



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: September 22, 2014

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: October 2, 2014

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: Report on Park Planning Activities

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND:

This report covers park planning activities since the Commission's August 7, 2014 regular meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Crystal Springs Trail South of Dam

Interstate Grading and Paving has been selected as a contractor. A uniform treatment for trail construction is proposed instead of a patchwork of repairs, which will lower the cost for implementation. Prior to construction soil borings were being done to test for naturally occurring asbestos in serpentine soils, but no asbestos levels of significance were found. Pot holing was done to determine the exact location of a culvert under the trail. A biological monitoring has done preconstruction monitoring of Red legged frog, San Francisco garter snake and Dusky footed wood rat habitat. Staff and contractors have been trained prior to all construction activities, and will be monitored during construction. An evaluation of proposed fence locations to avoid impacts to Dusky footed wood rat nests has been done by biologists in consultation with SFPUC staff and contractors. Construction began September 22, 2014.

Crystal Springs Trail South of Highway 92

Soil borings are being done to determine the possibility of naturally occurring asbestos. The test results show asbestos levels in some samples at 2 to 3 percent Chrysotile Asbestos which is above the 1 percent level (non-detect to trace level) that is considered non-hazardous. It is recommended that an industrial hygienist be retained to prepare a management plan to protect the health and safety of the construction crew, during work

at the site. The project is still undergoing Federal NEPA compliance review (involving historic, cultural and environmental resources), and following completion revised plans and specifications will be prepared for Public Works review. The project is likely to be constructed in the summer of 2015.

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Cypress Grove Arborist Hazard Assessment and Strategy and the San Vicente Creek Enhancement Plan

Permit approvals and CEQA evaluation have been completed for Phase 1 of the San Vicente Creek enhancement phase restoration. The County Planning Commission will consider a Coastal Development Permit for Phase 1 tree removal and trimming at their October 8, 2014 meeting. The Natural Resource Manager has circulated Request for Proposals to perform the necessary work for both projects. Work is anticipated for October/November 2014.

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot

The Coastal Development Permit for the proposed parking lot was approved at the Planning Commission meeting of May 28, 2014. The final plans and specifications have been completed and Public Works is being contracted for the work with an on-call contractor. The project will be constructed in October/November 2014.

14-Acre Property South of Pigeon Point Lighthouse

The guardrail and fencing project is under construction by Park staff. The restoration will occur this winter, and monitoring of success in spring 2015. The CalTrans Encroachment Permit has been extended to no later than February 2015 to complete the project.

Midcoast Park Planning

Granada Sanitary District will be using County Park staff as contractors to assist with their Midcoast Park planning effort now that they are a Community Services District. The first meeting to discuss their efforts is October 16, 2014.

Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan

I have been asked to serve on the San Mateo County Planning and Building Department's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan. The Plan is being developed as a condition of approval for the County Local Coastal Program (Policy 2.53). The Plan will analyze current and future traffic conditions, residential, and non-residential build out (development potential) in the unincorporated Midcoast area of San Mateo County, as well as the City of Half Moon Bay. The TAC will review and advise project consultants' work, including technical analysis, evaluation of alternatives, and policies and programs to address opportunities and constraints for future Midcoast transportation (including recreational transport) and development. The Plan is anticipated to be completed within a year.

PG&E Maintenance Projects

Encroachment Permits were issued to PG&E for proposed projects to tighten existing

power lines at Coyote Point Recreation Area which involved an additional pole, and placement of a tower on a power line on San Bruno Mountain State and County Park to increase the height of naturally sagging lines. Another Encroachment Permit is being issued to replace a section of underground gas line on San Bruno Mountain that had dents in it, and was an urgent priority to repair.

San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan (SBM HCP)

The audit of the Trust Fund from FY2009-13 is being completed. The Draft Assessment of 30 Years of Habitat Management on San Bruno Mountain is expected in mid-October and will be shared with the Technical Advisory Committee. There is dialogue with developers and City's approving dedications of lands to County Parks per the Habitat Conservation Plan: 1) McKesson lands (Brisbane), 2) Callippe Hill (Brisbane), and 3) Rio Verde Estates (Daly City). The Board of Supervisors will consider plans to designate San Bruno Mountain to the Association of Bay Area Governments as a Priority Conservation Area for future grant funding for habitat and trail access improvements prior to your next Commission meeting.

Scientific Collection Permits

The results of eight years of research conducted based on past issued Scientific Collection Permits have been collected and that information is being digitally stored..