-up and restoration of Santa Barbara creeks.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Horny Toad is an outdoor clothing company based in Santa Barbara. For the last year, once a month, employees of Horny Toad have organized creek clean-ups. Horny Toad has removed hundreds of pounds of trash from Mission Creek, everything from pieces of styrofoam and cigarette butts to hypodermic needles and plastic balls.

Horny Toad is located next to the bank of Mission Creek and employees see firsthand what flows down the creek next to their office. Kate Larramendy-Wright, the Mission Creek organizer for Horny Toad, took the initiative to 'do the right thing,' mobilizing the "Toads" to act as stewards of Mission Creek. The business encourages employees to take responsibility and actively participate in making the community a better place.

On October 10, 2008, Horny Toad employees participated in the Creeks Division's Creek Week clean-up and native planting on Mission Creek at Oak Park. Horny Toad advertised the event on its website, [www.hornytoad.com](http://www.hornytoad.com), and closed its Santa Barbara office for the day, giving employees paid time off to participate. Horny Toad employees planted 185 plants on the banks of Mission Creek, representing 21 native plant species. The group was motivated, enthusiastic, and hard working.

It is with great gratitude that the Parks and Recreation Department recognizes Horny Toad for their ongoing support in cleaning and restoring local creeks.

**SUBMITTED BY:** George Thomson, Creeks Planner

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