



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: March 30, 2016

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: April 7, 2016

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner, AICP

SUBJECT: Park Planning Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Read report.

BACKGROUND:

This report covers park planning activities since the Commission's February 4, 2016 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Coyote Point Marina Dredging

A Request for Proposals for Engineering and Management Services for dredging of the Coyote Point Marina was released March 23, 2016. A site inspection with interested contractors took place March 30, 2016. Ten-year permits from regulatory agencies will be pursued to address this and future episodes of dredging.

City of San Bruno Discusses Trail Connections to Crystal Springs Trail and Junipero Serra County Parks

The City of San Bruno initiated dialogue with County Park staff regarding potential trail connections through the City to these County Parks as part of the update to their City's Bike and Pedestrian Plan.

City of San Mateo Flood Control Project at Coyote Point Recreation Area

The City of San Mateo is striving trying to get 1100 homes out of the Federal Emergency Management Area (FEMA) identified flood plain by upgrading the existing pump station, replacing the levee with the Bay Trail on top of it, and providing vegetation management. County Park staff is working with City of San Mateo on this project, which is in the planning stage.

Granada Community Services District (GCSD)

At their March 17, 2016 meeting the GCSD Board approved project recommendations from their Park Advisory Committee. As a result, County Parks has agreed over the next year to work on: 1) a Landscape Plan for the District for Median 8 and 2) a Trail Plan for all medians in El Granada that will include amenities such as benches, tables and small active play features. Public engagement is an important component of these projects. The GCSD Board will also focus on: 1) developing a land acquisition policy, and 2) evaluating opportunities to acquire lands for future park use.

Loma Mar Redwoods

The survey of property lines is being completed including marking boundaries in the field.

We are working with the Loma Mar Mutual Water Company on an encroachment permit for replacement of existing water tanks on the property.

Portola Trail Committee

A well-attended meeting took place February 8, 2016 at the San Mateo County Historical Museum. The consensus was to focus initially on San Mateo County trail opportunities and to possibly rename the trail to be more inclusive of additional peoples and periods of time. Maps created by Peninsula Open Space Trust identified the proposed location of the Portola Trail recreational and historic routes as well as the existing and proposed California Coastal Trail alignments. The maps were circulated to the Committee and received no significant comments. The next meeting of the Committee will focus on recognition of the indigenous Indian settlements and known trail network, developing wayfaring signage, and focus on completion of certain sections of the California Coastal Trail that overlap with the Portola Trail.

Pedro Point Headlands

County Parks has taken the role of co-applicant with the Pedro Point Headlands Trust for Coastal Development Permits for both the County Planning Department and City of Pacifica for the trail and restoration work as well as temporary greenhouses and water storage for plant propagation for restoration. The County Parks Department is serving as the lead agency for processing the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The end of the 30-day comment period was March 23, 2016. The County Planning Commission is anticipated to consider issuance of the Coastal Development Permit and certification of the Mitigated Negative Declaration at their May 25, 2016 meeting.

Quarry Park Trail Planning

The Trail Center has walked Quarry Park and the newly acquired addition of Wicklow Park to identify potential loop trails, and vistas. This information will be very useful as the Quarry Park Master Plan is developed this year.

Reimagine Flood County Park

Project review with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission occurred March 11, 2016 regarding the preferred alternative, and feedback was received that will be useful for the design phase of improvements.

Sustainability Plan

Energy and lighting audits were completed for our six highest use County Parks, which are in order: Coyote Point Recreation Area, Memorial, San Pedro Valley, Edgewood, Huddart and Wunderlich County Parks. Additional tasks remaining are to identify alternative replacement light fixtures for areas in the Wunderlich Stable that are not made any more, and develop a new lighting plan for the San Pedro Interpretive Center. Once these tasks have been completed, rebates can be determined for lighting replacement. These audits will be useful for budget requests for FY 2016-17. The Sustainability Circle is completing a three-minute video highlighting the San Mateo County Parks Department's Sustainability Plan. The video will be posted on our respective websites.

US Airforce Trail Planning and Restoration at Pillar Point

As a result of an extensive network of user-created trails entering and accessing their property, the US Air Force is developing a trail plan to identify areas to be restored and where to formalize trail, bluff and beach access. They are also looking at unauthorized trail use on the Thompson property owned by Peninsula Open Space Trust and managed by County Parks. The US Air Force staff have hired Fall Creek Engineering as the consultant for the project.

Nomination of Wunderlich County Park for an American Planning Association (APA) Great Place Award

Wunderlich County Park has been nominated to receive an award under the APA's category of "Great Places to Preserve."