

East Bay
Regional Park District



Photo: EBRPD



Photo: Richard Langs



Photo: Museum of the San Ramon Valley, #17-2008032009



Photo: SLPDC #468



Photo: EBRPD



Photo: EBRPD



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Meeting Agenda

January 14, 2014





Clerk of the Board

ALLEN PULIDO
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**East Bay Regional
Park District
Board of Directors**

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President - Ward 5
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Secretary - Ward 4
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Ward 6
CAROL SEVERIN
Ward 3
JOHN SUTTER
Ward 2
ROBERT E. DOYLE
General Manager



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MEMO to the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

**The Regular Session of the JANUARY 14, 2014
BOARD MEETING is scheduled to commence at
2:00 p.m. at the EBRPD Administration Building,
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA.**

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT E. DOYLE
General Manager

AGENDA

**REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2014
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT**

12:30 p.m. ROLL CALL (Board Conference Room)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiator:

Agency Negotiator: Robert E. Doyle, Dave Collins,
Susan Gonzales, Jim O'Connor
Employee Organizations: AFSCME Local 2428
Unrepresented Employees: Managers and Confidentials

B. Conference with Legal Counsel:

1. Liability Claim – Claim of Joan Roe
2. Existing Litigation – Subdivision (a) of Gov't Code Sec. 54956.9:
 - a) Hampton Place HOA v. EBRPD, et al., Alameda County Superior Court Case No. HG-11594653.

C. Conference with Real Property Negotiator Regarding Price and/or

Terms of Payment:
Agency Negotiator: Bob Nisbet, Liz Musbach

<u>APN/ADDRESS</u>	<u>PROPERTY OWNERS</u>	<u>PARK/TRAIL</u>
<u>Alameda County</u>		
085-0101-036 and 085-0101-037 Redwood Road, Oakland	Redwood Ranch, LLC (formerly Anna M. Albanese, Maydo Lorimer and Frank Albanese)	Redwood Regional Park
<u>Contra Costa County</u>		
075-051-004, 075-051-005 and 075-051-007 4546 Somersville Road Unincorporated CCC	Antioch Unified School District (Moller Ranch)	Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
403-381-007-0 2143 Cypress Ave, San Pablo	Rufino and Diana C. Torres	San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline



The Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District will hold a regular meeting at the District's Administration Building, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA, commencing at 12:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 2:00 p.m. for Open Session, on Tuesday, January 14, 2014.

Agenda for the meeting is listed adjacent. Times for agenda items are approximate only and are subject to change during the meeting. If you wish to speak on matters not on the agenda, you may do so under Public Comments at either the beginning or end of the agenda. If you wish to testify on an item on the agenda, please complete a speaker's form and submit it to the Clerk of the Board. A copy of the background materials concerning these agenda items, including any material that may have been submitted less than 72 hours before the meeting, is available for inspection on the District's website (www.ebparks.org), the Administrative Building reception desk, and at the meeting.

Agendas for Board Committee Meetings are available to the public upon request. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive future agendas for a specific Board Committee, please call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (510) 544-2020.

District facilities and meetings comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If special accommodations are needed for you to participate, please contact the Clerk of the Board as soon as possible, but preferably at least three working days prior to the meeting.

2:00 p.m. OPEN SESSION (Board Room)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNUAL ROTATION OF OFFICERS

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2:15 p.m. C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Approval of District Check Listing for the Period of November 18, 2013 through December 8, 2013
(Rubaloff/Doyle) (Resolution) (No Cost)
- b. Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting of December 3, 2013
(Pulido) (No Cost)
- c. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Director Doug Siden to Attend the 2014 American Camp Association National Conference in Orlando, Florida from February 5 - 8, 2014
(Pulido) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- d. Authorization of a Sole Source Contract with EDesignC, Inc. to Provide Engineering Services for the Equipment Maintenance Shop Replacement: South County Corporation Yard
(Althoff) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- e. Authorization to Extend Existing Sole-Source Contract with United States Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: Wildlife Services to Conduct Predator Damage Management to Protect Federal and State-listed Species
(Graul/Althoff) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- f. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Augment the Construction Contingency for Tree Removal along Vargas Road as Required for Phase I Opening: Vargas Plateau Regional Park
(Althoff/Radosevich) (Resolution) (Budget Change/Measure WW)
- g. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Accept the Bid for Restroom, Parking and Access Upgrades Near the Fishing Pier: Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline
(Rasmussen/Althoff) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- h. Authorization to Enter into a Special Use Agreement with Alameda Hospital for Day Use Parking: Crown Memorial State Beach
(Waluch/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Revenue)
- i. Authorization to Enter into a Concession Agreement with James and Casper Hett, dba *Eat, Drink, & Be Merry!*: Temescal Regional Recreation Area
(Waluch/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Revenue)
- j. Authorization to Renew a Special Use Agreement with Hobie Woods, dba *Roughing It Day Camp*: Briones Regional Park
(Waluch/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Revenue)

- k. Authorization to Renew the Contract for Youth Employment Services with Civicorps Schools
(Patterson/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- l. Authorization to Encumber Funds in the Quagga Mussel Program Project for Boat Inspections: Contra Loma Regional Recreation Area and Lake Chabot Regional Park
(Patterson/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- m. Authorization to Accept Bid, Amend the 2014 Budget, and Purchase One Trail Dozer
(McCrystle/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Budget Change)
- n. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Apply for Federal Grant Funds for Replacement of Campground Restrooms: Del Valle State Recreation Area
(Rasmussen/Collins) (Resolution) (Budget Change)
- o. Authorization to File an Application for Grant Funds under the Habitat Conservation Fund, California Wildlife Protection Act, 1990: Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
(Rasmussen/Collins/Nisbet) (Resolution) (No Cost)
- p. Authorization to Grant a 5,885-square foot Drainage Inlet and Storm Drain Easement to Todd and Kay Mink: Briones Regional Park
(Musbach/Nisbet) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- q. Authorization to Renew the Contract with The Houston Group for Legislative Advocacy Services
(Pfuehler/Doyle) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- r. Authorization to Purchase Sungard Public Sector Yearly Hosted Application Services Agreement
(Tallerico/Collins) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)
- s. Authorization to Purchase Four Chevrolet Vehicles
(McCrystle/O'Connor) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)

2:30 p.m.

2. PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- a. Approval of Park Advisory Committee Goals for 2014
(Pfuehler) (Resolution) (No Cost)

2:45 p.m.

3. LAND DIVISION

- a. Authorization to Convey Fee Title to 300 square feet of Real Property to Rufino and Diana C. Torres at 2143 Cypress Avenue, San Pablo, CA: San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline *
(Musbach/Nisbet/Radosevich) (Resolution) (Budgeted Funds)

*** Approval of this item requires a unanimous vote of all seven Board Members as stipulated by Public Resources Code Section 5540.5.**

- b. Authorization to Exchange Real Property with and Accept Additional Consideration from Redwood Ranch, LLC and Transfer Funds: Redwood Regional Park *
(Musbach/Nisbet) (Resolution) (Budget Change)

*** Approval of this item requires a unanimous vote of all seven Board Members as stipulated by Public Resources Code Section 5540.5.**

- c. Authorization to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement and Transfer Funds for Acquisition of the 191.45± Acre Moller Ranch Property from the Antioch Unified School District: Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
(Musbach/Nisbet) (Resolution) (Budget Change/Measure WW)

3:30 p.m.

4. BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS

- a. Actions Taken by Other Jurisdictions Affecting the Park District
(Doyle)

3:35 p.m.

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

4:00 p.m.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

4:05 p.m.

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Executive Committee (12-6-2013) (Sutter)
- b. Natural/Cultural Resources Committee (8-28-2013) (Lane)
- c. Operations Committee (11-21-2013) (Wieskamp)

4:10 p.m.

8. BOARD COMMENTS

4:30 p.m.

E. ADJOURNMENT

* Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 *

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Approval of District Check Listing for the Period of November 18, 2013
Through December 8, 2013 (Rubaloff/Doyle)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Check Listing for the period of November 18, 2013 through December 8, 2013.

Per Resolution No. 1992-1-40, adopted by the Board on January 21, 1992, a copy of the Check Listing has been provided to the Board Treasurer for review. A copy of the Check Listing has also been provided to the Clerk of the Board, and will become a part of the Official District Records.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 –

January 14, 2014

APPROVAL OF DISTRICT CHECK LISTING FOR THE PERIOD OF
NOVEMBER 18, 2013 THROUGH DECEMBER 8, 2013

WHEREAS, District Resolution No. 1992 – I - 40, adopted by the Board of Directors on January 21, 1992, requires that a listing of District checks be provided to the Board Treasurer for review;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby approves the check listing for the period of November 18, 2013 through December 8, 2013;

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014 by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- b. Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting of December 3, 2013
(Pulido)

The Board Meeting, which was held on December 3, 2013 at the EBRPD Administrative Building, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland CA 94605 was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Board President John Sutter.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: John Sutter, President
Ayn Wieskamp, Vice President
Whitney Dotson, Treasurer
Beverly Lane
Carol Severin
Doug Siden

Directors Absent: None.

At this time, the Board of Directors met in **Closed Session** to discuss those items outlined on the agenda.

The **Open Session** of the Board Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by President John Sutter.

Staff Present: GM Robert Doyle, Ted Radosevich, Jim O'Connor, Bob Nisbet, Dave Collins, Carol Johnson, Police Chief Tim Anderson, Susan Gonzales, Cinde Rubaloff, Mike Anderson, Diane Althoff, Carol Victor, Liz Musbach, Anne Scheer, Mimi Waluch, Jim Townsend, Pam Burnor, Kelly Barrington, Sean Dougan, Deborah Spaulding, Nadine Vargas, Mona Koh, Matt Graul.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Director Siden and seconded by Director Wieskamp, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.

Directors Present: Whitney Dotson, Beverly Lane, Carol Severin, Doug Siden, Ayn Wieskamp, John Sutter.
Directors Absent: Ted Radke.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments at this time.

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

By motion of Director Wieskamp and seconded by Director Severin, the Board voted unanimously to approve item C-1-b: Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting of November 5, 2013, with minor corrections.

Directors For: Whitney Dotson, Carol Severin, Doug Siden, Ayn Wieskamp, John Sutter.
Directors Against: None.
Directors Abstain: Beverly Lane.
Directors Absent: Ted Radke.

Item C-I-b was voted on separately to allow Director Lane to abstain as she was absent from that meeting.

By motion of Director Lane and seconded by Director Wieskamp, the Board voted unanimously to approve the rest of the Consent Calendar:

Directors For: Whitney Dotson, Beverly Lane, Carol Severin, Doug Siden, Ayn Wieskamp, John Sutter,
Directors Against: None.
Directors Absent: Ted Radke.

C-I-a. Approval of District Check Listing for the Period of October 21, 2013 through November 3, 2013
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 267 (attached)

C-I-c. Authorization to Execute an Agreement with a Subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, LP, SFPP, LP, and Encumber Funds for Inspection Services Related to the Iron Horse Trail – Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station to Santa Rita Road Project:
Iron Horse Regional Trail
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 268 (attached)

C-I-d. Authorization to Amend the 2013 Budget and Transfer Maintenance Funds to a Capital Project Account for the Anthony Chabot Skyline Ranch Equestrian Center Roof Replacement
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 269 (attached)

In response to a question from Director Lane as to the need for a budget transfer, AGM for Operations Jim O'Connor stated that the project originally called for only the replacement of roofing materials. However, further inspection showed extensive dry rot which required the replacement of the structural framing, therefore significantly increasing the original cost estimate.

C-I-e. Authorization to Enter into a Cooperative Funding Agreement with the City of Fremont for Improvements to Vargas and Morrison Canyon Roads as Required for Phase I Opening and to Appropriate Funds: Vargas Plateau Regional Park
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 270 (attached)

Director Wieskamp expressed her appreciation that this project is moving forward, benefitting the residents of the area.

C-I-f. Approval of Sole Source Purchase of Starflex Main-Rotor Hub and Tail Rotor Assembly from American Eurocopter, LLC.
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 271 (attached)

C-I-g. Authorization for the Sole Source Purchase of a CXT Precast Concrete Restroom Building: Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 272 (attached)

C-I-h. Authorization to Transfer and Appropriate Funds, Accept a Proposal and Encumber Funds For Consulting Services to Perform Structural Condition Inspection and Assessment of a Pier and Boardwalk
Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 273 (attached)

- C-1-i. Approval of 2013 Revision to the East Bay Regional Park District Internal Audit Charter Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 274 (attached)

Director Sutter expressed his appreciation to the members of the Finance Committee for spending time on this item as well as the other Finance Division-related Consent Calendar items.

- C-1-j. Approval of a 2013 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment Increasing the Transfer Amount between the General Fund and the 2002 Limited Obligation Debt Service Fund Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 275 (attached)

- C-1-k. Acceptance of the East Bay Regional Park District 3rd Quarter Budget to Actual with Comparison to Prior Year Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 276 (attached)

Director Sutter recommended that funds be sourced so that oral histories may be conducted for retiring Assistant General Managers. AGM Dave Collins stated that this request will be considered as an adjustment before the 2014 Budget is finalized.

- C-1-l. Acceptance of the East Bay Regional Park District Third Quarter 2013 Unaudited Financial Statements Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 277 (attached)

- C-1-m. Acceptance of the June 30, 2013 GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation for East Bay Regional Park District Retiree Healthcare Plan (OPEB) Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 278 (attached)

- C-1-n. Authorization to Purchase Replacement Computers Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 279 (attached)

- C-1-o. Authorization to Purchase Server-Based Desktop Computing Hardware and Software from Lilien Systems, LLC Resolution No. 2013 – 12 – 280 (attached)

2. **LAND DIVISION**

- C-2-a. Authorization to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement and Transfer Funds for the Acquisition, in Partnership with the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy, of 960 Acres of Real Property from the 1994 Anna Mae Diffin Smith Revocable Trust: Deer Valley Regional Park Resolution No. 2013 – 12 - 281 (attached)

By motion of Director Lane and seconded by Director Wieskamp (for Director Radke), the Board voted unanimously to approve Item C-2-a:

Directors For: Whitney Dotson, Beverly Lane, Carol Severin, Doug Siden, Ayn Wieskamp, John Sutter.
Directors Against: None.
Directors Absent: Ted Radke.

Liz Musbach, Land Acquisition Manager, gave a presentation on this item, stating that the 960-acre property, composed of six parcels at 160 acres each, may be acquired at its fair market appraisal of \$5,376,000 in partnership with the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy. She added that funding is to be requested from the CA Wildlife Conservation Board. An initial deposit of \$100,000 is proposed to be funded from the Measure WW – Deer Valley Allocation Area will be put in escrow, with the owner agreeing to an extended escrow period of 6 to 8 months.

Ms. Musbach showed various photos highlighting the property, adding that it is important as it:

- contributes to the body of the future Deer Valley Regional Park;
- contains habitat known to support rare and endangered species;
- Classified as high priority acquisition area by the ECCCHCP; and
- Provides the opportunity for regional trail connections.

Ms. Musbach added that the family referred to the property as the Dainty Ranch after James Dainty who was granted the land back in 1872 under the Congressional Land Grant Act of 1862.

Director Lane requested that where applicable, staff should include the spouse's name in future historical write-ups for acquisitions.

Board members expressed their appreciation of the vision and work that Director Radke has done in the local area and with the Conservancy that ultimately contributed to the numerous District land acquisitions.

Director Wieskamp asked staff to develop a process for the installation of historical markers about the owners of properties purchased.

Director Siden asked staff to find out if the seller would like to donate the various non-operational equipment onsite to the District as these may be appropriately displayed at various park locations.

3. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

C-3-a. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

East Bay Regional Park District 2014 Proposed Operating and Project Budget

General Manager Robert Doyle provided a brief introduction of this item, stating that it represents a balanced budget. He added that property values have had a modest increase, which is expected to continue with the economy slowly recovering. The cautious approach to budgeting taken by the District in the last five years has paid off dramatically as layoffs did not occur, all parks were kept open and it also allowed a reserve of \$9 million to cushion the effects of the recession if necessary. The proposed budget will ensure continued operation of all parks and facilities with some modest increases in staff capacity for new facilities: Carquinez, Claremont Canyon, Feeder Trail #1, Garin/Walpert Ridge, Iron Horse Trail, Pleasanton Ridge and Point Pinole, plus fractions of personnel in other locations.

Dave Collins, AGM for Finance and Management Services, reminded the Board that this is the first Public Hearing on the 2014 Budget and is still in draft form; edits will be made based on discussions with the Board today. A second Public Hearing will be held to seek its adoption. It will be at that point that revisions and updates will be enumerated. He added that both the Finance and Park Advisory Committees have provided its recommendation to adopt the 2014 Budget. Mr. Collins stated that this balanced budget incorporates all the wage and benefit expenses, as well as provisions for OPEB (post-employment benefits) costs. Mr. Collins also

pointed out that the proposed budget includes proposals for one-time uses for the \$9 million in smoothing funds that were, fortunately, not utilized to augment any budget shortfalls in previous years. He provided clarification to several questions from the Board.

Cinde Rubaloff, CFO/Controller, stated that the District received the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its last budget and expects to receive another one for the 2014 Budget. She continued with an explanation of the various charts in the proposed budget.

Some of the highlights of the proposed 2014 Budget include:

- Balanced budget;
- \$228,396,794 in appropriations for all uses;
- \$193,128,620 in budgeted revenues from all sources;
- Difference of \$35,268,174 between budgeted revenues and appropriations will be supplied from fund balance;
- Addition of 10.86 FTEs compared to 2013, with 2014 FTEs (ongoing and one-time) totaling 739.10.

Director Sutter opened the Public Hearing at this time; there being no one offering any comments, the Public Hearing was subsequently closed, stating that discussions on the proposed 2014 Budget will continue during the Second Public Hearing at the next Board meeting.

4. BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS

General Manager Robert Doyle reported on the items listed on the staff report.

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Aquatic Supervisor Pete Dequincy provided a presentation on the Lifeguard Services' 2013 statistics. He stated that the District has provided 75 years of lifeguard service to the residents, beginning in 1938. Some of the highlights of 2013 enumerated include having a total of 523,122 visitors to beaches, lagoons, and pools; staff having performed 85,844 preventions; conducted 540 Group Safety lectures, 510 first aid/ medicals, 90 rescues and 23 special events. Mr. Dequincy added that one of the main accomplishments of the Aquatic staff is that there have been NO drowning deaths for the last 4 years.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CLOSED SESSION

There were no announcements from the Closed Session.

7. BOARD COMMITTEES

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|--------------|------------|
| a. | Finance Committee | (10/22/2013) | (Dotson) |
| b. | Operations Committee | (10/17/2013) | (Wieskamp) |

Director Sutter stated that he was happy to see that work on the Camping Program is moving forward, but wondered if there would be enough opportunity for public input. He asked if other Board members felt that the camping task force may need to be formed again to allow for input from interested members of the public. Director Wieskamp and AGM of Operations Jim O'Connor stated that it was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting that an online survey will be available to allow for public input, and that former members of

the task force would be invited to participate at public meetings that will be scheduled in the future. GM Doyle added that the process it will be conducted more in-line with the land use plan public meetings and believes the result will be better. Director Sutter mentioned that what works for the residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties should be considered.

Director Sutter also stated that since the concession renewal on the gun club is coming up in 2014, he believes now is the time to have a discussion as to the pros and cons, and the appropriateness of having a gun club at a District facility as in Anthony Chabot. He said that a number of PAC members raised the question as well, and its existence has been a nuisance to campers and neighbors.

GM Doyle stated that staff will determine a forum to conduct a policy discussion on this issue, possibly at a Board workshop, adding that it will be better to get that direction first from the Board before staff continues with an RFP process.

8. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Wieskamp reported on meetings attended. Director Wieskamp

- Asked about the release date for the 2014 calendar; AGM for Public Affairs Carol Johnson stated that it will be ready by the end of December;
- Will be attending the Elected Women's meeting coming up;
- Was asked and donated 2 District books to the Friends of Livermore's special benefit auction;
- Asked that a Pleasanton liaison committee meeting be scheduled for early in 2014 to discuss opening up a trail at Castle Ridge;
- Asked about the status of the District's reorganizational study; GM Doyle stated he will be meeting with the consultant next week;
- Stated she received calls and emails from her constituents offering support on her position on Tesla.

Director Dotson did not provide any reports.

Director Siden reported on meetings attended. Director Siden

- Attended the legislative staff picnic at Crown Beach, wherein there was a good turnout, noticing that there were more State Parks and legislative staffers in attendance;
- Attended the Rotary Club meeting wherein Diane Althoff, Chief of Design, gave a presentation on the sand project at Crown Beach;
- Will attend the Coliseum Business Alert meeting the morning of December 4 morning wherein District Public Safety staff will be making a presentation on issues at MLK, Jr. Park;
- Will attend the Public Safety Holiday luncheon on December 4;
- Suggested that a congratulatory note be sent to the Oakland Strokes for winning the regatta as indicated in the article in the Newsclips section of the packet.

Director Severin did not have her calendar and did not provide any comments.

Director Lane reported on meetings attended. Director Lane

- Attended her regularly scheduled Board and committee meetings;
- Attended the luncheon with Congressman Swallwell sponsored by the East Bay Leadership Council;
- Attended a conference on the Future of Concrete Channels at UC Berkeley;
- Attended an excursion to the northern part of Walnut Creek, which was a tour with Congressman Thompson, wherein there was a discussion on the role of the Army Corp of Engineers versus the Flood Control on that part of the Walnut Creek Channel in accommodating flood waters;
- Attended the PAC Holiday dinner.

Director Sutter reported on meetings attended. Director Sutter

- Attended his regularly scheduled meetings;
- Attended a meeting of the SF Bay Restoration Authority wherein there was an ongoing discussion on projects to include in their proposed ballot measure;
- Gave a presentation to Piedmont Gardens on what the District is about;
- Attended the Legislative staff picnic at Crown Beach;
- Attended the PAC Holiday dinner in Oakland;
- Had a meeting today regarding Gateway Park at the Oakland City Administrator's office with AGM Mike Anderson and Design Chief Diane Althoff;
- Attended a meeting of the Measure DD Committee of Oakland.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments at this time.

E. ADJOURNMENT

President Sutter adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Allen Pulido
Clerk of the Board

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- c. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Director Doug Siden to Attend the 2014 American Camp Association National Conference in Orlando, Florida from February 5 - 8, 2014 (Pulido)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve out-of-state travel for Director Doug Siden to attend the 2014 American Camp Association National Conference in Orlando, Florida from February 5 – 8, 2014.

REVENUE/COST

Funding for this travel is available in the adopted 2014 Budget.

BACKGROUND

The American Camp Association (ACA) is a community of camp professionals who, for nearly 100 years, have joined together to share knowledge and experience and to ensure the quality of camp programs. As a leading authority in child development, ACA works to preserve, promote and improve the camp experience.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR DIRECTOR DOUG SIDEN TO
ATTEND THE 2014 AMERICAN CAMP ASSOCIATION NATIONAL
CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA FROM FEBRUARY 5 – 8, 2014

WHEREAS, the 2014 American Camp Association (ACA) National Conference is being held in Orlando, Florida from February 5 – 8, 2014; and

WHEREAS, this organization has been around for nearly 100 years and meets annually to share knowledge and experience; and

WHEREAS, representation at this conference is an important opportunity for the District to keep updated on quality camping programs and industry best practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby approve out-of-state travel for Director Doug Siden to attend the ACA 2014 National Conference in Orlando, Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- d. Authorization of a Sole Source Contract with EDesignC, Inc. to Provide Engineering Services for the Equipment Maintenance Shop Replacement: South County Corporation Yard (Althoff)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize a sole source contract with EDesignC, Inc. of San Francisco, CA in the amount of \$33,500 to provide electrical, mechanical and plumbing engineering services for the Equipment Shop replacement at the South County Corp Yard.

REVENUE/COST

EXISTING SOURCE OF FUNDS

Current Approved Project Budget	
Build Equipment Shop Replacement: South County Corp Yard	
Project No. 120300	\$ 3,107,000
Less Expenditures and Encumbrances to Date	<u>116,736</u>
BALANCE AVAILABLE	\$ 2,990,264

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Consultant Fee	\$ <u>33,500</u>
BALANCE REMAINING	\$ 2,956,764

BACKGROUND

In January 2013, the District was in the process of executing an agreement with EDesignC, Inc. in the amount of \$24,600 for design engineering services for the proposed equipment shop building. The project was postponed due to discovery of insufficient water supply for fire suppression in the new proposed building.

Given their expertise and knowledge of the site, the District contracted with EDesignC, Inc. to assess the fire protection needs of the proposed building and to provide options for the

District to meet such needs in compliance with Alameda County Fire Code requirements. The contract was later amended to include the adjacent Public Safety Headquarters in its assessment in the event the building is re-purposed and/or expanded in the future.

In December 2013, EDesignC, Inc. revisited its original proposal to the District and amended the scope of work and fee to allow for changes related to both the assessment of the fire suppression requirements and building revisions initiated by District staff. The amended scope of work includes all electrical, mechanical and plumbing engineering services within five feet of the 6,470- square-foot-building's exterior to meet all code requirements; provides for the lighting layout, selection of fixtures, HVAC exhaust air, and general vehicle maintenance services (compressed air, overhead lift, etc.) Commensurate with the amended scope of work, EDesignC, Inc. amended the original fee of \$24,600 to include an additional fee of \$8,900, which brings the total fee to \$33,500.

Due to the extent of knowledge, experience and history the consultant possesses specific to this project, it is recommended that EDesignC Inc. be used to perform the scope of work described above.

District Counsel has reviewed the justification and has approved this as a sole source contract.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION OF A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH EDESIGNC, INC. TO
PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SHOP:
SOUTH COUNTY CORPORATION YARD

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District desires to address the growing backlog of staff-related facilities that need to be built or renovated to support the operation and maintenance of parks, trails and amenities related to public access; and

WHEREAS, the equipment maintenance shop at the South County Corporation Yard was identified as a high priority for replacement and includes upgrade of water supply adequate for fire suppression of the new building and future uses; and

WHEREAS, EDesignC, Inc. of San Francisco, CA, a consultant with extensive history of this site, submitted a scope and fee of \$33,500 to provide design engineering services; and

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds available in Project No. 120300 (Build Equipment Shop Replacement: South County Corp Yard) for this work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes a sole source contract with EDesignC, Inc., San Francisco, CA in the amount of \$33,500 to provide engineering services including all electrical, mechanical and plumbing services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- e. Authorization to Extend Existing Sole-Source Contract with United States Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: Wildlife Services to Conduct Predator Damage Management to Protect Federal and State-listed Species (Graul/Althoff)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize a one-year extension, with an option to extend for four additional, consecutive one-year terms, of the sole-source contract between the East Bay Regional Park District and United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS): Wildlife Services to conduct predator damage management of overabundant predators, including California gull and feral red fox.

REVENUE/COST

The contract cost will not exceed \$46,000 for the first three one-year terms. If extended into years four and five, the contract amount will not exceed 4% per year from the base-year cost. Funding for 2014 is included in the 2014 Adopted Budget.

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

101-7475-000-6191 (Wildlife Professional Services)	\$ 46,000
--	-----------

BACKGROUND

Overabundant predators, including California gull and feral red fox, have serious, documented impacts on federal and state-listed threatened and endangered species such as California least tern, California clapper rail, Western snowy plover and salt marsh harvest mouse on District lands. For example, during one nesting season, the entire reproductive output of the California least tern colony at Hayward Regional Shoreline was destroyed by California gulls in less than 24 hours. Protection of threatened and endangered species is a District priority and a condition of federal and state regulatory permit requirements. Since 2005, the District has had a Cooperative Service Agreement with USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services to conduct predator

damage management to protect listed species. As a Federal Agency, they can use both non-lethal and lethal methods to control overabundant predators and feral animals, methods which are not available to District Staff. For example, USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services can employ extensive hazing methods to dissuade California gulls from approaching the least tern colony at Hayward Regional Shoreline. USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services will conduct on-going overabundant predator damage management and control at other shoreline and non-shoreline parks as needed. They will assist District staff in protecting wildlife resources into the future until local and regional overabundant predator and feral animal management control measures succeed on larger scale. The District and USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Service has negotiated the contract rate of \$46,000 per year for 2014. This same rate will apply for If extended, and two subsequent years, with extensions in years 4 and 5 not to exceed a 4% increase per year over the base year cost. District Counsel has reviewed and approved this sole-source contract.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board could elect to not authorize this contract extension. This is not recommended because on-going overabundant predator and feral animal control is necessary to meet the District's legal responsibilities to protect rare, threatened and endangered species.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND EXISTING SOLE-SOURCE CONTRACT WITH UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE: WILDLIFE SERVICES TO CONDUCT PREDATOR DAMAGE MANAGEMENT TO PROTECT FEDERAL AND STATE-LISTED SPECIES

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District is responsible for resource management and public enjoyment of its parklands; and

WHEREAS, this responsibility includes protection of rare, threatened and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, overabundant predators and feral animal predation, including red fox, is a serious problem that threatens District resources; and

WHEREAS, USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services has been identified as the contractor with the established expertise, safety record and training to undertake the specialized work and is currently under contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the extension of the existing sole-source contract with USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services to conduct predator damage management for overabundant predator and feral animal control for a period of one year, with an option to renew for four additional one-year terms, at a cost not to exceed \$46,000 per year for the first three terms and an annual increase in years four and five not to exceed 4% per year over the base-year price; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors authorizes this expenditure of from account 101-7475-000-6191 (Wildlife Professional Services); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014 by the following vote:

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- f. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Augment the Construction Contingency for Tree Removal along Vargas Road as Required for Phase I Opening: Vargas Plateau Regional Park (Althoff/Radosevich)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of Measure WW Development Funds and the augmentation of the construction contingency for the existing tree removal contract with Expert Tree Service at Vargas Plateau Regional Park.

REVENUE/COST

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

From Measure WW Bond Development Funds	
Allocation Area Vargas Plateau WP64	
Total Allocation – Development	\$2,000,000
Prior Appropriation to Date	<u>32,460</u>
Unappropriated Balance	\$1,674,540
Proposed Appropriation Project No. 520500WP64 (Improve Vargas Road: Vargas Plateau)	<u>10,000</u>
Unappropriated Balance Remaining	\$1,664,540

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Augment Construction Contingency (Expert Tree Service)	\$ 1,000
Estimated Tree Replacement Costs	3,000
Estimated Additional Stump Work	<u>6,000</u>
CONSTRUCTION TOTAL	\$ 10,000

BACKGROUND

The District has, over many years, acquired nearly 1,250 acres of land at a cost in excess of \$7.2 million to create Vargas Plateau Regional Park. In 2008, after extensive public review and outreach, the District adopted a Land Use Plan (“Plan”) for the proposed park that proposed a phased development process. The first phase of the park improvement was defined as a modest development of limited staging improvements and amenities to allow a park opening, with subsequent more expansive park improvements planned for future years when funding would be available.

After Board approval of the Plan and its related CEQA document, a lawsuit was filed by local neighbors challenging the Plan which focused primarily on traffic and roadway issues. The parties subsequently reached an agreement, which included tree removal on Vargas Road to improve sight lines for vehicular traffic. While the District disputed the need for such work as part of a Phase I Park opening, as an accommodation to the plaintiffs the District agreed to such work.

The Board of Directors authorized an award of contract to Expert Tree Service to perform this work at the November 19, 2013 Board meeting. The amount of the awarded contract was \$58,600. At the same time a construction contingency was authorized in the amount of \$5,860, equivalent to 10% of the contract. Due to the need to remove an additional tree and the degree of difficulty of tree removal work constrained by proximity to the roadway, a change order was issued that is in excess of the approved contingency by approximately \$1,000.

The proposed appropriation of \$10,000 in Measure WW Development Funds would be used for the following:

- \$1,000 – Augmentation of construction contingency with Expert Tree Service for work authorized by change order.
- \$3,000 - Per City of Fremont tree removal ordinance, any tree removed within City limits need to be replaced with a newly planted tree. These funds would be used to cover the additional costs of providing and planting trees under separate small contract.
- \$6,000 - The tree stumps were cut per District standards, but did not meet the satisfaction of the affected private property owner. It is estimated that \$6,000 will be sufficient to fund a small contract to perform additional stump work.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 - 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND AUGMENT THE CONSTRUCTION
CONTINGENCY FOR TREE REMOVAL ALONG VARGAS ROAD AS REQUIRED
FOR PHASE I OPENING: VARGAS PLATEAU REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District awarded a contract to Expert Tree Service for tree removal work as required by legal agreement for roadway safety for the opening of Vargas Plateau Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, due to a change order for additional tree removal, the contingency balance for the Expert Tree Service contract is insufficient; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fremont tree removal ordinance requires tree replacement for all trees removed within city limits; and

WHEREAS, additional work will be required on the existing stumps to appease the affected private property owner; and

WHEREAS, there are funds available in the existing Measure WW Bond Development Fund allocation area for Vargas Plateau for appropriation into Project No. 520500 (Improve Vargas Road: Vargas Plateau) to augment the contingency and perform additional stump work and the required tree planting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the appropriation of \$10,000 in Measure WW Development Funds-Vargas Plateau Allocation Area in accordance with the attached Budget Change form, the augmentation of the construction contingency for the contract with Expert Tree Service in the amount of \$1,000, and sets aside \$3,000 for tree replacement and \$6,000 for additional stump work for a total of \$10,000 in Project No. 520500WP64 (Improve Vargas Road: Vargas Plateau); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intention of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014 by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BUDGET CHANGE FORM**

NEW APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET TRANSFERS	
X	New Appropriation		Between Fund Sources
	From New Revenues		Between Projects
DECREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	INCREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
		Account Name: Expense: OTA- Design & Construction-Vargas Plateau-Improve Vargas Road-Measure WW Vargas Plateau Development Funds Allocation Area-Contract Costs Account: 336-7110-127-6191 / 520500WP64-372	\$ 10,000
REASON FOR BUDGET CHANGE ENTRY			
As being presented at the Board of Directors meeting on January 14, 2014, the General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of \$10,000 of Measure WW Bond budget from Vargas Plateau Development Funds allocation area to the existing OTA project 520500 to augment the funding required for tree removal by Expert Tree Service.			
As approved at the Board of Directors Meeting on date:			1/14/2014
Board of Directors Resolution Number:			2014-01-
Posted By:		Posted date:	
Signature:			

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- g. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Accept the Bid for Restroom, Parking and Access Upgrades Near the Fishing Pier: Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline (Rasmussen/Althoff)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of funds and the acceptance of the Base Bid of Cats 4U, Inc., Healdsburg, CA in the amount of \$69,312 and set aside a construction contingency in the amount of \$34,660 for a total of \$103,972, for restroom, parking and access upgrades near the fishing pier at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline.

REVENUE/COST

The Board of Directors authorized grant applications to the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) for the renovation of the existing restroom and fishing pier at Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline through separate actions, Resolution 2012-07-161 and 2012-02-026, respectively. A grant contract with WCB for \$117,000 has been executed. The WCB grant includes a requirement that final expenditures be made by May 2014. Matching grant funds from L&WCF in the amount of \$117,000 have been awarded; however, due to delays by the National Park Service and the California Department of Finance, execution of a grant contract has been delayed. State Parks, in consultation with the National Park Service, has provided the District a letter certifying that construction cost incurred after November 5, 2013 are eligible under the LWCF grant. Authorization to accept the bid under this proposed action would save several weeks in the project's critical path and work to insure completion by the May 2014 WCB deadline. Staff would return to the Board to request funds from the Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replace Fund 553 if the LWCF grant contract is not provided.

EXISTING SOURCE OF FUNDS

Current Approved Project Budget	
Replace Restrooms/Renovate Pier: Pt. Pinole, Project No. 151300	
Budgeted - WCB Grant (Contract Executed)	\$ 117,000
Proposed Appropriation- L&WCF Grant	
(Contract Pending/Costs Eligible)	\$ 117,000
Less Expenditures and Encumbrances to Date	<u>(97,991)</u>
FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 136,009

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Proposed Construction Contract	\$ 69,312
Construction Contingency	<u>34,660</u>
Construction Subtotal	\$ 103,972
Design Support, Construction Administration and Inspection	15,000
Construction Materials Testing	5,000
Permit Fees	<u>5,000</u>
CONSTRUCTION TOTAL	\$ 128,972
BALANCE AVAILABLE	\$ 7,037

BACKGROUND

The wood pier at Point Pinole is a popular spot for fishing and offers an over-water experience for viewing and observing the San Francisco Bay. The wood restroom building serving the pier has exceeded its useful life and access to both the restroom and pier needs to be improved and brought up to current code.

Work under this project would include demolition of the existing wood restroom and abandonment of the existing vault, installation of a new, CXT precast concrete, vault-style restroom in a nearby location, installation of a drinking fountain, asphalt paving renovation, construction of a van accessible, ADA compliant parking space and installation of a family picnic site. The wood pier will be improved under separate, future contract using funds awarded through the Cosco Busan oil spill settlement allocated for recreational improvements.

A formal Notice to Bidders for this project was published on Thursday, November 21, 2013 in the newspaper the District uses for this purpose. Notices were also posted at thirteen (13) builder’s exchanges and on eBidboard. Five (5) firms submitted responsible bids on Thursday, December 19, 2013.

The Basis for determination of low bid on this project is the aggregate amount of the bidder’s Base Bid.

NAME OF BIDDER	TOTAL BASE BID
Cats 4U, Inc., Healdsburg, CA	\$69,312
Hanford ARC, Sonoma, CA	\$78,560
Atlas Peak Construction, Napa, CA	\$93,325
Fanfa, Inc., San Lorenzo, CA	\$100,718
Pacific Coast General Engineering, Pittsburg, CA	\$136,556
ENGINEER’S ESTIMATE: \$79,500 (Total Base Bid)	

The low bid was under estimate and well within the grant funds budgeted. To account for unforeseen field conditions (inherent in the filled shoreline edges of the Bay) and allow for potential change orders in light of budgeted funds available, staff recommends a 50% construction contingency.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 - 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND ACCEPT THE BID FOR
RESTROOM, PARKING AND ACCESS UPGRADES NEAR THE FISHING PIER:
PT. PINOLE REGIONAL SHORELINE

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District is committed to providing safe and accessible facilities, including public access improvements at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline; and

WHEREAS, the wood restroom building serving the existing fishing pier at Pt. Pinole has reached the end of its useful life and requires replacement along with upgrades to improve accessibility; and

WHEREAS, work under this project will include demolition of the existing wood restroom and abandonment of the existing vault, installation of a new, CXT precast concrete, vault-style restroom in a nearby location, installation of a drinking fountain, asphalt paving reconstruction, construction of a van accessible, ADA compliant parking space and installation of a family picnic site; and

WHEREAS, \$117,000 in grant funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) have been appropriated into Project No. 151300 (Replace Restrooms/Renovate Pier: Pt. Pinole) for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, State Parks, in consultation with the National Park Service, has provided the District a letter certifying that construction cost incurred after November 5, 2013 are eligible under the \$117,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant; and

WHEREAS, the District advertised for bids for the upgrades to the restroom facilities serving the pier at Pt. Pinole, including parking and access upgrades, and received five (5) responsible bids: and

WHEREAS, Cats 4U, Inc., Healdsburg, CA was the lowest responsible bidder;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer or Budget Manager is hereby authorized to amend the current year's budget for Project No. 151300 in the amount of \$117,000 in advance of receiving the final LWCF grant contract based on the letter from State Parks. If the LWCF grant contract is not provided, staff would return to the Board to request funds from the Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replace Fund 553; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby accepts the Base Bid of Cats 4U, Inc., Healdsburg, CA, in the amount \$69,312, and sets aside a construction contingency in the amount of \$34,660 and \$25,000 for Design Support, Construction Administration, Inspection, Testing and Permit Fees for a total amount of \$128,972 in Project No. 151300 (Replace Restrooms/Renovate Pier: Pt. Pinole); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BUDGET CHANGE FORM**

NEW APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET TRANSFERS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Appropriation		Between Fund Sources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	From New Revenues		Between Projects
DECREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	INCREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
		Account Name: Expense: Captial Fund-Design Administration-Point Pinole-Replace Restroom and Renovate Pier Project-Work in Progress-Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant-Contracted Services Account: 333-7110-496-7020/ 151300GF14-009	\$ 117,000
REASON FOR BUDGET CHANGE ENTRY			
As being presented at the Board of Directors meeting on January 14, 2014, the General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of \$117,000 of Land and Water Conservation Fund budget to the existing capital project 151300 to augment the funding required to replace the restroom and make parking and access upgrades near the fishing pier at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline. These are matching funds to the \$117,000 Wildlife Conservation Board grant previously appropriated for this project.			
As approved at the Board of Directors Meeting on date:			1/14/2014
Board of Directors Resolution Number:			2014-01-
Posted By:		Posted date:	
Signature:			

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- h. Authorization to Enter into a Special Use Agreement with Alameda Hospital for Day Use Parking: Crown Memorial State Beach (Waluch/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager and the Board Operations Committee (by unanimous vote at its December 19, 2013 meeting) recommend that the Board of Directors authorize a one-year Special Use Agreement with Alameda Hospital for day use parking at Crown Memorial State Beach.

REVENUE/COST

There is no direct cost to the District. The District will receive \$2,000 monthly for the agreement, beginning January 15, 2014 or first day of use, to be coded to 101-5151-409-3791.

BACKGROUND

The District has been approached by Alameda Hospital to provide designated employee parking for approximately 150 cars at the Crown Memorial State Beach Otis Street parking lot. Starting January 2014, Alameda Hospital's affiliation with Alameda Health Services will expand its patient care services to the point where its currently landlocked parking site will no longer accommodate employees required to care for the increased volume of patients.

District staff explored the parking proposal and believes that it is feasible to accommodate a designated portion of the Otis Street parking lot for weekday use, no weekends or holidays, for a monthly license fee of \$2,000. Alameda Hospital will provide a shuttle to transport their employees to and from Alameda Hospital, periodic security patrols and, with pre-approval by the Park Supervisor and the City of Alameda, security lighting for the premises using portable generators.

The District will provide up to 150 parking spaces in the Otis Street parking lot, retain the option to re-route traffic, require directional signage and parking access identification placards be placed in each car to permit specific lot use. The District also retains sole discretion and authority to grant renewal of the initial term for additional option years, upon request. If Alameda Hospital's use consistently exceeds 150 spaces, the monthly fee will be renegotiated.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A SPECIAL USE AGREEMENT WITH
ALAMEDA HOSPITAL FOR DAY USE PARKING: CROWN MEMORIAL STATE BEACH

WHEREAS, Alameda Hospital has the need for designated staff parking at the Crown Memorial State Beach Otis Street lot due to expansion of patient care services; and

WHEREAS, Alameda Hospital parking terms will include designated parking for up to 150 cars for weekday use, no weekends or holidays, for a monthly license fee of \$2,000, beginning January 15, 2014, to be coded to 101-5151-409-3791; and

WHEREAS, Alameda Hospital will provide a shuttle to transport their employees, periodic security patrols, and with a pre-approved plan, portable lighting during winter months; and

WHEREAS, the District will provide up to 150 parking spaces in the Otis Street lot, retain the option to re-route traffic, directional signage, and require parking access identification placards be placed in each car to permit specific lot use; and

WHEREAS, the District retains sole discretion and authority to grant renewal of the initial term for additional option years upon request, and if Alameda Hospital's use consistently exceeds 150 spaces, the monthly fee will be renegotiated; and

WHEREAS, the Board Operations Committee has reviewed and unanimously recommended approval of this agreement by the full Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes entering into a Special Use Agreement with Alameda Hospital, for a one-year term, paying \$2,000 monthly beginning January 15, 2014 or as of first day of use, to be coded to Account 101-5151-409-3791; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of the resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- i. Authorization to Enter into a Concession Agreement with James and Casper Hett, dba *Eat, Drink, & Be Merry!*: Temescal Regional Recreation Area (Waluch/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager and the Board Operations Committee (by unanimous vote at its November 21, 2013 meeting) recommend that the Board of Directors authorize a one-year Concession Agreement with James and Casper Hett, dba *Eat, Drink, & Be Merry!* at Temescal Regional Recreation Area.

REVENUE/COST

There is no direct cost to the District. The District will receive \$100 for the Agreement, beginning January 15, 2013, to be coded to 101-5131-240-3651.

BACKGROUND

In June of 2013, the District received a proposal from *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* owners, James and Casper Hett, to operate a food cart concession at one of the District's swim sites. The food cart proposal would offer a bridge between vending machines and traditional hot dog stand fare, except *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* offers additional specials that include fresh fruit, juices, coffee and pastries. The *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* proposal was to provide service at Lake Temescal daily throughout the swim season and weekends through October 2013, weather permitting.

This food cart pilot program of 2013 gave staff the opportunity to evaluate public response and determine if there is a want and need to offer fresh wholesome food and beverage service in the parks during the swim season. In evaluating this program's ability to operate as a profitable concession, several elements were taken into consideration: advertising, weather, products sold, and on-site location. Staff is very supportive of the concessionaire as well as the activities of the Junior Lifeguard Program attendees who adopted *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* as their own "snack shack." As the summer progressed, regular park users, too, became loyal customers. The addition of an ice cream cart and warmer weather improved the popularity of the food

service concession; however, the volume of sales still needs to be built up to maintain this as a viable, long-term concession.

Staff recommends continuing a short-term concession agreement with provisions for all equipment and inventory to be maintained off-site except during normal business hours, and a trial period concession fee of \$100, for the term January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. An end-of-year review will determine if this venue should proceed through the Request for Proposal process.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONCESSION AGREEMENT WITH
JAMES AND CASPER HETT, DBA *EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY!*:
TEMESCAL REGIONAL RECREATION AREA

WHEREAS, James and Casper Hett, dba *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!*, operated a food service concession at Temescal Regional Recreation Area during the 2013 swim season; and

WHEREAS, James and Casper Hett wish to continue food service operation with the District and is requesting a one-year Agreement to operate a food cart at the Temescal Bath House site; and

WHEREAS, the Board Operations Committee has reviewed and unanimously recommended approval of this Agreement by the full Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes entering into a Concession Agreement with James and Casper Hett, dba *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!*, for a one-year term, paying \$100 annually beginning January 15, 2014, to be coded to Account 101-5131-240-3651; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of the resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- j. Authorization to Renew a Special Use Agreement with Hobie Woods, dba Roughing It Day Camp: Briones Regional Park (Waluch/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager and the Board Operations Committee (by unanimous vote at its November 21, 2013 meeting) recommend that the Board of Directors authorize a one-year Special Use Agreement with Hobie Woods, dba Roughing It Day Camp, at Briones Regional Park.

REVENUE/COST

There is no direct cost to the District. The District will receive \$1,000 for the agreement, beginning January 15, 2013, to be coded to 101-5161-130-3791.

BACKGROUND

In September 2013, the District received a proposal from *Roughing It Day Camp* owner, Hobie Woods, to restart operation of youth day camp programs at the ex-Brown Ranch site in Briones Regional Park. *Roughing It Day Camp* developed and operated day camp programs during the summers of 2001 through 2010 at this site. Due to staffing availability and costs to meet the site condition requirement for supervision of horses 24/7, it was determined not to be feasible to continue that day camp equestrian program.

The new proposal will not offer equestrian programs. *Roughing It Day Camp* proposes to use the site for two new programs: *Outpost Camp* for older groups who would spend one day a week on the site, and *Pioneer Camp* for younger full-time campers to participate in pioneer, ranch and outdoor activities. The Agreement requires that all equipment and inventory be maintained by *Roughing It Day Camp*, and provides for a limited test of both programs in the summer of 2014, followed by review, and possible proposed expansion in 2015.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW A SPECIAL USE AGREEMENT WITH
HOBIE WOODS, DBA ROUGHING IT DAY CAMP: BRIONES REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, Hobie Woods, dba Roughing it Day Camp, has operated a day camp summer programs at Briones Regional Park since June 2001; and

WHEREAS, Hobie Woods wishes to continue day camp operations with the District and is requesting a one-year agreement to operate non-equestrian summer camp programs at the ex-Brown Ranch site to include pioneer, ranch and outdoor activities through use of the barn and paddocks area; and

WHEREAS, the Board Operations Committee has reviewed and unanimously recommended approval of this Agreement by the full Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes entering into a Special Use Agreement with Hobie Woods, dba Roughing it Day Camp, for a one-year term, paying \$1,000 annually beginning January 15, 2014, to be coded to Account 101-5161-130-3791.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of the resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- k. Authorization to Renew the Contract for Youth Employment Services with Civicorps Schools (Patterson/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager and the Board Operations Committee (by unanimous vote at its December 19, 2013 meeting) recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the renewal of the Youth Employment Services Contract with Civicorps Schools (Civicorps) for the period January 6, 2014 through December 23, 2014.

REVENUE/COST

Funding for the proposed contract is included in the 2014 Operations Division Community Resources Budget, Account No. 101-5012-000-6191. The contract includes the cost of the corps members, crew leader, and site supervisor wages and benefits, transportation costs, and other program expenses. The number of work hours will be 10,976, and the hourly wage of \$29.91, the same rate for the past four years, will increase by 3% or ninety cents per hour, amounting to a total of no more than \$338,171. The balance of funds in the account will be used for one extra crew leader, if needed.

BACKGROUND

Since 1983, Civicorps Schools has furnished job, life, academic, and citizenship skills to young adults through Park District environmental service projects. Civicorps' project work with the District has included such labor-intensive jobs as trail work, firebreaks, fence repair and construction, erosion control, vegetation management, and habitat restoration work. Civicorps has been extremely well received by park supervisors and supported throughout the years by Park District staff and the Board of Directors.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE CONTRACT FOR
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES WITH CIVICORPS SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the District has worked with Civicorps Schools (formerly East Bay Conservation Corps) since 1983 on various environmental service projects such as firebreaks, trail work, fence construction and repair, and erosion control; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to continue to support and aid the young adult community by providing environmental service projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the renewal of the contract, with a 3% increase over previous years, for no more than \$338,171, with Civicorps Schools for youth employment services for the period January 6, 2014 to December 23, 2014, with such funds for services appropriated in the 2014 Operations Division Community Resources Budget Other Professional Services Account No. 101-5012-000-6191; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and approved this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- I. Authorization to Encumber Funds in the Quagga Mussel Program Project for Boat Inspections: Contra Loma Regional Recreation Area and Lake Chabot Regional Park (Patterson/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the encumbrance of funds budgeted in the Quagga Mussel Program Project (#571200) account for outside services for boat inspections at Contra Loma Regional Recreation Area and Lake Chabot Regional Park.

REVENUE/COST

For the purpose of running an inspection program at District lakes, funds were appropriated in the District's 2013 Budget Project #571200 and have not been used.

PROPOSED ENCUMBRANCE

Account 336-5110-000-6191/571200INGA-372	
OTA Fund-Park Operations Administration-Other Services	
Lake Chabot Inspection Cost	\$ 9,800
District's portion of Contra Loma Inspection Cost	<u>30,400</u>
TOTAL ENCUMBRANCE	\$ 40,200

BACKGROUND

Funds appropriated in the 2013 Budget to the Quagga Mussel Program OTA Project (#571200) include funding for boat inspections for Contra Loma Regional Recreation Area and Lake Chabot Regional Park, which were not all used for 2013.

Contra Costa County Water District (CCWD) will provide a boat inspector at Contra Loma for 40 hours per week for 9 high season months, and 24 hours per week for the remaining 3 months. As in previous years, CCWD and the District will share the costs of the dedicated contract inspector and other related inspection costs.

As in previous years, Lake Chabot Regional Park's Boat Rental Concessionaire, Urban Parks, will provide boat inspections at the lake every day during normal hours of operation, and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) will share the cost in arrears.

Cost sharing with both CCWD and EBMUD will include the cost of data compilation with Quagga Inspection Services.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO ENCUMBER FUNDS IN THE
QUAGGA MUSSEL PROGRAM PROJECT FOR BOAT INSPECTIONS:
CONTRA LOMA REGIONAL RECREATION AREA AND LAKE CHABOT REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, funds appropriated and not used in the 2013 budget to the Quagga Mussel Program project account include funding for outside services for boat inspections at Contra Loma Regional Recreation Area and Lake Chabot Regional park; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District has agreed to share the costs of boat inspections at District Lakes with the Contra Costa Water District at Contra Loma and with the East Bay Municipal Utility District at Lake Chabot;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the encumbrance of \$40,200 from Account No. 336-5110-000-6191/571200INGA-372, Other Than Assets/Park Operations/Other Professional Services #571200INGA, for the purpose of funding the District's share of inspection services at Contra Loma (\$30,400) and Lake Chabot (\$9,800), and that the funds be disbursed to the Contra Costa Water District for services at Contra Loma, and the District Concessionaire, Urban Parks, for services at Lake Chabot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of the above resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and approved this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- m. Authorization to Accept Bid, Amend the 2014 Budget, and Purchase
One Trail Dozer (McCrystle/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors accept the bid from Sweco Products Inc. of Sutter, California, amend the 2014 Budget for the purchase of one trail dozer at a total cost of \$82,343.

REVENUE/COST

Funds for this equipment were originally budgeted in 2013 pursuant to the Major Equipment Replacement Schedule, but were not spent and remain available in the fund. It is proposed that the funds be appropriated in the District's Roads & Trails 2014 budget account 554-5944-000-7505 and encumbered to Sweco for this purchase.

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION AND ENCUMBRANCE FROM:

Account 554-5944-000-7505,
Major Equipment Replacement – Roads and Trails, Rolling Stock

Base Price	75,177
Delivery	400
Sales Tax	<u>6,766</u>
Total Encumbrance	\$ 82,343

BACKGROUND

The new trail dozer will replace District trail dozer #567 which is being retired due to age and declining condition. The new trail dozer is available for purchase directly from Sweco Products Inc. by means of formal bid. Notice to Bidders was published on Friday, November 22, 2013 in the Contra Costa Times and on Monday, November 25, 2013 in the San Jose Mercury News. Specifications and bid instructions were also sent directly to five equipment dealers. Only two out of three dealers submitted qualifying bids on Wednesday, December 18, 2013, as follows:

NAME OF BIDDER

BID AMOUNT

Harris Blade Rental
Sutter Equipment Co.
Sweco Product Inc.

Bid did not meet specifications
\$77,250.00
\$75,576.96

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BID, AMEND THE 2014 BUDGET,
AND PURCHASE ONE TRAIL DOZER

WHEREAS, the District has identified a need to replace the existing trail dozer Asset #567, assigned to Roads & Trails for District-wide trail maintenance; and

WHEREAS, there are funds available for the purchase of one trail dozer from the 2013 Budget; and

WHEREAS, Sweco Products Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder based upon completion of a competitive, formal bid process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District authorizes the of purchase one trail dozer from Sweco Products Inc. of Sutter, California, for a total cost of \$82,343, as well as the appropriation of an equal amount from Account 554-5944-000-7505, Major Equipment Replacement/Roads and Trails/Rolling Stock remaining from the 2013 Budget to the same account in the 2014 Budget per the attached Budget Change form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BUDGET CHANGE FORM**

NEW APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET TRANSFERS	
X	New Appropriation		Between Fund Sources
	From New Revenues		Between Projects
DECREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	INCREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
		Account Name: Expense: Major Equipment Replacement Fund-Roads & Trails-District Wide-Capital Rolling Stock	
		Account: 554-5944-000-7505	\$ 82,343
REASON FOR BUDGET CHANGE ENTRY			
<p>As being presented at the Board of Directors meeting on January 14, 2014, the General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of \$82,323 for the replacement of a bull dozer, asset number 567. Funding for replacement was appropriated in the 2013 budget but was unspent. Staff has recently obtained qualified bids for the replacement and is ready to purchase the item. Reappropriation of the funding is required to allow for the purchase.</p>			
As approved at the Board of Directors Meeting on date:			1/14/2014
Board of Directors Resolution Number:			2014-01-
Posted By:		Posted date:	
Signature:			

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- n. Authorization to Appropriate Funds and Apply for Federal Grant Funds for Replacement of Campground Restrooms: Del Valle State Recreation Area
(Rasmussen/Collins)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of funds and an application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for federal grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to replace campground restrooms at Del Valle State Recreation Area.

REVENUE/COST

This action proposes a grant application of approximately \$400,000 to the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the appropriation of \$400,000 as in matching funds from the District's Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Fund 553, for a total cost of approximately \$800,000. This project is not expected to increase the ongoing operational cost of the District.

BACKGROUND

In January 1965, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The program was initially authorized for a 25 year period and was extended for another 25 years, to January 2015. Under provisions of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Plan Act of 1967, the expenditure of funds allocated to California is administered by the Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Del Valle Campground is one of the District's most popular recreational facilities; however, the restroom buildings are nearly 40 years old. The exposed wood timber construction of the buildings is subjected to weathering and decay and they are in need of replacement. The District is seeking funds to replace two existing restrooms, Building #10 near campsite 10 and Building #20 near campsite 80. The buildings will be replaced with a precast concrete structure similar to the restrooms near campsite 52, which were replaced a few years ago.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND APPLY FOR
FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS FOR REPLACEMENT OF CAMPGROUND RESTROOMS:
DEL VALLE STATE RECREATION AREA

WHEREAS, Congress, under Public Law 88-578, has authorized the establishment of a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant-In-Aid program, providing Matching funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for acquiring lands and developing facilities for public outdoor recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for administration of the program in the State, setting up necessary rules and procedures governing applications by local agencies under the program; and

WHEREAS, the applicant certifies by resolution the approval of the application and the availability of eligible matching funds prior to submission of the application to the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance for the proposed project to Replace Campground Restrooms at Lake Del Valle; and
2. Agrees to abide by SECTION 6(F)(3) of Public Law 88-578 which states “No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the National Secretary of the Interior, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only if he finds it to be in accord with the then existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan and only upon such conditions as he deems necessary to assure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location;” and
3. Certifies that said agency has Matching funds from eligible source(s) and can finance 100 percent of the Project, which up to half may be reimbursed; and
4. Appoints the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services as agent of the applicant to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, Applications, contracts, amendments, payment requests, and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws and perform such acts which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project; and

5. Appropriates \$400,000 from the Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Fund 553 to project number 521400 as match, per the Budget Change Form attached hereto, these funds shall be returned if the grant is not awarded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer or Budget Manager is hereby authorized to amend the current year's budget, without further Board action, upon receipt of the executed grant contract from the Grants Manager. The budget amendment will include an increase in budgeted revenue and a corresponding increase in appropriation for the amount stipulated in the grant contract.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote,

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BUDGET CHANGE FORM**

NEW APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET TRANSFERS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Appropriation		Between Fund Sources
	From New Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Between Funds
DECREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	INCREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
		Account Name: Expense: OTA Fund-Design Administration-Del Valle-Replace Campground Restrooms-Services-Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Funds-Contracted Services Account: 336-7110-203-6191/ 521400 MIRR-009	\$ 400,000
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS			
Account Name: Expense: Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Fund-Non Departmental-District Wide-Transfer Out Account: 553-9110-000-9980	\$ 400,000	Account Name: Expense: Other Than Asset-Non Departmental-District Wide-Transfer In Account: 336-9110-000-3980	\$ 400,000
REASON FOR BUDGET CHANGE ENTRY			
As being presented at the Board of Directors meeting on January 14, 2014, the General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the transfer and appropriation of \$400,000 from the Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Fund to act as matching District funds for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant that is pending. If the grant is approved, appropriated funds will be used to replace restroom buildings #10 and #20 at Del Valle campgrounds. These structures are not located on land owned by the District.			
As approved at the Board of Directors Meeting on date:			1/14/2014
Board of Directors Resolution Number:			2014-01-
Posted By:		Posted date:	
Signature:			

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- o. Authorization to File an Application for Grant Funds under the Habitat Conservation Fund, California Wildlife Protection Act, 1990: Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve (Rasmussen/Collins/Nisbet)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize an application for funds under the Habitat Conservation Fund Program to acquire 191.45± acres of real property from Antioch Unified School District (AUSD) for the expansion of Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve.

REVENUE/COST

The District will request up to \$150,000 from the Habitat Conservation Fund to be matched by Measure WW funds. The fair market value of the subject property is estimated to be \$305,782 after a conservation easement over approximately 155.63 acres of the 191.45± acres is sold by AUSD to Aviano Farms LLC (Aviano Farms) to fulfill mitigation obligations of both parties.

BACKGROUND

On September 17, 2013, by Board Resolution No. 2013-09-215, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors approved the submission of a grant application under the Habitat Conservation Fund Program in support of the acquisition of the AUSD property at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve. On December 6, 2013 the District received a letter from State Parks finding that our authorizing resolution did not include all of the language they require in order to be considered complete. This action proposes to revise the resolution in conformance with State Parks grant guidelines.

In 1990 California voters passed the California Wildlife Protection Act. The grant program is administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and funds the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of deer/mountain lion habitat, rare and endangered species habitat, wetland and riparian habitat and trails.

By Resolution No. 1999-01-28, approved on January 12, 1999, and Resolution No. 2009-12-304, approved on December 1, 2009, the Board authorized negotiations with the Antioch Unified School District (AUSD) for the acquisition of AUSD's "Moller Ranch" property. By Resolution 2011-10-235, approved on October 4, 2011, the Board authorized the District to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with AUSD and the Williamson Trustees (now Aviano Farms LLC) whereby the parties will negotiate their respective purchase agreements, and the Park District will enter into an interim access and use agreement with AUSD for the management of the property in anticipation of its purchase of the property by year-end 2016. This action proposes a \$150,000 grant application in support of the acquisition of the AUSD property to preserve and enhance riparian habitat.

Located in the northern portion of Black Diamond Mines west of Somersville Road, the property consists primarily of unimproved and previously grazed land that is characterized by open grasslands with a mosaic of oak savannah, rocky outcrops with shrub associations, and ephemeral drainages including the seasonal Markley Creek. The creek supports a riparian plant community, and rock outcrops and associated grasslands provide suitable upland migration habitat for the California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog. The acquisition of this property will bring the Black Diamond Mines total acreage to over 8,500 acres.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 –

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS UNDER THE
HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND, CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT, 1990:
BLACK DIAMOND MINES REGIONAL PRESERVE

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, which provides funds to the State of California for grants to local agencies to acquire, enhance, restore or develop facilities for public recreation and fish and wildlife habitat protection purposes; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the HCF program, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the HCF program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the project(s);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the required match and sufficient funds to complete the project; and
3. Certifies that the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s); and
4. Certifies that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the provisions contained in the contract shown in the grant administration guide; and
5. Delegates the authority to the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services, on behalf of the District and in its name, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all

documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.

6. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer or Budget Manager is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and amend the current year's budget, without further Board action, upon receipt of an executed grant contract from the Grants Manager. The budget amendment will include an increase in budgeted revenue and a corresponding increase in appropriation for the amount stipulated in the grant contract.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014 by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- p. Authorization to Grant a 5,885-square foot Drainage Inlet and Storm Drain Easement to Todd and Kay Mink: Briones Regional Park
(Musbach/Nisbet)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize staff to grant a 5,885-square foot drainage inlet and storm drain easement to Todd and Kay Mink (“Minks”) at Briones Regional Park.

REVENUE/COST

Costs associated with the conveyance include staff time, title insurance, and preparation of a legal description and plat for the easement. Funding for these expenses is available and budgeted in the Land Acquisition general fund.

BACKGROUND

The Minks have lived in their home located at 50 Alhambra Creek Road, in the City of Martinez, California, since the 1990’s. During the construction of their home, they installed a concrete headwall structure, drainage inlet, and outfall pipeline in the portion of Alhambra Creek that is located adjacent to their property. This structure was installed to eliminate flooding that could occur during periods of heavy rain and water runoff from the surrounding hillsides. It has recently been determined that the drainage inlet structures and system were installed on the former Remington Ranch property which was acquired by the East Bay Regional Park District (“District”) in 2010 as a part of Briones Regional Park.

By Resolution No. 2009-07-199, adopted July 21, 2009, the Board of Directors authorized staff to negotiate for property rights to Assessor’s Parcel Number 365-050-015-04, formerly owned by Remington Ranch LLC. By Resolution No. 201-09-238, adopted on September 7, 2010, the Remington Ranch LLC property was acquired by the District. Staff has been working over the past three years to resolve all outstanding boundary issues and install a boundary fence. District staff is requesting authorization to grant the Minks a drainage inlet and storm drain easement to formalize their encroachment and protect the District’s interests. The Minks have

agreed to the terms and conditions of the easement, which is to be recorded upon Board authorization, and a legal description of the easement area has been prepared by the District's Survey Department. Per the terms of the agreement, the Minks will maintain the drainage system located within the easement area at their cost and the District will be relieved of all liability related to the drainage system, soil erosion, or land subsidence.

The former Remington Ranch property is not dedicated parkland. Staff has determined that the maintenance and operation of the easement area by the Minks and their agreement to relieve the District of liability for future drainage system maintenance, soil erosion, and land subsidence related to the easement is of equal or greater value as compared to the value of the easement to be granted to the Minks. The drainage easement will have little or no impact on the operations and maintenance of the park. The Minks will be solely responsible for the maintenance and repair of the drainage system and related infrastructure.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT A 5,885 SQUARE FOOT DRAINAGE INLET
AND STORM DRAIN EASEMENT TO TODD AND KAY MINK:
BRIONES REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, by Board Resolution No. 2009-07-199, adopted on July 21, 2009, the Board of Directors authorized staff to negotiate for the acquisition of property from Remington Ranch, LLC Assessor's Parcel Number 365-050-015-04; and

WHEREAS, the Remington Ranch property was acquired by the District by Board Resolution No. 2010-09-238, adopted on September 7, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Todd and Kay Mink ("Minks"), owners of real property located at 50 Alhambra Creek Road in Martinez, California, which is located adjacent to the former Remington Ranch property, installed a drainage system in Alhambra Creek in connection with the construction of their home; and

WHEREAS, it has recently been determined by staff and confirmed by a survey that these improvements are located on the former Remington Ranch property; and

WHEREAS, staff has negotiated an agreement with the Minks to grant a drainage inlet and storm drain easement for their drainage system, which is encroaching on District property, in exchange for the continued maintenance and operation of the drainage system by the Minks; and

WHEREAS, District staff has determined that the continued maintenance and operation of the drainage system by the Minks is of equal or greater value as compared to the value of the easement to be granted to the Minks; and

WHEREAS, the drainage inlet and storm drain easement will have no impact on the operation and maintenance of the park; and

WHEREAS, through the terms of the easement, the District will be relieved of liability for any future land subsidence in this area and the Minks will be solely responsible for their improvements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the General Manager to grant a drainage inlet and storm drain easement to the Minks within Briones Regional Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding is available and budgeted in the Land Acquisition general fund for costs associated with the conveyance which include staff time, title insurance, and preparation of a legal description and plat for the easement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

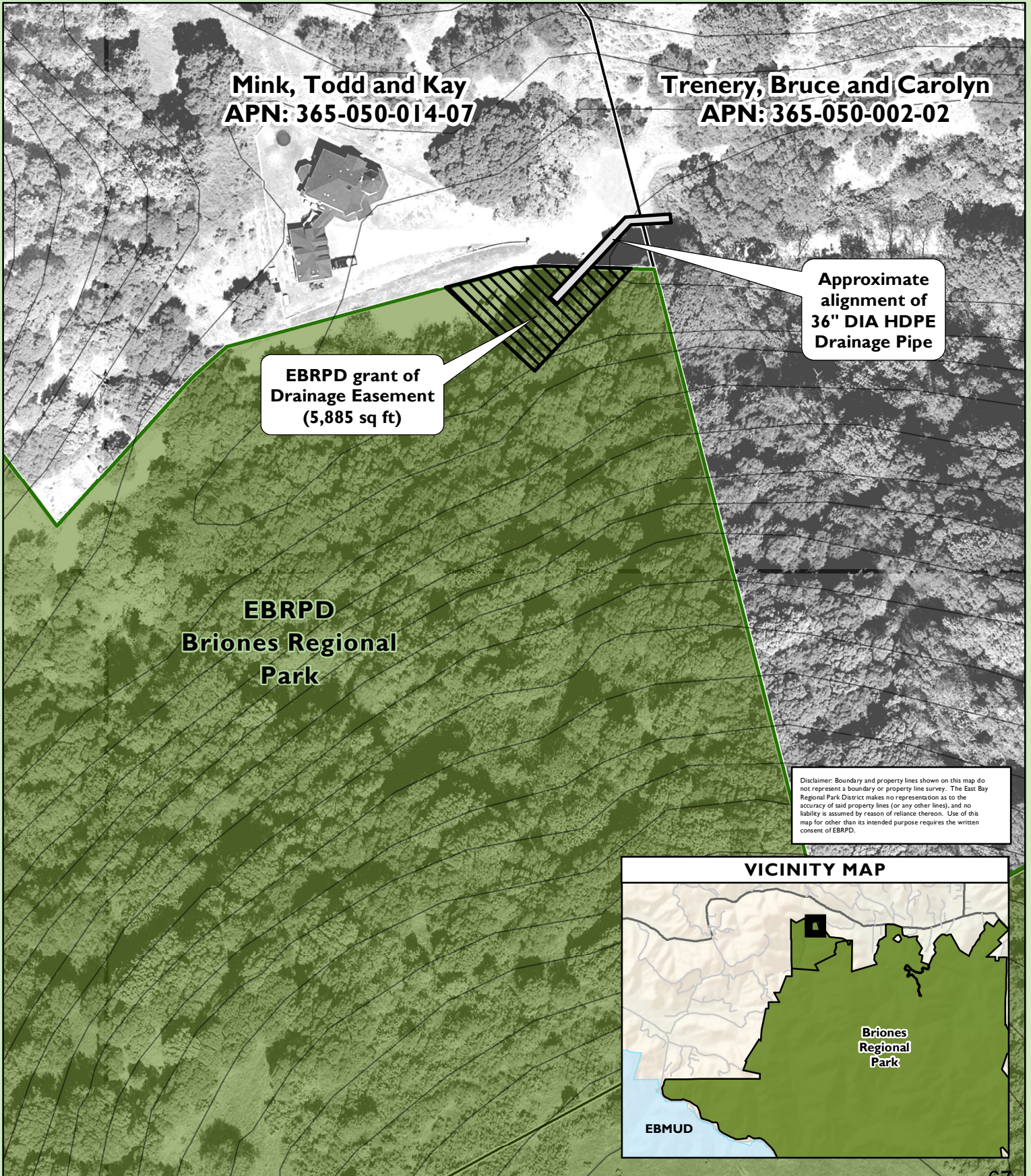
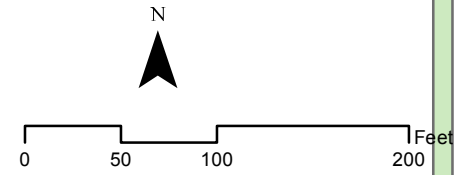
FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Briones Regional Park
Remington Ranch Property; Drainage Easement
APN: 365-050-015-04
Location Map



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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2013

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- q. Authorization to Renew the Contract with The Houston Group for Legislative Advocacy Services (Pfuehler/Doyle)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to renew the contract with The Houston Group from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016, for California legislative and advocacy services on behalf of the East Bay Regional Park District. The Board Legislative Committee reviewed this item at their December 20, 2013 meeting. This recommendation was unanimously supported by the Committee.

REVENUE/COST

Total FY 2014 compensation for The Houston Group contract shall not exceed \$144,529 including reimbursable expenses. This amount includes the FY 2013 base contract amount of \$130,957.42, plus a 1.2% cost-of-living adjustment for 2014 and \$12,000 for subcontracted advocacy services related to specific projects. Funds for this purpose have been included in the proposed FY 2014 budget, Account No. 101-2010-000-6191 (General Manager - Legislative Advocates). Compensation for FY 2015 will be negotiated in December 2014 not to exceed the FY 2014 contract plus a cost-of-living adjustment. Likewise, compensation for FY 2016 will be negotiated in December 2015 not to exceed the FY 2015 contract plus a cost-of-living adjustment.

BACKGROUND

The Houston Group has represented the East Bay Regional Park District in Sacramento since 1986, and has continued to provide very effective representation for the District throughout the years. Board members and staff recognize the extraordinary time and effort The Houston Group dedicates to the District's issues, such as bond measures, grants, water recreation and state agency contracts. With continued state budget uncertainty there is a need for strong, strategic advocacy in Sacramento.

This contract amendment will also continue an additional \$12,000 in FY 2014 for a consultant to be retained by The Houston Group to address state legislative issues of a specified nature.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board could choose to not renew its contract with The Houston Group; this alternative is not recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH THE HOUSTON GROUP
FOR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District has a need for advocacy services on the State level; and

WHEREAS, The Houston Group has been extremely effective in advocating for District interests relating to the District's property tax base, as well as bond measures, contracts with state agencies, amendments to bills and related legislation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the General Manager to renew the contract with The Houston Group for legislative advocacy services on the State-level for the three-year period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016 for a total FY 2014 sum not to exceed \$144,528.91 (compensation and reimbursable expenses) including \$12,000 for a subcontract with an appropriate firm, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2014 funding for this agreement is included in the 2014 Adopted Budget, Account #101-2010-000-6191; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the General Manager to negotiate a contract extensions for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016 for an amount not to exceed the FY 2014 contract plus cost-of-living adjustments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January 2014 by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- r. Authorization to Purchase Sungard Public Sector Yearly Hosted Application Services Agreement _____ (Tallerico/Collins)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the purchase of a yearly hosted application service agreement from Sungard Public Sector with an option to extend the agreement for two additional years.

REVENUE/COST

The cost of this yearly hosted application service agreement is \$210,780 per year with annual increases estimated at 3% to 5%. Funding is available from the Information Services budget, Account No.101-4150-000-6443 (Maintenance Contracts).

BACKGROUND

SunGard Public Sector is the Financial Software provider for the District. In 2004, the District entered into an agreement with SunGard Public Sector to host all hardware and services at their Chico, California location. The yearly hosted service agreement includes Disaster Recovery Services for the District's Financial Application and Public Safety's Computer Aided Dispatch application. SunGard Public Sector provides a dedicated Systems Administrator to the District and routine replacements of application servers. The District uses SunGard Public Sector's Integrated Financial Accounting System to manage Accounting, Payroll and Human Resource functions, and the hosted services solution has proven to be a cost-effective model for the District's financial application.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board could decline to purchase the annual hosted services agreement at this time. Due to the critical nature of this application within the Finance Department, this is not recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE SUNGARD BI-TECH
YEARLY HOSTED SERVICES AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District uses SunGard Public Sector's Integrated Financial Accounting System to manage Accounting, Payroll and Human Resource functions; and

WHEREAS, the District updates the hardware and software of these systems to keep them technologically current; and

WHEREAS, the yearly maintenance agreement is provided by the application vendor, therefore it is of no advantage to the District to bid this purchase;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the purchase of the yearly hosted services agreement from SunGard Public Sector for \$210,780 with an option to extend the agreement for two additional years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funding in the amount of \$210,780 is available in Account No. 101-4150-000-6443 (Information Services – Maintenance Contracts), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to revise and amend such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and approved this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- s. Authorization to Purchase Four Chevrolet Vehicles
(McCrystle/O'Connor)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the purchase of four Chevrolet vehicles from Winner Chevrolet of Elk Grove, California at a total cost of \$87,423.

REVENUE/COST

For the purposes of replacing fleet vehicles, funds have been allocated in the District's 2014 Budget, Accounts 101-5933-000-5375 (Rolling Stock <\$25,000).

PROPOSED ENCUMBRANCE:

Base Price	\$	79,530
Fees & Delivery		735
Sales Tax		<u>7,158</u>
Total Encumbrance	\$	87,423

BACKGROUND

The new Chevrolet vehicles will replace District Fleet vehicles which are being retired due to age and declining condition. The new vehicles are in-kind replacements for the following:

USER DEPARTMENT	UNIT #	MODEL YEAR	MODEL
Public Safety	260	2006	Pontiac Grand Prix
Public Safety	271	2006	Pontiac Grand Prix
Maintenance Superintendent	2854	2001	Jeep Cherokee 4WD
Recreation Areas Unit Mgr	2896	2002	Jeep Liberty 4WD

The new Chevrolet vehicles are available for purchase directly from Winner Chevrolet by means of 2013 pricing established by the State of California, General Services Procurement

Division, Contracts #1-13-23-10E and #1-13-23-23E. The pricing is the result of a competitive bid process and open to all state governmental entities and educational institutions. Public agencies electing to use this method of vehicle acquisition avoid the administrative costs of seeking formal bids.

ALTERNATIVES

For this purchase, staff has determined that there is no significant advantage in formally seeking other bids; therefore, none are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 - 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE FOUR CHEVROLET VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the District has included funding in its 2014 Budget for the purchase of new rolling stock; and

WHEREAS, Winner Chevrolet of Elk Grove, California is a recognized vendor offering suitable vehicles based on the results of competitive pricing through the State of California;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the purchase of four Chevrolet vehicles for a total cost of \$87,423, with said sum to be encumbered from the 2014 Budget, Account 101-5933-000-5375; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

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PARK ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

2. PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- a. Approval of Park Advisory Committee Goals for 2014 (Pfuehler)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager, Board Executive Committee and Park Advisory Committee (both committees by unanimous vote) recommend that the Board of Directors approve the 2014 Park Advisory Committee Goals.

REVENUE/COST

There is no cost associated with this action.

BACKGROUND

During 2013, the Park Advisory Committee (PAC) addressed several topics of significance to the District – including thorough discussions and significant recommendations for the Master Plan update, input about the Miller Knox and Oyster Bay Land Use Plan updates and continued recommendations about the budget.

The PAC made recommendations to the Board about a number of additional significant items including:

- Master Plan Approval
- Oyster Bay Land Use Plan
- The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
- 2013 Proposed Budget

In addition, the PAC received updates and reviewed the District's:

- Regional Parks Foundation
- Volunteer Trail Safety Patrol
- Legislative Update
- Interpretative and Community Outreach
- The Kids Healthy Outdoor Challenge

- Plan Bay Area
- Measure CC & WW updates
- ParkView

In 2014, the PAC proposes, among other things, to review the practical impacts of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Natural Resources activities, Youth Outreach and Employment efforts, Environmental Education Facilities upgrades, Park District's 80th anniversary and California State Parks 150th anniversary, San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, status of Oakland Strokes agreement, the District's response to climate change and protection of riparian habitat for wildlife, and the Marksmanship Concessionaire Agreement. The Committee also proposes to develop an ad hoc subcommittee on Plan Bay Area. The PAC will also take at least one field trip, as well as address ongoing goals as they come up.

On December 6, 2013, the Board Executive Committee and the PAC Chair jointly review the proposed 2014 goals. The Board Executive Committee unanimously recommended favorable consideration of the 2014 goals. The PAC unanimously approved their proposed 2014 goals at their October 28, 2013 meeting.

The proposed PAC 2014 goals as delineated in the attached resolution are presented for the Board's input and approval.

ALTERNATIVES

None are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 –

January 14, 2014

APPROVAL OF PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2014

WHEREAS, the Park Advisory Committee (PAC) has developed and recommended goals for 2014; and

WHEREAS, these goals are in conformance with the Board Operating Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager and Board Executive Committee have reviewed these goals and ensure they support the 2014 Board objectives and the District's future direction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby approve the following goals for the PAC for 2014:

I. ONGOING GOALS

1. Review land use plans or amendments proposed for adoption.
2. Make periodic park field trips to coincide with PAC review of planning documents or other purposes.
3. Review proposed new Board policies and changes to existing policies to protect natural resources, enhance the natural and urban environment, and ensure an equitable and diversified system of programs, trails and regional parks is available to meet a variety of community needs.
4. Review proposed names of District facilities as designated by the District Naming Policy.
5. Coordinate one PAC meeting in the field.
6. Provide early input and review of the District's annual budget, and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).
7. Review Ordinance 38 for policy issues.
8. Provide input and actively participate in the Board's efforts to seek funding for acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of parks.
9. Recommend policies and programs that foster outreach to under-served communities relating to both park usage and employment opportunities.
10. Review and recommend dedication status of regional parklands and trails.
11. Review Trails Use Checklist changes related to Ordinance 38.
12. Review the trails program every year.
13. Review volunteer program.
14. Continue to participate in the District's Ambassador program as time allows.
15. Review and comment on progress reports on the District's Americans with Disabilities Act plan.
16. Review and comment on a progress report on Measure CC, including geographic allocation of funds every other year (next due in 2015).
17. Undertake special projects as directed by the Board; the PAC may request referral of special projects from the Board.
18. Review Special Use Permits.

II. 2014 GOALS

1. Review Land Use Plans or Amendments (continuation)
2. Measure WW implementation (continuation)
3. Community Relations Plan (continuation)
4. Ordinance 38 update (continuation)
5. Green Transportation - Trails Update (continuation)
6. Healthy Parks, Healthy People Update (continuation)
7. Interpretative and Community Outreach Update (continuation)
8. Kids Challenge Update (continuation)
9. Economic Impact Report (continuation)
10. Marksmanship Concessionaire Agreement (2013 unmet goal)
11. ADA Update – practical applications and engineering activity (2013 unmet goal)
12. Natural Resources Update (2013 unmet goal)
13. Youth Outreach and Employment (NEW)
14. Environmental Education Facilities Upgrades (NEW)
15. Park District 80th Anniversary and California State Parks 150th Anniversary (NEW)
16. San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority overview (NEW)
17. Update and status of Oakland Strokes agreement with the District (NEW)
18. Response to climate change, adaptation and riparian habitat for wildlife (NEW)
19. An ad hoc subcommittee focusing on Plan Bay Area has also been proposed (NEW)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC Goals align with the objectives of the Board of Directors, and the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents, and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

3. LAND DIVISION

- a. Authorization to Convey Fee Title to 300 square feet of Real Property to Rufino and Diana C. Torres at 2143 Cypress Avenue, San Pablo, CA: San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline (Musbach/Nisbet/Radosevich)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District authorize the conveyance of fee title to a 300 square foot portion of property located to the rear of 2143 Cypress Avenue, San Pablo, California. This recommendation is pursuant to a settlement and Stipulated Judgment previously authorized by the Board in the litigation entitled *East Bay Regional Park District v. Rufino Torres et al.* filed in Contra Costa County Superior Court over a longstanding encroachment onto Park District property at San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline.

Approval of this resolution requires a unanimous vote of all seven Board Members as stipulated by Public Resources Code Section 5540.5.

REVENUE/COST

Funding for staff time and legal, appraisal and surveying fees has been provided by the District Counsel's budget and staff estimates that no additional funds will be required to complete the settlement.

BACKGROUND

In 2011, the District filed a lawsuit against Rufino and Diana C. Torres ("Torres") for an illegal encroachment on District property. Over the years, the Torres' expanded their back yard by placing over 30 tons of fill, concrete slabs, construction materials and debris onto Park District property. The Park District's lawsuit was filed only after years of failed efforts by staff to have the property owners remove the encroachments voluntarily.

The lawsuit was resolved in August 2012 by entry into a Stipulated Judgment pursuant to terms authorized by the Board in closed session. Under the terms of the Stipulated Judgment, the Torres' agreed that a lien totaling \$35,000 would be recorded against their property to secure

payment for costs incurred by the Park District in performing restoration work. The Torres' further agreed that the District could remove the existing encroachments and restore the slope to a more natural grade. They also agreed to refrain from any further dumping or the placement of fill on the District's property. In turn, the Park District agreed to perform the needed restoration work and to convey a 5 foot strip of land along the rear property line. (See Map depicting the property to be conveyed which is attached as Exhibit A to the Resolution) The purpose of the conveyance is to provide a buffer between the slope and a structure on the Torres' property which was constructed on the property line with zero setbacks. The boundary line change will result in no operational impacts to the District and benefits the District by moving the property line away from the structure and creating a slope buffer.

Since the entry of Judgment, the Torres' have substantially complied with the court's order to remove concrete debris and materials on site and to refrain from further dumping. The District undertook soils testing to make sure that none of the materials were hazardous due to the origins of the fill being unknown. In November 2013, Roads and Trails staff completed the restoration of the property by grading and hydro-seeding slope. Now that the restoration work is done, the conveyance of the 300 square foot parcel is the last item to be completed as part of the settlement and Stipulated Judgment.

Staff has determined that the subject parcel is dedicated parkland, and therefore this conveyance must be unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Section 5540.5 of the Public Resources Code enables the Park District, with the unanimous approval of its Board of Directors, to convey dedicated parkland. The Park District is restricted to conveying no more than 40 acres of dedicated parkland in any calendar year. There have been no dedicated parkland conveyances to date in 2014. Staff has determined that the settlement of this action is equal to or greater in value than the rights being conveyed to Torres.

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve this property conveyance.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO CONVEY FEE TITLE TO 300 SQUARE FEET OF REAL PROPERTY
TO RUFINO AND DIANA C. TORRES AT 2143 CYPRESS AVENUE, SAN PABLO, CA:
SAN PABLO BAY REGIONAL SHORELINE

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2011, in Contra Costa County Superior Court, the East Bay Regional Park District (“District”) filed a lawsuit against Rufino and Diana Torres at 2143 Cypress Avenue, San Pablo, California to enjoin unlawful encroachments onto District property at San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors previously authorized settlement of the litigation to fully resolve the litigation; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2012, the Court entered judgment pursuant to a Stipulated Judgment agreed to between the parties;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Stipulated Judgment the Park District was authorized to remove the encroachments and restore the slope; and

WHEREAS, a \$35,000 judgment lien has been recorded against the Torres’ property to secure payment for the District’s costs incurred; and

WHEREAS, the Torres’ are enjoined from further dumping and encroachments on District property; and

WHEREAS, the Stipulated Judgment provides that the District shall convey fee title to a 5-foot wide by 60-foot long portion of the District’s property as depicted in the map attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the conveyance of the property benefits the District as it moves the property line away from the existing structure and creates a slope buffer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5540.5, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes conveyance of the property as depicted in the attached map to Rufino and Diana C. Torres; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____ and seconded by Director _____ and
adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

SAN PABLO BAY REGIONAL SHORELINE

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
SERIES: 15419-559
10/18/1989



FEE PARCEL

5.00'



S52°38'26"W 60.00'

TORRES, RUFINO & DIANA C.
403-381-007-0
3/22/2010
SERIES: 2010-0056034-00
2143 CYPRESS AVENUE
SAN PABLO, CA

LOT 56

S37°21'34"E
120.16'

LOT 55
SUBDIVISION 3239
101 M 22

S37°21'34"E
120.16'

LOT 54

S52°38'26"W 60.00'

CYPRESS AVENUE
(56 FEET WIDE)

BAR SCALE

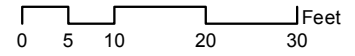


EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
2950 PERALTA OAKS COURT, OAKLAND, CA 94605 P.O. BOX 5381 888-327-2757
DATE: JULY 2012 SCALE 1" = 20'
DWG NO. 1222Plat.dwg SHEET 1 OF 1



EXHIBIT 'B'
LOCATED IN THE UNINCORPORATED
AREA OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

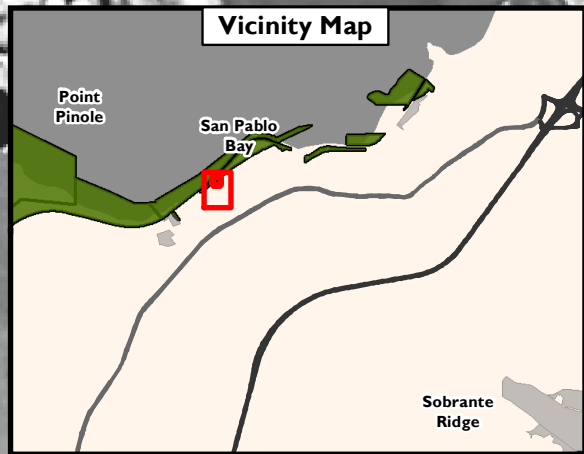
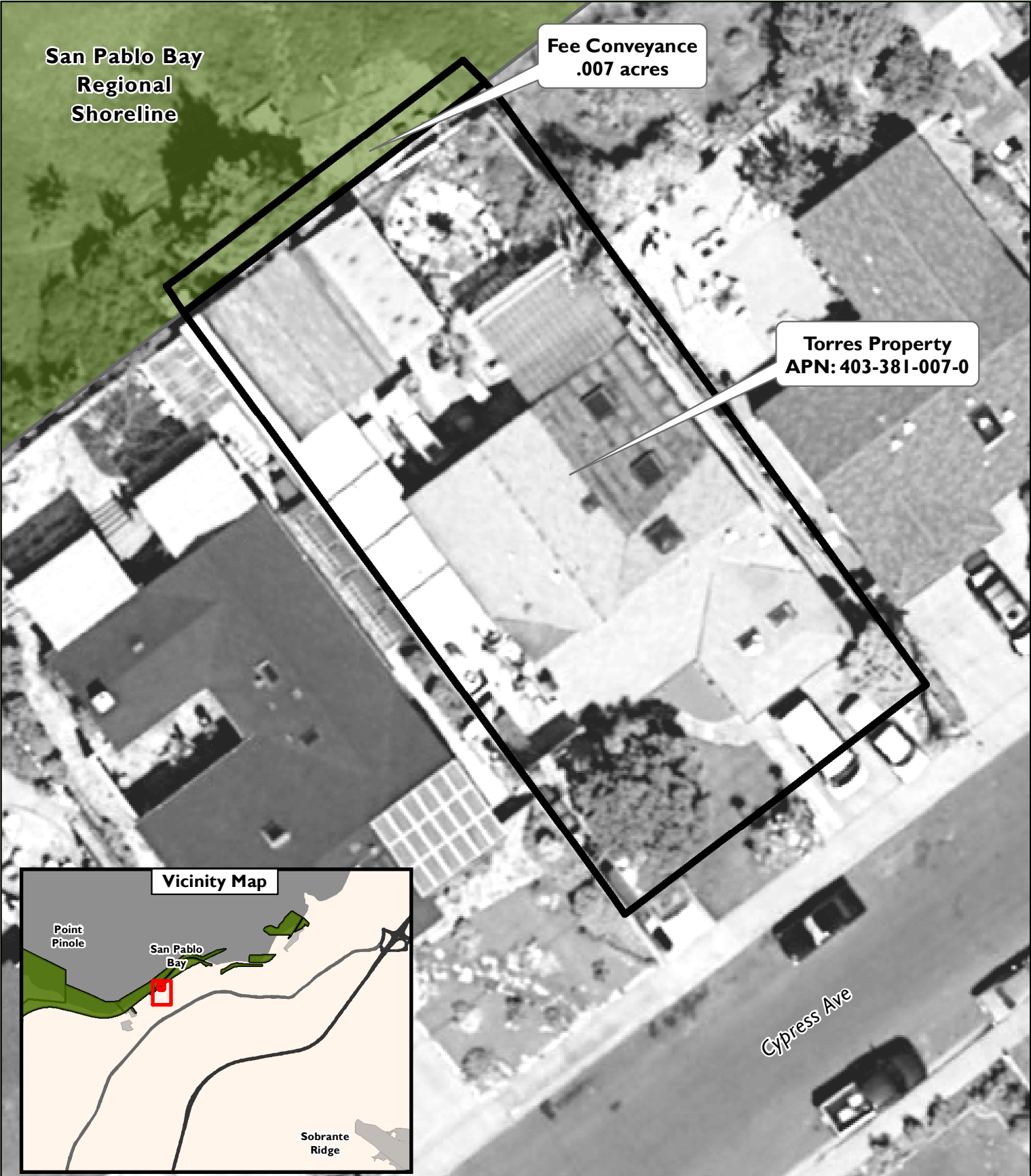
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**San Pablo Bay
Regional
Shoreline**

**Fee Conveyance
.007 acres**

**Torres Property
APN: 403-381-007-0**



AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

3. LAND DIVISION

- b. Authorization to Exchange Real Property with and Accept Additional Consideration from Redwood Ranch, LLC and Transfer Funds: Redwood Regional Park (Musbach/Nisbet)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the conveyance of fee title to 16,662 square feet of real property to Redwood Ranch, LLC in exchange for 16,729 square feet to be conveyed to the Park District together with a payment of \$2,500. The property to be exchanged is located off of Redwood Road in unincorporated Alameda County, proximate to and part of Redwood Regional Park.

Approval of this resolution requires a unanimous vote of all seven Board Members as stipulated by Public Resources Code Section 5540.5.

REVENUE/COST

Costs to the East Bay Regional Park District (“District”) related to the negotiations and the real property exchange total \$2,500 and include the following fees and expenses: survey, recording, title and escrow, and staff time. Funding for these expenses is available and budgeted in the Land Acquisition General Fund. Redwood Ranch, LLC will pay the District \$2,500 for these costs as additional consideration for the exchange. This amount will be credited as revenue in the General Fund, Land Acquisition Department.

BACKGROUND

The subject property, known as Redwood Ranch, consists of an approximately 2.91±acre home site and horse boarding facility, and is located off Redwood Road adjacent to Redwood Regional Park. By Resolution No. 2006-05-100, adopted on May 2, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized staff to negotiate with Anna M. Albanese and Maydo Lorimer and Frank Albanese, former owners of the subject property, to obtain property rights to benefit Redwood Regional Park. Redwood Ranch, LLC is the current property owner and has owned the ranch for five years.

In 2012, while working in the area District staff became aware of Redwood Ranch improvements that are encroaching on Park District property. The District holds title to an area adjacent to the horse arena consisting of 16,662 square feet, which is being used by Redwood Ranch, LLC as a portion of their horse-boarding facility.

Redwood Ranch, LLC has agreed to convey fee title to a 16,729 square foot area located along the southern boundary of their property and adjacent to Redwood Road, and provide a payment of \$2,500, in exchange for fee title to the 16,662 square feet underlying their arena and barn which are located on District land adjacent to their parcel.

Staff has determined that the subject parcel is dedicated parkland, and therefore this exchange must be unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Staff also has determined that the property and monetary consideration to be conveyed to the District is equal to or greater in value to the property being conveyed to Redwood Ranch. By conveying District rights to the subject parcel, the Park District will be relieved of related liability issues.

Section 5540.5 of the Public Resources Code enables the District, with the unanimous approval of its Board of Directors, to exchange dedicated parkland for property of equal or greater value which is located adjacent to other District land. The District is restricted to exchanging no more than 40 acres of dedicated parkland in any calendar year. District staff has reviewed the value of each of the parcels and rights to be exchanged through this proposed transaction. The fee title parcel to be exchanged with Redwood Ranch, LLC is estimated to be of similar or equal value to the property to be acquired by the District through this exchange. Additionally, Redwood Ranch, LLC has agreed to pay the Park District \$2,500 to cover the costs of this exchange. These funds will be credited as revenue in the General Fund, Land Acquisition Department.

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve this property exchange.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO EXCHANGE REAL PROPERTY WITH AND
ACCEPT ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION FROM REDWOOD RANCH, LLC
AND TRANSFER FUNDS: REDWOOD REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2006-05-100, approved on May 2, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized staff to negotiate with Anna M. Albanese and Maydo Lorimer and Frank Albanese, former owners of the property known as Redwood Ranch, to obtain property rights benefiting Redwood Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is located off of Redwood Road in unincorporated Alameda County, proximate to and part of Redwood Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, a site visit conducted in 2012 in the vicinity of the Redwood Ranch property revealed that that the Park District holds fee title to 16,662 square feet which is being used by the current property owners, Redwood Ranch, LLC, as a portion of their horse-boarding facility; and

WHEREAS, Redwood Ranch LLC has agreed to convey fee title to a 16,729-square foot parcel in exchange for fee title to the 16,662-square foot area owned by the District located adjacent to their parcel; and

WHEREAS, Redwood Ranch, LLC has also agreed to provide a payment of \$2,500 to the District as additional consideration for the costs associated with this exchange, which will be credited as revenue in the General Fund, Land Acquisition Department; and

WHEREAS, District staff has determined that the value of the fee title and \$2,500 payment to be conveyed by Redwood Ranch, LLC is of equal or greater value than the fee title to be conveyed by the District; and

WHEREAS, conveyance of the District property in question will relieve the District of associated liability issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 5540.5, the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby unanimously authorizes the General Manager to accept fee title as offered by Redwood Ranch, LLC and to convey fee title as discussed herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the acceptance of \$2,500 from Redwood Ranch, LLC as additional

consideration for this exchange, to be credited as revenue in the General Fund, Land Acquisition Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized to and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____ and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

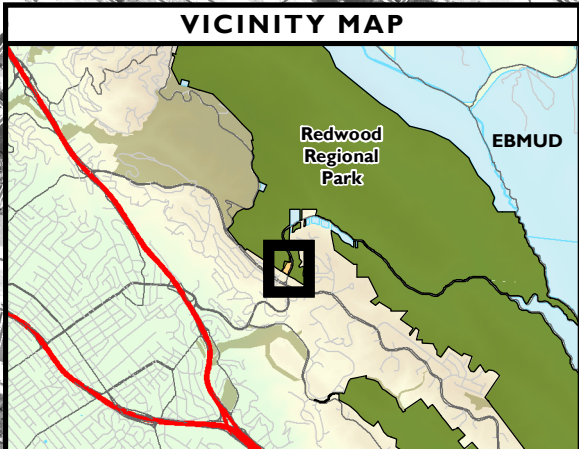
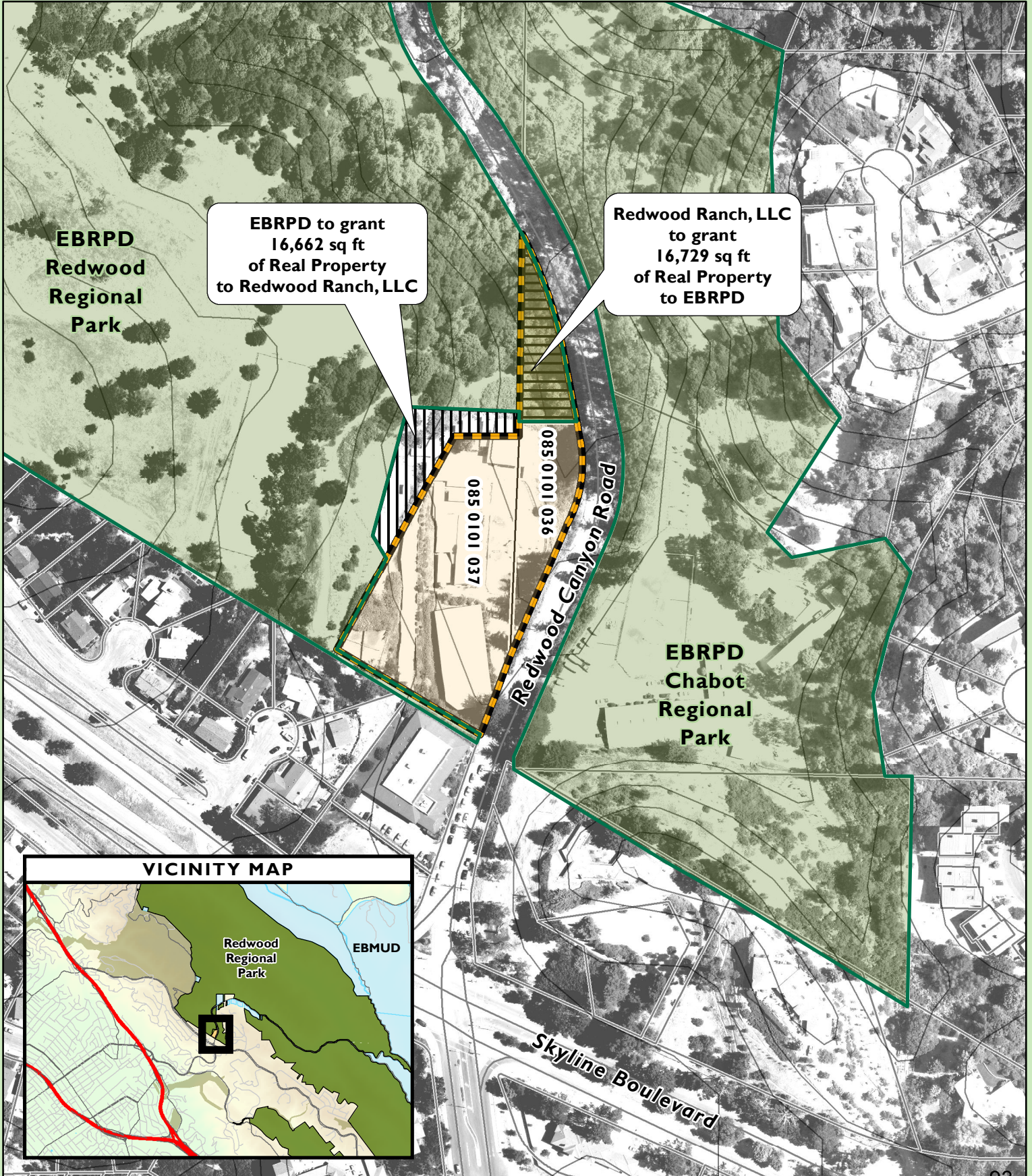
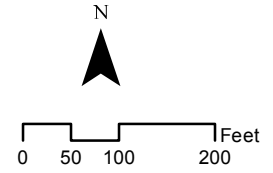
FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Redwood Regional Park
Redwood Ranch LLC (Redwood Stables)
Exchange of Real Property
APN: 085-0101-036 and 037
Location Map



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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

3. LAND DIVISION

- c. Authorization to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement and Transfer Funds for Acquisition of the 191.45± Acre Moller Ranch Property from the Antioch Unified School District: Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
(Musbach/Nisbet)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize staff to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement (“Agreement”) with the Antioch Unified School District (“AUSD”) for acquisition of the approximately 191.45± acre “Moller Ranch” property, and transfer funds related to the Agreement. Said real property is located on Somersville Road in unincorporated Contra Costa County, immediately south of the Antioch city limits at the northern entrance to Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve.

REVENUE/COST

The property as encumbered by a proposed 155.63± acre conservation easement may be acquired for \$305,782, its appraised fair market value. Per the terms of the Agreement, an initial deposit of \$10,000 is to be placed into escrow upon execution of the document, followed by a second deposit of 25% of the purchase price (\$76,445) on or before December 30, 2014. A third deposit of \$76,445 is to be placed into escrow on or before December 30, 2015, and the balance of the purchase price, \$142,892 or 50% of the purchase price net of the initial deposit, is due into escrow by December 1, 2016. Staff will seek Board approval for the third and fourth deposits, which may be partially funded by an outside grant funding source, at a future date. This action transfers funds for the initial and second deposits and other acquisition expenses associated with executing the Agreement.

Due to lengthy negotiations and multiple appraisals of the subject property, previous Board actions appropriated a total of \$248,900 by Resolution Nos. 2007-12-342 (approved December 18, 2007), 2010-11-286 (approved November 16, 2010), 2011-9-197 (approved September 6, 2011) and 2011-10-235 (approved October 4, 2011).

TRANSFER FROM:

Designated for Acquisition – Measure WW Black Diamond Mines (229900WW00)	<u>\$165,445</u>
Total Current Action	\$165,445
Previous Board Actions – Measures AA and WW, Measure AA Interest	<u>248,900</u>
Total Current Project Cost	\$414,345

TRANSFER TO:

AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines (234400)	
Initial Deposit	\$10,000
Second Deposit	76,445
AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines Safety and Security (234401)	
Rehabilitate Residence	40,000
Repair Fence	9,000
Install Water Meter and Plumbing	<u>30,000</u>
Total Current Action	\$165,445
Previous Board Actions for Staff Time, Appraisal, Environmental Assessment and Property Improvements and Security	\$248,900
Total Current Project Cost	\$414,345

BACKGROUND

The Park District has long considered the Moller Ranch property currently owned by AUSD to be a critical acquisition to complete the northern entrance and gateway to Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve. The Board authorized staff to begin negotiations to acquire two of the three parcels from AUSD on January 12, 1999 by its Resolution No. 1999-01-28, and ten years later for the third parcel on December 1, 2009 by its Resolution No. 2009-12-304.

Staff commissioned appraisals in 1987, 1989, 1992, and 1994, with the most recent appraisal, dated May 20, 2011, jointly sponsored by the Park District, AUSD and third party Aviano Farms LLC. Aviano Farms is purchasing a conservation easement over 155.63± acres of the property for \$1,034,368 as mitigation for two development projects in the City of Antioch, its 533-unit active adult residential development and AUSD's Dozier Libbey Medical High School. The Park District will purchase the underlying fee interest to this acreage, as well as the remaining approximately 35.82± acres of unencumbered fee interest including the farmstead, for \$305,782 per the terms of a three-party Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA"), dated June 27, 2012 and authorized by the Board on October 4, 2011 by Resolution No. 2011-10-235. Close of escrow is proposed to occur no later than December 31, 2016, with an option to extend if necessary for an additional six-month period.

AUSD purchased the property from the Moller family in 1996. The ranch was originally operated as a dairy, as evidenced by its two-story dairy barn constructed in 1903. Other notable historic structures on the site include a 3,152-square-foot horse barn constructed in 1915, a primary residence constructed in the early 1900's, and a secondary residence which is planned to function

as a park security residence, most likely constructed in the 1940s. Structures within the farmstead suffered some degree of vandalism due to the lack of on-site caretaking over the past 10 years.

On October 11, 2012, the Park District and AUSD entered into an Interim Access and Use Agreement (“Use Agreement”), allowing the Park District to take over property management of Moller Ranch in anticipation of acquiring the property. Safety and security improvements to the property that have occurred under the District’s stewardship include installing a security camera, refurbishing the on-site well for non-potable water purposes, rehabbing the septic system, restoring electrical service, and installing a trailer as a temporary security residence. In addition, formerly overgrown and unkempt grounds and fields have been mowed, trees have been trimmed, and four dumpster loads of trash, recyclable metal and wood have been removed from the property. Interpretive Services, Planning and Public Affairs are in the process of documenting the property’s historic resources. Public Safety now provides on the ground patrols, as well.

The 191.45± acre property consists primarily of unimproved and previously grazed land with the exception of the farmstead located in the northeasterly portion of the property. The terrain of the property varies from level to very steeply sloping with elevations topping out at 978 feet atop the hills of the south-central portion of the property. From the property’s highest vantage points views of the Cities of Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood and Oakley can be seen against the back-drop of the peaks of the Mount Diablo range to the south and the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Delta to the northeast, in addition to the rolling hills and wooded crevasses preserved in Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve. The property is predominately open grasslands with stands of blue oaks and California buckeyes, bisected by Markley Creek. The creek supports a degraded but persistent riparian plant community in the southeast corner of the property. An August 1997 biological assessment determined that rock outcrop ridge segments and associated grasslands to the south were suitable habitat for the state and federally threatened Alameda whipsnake.

Staff submitted a grant application to the State Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund Program for Riparian Habitat in order to help fund the preservation of Moller Ranch’s riparian, oak savannah and upland grassland habitat together with the provision of opportunities for compatible, passive public recreation and educational programming. The application was authorized by the Board on September 17, 2013 by Resolution No. 2013-09-215, and is proposed to be amended by a second resolution before the Board today. The property represents a unique opportunity to expand and complete the northern entrance and main gateway into EBRPD’s 8,300-acre Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve on the west side of the canyon. Furthermore, as noted above, approximately 155.63 acres of the property will be protected by a conservation easement ensuring protection of vital open space for habitat conservation and compatible public access in perpetuity.

Per the terms of the MOA, while the parties negotiate their respective purchase agreements, Aviano Farms is taking the lead in seeking resource agency approval of the conservation easement and management plan. Aviano Farms also is responsible for the cost of resource enhancements required as part of the mitigation and for a non-wasting endowment sufficient to fund the easement’s long-term maintenance and monitoring. Roads needed for resource management and recreational trails required by the Park District are being incorporated into the conservation easement. The Park District will hold a substantial portion of the endowment for future property

management, with the balance going to a third party conservation easement holder as required by the resource agencies.

An Acquisition Evaluation summarizing operational and other impacts of this property acquisition will be presented in a subsequent Board packet seeking authorization to fund the third and fourth deposits and purchase the property. Current requirements to make the property safe and secure include an additional \$40,000 to renovate the smaller of the property's two homes as a security residence; \$30,000 to install a water meter at the stub out on the subject's northern boundary; and an additional \$9,000 to repair the fence line east of Markley Creek. Staff recommends that the Board authorize entering into the Agreement and transferring funds for the initial and second deposits and related acquisition expenses.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO.: 2014 – 01 -

January 14, 2014

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND
TRANSFER FUNDS FOR ACQUISITION OF THE 191.45± ACRE MOLLER RANCH
PROPERTY FROM THE ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT:
BLACK DIAMOND MINES REGIONAL PRESERVE

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors authorized negotiations with the Antioch Unified School District (AUSD) by Resolutions No. 1999-01-28 and 2009-12-304, approved January 12, 1999 and December 1, 2009, respectively, for the 191.45± acre property formerly known as “Moller Ranch,” located on Somersville Road in unincorporated Contra Costa County immediately south of the City of Antioch at the northern entrance of Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve; and

WHEREAS, AUSD is prepared to sell a conservation easement over approximately 155.63 acres of the 191.45± acre property to Aviano Farms LLC for \$1,034,368 in fulfillment of mitigation requirements for which both parties are obligated; and

WHEREAS, AUSD also is prepared to sell the underlying fee interest, including approximately 35.82± acres of unencumbered fee that includes the property’s farmstead, to the Park District for \$305,782 based on the property’s appraised fair market value; and

WHEREAS, per the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement (Agreement) reached by the three parties and authorized by the Board on October 4, 2011 by Resolution No. 2011-10-235, the Park District and AUSD entered into an Interim Access and Use Agreement on October 11, 2012 allowing the Park District to take over property management of Moller Ranch in anticipation of acquiring the property; and

WHEREAS, renovation of the smaller of the property’s two homes and making the surrounding site safe and secure is estimated to cost an additional \$79,000, including upgrade of the water system and fencing; and

WHEREAS, while Aviano Farms pursues negotiations with the resource agencies to finalize the conservation easement, the parties have negotiated their respective purchase agreements, the Park District – AUSD Purchase and Sale Agreement being before the Board today requiring a \$10,000 initial deposit and a \$76,445 second deposit in 2014, for a total of \$86,445; and

WHEREAS, Aviano Farms also is responsible for the cost of resource enhancements required as part of the mitigation and for a non-wasting endowment sufficient to fund the easement’s long-term maintenance and monitoring, a substantial portion of which will be held by the Park District for future property management, with the balance going to a third party conservation easement holder as required by the resource agencies; and

WHEREAS, under CEQA and the District's Environmental Review Manual, this project is Categorically Exempt and therefore not subject to preparation and processing of environmental documentation; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of this property aids in important resource protection goals by preserving viewsheds, maintaining open space, protecting riparian habitat and endangered species habitat, and extending a wildlife corridor; and

WHEREAS, due to lengthy negotiations and multiple appraisals, previous board actions appropriated a total of \$248,900 by Resolution Nos. 2007-12-342, 2010-11-286, 2011-9-197, and 2011-10-235, approved on December 18, 2007, November 16, 2010, September 6, 2011 and October 4, 2011, respectively;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes the General Manager to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with AUSD for the acquisition of the 191.45± acre Moller Ranch property and to transfer \$165,445 from Designated for Land Acquisition – Measure WW (229900WW00) as follows: \$86,445 to AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines (CIP234400) and \$79,000 to AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines Safety and Security (CIP234401), as shown on the attached Budget Change Form to fund the following costs;

TRANSFER FROM:

Designated for Acquisition – Measure WW Black Diamond Mines (229900WW00)	\$165,445
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TRANSFER TO:

AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines (234400)	
Initial Deposit	\$10,000
Second Deposit	76,445
AUSD-Moller Ranch/Black Diamond Mines Safety and Security (234401)	
Rehabilitate Residence	40,000
Fence Repair	9,000
Install Water Meter	<u>30,000</u>
Total Current Action	\$165,445

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or allocate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, seconded by Director _____ and adopted this 14th day of January, 2014, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BUDGET CHANGE FORM**

NEW APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET TRANSFERS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appropriate from General Fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	Between Fund Sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	From New Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Between Projects

DECREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	INCREASE BUDGET ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Account Name: Expense: Capital- Land-Black Diamond-Acquisition-Designated Acquisitions-Measure WW Black Diamond Allocation Area Account: 333-6330-102-7010 / 229900WW00-100	\$ 165,445	Account Name: Expense: Capital- Land-Black Diamond-Antioch Unified School District/Moller-Measure WW Black Diamond Allocation Area-Acquisition Account: 333-6330-102-7010 / 234400WP09-100	\$ 86,445
		Account Name: Expense: Capital-Acquisition-Black Diamond-Antioch Unified School District/Moller-Measure WW Black Diamond Allocation Area-Safety & Security Account: 333-6330-102-7010 / 234401WP09-500	\$ 79,000

REASON FOR BUDGET CHANGE ENTRY:

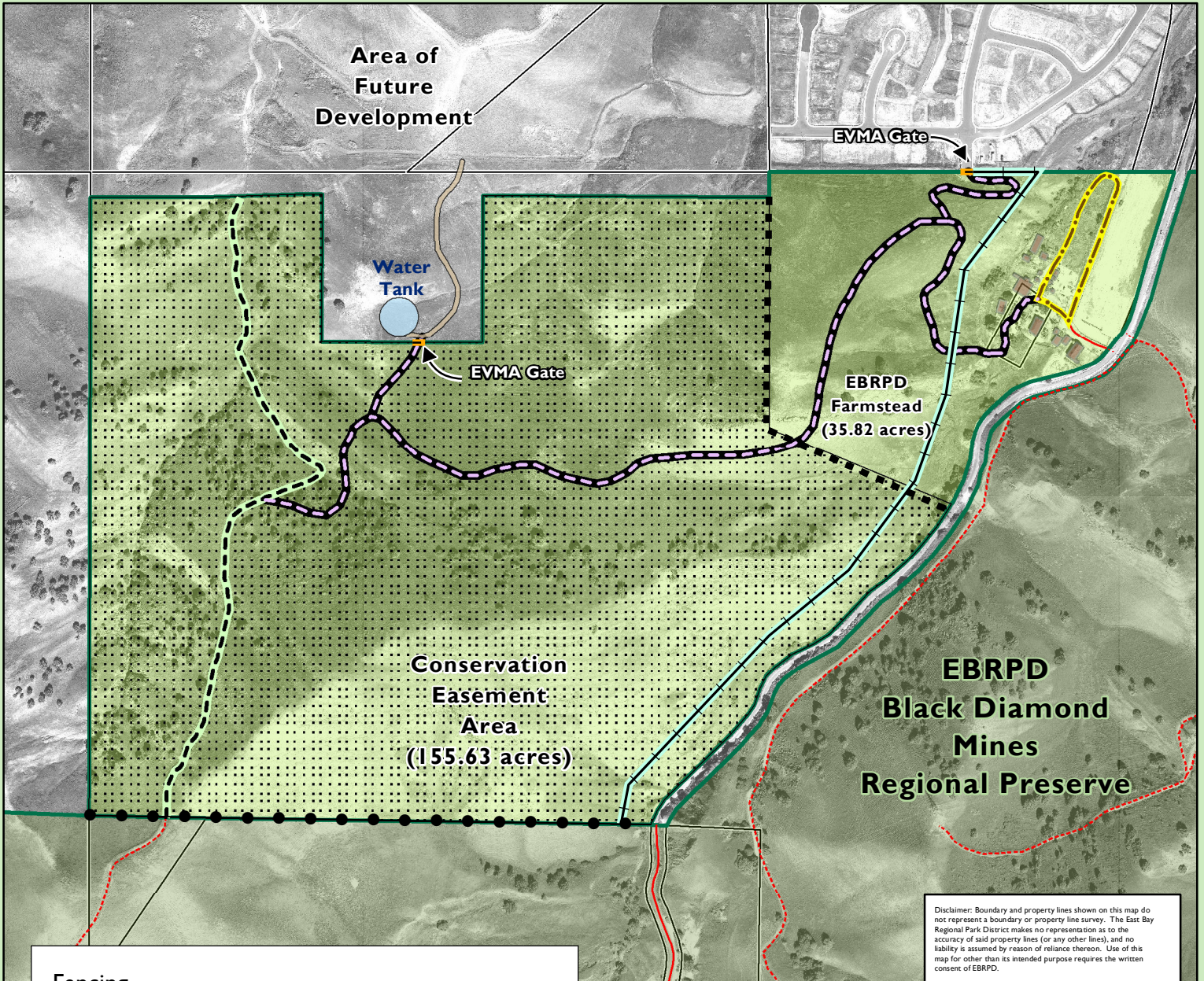
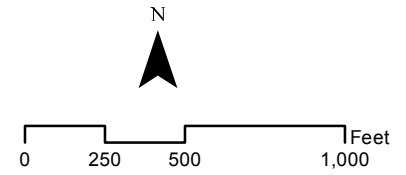
As being presented at the Board of Directors meeting on January 14th, 2014, the General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the appropriation of \$165,445 of Measure WW bond budget from Black Diamond Acquisition Allocation area to augment the existing budget of \$248,900 for acquisition(234400WP09) and safety and security measures (234401WP09) on the Moller Ranch property.

As approved at the Board of Directors Meeting on:		Date:
Board of Directors Resolution Number:		2014-01
Posted By:	Date:	1/14/2014
Signature		

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve

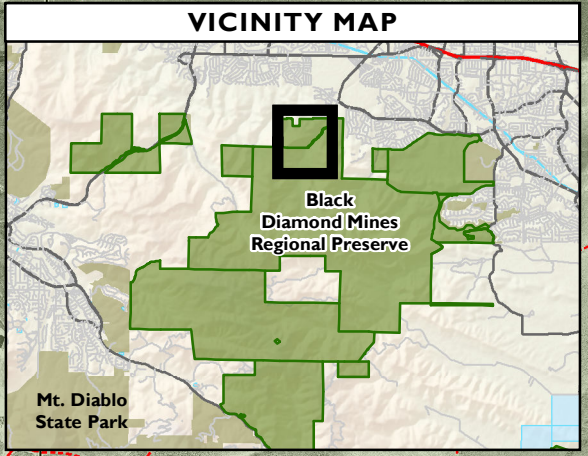
AUSD-Moller Ranch Property

Location Map



Disclaimer: Boundary and property lines shown on this map do not represent a boundary or property line survey. The East Bay Regional Park District makes no representation as to the accuracy of said property lines (or any other lines), and no liability is assumed by reason of reliance thereon. Use of this map for other than its intended purpose requires the written consent of EBRPD.

- Fencing**
- ■ ■ ■ EBRPD Conservation Easement Boundary
 - — ● Fence to be removed
 - +— Proposed Creek Fencing
 - +— Proposed EVMA Gate Locations
- Trails**
- Existing Ridge Trail
 - Proposed Farmstead Loop Trail
 - Proposed Connector Trail



AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

4. BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS

- a. Actions Taken By Other Jurisdictions Affecting the Park District
(Doyle)

City of Richmond – Point Molate

On Thursday, December 12, 2013, United States District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers dismissed the majority of a motion against the City of Richmond brought by Upstream Point Molate LLC (“Upstream”) and the Guidiville Rancheria of California regarding the proposal to develop the former Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot as a casino and resort destination. The former Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot consists of 423 acres located on the San Pablo Peninsula in the City of Richmond and was officially closed in 1995. In 2004, Upstream and the Guidiville Rancheria entered into a Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) with the City of Richmond which provided that the City would transfer the land to Upstream and the Guidiville Rancheria to develop the casino resort project. The transfer was contingent upon the casino project receiving final legal approvals, including environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act and a determination by the federal Department of the Interior that would permit tribal gaming on Point Molate. In March, 2011, the City of Richmond considered the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the casino project and found that it would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to traffic and historic resources and did not approve the project. Subsequently, in September, 2011, the Department of the Interior determined that Point Molate did not qualify for gaming under the restored lands exception of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Upstream and the Guidiville Rancheria challenged that the City’s disapproval of the project and lack of consideration of alternatives was a violation of the LDA. District Court Judge Rogers ruled that the City was within its rights to disapprove the project. The case can be appealed by Upstream and the Guidiville Rancheria.

City of Fremont – Vargas Road Improvement Project Phase I

On Tuesday, December 3, 2013, the Fremont City Council approved a cooperative funding agreement with the East Bay Regional Park District and appropriated \$260,000 of funding from the District to Phase I of the Vargas Road Improvement Project. The work will be done in four locations along Vargas Road and include widening of the road, striping, and signage. The work is being done as a result of a settlement agreement between the District and local residents to provide access to Vargas Plateau Regional Park as described in the adopted Land Use Plan. The City also determined that the street and signage improvement work would be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

STAFF PRESENTATION

General Manager Robert Doyle will present the year in review for 2013.

GM COMMENTS

Dan McCormick has been appointed as the District's new Fire Chief. Dan has worked for the District since 1989 when he was hired as Administrative Analyst in Aquatics. Dan is a graduate of UC Irvine where he earned his BA in Economics. Dan was promoted to Aquatics Manager in 2001.

Dan has been serving in the Public Safety Division as the Assistant Fire Chief of Aquatics since the Lifeguard Services moved to Public Safety in January 2007. Dan gained his firefighting experience in the District's Industrial Fire Department for 11 years and served as a Fire Lieutenant. Dan is an excellent manager and well respected by his peers in the Fire Service and throughout the District. Dan's appointment was effective January 1, 2014, with the departure of Chief Ken Blonski.

Retirees October 1 – December 31, 2013

David Amme	Wildland Vegetation Program Manager	8 years
Michael Anderson	AGM Planning and Stewardship	32 years
Kenneth Blonski	Fire Chief	10 years
Nicholas Cavagnaro	Exhibit Supervisor	19 years
Stephen Edwards	Botanic Garden Supervisor	36 years
Yvonne Provaznik	Park Supervisor, Ardenwood	26 years
Alison Rein	Park Supervisor, Wildcat Canyon	32 years
Dionisio Rosario	Park Supervisor, Redwood	37 years
Brian Wiese	Chief, Planning	17 years

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

From November 14 through December 19, 2013 the Public Safety Division handled 554 service calls and 415 total incidents. Highlights are included below.

Police

There were 20 arrests made throughout the District for a variety of felony and misdemeanor offenses, including DUI, weapons possession, drug possession, violation of court restraining orders, disorderly conduct, public intoxication, and indecent exposure. Officers also issued 236 citations for Ordinance 38 violations, vehicle code violations, and parking violations. Officers handled 176 field interviews (contacts without citations or arrests) and contacted 11 persons on probation or parole to conduct compliance checks.

- Anthony Chabot: On December 3, two occupants of a vehicle were contacted for a curfew violation. One subject was arrested for an outstanding warrant and the other was arrested for having a concealed firearm and a controlled substance in the vehicle.
- Del Valle: On December 13, officers and medical personnel responded to a report of a juvenile victim who fell and sustained a head injury. The victim was transported to Children's Hospital via helicopter for further evaluation.
- Delta de Anza Trail in Pittsburg: On December 2, a juvenile was approached and threatened by three subjects, and was robbed of a cell phone. Suspect descriptions were provided to officers.

On December 13, an officer took a report from the victim of a robbery on the trail. The victim described two juvenile suspects who approached her and stole her purse.

- Lake Chabot: On November 25, an officer responded to a report of an unconscious person slumped over in a vehicle. The vehicle was found to be stolen from San Francisco and the subject was transported to the hospital for a drug overdose. After he was medically cleared the suspect was arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle, DUI, and possession of methamphetamine.
- Martin Luther King Shoreline: On November 24, a sergeant contacted two occupants of a vehicle with the hood propped open. The passenger provided false information and had cocaine in his pocket. He was arrested for parole violation and providing false information to an officer.

On December 10, an officer contacted two occupants near a vehicle with trash littered around it. The driver provided false information to the officer and as she was being placed in handcuffs she physically resisted the officer and injured him. She was arrested for several drug charges and resisting arrest. The passenger was released on scene.

- McLaughlin Eastshore State Park: On December 16, an officer responded to the report of a dog bite to a victim's wrist. The officer helped the victim get the dog owners information and no medical attention was needed.

- Point Pinole: On December 6, several officers responded to a report of a suicide attempt near the railroad tracks. The subject was seen running in front of an Amtrak train and was visibly upset. He was detained and transported to the hospital for psychiatric evaluation.

On December 15, an officer responded to the report of a subject yelling at park users and punching a park sign. The subject asked for a self-committal to the hospital and was transported by ambulance to the hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

- San Pablo Bay Shoreline: On December 14, officers returned to an illegal encampment to ensure campers had vacated the area. Officers located a person in violation and arrested her for possession of a controlled substance and illegal camping.
- Tilden: On December 6, an officer responded to the report of a suicide attempt. The victim was provided medical treatment until firefighters were on scene. The subject was transported to the hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.
- Wildcat Canyon: On November 23, an officer contacted two occupants of a vehicle illegally parked in front of a fire gate. Both subjects had outstanding warrants and were searched. They were arrested for possession of burglary tools, stolen property, and drug paraphernalia. One suspect was a convicted felon. The other subject was in possession of a loaded and concealed firearm.

On November 30, several officers responded to a report of two sexual assaults that occurred the previous night. Two juvenile victims identified the suspects who assaulted them as students who attend their school. The suspects were interviewed and the investigation is ongoing.

Fire Operations

Fire Response

- Carquinez: On November 21, firefighters were dispatched to a vegetation fire at the brick yard. The fire was approximately 4 acres in size.

On November 21, firefighters responded to a small vegetation fire at Foster Street. Fire staff was called out to assist with the investigation.

- Outside the Park District: On December 17, Lt. Mike Sweany was requested by a Federal Incident Command Team to respond as a Division Supervisor to the Pfeiffer Fire burning near Big Sur in the Los Padres National Forest.
- Tilden: On December 6, firefighters responded to a suicide attempt at the Lone Tree picnic area. The patient was found conscious in his vehicle and was transported to Highland Hospital.

Fire Management

District-wide

- Contractors continued the wildland fuels hazard reduction project at Kennedy Grove to thin eucalyptus stands and remove ladder and surface fuels.
- On November 14, contractors started the Anthony Chabot Campground eucalyptus stump treatment project to help maintain the site where eucalyptus was removed in 2011 and 2012.
- On December 16, Napa Conservation Corp crews started a fuels reduction project behind homes near Parkridge Gate within Anthony Chabot.

Medical/Accident/Injury

- Firefighters responded to 4 medical/accident related emergencies throughout the District. The incidents include: vehicle accidents, bicycle accidents, health related problems, and personal injuries.

Lifeguard Services

Highlights from December's activities include:

- Submission of the aquatic program docket, to be published in Regional In Nature's spring publication, and grant proposals to the Regional Parks Foundation.
- Meetings conducted with various departments to improve lifeguard service delivery, hiring methods, emergency response, and swim facility features have generated several projects that will be completed prior to the next lifeguard service season.
- The lifeguard recruitment plan for the 2014 season was initiated.

Date	Day	Event	Location	Sponsoring Organization
1/4/14	Saturday	Healthy Hikes	Various	EBRPD
1/20/14	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr Day	MLK Regional Shoreline	EBRPD
2/1/14	Saturday	Healthy Hikes	Various	EBRPD

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
Feb 1, 2014 Saturday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	QUA Quarry Lakes: Special Event Special Event Permit Quarry Lakes Regional Park	Fremont 50K Fun Run #1215 Special Event	Mike Palmer D: (510) 642-5034 P: (510) 642-5034	50
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	ALA Alameda County Trails: Special Event Special Event Permit Alameda County Trails	Fremont 50K Fun Run Special Event	Mike Palmer D: (510) 642-5034 P: (510) 642-5034	50
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	COY Coyote Hills: Special Event Special Event Permit Coyote Hills Regional Park	Fremont 50K Fun Run Special Event	Mike Palmer D: (510) 642-5034 P: (510) 642-5034	50
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Training Program 2014 Special Event	Lake Merritt Joggers And Striders (Customer) Jonathan Zingman P: (510) 823-5638	80
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	SUN Sunol/Ohlone/Mis Peak: Special Event Special Event Permit Sunol Regional Wilderness	Training Run - Sunol Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	25
Feb 8, 2014 Saturday 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	Rattlesnake Ramble 1/2 Marathon, 10K, 5K Special Event	Sasquatch Racing (Customer) Charles Lantz D: (415) 240-2195 P: (415) 240-2195	350
6:00 AM - 3:00 PM	CHA Lake Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Lake Chabot Regional Park	Rattlesnake Ramble 1/2 Marathon, 10K, 5K Special Event	Sasquatch Racing (Customer) Charles Lantz D: (415) 240-2195 P: (415) 240-2195	350
Feb 9, 2014 Sunday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	MES McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Special Event Permit McLaughlin Eastshore State Park	February Training Special Event	REI (Customer) Karl Roesler P: (510) 527-4140	12
Feb 15, 2014 Saturday 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM	HAY Hayward: Special Event Special Event Permit Hayward Regional Shoreline	Bay Breeze Special Event	Brazen Racing (Customer) Sam Fiandaca P: (510) 750-5919	1,000
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CCT Iron Horse Trail :Special Event Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Program 2014 Special Event	Lake Merritt Joggers And Striders (Customer) Jonathan Zingman P: (510) 823-5638	80

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AM

Reservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	SUN Sunol/Ohlone/Mis Peak: Special Event Permit Sunol Regional Wilderness	February Training Special Event	REI (Customer) Karl Roesler P: (510) 527-4140	12
Feb 16, 2014 Sunday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	February Training Special Event	REI (Customer) Karl Roesler P: (510) 527-4140	12
Feb 20, 2014 Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	Challenge Special Event	Title Nine (Customer) Melanie Dries P: (510) 653-9949 x236	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CHA Lake Chabot: Special Event Permit Lake Chabot Regional Park	Challenge Special Event	Title Nine (Customer) Melanie Dries P: (510) 653-9949 x236	100
Feb 22, 2014 Saturday 6:30 AM - 12:00 PM	RED Redwood: Special Event Permit Redwood Regional Park	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50
7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	LARPD Photography Class Special Event	Livermore Area Recreation And Park District (Customer) Moe Kline P: (925) 373-5717	10
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	ALA Alameda County Trails: Special Event Permit Alameda County Trails	Training Program 2014 Special Event	Lake Merritt Joggers And Striders (Customer) Jonathan Zingman P: (510) 823-5638	80
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	10K/30K/50K/Half Marathon Trail Run Special Event	Inside Trail Events (Customer) Tim Stahler P: (510) 735-9057	300
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM	CHA Lake Chabot: Special Event Permit Lake Chabot Regional Park	10K/30K/50K/Half Marathon Trail Run Special Event	Inside Trail Events (Customer) Tim Stahler P: (510) 735-9057	300
Mar 1, 2014 Saturday 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CCT Contra Costa Canal Tr: Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CCT Iron Horse Trail :Special Event Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	BLK Black Diamond Mines: Special Event Special Event Permit Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve	Mine Open House Special Event	Kate Collins P: (510) 544-2755	100
Mar 2, 2014 Sunday 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Camp Unalayee Special Event	Camp Unalayee (Customer) David Feldman P: (510) 331-5756	25
Mar 8, 2014 Saturday 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CCT Iron Horse Trail :Special Event Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	MLK Martin Luther King Jr: Special Event Special Event Permit Martin Luther King Jr: Regional Shoreline	Training Program 2014 Special Event	Lake Merritt Joggers And Striders (Customer) Jonathan Zingman P: (510) 823-5638	80
Mar 15, 2014 Saturday 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM	ALA Alameda County Trails: Special Event Special Event Permit Alameda County Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	25
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	QUA Quarry Lakes: Special Event Special Event Permit Quarry Lakes Regional Park	Zoom Running Special Event	Zoom Running Events (Customer) Wendell Doman P: (415) 515-6761	200
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	Badger Cover Special Event	Brazen Racing (Customer) Sam Fiandaca P: (510) 750-5919	500
Mar 16, 2014 Sunday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	PTP Point Pinole: Special Event Special Event Permit Point Pinole Regional Shoreline	Bay Area Orienteering Club Special Event	Bay Area Orienteering Club (BAOC) (Customer) Stephen Gregg P: (510) 779-8808	100

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Camp Unalayee Special Event	Camp Unalayee (Customer) David Feldman P: (510) 331-5756	25
Mar 21, 2014 Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	BLK Black Diamond Mines: Special Event Special Event Permit Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve	Orienteering Special Event	Get Lost!! Running, Racing (Customer) Vladimir Gusiatiukov P: (971) 998-0321	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Training Programs Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	100
Mar 22, 2014 Saturday 6:30 AM - 12:00 PM	PTI Point Isabel: Special Event Special Event Permit Point Isabel Regional Shoreline	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Training Programs Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	DIA Diablo Foothills: Special Event Special Event Permit Diablo Foothills Regional Park	Orienteering Special Event	Get Lost!! Running, Racing (Customer) Vladimir Gusiatiukov P: (971) 998-0321	150
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	RED Redwood: Special Event Special Event Permit Redwood Regional Park	Coastal Trail Run Special Event	Coastal Trail Runs (Customer) Wendell Doman P: (415) 515-6761	350
Mar 23, 2014 Sunday 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM	TEM Temescal: Special Event Special Event Permit Temescal Regional Recreation Area	Oakland Marathon Special Event	Corrigan Sports (Customer) Gene Brialik P: (510) 371-5273	1,500
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Egg Scramble Special Event	East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) (Customer) Britt Thorsnes P: (510) 544-3171	100

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Training Programs Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	100
Mar 29, 2014 Saturday 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM	ALA Alameda County Trails: Special Event Special Event Permit Alameda County Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	25
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	MIL Miller Knox: Special Event Special Event Permit Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline	YEP 2nd Annual Walk to Nature #6665 Special Event	Youth Enrichment Strategies (YES) (Customer) Eric Aaholm P: (510) 232-3023	1
Mar 30, 2014 Sunday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Egg Scramble Special Event	East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) (Customer) Britt Thorsnes P: (510) 544-3171	100
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Camp Unalayee Special Event	Camp Unalayee (Customer) David Feldman P: (510) 331-5756	25
Apr 4, 2014 Friday 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	Teacher Training Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	40
Apr 5, 2014 Saturday 12:01 AM - 12:00 AM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	Teacher Training Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	40
6:00 AM - 1:00 PM	MES McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Special Event Permit McLaughlin Eastshore State Park	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	50
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	PLE Pleasanton Ridge: Special Event Special Event Permit Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park	Training Run #6605 Special Event	Club Sport Fremont (Customer) Marie McCutcheon P: (510) 304-0399	25

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Coastal Trail Run Special Event	Coastal Trail Runs (Customer) Wendell Doman P: (415) 515-6761	350
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ARD Ardenwood: Special Event Special Event Permit Ardenwood Historic Farm	Tartan Day Scottish Fair Special Event	Ira Bletz D: (510) 544-3290 P: (510) 544-3290	100
Apr 6, 2014 Sunday 12:01 PM - 6:00 PM	ANT Anthony Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Anthony Chabot Regional Park	Teacher Training Special Event	Bay Area Wilderness Training (Customer) Aaron Gilbert P: (510) 452-2298 x301	40
Apr 9, 2014 Wednesday 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM	CHA Lake Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Lake Chabot Regional Park	Let's Go Fishing Derby Special Event	Let's Go Fishing Production (Customer) Tom Gratny P: (510) 582-1274	650
Apr 12, 2014 Saturday 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CCT Contra Costa Canal Tr: Special Event Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	30
7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CCT Iron Horse Trail : Special Event Special Event Permit Contra Costa Trails	Training Event Special Event	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (Customer) Maricris Rosario P: (408) 490-3148	30
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Tracking Test Special Event	Oakland Dog Training Club (Customer) Jack McCredie P: (510) 749-9957	20
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CHA Lake Chabot: Special Event Special Event Permit Lake Chabot Regional Park	Esophageal Cancer Awareness 5K Run #6595 Special Event	Esophageal Cancer Action Network (Customer) Tanya Brubaker P: (510) 332-3986	300
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	PLE Pleasanton Ridge: Special Event Special Event Permit Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park	Training Run #6605 Special Event	Club Sport Fremont (Customer) Marie McCutcheon P: (510) 304-0399	25

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	SUN Sunol/Ohione/Mis Peak: Special Event Special Event Permit Sunol Regional Wilderness	Spring Wildflower Festival Special Event	East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) (Customer) Erica Herron D: (510) 544-3241 P: (510) 544-3241	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Egg Scramble Special Event	Sharol Nelson-Embry P: (510) 544-3181	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	MLK Martin Luther King Jr: Special Event Special Event Permit Martin Luther King Jr: Regional Shoreline	Earth Day Special Event	Kevin Fox P: (510) 544-2515	100
Apr 13, 2014 Sunday 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Tracking Test Special Event	Oakland Dog Training Club (Customer) Jack McCredie P: (510) 749-9957	20
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Camp Unalayee Special Event	Camp Unalayee (Customer) David Feldman P: (510) 331-5756	25
Apr 19, 2014 Saturday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	PLE Pleasanton Ridge: Special Event Special Event Permit Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park	Training Run #6605 Special Event	Club Sport Fremont (Customer) Marie McCutcheon P: (510) 304-0399	25
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Egg Scramble Special Event	Sharol Nelson-Embry P: (510) 544-3181	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	SHA Shadow Cliffs: Special Event Special Event Permit Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area	Pleasanton Triathlon Special Event	Total Body Fitness (Customer) Mark Shaw P: (916) 774-3488	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ROU Round Valley: Special Event Special Event Permit Round Valley Regional Preserve	Diablo Trails Challenge Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	DIA Diablo Foothills: Special Event Special Event Permit Diablo Foothills Regional Park	Diablo Trails Challenge Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
12:30 PM - 5:00 PM	KEN Kennedy Grove: Special Event Special Event Permit Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area	Testing - Special Event Special Event	Denise Valentine P: (510) 544-2524	30
Apr 22, 2014 Tuesday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Earth Day Special Event	East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) (Customer) Britt Thorsnes P: (510) 544-3171	100
Apr 24, 2014 Thursday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	Two Day Town Special Event	James Benney Local Productions (Customer) James Benney P: (510) 421-0722	1,600
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Four Days Diablo Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100
Apr 25, 2014 Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Four Days Diablo Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	Two Day Town Special Event	James Benney Local Productions (Customer) James Benney P: (510) 421-0722	1,600
Apr 26, 2014 Saturday 6:00 AM - 3:00 PM	RED Redwood: Special Event Special Event Permit Redwood Regional Park	Sasquatch Scramble, 1/2, 10K, 5K Special Event	Sasquatch Racing (Customer) Charles Lantz D: (415) 240-2195 P: (415) 240-2195	350
6:00 AM - 3:00 PM	ROB Roberts: Special Event Special Event Permit Roberts Regional Recreation Area	Sasquatch Scramble, 1/2, 10K, 5K Special Event	Sasquatch Racing (Customer) Charles Lantz D: (415) 240-2195 P: (415) 240-2195	350
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	PLE Pleasanton Ridge: Special Event Special Event Permit Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park	Training Run #6605 Special Event	Club Sport Fremont (Customer) Marie McCutcheon P: (510) 304-0399	25
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	BRI Briones: Special Event Special Event Permit Briones Regional Park	Training Run #6605 Special Event	Club Sport Fremont (Customer) Marie McCutcheon P: (510) 304-0399	25

Reservation Master Report

Jan 7, 2014
8:42 AMReservation Date: From Feb 1, 2014 through Apr 30, 2014
Event Type: Special Event

Date / Setup - Ready Time / Start - End Time	Facility / Equipment / Type / Center	Event / Event Type / Schedule Type	Contact Information	Attend/Qty
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	Two Day Town Special Event	James Benney Local Productions (Customer) James Benney P: (510) 421-0722	1,600
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Four Days Diablo Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CRO Crown Beach: Special Event Special Event Permit Crown Memorial State Beach	Alameda Earth Day Event Special Event	Sharol Nelson-Embry P: (510) 544-3181	100
Apr 27, 2014 Sunday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM	DEL Del Valle: Special Event Special Event Permit Del Valle Regional Park	Two Day Town Special Event	James Benney Local Productions (Customer) James Benney P: (510) 421-0722	1,600
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	MOR Morgan Territory: Special Event Special Event Permit Morgan Territory Regional Preserve	Four Days Diablo Special Event	Save Mt. Diablo (Customer) Kelly Stein P: (925) 947-3535	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ARD Ardenwood: Special Event Special Event Permit Ardenwood Historic Farm	Sheep Shearing Day Special Event	East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) (Customer) Ira Bletz D: (510) 544-3290 P: (510) 544-3290	100
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	ALA Alameda County Trails: Special Event Special Event Permit Alameda County Trails	Primavera Century Ride Special Event	Fremont Freewheelers (Customer) Laura Spano P: (510) 209-9542	50
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	COY Coyote Hills: Special Event Special Event Permit Coyote Hills Regional Park	Primavera Century Ride Special Event	Fremont Freewheelers (Customer) Laura Spano P: (510) 209-9542	50
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TIL Tilden Special Event Special Event Permit Tilden Regional Park	Camp Unalayee Special Event	Camp Unalayee (Customer) David Feldman P: (510) 331-5756	25

Total This Period: 17,392
Total January - April 2014: 22,397
Total Jan 1 - Apr 22, 2013 : 21,996

BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS

BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Friday, December 6, 2013
12:45 p.m., Board Room

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

A copy of the background materials concerning these agenda items, including any material that may have been submitted less than 72 hours before the meeting, is available for inspection on the District's website (www.ebparks.org), the Headquarters reception desk, and at the meeting.

AGENDA

<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
R	12:45 p.m.	1. 2014 Park Advisory Committee Goals	Pfuehler
I	1:00 p.m.	2. Update on Gateway Park	M. Anderson
I	1:15 p.m.	3. Youth Engagement Report	Johnson / O'Connor
I	2:00 p.m.	4. Community Survey: Preliminary Results from 2013 Phone Survey	Johnson / Collins
R	2:35 p.m.	5. SRI Annual Contract Extension for 2014	Collins
		6. Public Comments	

(R) Recommendation for Future Board Consideration

(I) Information

(D) Discussion

Executive Committee Members

John Sutter (Chair); Ayn Wieskamp; Carol Severin

Whitney Dotson, Alternate

Robert E. Doyle, Staff Coordinator

Future Meetings (2014)

January 9	July 10
February 27	August 14
March 13	September 11
April 10	October 9
May 8	November 13
June 12	December 11

Distribution list (next page)

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Board Executive Committee (12/6/2013) (Sutter)

Present

Board: John Sutter (Chair), Carol Severin, Ayn Wieskamp

Staff: Robert Doyle, Mike Anderson, Elizabeth Carmody, Dave Collins, Carol Johnson, Jim O'Connor, Becky Pheng, Erich Pfuehler, Bob Nisbet, Mona Koh, and Nancy Kaiser

Public: George Manross, Nina Roberts, Mary Fortune, Tanya Rao, and Glenn Kirby

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 pm.

I. 2014 Park Advisory Committee Goals

Erich Pfuehler, Government Relations and Legislative Affairs Manager, provided the Executive Committee with an overview of the Park Advisory Committee's ("PAC") 2013 goals and proposed 2014 goals. In 2013, the PAC reviewed and discussed 15 items / projects including the Master Plan update, Land Use Plans/Amendments, Measure CC progress report, and Public Safety report. Glenn Kirby, PAC Chair, presented the proposed goals for 2014, which includes a review of the Marksmanship Concessionaire Agreement, review of Measure WW implementation, update on natural resources and Kids Challenge, status update on Oakland Strokes agreement, and overview of San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority. The Executive Committee thanked the PAC for their work, and acknowledged the value and importance of their comments on difficult and complex issues.

Recommendation: By motion of Director Wieskamp and seconded by Director Severin, the Board Executive Committee voted 3-0 to approve the Park Advisory Committee's Proposed Goals for 2014 and to forward a favorable recommendation to the full Board.

2. Update on Gateway Park

Mike Anderson, Assistant General Manager, provided the Executive Committee with an update on the development of Gateway Park. Mr. Anderson showed a map of the proposed location of the park and the property that will be conveyed to the District from the federal government. A Notice of Preparation (“NOP”) has been circulated for the project and several public scoping sessions have been held, with District staff in attendance. District staff has reviewed the NOP, and is in the process of drafting comments. The current plan calls for a much more passive park than originally proposed. The goal is to provide an entryway park to the bicycle/pedestrian path on the new Bay Bridge. The Executive Committee expressed their concerns about access to the proposed park, security, and long-term maintenance and operational costs. Staff has raised these concerns with the Gateway Park Working Group. A memorandum of understanding between the landowners and project funders is being drafted, and is expected to be finalized in early 2014. Staff will continue to update the Executive Committee as the project moves forward.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

3. Youth Engagement Report

Carol Johnson, Assistant General Manager, provided an overview of the *Youth Engagement Report*, which was undertaken by Nina Roberts, Associate Professor of San Francisco State University. At the meeting, Ms. Roberts and her team presented a PowerPoint presentation of their findings and recommendations. The report found that:

- Transportation and lack of knowledge/awareness are some of the major barriers to outdoor participation and employment.
- The biggest barrier to youths seeking employment with the District is the lack of knowledge of job openings and knowledge of nature-related job opportunities.
- The job application process and information presentation are not user friendly.
- There is no pathway or mentoring program for youth/seasonal employees.

The report included 46 recommendations in eight core categories: administration/management, program enhancement, youth employment/training, youth leadership, technology, career/professional development for District employees, partnerships, and outreach/marketing. Some of the recommendations include:

- Allocation of funds for a youth director position.
- Allocation of additional funds towards transportation for schools and other organizations to get to various parks.
- Creation of a youth employment pipeline to connect current employees and prospective candidates for new job opportunities.
- Creation of a Youth Ambassador Council.

Staff thanked Ms. Roberts for her work, and looked forward to reading the report and sharing it with the community.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

4. Community Survey: Preliminary Results from 2013 Phone Survey

Dr. George Manross of Strategy Research Institute (“SRI”) provided a short overview of the results of the 2013 phone survey. The results show that 87% of people surveyed are aware of the District, and 85% exercise as part of their daily life. The top three park activities are walking, hiking, and biking. In addition to the activity patterns of park users, the survey also focused on expenditure patterns. Approximately 47% of people surveyed spend \$5 or more per park outing, spending mostly on bottled water, snacks, parking fees, and entrance/user fees. Staff discussed the importance of the survey results and the possibility of a Measure CC renewal in the next few years.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

5. SRI Annual Contract Extension for 2014

Dave Collins, Assistant General Manager, presented this agenda item. Mr. Collins gave a short overview of the work that SRI has undertaken on behalf of the District. In 2013, SRI has assisted with the update of the *Economic Study*, completed the community phone survey, and fielded the on-line park user survey. In 2014, staff intends to undertake several initiatives and projects which will require the assistance of SRI. These initiatives and projects include further research on turning park visitation information into statistically valid estimates of economic impact; strengthening the link between park use and health; and providing data into policy-development forums including Plan Bay Area and Bay Restoration Authority. After discussion, the Executive Committee voted in favor of renewing the consulting contract with SRI for 2014 in a not-to-exceed amount of \$59,400.

Recommendation: By motion of Director Severin and seconded by Director Wieskamp, the Board Executive Committee voted 3-0 to approve the renewal of a consulting contract with SRI for 2014 in a not to exceed amount of \$59,400, and to forward a favorable recommendation to the full Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky K. Pheng

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, CA

Wednesday, August 28, 2013
12:45 – 2:45 pm, Board Room

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

AGENDA

STATUS	TIME	ITEM	STAFF
(I)	12:45	A New Method for Surveying Sacramento Perch in Jewel Lake	(Sullivan)
(I)	1:00	Overview of Results from EBRPD and UC Berkeley 10-Year Grassland Monitoring Study	(Graul/Hopkinson/ Bartolome)
(I)	2:00	Ohlone Curriculum with Bay Miwok Content and Introduction to Delta Yokuts	(Kaiser)
(D)	2:15	Future Agenda Items	(Lane)
(D)	2:30	Public Comment	
(R)		Recommendation for Future Board Consideration	
(I)		Information	
(D)		Discussion	

Board Natural and Cultural Resources Committee Members:
Beverly Lane (Chair); Whitney Dotson, John Sutter, Ayn Wieskamp (Alternate)
Mike Anderson, Staff Coordinator

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

b. Natural and Cultural Resources Committee (08/28/13) (Lane)

Committee Members: Beverly Lane, Whitney Dotson, Ayn Wieskamp (alt.)

EBRPD Staff: Mike Anderson, Brian Wiese, Matt Graul, Nancy Kaiser, Denise Defreese, Joe Sullivan, Pete Alexander, Mark Ragatz, Emily Hopkins, Paul Miller, Jim O'Connor, Wilde Legard

Guests: Amelia Marshall, Peter Rauch, David Bigman, James Bartolome, Michele Hammond, Peter Hopkinson, Judy Bank

A meeting of the Board Natural and Cultural Resources Committee was held on Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at District Headquarters, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA. Chairperson Beverly Lane called the meeting to order at 12:49 p.m. The following is a summary of the items discussed:

I. A New Method for Surveying Sacramento Perch in Jewel Lake (Sullivan)

Sacramento Perch are the only native sunfish in the western United States and are a California Species of Special Concern. The District has two populations of Sacramento Perch: Sindhich Lagoon and Jewel Lake. Sedimentation in Jewel Lake has caused the lake to become very shallow making it difficult to use the traditional survey method with an electrofishing boat. The Fisheries department analyzed a new method of capturing fish using clover traps. Results suggest this new method will be an effective alternative to continue monitoring these special native fish.

2. Overview of Results from EBRPD and UC Berkeley 10-Year Grassland Monitoring Study (Graul/Hopkinson/Bartolome)

A collaboration between the District and the UC Berkeley Range Lab, the Grassland Monitoring Project was a 10-year grassland community monitoring study (2002-2011). The primary goals of the project were to: 1) help the District develop science-based management and monitoring of grasslands, 2) develop knowledge of Valley Grassland ecology over the course of a long-term study, and 3) determine effects of livestock grazing on Valley Grassland plant and bird communities.

Stewardship Chief Matt Graul introduced James Bartolome, Michele Hammond and Peter Hopkinson from the Range Ecology Lab at U.C. Berkeley. James Bartolome started the discussion on the background of the project and then Ms. Hammond and Mr. Hopkinson continued with the results of the study. The research findings suggest that vegetation and species composition vary significantly over small distances. There was no evidence of adverse effects on long-term native plant abundance related to District grazing practices. All three grassland bird species strongly preferred native grassland plots. Suggestions were to continue monitoring results to evaluate effectiveness and adapt practices accordingly.

3. Ohlone Curriculum with Bay Miwok Content and Introduction to Delta Yokuts (Kaiser)

Acting Chief of Interpretive and Recreation Services Nancy Kaiser provided an introduction to this unique project, including the project history, status, and timeline for completion. The curriculum is a resource for teachers designed to enhance classroom teaching at the third grade level which focuses on local history, continuity and change in their community. This District resource aligns with third grade social science standards and is a comprehensive resource that addresses the Native American heritage in the East Bay, as well as cultures past and present. The curriculum expands student understanding of local Native peoples and their history within regional parklands.

Chair Lane suggested that each school get two copies of the program and that students be tested, so that teachers would be encouraged to use the material. Director Dotson recommended that District Interpretive staff be involved with the curriculum. Amelia Marshall suggested a postcard be provided to the principal for reordering and a website for the children.

4. Future Agenda Items _____ (Lane)

Chairperson Lane requested an update on the Cultural Resources staff person.

Chair Lane adjourned the meeting at 3:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Gayle Still, Secretary

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BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 21, 2013 – 12:45 p.m.
Peralta Oaks – Board Room

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

AGENDA

<u>Status</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Staff</u>
(I)	12:45	1. Update: Pleasanton Ridge Shuttle Program	(Kassebaum)
(I)	1:15	2. Update: National Association for Olmsted Parks	(Zuckermann)
(R)	1:45	3. Review of <i>Roughing It Day Camp</i> Special Use Agreement: Briones Regional Park	(Waluch)
(R)	2:00	4. Review of <i>Eat, Drink & Be Merry!</i> Concession Agreement: Temescal Regional Recreation Area	(Waluch)
	2:15	5. Public Comments	
	2:20	6. AGM Comments	(O'Connor)
	2:30	7. Board Comments	
	2:45	8. Adjourn	

Status

(R) Recommendation
(I) Information
(D) Discussion

Board Operations Committee Members

Ayn Wieskamp (Chair); Carol Severin; Beverly Lane;
Doug Siden (Alternate); Jim O'Connor (Staff Coordinator)

Next Meeting

December 19, 2013

Board of Directors

John Sutter
President
Ward 2

Ayn Wieskamp
Vice-President
Ward 5

Whitney Dotson
Treasurer
Ward 1

Ted Radke
Secretary
Ward 7

Beverly Lane
Ward 6

Carol Severin
Ward 3

Doug Siden
Ward 4

Robert E. Doyle
General Manager

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

c. Operations (11/21/13) _____ (Wieskamp)

Present

Board: Directors Ayn Wieskamp (Chair), Carol Severin, Beverly Lane

Staff: Jim O'Connor, Anne Scheer, Anne Kassebaum, Mimi Waluch, Joseph Miller,
Dave Zuckermann, Dimitra Mantalvanos, Leigh Padmore

Guests: Hobie Woods (Roughing It Day Camp), Bob Simmons (Orinda Hiking Club),
Amelia Marshall (VTSP), Judi Bank (PAC), Joe Martines (Local 2428),
Alan Imler, Ted Wieskamp

I. Update: Pleasanton Ridge Shuttle Program

Anne Kassebaum, Acting Chief, Interpretive & Recreation Services, provided the Committee with an overview of the Ridgetop Shuttle, a pilot program that transports members of the public to the top of Pleasanton Ridge. The program began in May 2013 and has operated twice a month (weather permitting) through October 2013. Ms. Kassebaum introduced Dimitra Mantalvanos, a Public Safety employee and seasonal Recreation Leader, who drove the 8-passenger van during this successful pilot program.

The pilot program operated from May through October, two days a month (one Saturday and one Wednesday), with three shuttles per day. A total of 129 passengers registered with the District's Reservations Department, at \$10/person/per trip. The average age of participants is 63. Passengers have the option of hiking back down the ridge from three drop-off points, at approximately 4 miles, 7 miles and 9 miles. In terms of marketing, when asked how they heard about the program, the number one response was through the RIN (Regional in Nature), followed by newspaper articles and blogging. Respondents suggested starting the shuttle earlier in the day, operating weekends and during the winter, and adding more days. When asked what they enjoyed most about the program, respondents cited the views, trails, olive groves, and shade under the oak trees. One female regular shuttle user mentioned that some hikers are surprised to discover that the hike back to the staging area is not straight down; she also suggested that hikers be encouraged to bring more water.

When asked about the most frequently asked questions or concerns relating to the program, Ms. Mantalvanos responded that a number of hikers expressed the desire to have the option of catching a ride back down the ridge, and a few hikers inquired about bringing their dogs along for the hike. Director Ayn Wieskamp suggested tying in the Senior Safari Tours with marketing plans for the shuttle program, as an alternative to hiking.

Plans for the 2014 program include operating the shuttle three days a month (rather than two; perhaps adding a Friday), starting earlier in the day, and cutting back to two shuttles a day. Ms. Kassebaum reported that staff plans to use Cosco-Busan funds to purchase a 4-wheel drive 12-passenger van, noting that the driver will need to obtain a Class B license to operate the van.

2. Update: National Association for Olmsted Parks

Supervising Naturalist Dave Zuckermann reported on his recent attendance at the Fredrick Law Olmsted, Jr. Symposium held in Washington, D.C. in October 2013, and described the District's role in the upcoming March 2014 Olmsted Symposium at Stanford University, which happens to coincide with the District's 80th anniversary. This two-part Symposium is hosted by the National Association for Olmsted Parks whose mission is to *advance Olmsted principles and legacy of irreplaceable parks and landscapes that revitalize communities and enrich people's lives.*

Mr. Zuckermann's PowerPoint presentation demonstrated the key role that the Olmsted's played in the District's formation and development in the early 1930s. Olmsted Sr., who had two sons, was best known as the designer of Central Park. He was considered the father of landscape architecture and a leading figure of the urban parks movement. Olmsted, Sr. traveled throughout Europe extensively, bringing inspiration from English gardens, "using nature as his paint brush" to create pastoral scenes in urban American settings. In 1899, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. co-founded the American Society of Landscape Architects, and in 1916 wrote the key language for the National Park Service Act: to preserve natural resources... "unimpaired for future generations." Through narrative and presentation of historic photographs and documents, Mr. Zuckermann traced the history and expounded on the legacy of the Olmsted's in realizing their vision of a Regional Park District.

Mr. Zuckermann mentioned that General Manager Robert Doyle has been invited to participate in a panel discussion at the upcoming Stanford Symposium, and that the Symposium will feature a tour of District facilities (tentatively, to include the Brazil Room, Redwood Park, and a shoreline park) scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2014.

3. Review of Roughing It Day Camp Special Use Agreement: Briones Regional Park

Revenue & Administration Manager Mimi Waluch introduced Hobie Woods who operated *Roughing It Day Camp*, a youth equestrian day camp program at the ex-Brown Ranch site at Briones Regional Park during the summers of 2001 through 2010. Due to staffing availability and costs to meet the site condition requirement for supervision of horses 24/7, it was determined that it was not feasible to continue the day camp equestrian program. The new proposal will not offer equestrian programs. The *Outpost Camp* will include older groups who would spend

one day of each week on the site participating in a variety of activities that are too difficult to offer at the Lafayette Reservoir site due to lack of facilities and utilities. *The Pioneer Camp* includes younger campers who would spend full time at the site participating in pioneer, ranch, and outdoor activities. The proposal is to run a limited test of the *Outpost Camp* and *Pioneer Camp* programs in the summer of 2014 and, following review, possibly propose expansion of the programs in 2015.

AGM Jim O'Connor noted that at the request of Director Severin, he has provided the District's camping program consultant with Mr. Woods' contact information in the event they wish to interview him during the course of their study.

Director Carol Severin moved that the Board Operations Committee recommend to the full Board that the District enter into a short-term Special Use Agreement for a \$1,000 flat rate, with provisions for all equipment and inventory to be maintained by *Roughing It Day Camp*, for a trial period from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Director Beverly Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (3-0).

4. Review of *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* Concession Agreement: Temescal Regional Recreation Area

Ms. Waluch reported that in June of 2013, the District received a proposal from *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* owners, Casper and James Hett, to operate a food cart concession at one of the District's swim sites. This is a home-based business that meets the District's insurance requirements and has permits from the Alameda County Health Department and City of Oakland. *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* provides a bridge between vending machine and traditional hot dog stand faire, and offers additional specials that include fresh fruit, juices, coffee, and pastries.

The program operated this summer at Lake Temescal daily throughout the swim season from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and weekends through October 2013, weather permitting. The vendor's clientele included Junior Lifeguards, their parents, swimmers, joggers, and dog walkers. The pilot program gave staff an opportunity to evaluate public response and determine if there is a want and need for this type of service during the swim season. The addition of an ice cream cart and warmer weather improved the popularity of the food service concession; however, volume of sales still needs to increase in order to maintain a viable concession. Staff will conduct an end of year review to determine if this venue should proceed through the Request for Proposal process.

Ms. Waluch clarified that although the recommended agreement term begins January 1, 2014, due to weather conditions, actual concession operation will probably not begin until spring break, and then continue through weekends. Director Wieskamp commented that *Eat, Drink & Be Merry!* appears to be off to a good start, and **Director Severin moved that the Board Operations Committee approve staff's recommendation to continue a short-term concession agreement for the term January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, with a trial period concession fee of \$100, and with provisions for all equipment and**

inventory to be maintained off-site except during normal business hours. Director Lane seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (3-0).

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. AGM Comments

- Anne Kassebaum was recently appointed Acting Chief of Interpretive & Recreation (I&R) Services, following Nancy Kaiser's Acting Chief of I&R assignment. The recruitment process for Chief of I&R Services is continuing and a selection is expected sometime after the first of the year.
- The Cultural Services Coordinator announcement attracted more than 90 applicants, and second round finalist interviews are scheduled for the week of January 6, 2014. [Director Lane asked about the thinking behind the position being designated "Cultural Services Coordinator" rather than "Cultural Resources Coordinator." AGM O'Connor advised the committee that he was not consulted on the title change but assured the Committee that all finalist candidates have a cultural resources background.]
- Staff's recent enforcement of the Ordinance 38 rule requiring dogs on leash at Tilden's South Park Drive during closure, has generated a great deal of communication from the public. In response, staff will present this issue for discussion at the December 19, 2013 meeting. [Director Wieskamp encouraged staff to be very clear about why it is necessary to enforce the Ordinance 38 rule, primarily due to safety concerns, and suggested that Public Safety be represented at the meeting to respond to the public's questions and concerns.]
- Staff reported that on Veterans Day, a total of 26 veterans and active duty military personnel enjoyed free parking, subsequent to the Board's recently introduced fee waiver policy, at Contra Loma (5), Del Valle (1), Lake Chabot (10), Quarry lakes (2), and Shadow Cliffs (8).

7. Board Comments

Director Severin, who recently attended the dedication of the Lake Chabot exercise zone, commented on how impressed she is with the structure and thanked staff for their hard work in creating an outdoor exercise area for the public to enjoy.

Director Lane expressed interest in learning how the Big Break exhibits are progressing. AGM O'Connor responded that staff has scheduled an update and review of the permanent exhibit project at Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta, for the December 19, 2013 Committee meeting.

Director Wieskamp suggested that staff begin discussions on land banked properties being opened for special hikes. Director Wieskamp also expressed the need for signage at Mission Peak instructing visitors how to be prepared for a hike (e.g., “wear appropriate shoes, bring a hat, carry sufficient water for yourself and your dog”), and the need for a water station and an additional bathroom.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next Board Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for 12:45 p.m. on **Thursday, December 19, 2013**, in the Board Room, Peralta Oaks.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Padmore
Executive Secretary
Operations Division

Calpensions

CalPERS, CalSTRS and other government pensions

CalPERS plans rate hike, third in last two years

To cover the cost of retirees living longer, the CalPERS board next month is expected to approve the third rate hike in the last two years, phasing in the increase to soften the blow on state and local governments.

The new rate hike would not begin until fiscal 2016-17 to allow employers time to plan after receiving rate projections next year. When fully phased in by 2020-21, the new rate hike and the previous two would raise rates roughly 50 percent above current levels.

In the first rate increase in March 2012, CalPERS lowered its investment earnings forecast from 7.75 to 7.5 percent, but critics say that's still too optimistic. In a second rate increase last April, CalPERS adopted new actuarial methods that pay off debt sooner.

Now to reflect new longevity estimates (two more years for males and 1½ years for females) CalPERS plans a third rate hike. Employers have been told a longevity rate hike is likely, but the jump may be larger than some expected.

As CalPERS reviews economic and demographic assumptions, usually done every four years, the board has leaned toward a new investment allocation that, if adopted next month, is unlikely to change the earnings forecast and trigger yet another rate hike.

A staff report to the board last month said a rate increase resulting from changes in the other assumptions, mainly longevity, will have a "significant impact" on employers at a time when their budgets are strained.

"Concern has been raised that the contribution increases may be too much for employers to bear," *said the report* (<http://www.calpers.ca.gov/eip-docs/about/committee-meetings/agendas/financeadmin/201312/item7a-00.pdf>) from Alan Milligan, California Public Employees Retirement System chief actuary, and David Lamoureux, deputy chief actuary.

There is no easy way out. Delaying action on the longevity change could lead to a "qualified" actuarial valuation reflected on the financial statements of CalPERS and state and local governments. Delaying a rate increase boosts the long-term cost.

Following current CalPERS policy, staff recommends a five-year phase in of the rate hike to pay off the new longevity debt over 20 years. For each \$1 million in debt or "unfunded liability" the interest payment is said to be \$1.2 million.

Two alternatives given to the board phase in the rate hike over seven years and pay off the debt over 30 years. With a 30-year payment period, for each \$1 million in debt the interest payment nearly doubles, jumping to \$2.2 million.

For the pension fund, the longevity rate hike would drop the funding level, now 74 percent, four points to 70 percent, and liabilities, now \$329 billion, would increase \$22.6 billion. (The unfunded liability, not covered by projected assets, is \$57 billion).

For employers, the staff report has a chart showing estimates of the rate increases in the first and fifth year when, under current policy, the longevity rate hike is phased in over five years and the debt paid off over 20 years.

If the new longevity estimates are combined with a previous six-year projection of CalPERS rates for the state and schools (annual *actuarial valuation* (<http://www.calpers.ca.gov/eip-docs/about/pubs/employer/2012-st-body.pdf>), p. 61), it's possible to get a rough look at what the total employer rate might be in 2020.

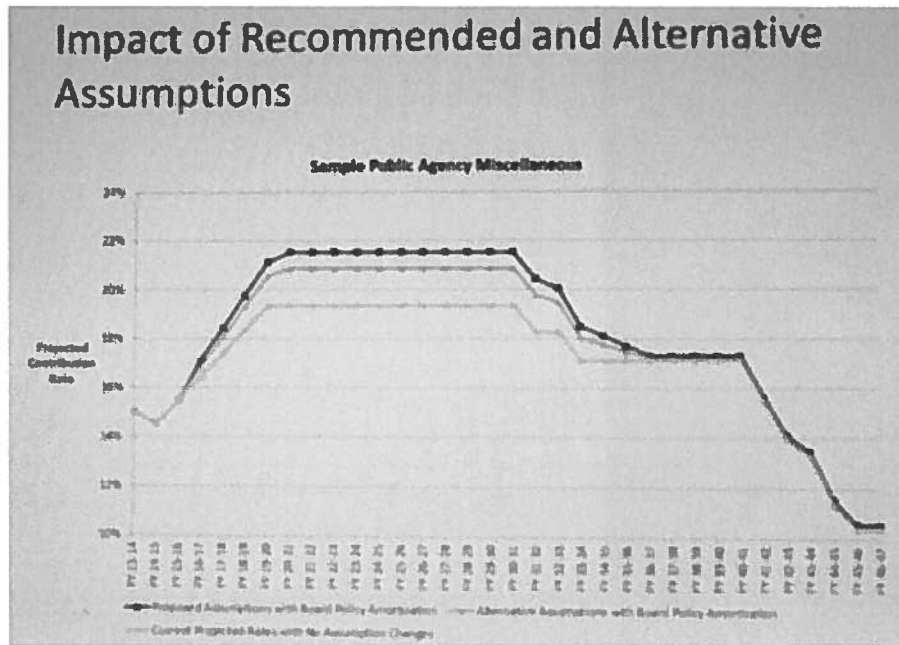
The employer rate for most "miscellaneous" state workers, now 21 percent of pay, could be around 32 percent in six years. Employees currently contribute 8 percent of pay, which only increases if agreed to in labor contract bargaining.

The employer rate for the California Highway Patrol, now 35 percent of pay, could be around 55 percent in six years. The employer rate for non-teaching school workers (the largest CalPERS group), now 11 percent of pay, could reach 20 percent.

In the giant CalPERS system, there is a wide variation among the 1,581 local governments with more than 2,000 plans. For example, the estimated year-five longevity rate increase for a common miscellaneous plan is a range, 2.4 to 4.8 percent of pay.

A slide shown the board had a 40-year estimate of the impact of the longevity rate hike on a sample local miscellaneous plan. The current employer rate, 15 percent of pay, would increase to nearly 22 percent and remain there for a decade before dropping.

(The blue line in the slide is the staff recommendation, the green line is one of the alternatives with a 20-year payment period, and the yellow line is no rate change to cover the increased longevity.)



(<http://calpensions.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/mort12.jpg>)

For one large city, Sacramento, the proposed longevity rate hike would cost an estimated \$12.2 million by the fifth year, the equivalent of 102 full-time positions, Leyne Milstein, Sacramento finance director, told the CalPERS finance committee last month.

“Mr. Milligan provided several charts that alluded to the percentage impact,” she said. “What I wanted to share with you is really that dollar impact.”

A chart Milstein gave the committee showed the five-year \$12.2 million cost potentially reducing 34 police officer positions (\$135,000 each), 30 firefighter positions (\$131,000) and 38 miscellaneous employee positions (\$97,000).

“I would believe well into the fifth year that we are talking about filled positions and more than likely actual layoffs,” she said.

Milstein said Sacramento had deficits for eight years, budget cuts for six years and reduced 1,200 general fund positions. She said revenue for the \$370 million general fund is expected to grow 3 percent a year, just enough to keep up with growing expenses.



(<http://calpensions.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/milstein11.jpg>)

Leyne Milstein (Sacramento Business Journal)

A recent city budget forecast, Milstein said, includes a voter-approved ½ cent sales tax that expires in 2020, previously announced CalPERS rate hikes, 1 percent salary growth and no increase in health costs.

Milstein said she understands the need to raise rates to cover the cost of retirees living longer. She said the board should consider some of the alternatives that ease the financial blow.

“We need to be reasonable in how we get there, given what we and other local government agencies and the state have gone through over the past seven or eight years,” she said.

Several board members thanked Milstein, the only local government representative who spoke to the committee during the public comment period.

“One of my complaints to CSAC and the League is we don’t see enough of you here to talk,” said board member Richard Costigan, referring to the California League of Cities and the California State Association of Counties.

For employees, the proposed longevity rate hike could trigger a contribution increase of 0.5 to 1 percent of pay for some new hires in local government and schools, mainly police, firefighters and other safety workers.

Gov. Brown’s pension reform that took effect last year, AB 340, requires these new hires to pay at least half of the pension “normal cost,” benefits earned during a year. Employers continue to pay all of the debt or “unfunded liability” from previous years.

The pension contribution paid by new employees is adjusted if the normal cost changes by more than 1 percent. The longevity rate hike is expected to change the normal cost for most miscellaneous workers by less than 1 percent of pay.

But the normal cost for most safety plans is expected to increase by 1 to 3 percent of pay, triggering a contribution increase.

The requirement to pay at least 50 percent of the normal cost only applies to new hires covered by the reform in local governments and schools. Milligan told the board changes in state worker pension contributions must be bargained in labor talks.

Contribution Rate Impacts of Recommended Assumptions using Current Board Amortization Policy

State & Schools			
Category	Total Estimated Change in Total Normal Cost (% of payroll)	Total Estimated Ultimate Change in Employer Rate (Year 1) (% of payroll)	Total Estimated Ultimate Change in Employer Rate (Year 5) (% of payroll)
State CHP	3.4%	5.4%	13.5%
State POFF	2.3%	3.6%	9.1%
State Safety	0.5%	1.0%	2.9%
State Miscellaneous	0.7%	1.6%	5.2%
State Industrial	0.4%	0.9%	2.9%
Schools	0.8%	1.4%	4.1%

Public Agencies			
Category	Total Estimated Change in Total Normal Cost (% of payroll)	Total Estimated Ultimate Change in Employer Rate (Year 1) (% of payroll)	Total Estimated Ultimate Change in Employer Rate (Year 5) (% of payroll)
Safety CPO	1.6% to 2.1%	2.6% to 3.5%	7.1% to 8.7%
Safety Fire	0.0% to 0.5%	1.2% to 1.9%	6.3% to 7.2%
Safety Police	1.1% to 1.7%	1.9% to 3.3%	5.3% to 9.3%
Misc 3% at 60	0.6% to 0.7%	1.2% to 1.9%	4.0% to 6.7%
Misc 2.7% at 55	0.4% to 0.7%	0.9% to 1.9%	3.1% to 6.5%
Misc 2.5% at 55	0.2% to 0.4%	0.6% to 1.3%	2.4% to 4.8%
Misc 2% at 55	0.2% to 0.3%	0.4% to 1.3%	1.3% to 5.1%
Misc 2% at 60	0.3% to 0.4%	0.4% to 1.0%	1.0% to 3.1%

Note

- 1- Includes mortality improvements projected to 2028 using scale BB (i.e. 20 years of projections).
- 2- Assumes the increase in unfunded liability caused by the assumption change will be amortized in accordance with current Board policy i.e. over twenty year period and phased-in over five years.
- 3- The ranges of changes in rates listed above for public agencies are expected to cover 90% of the public agency plans.

(<http://calpensions.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/attach11.jpg>)
 CalPERS estimate of rate hikes to cover longer lives of retirees

Plan	New Rate	Projected Future Employer Contribution Rates					
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
State Miscellaneous Tier 1	21.121%	21.3%	22.4%	23.5%	24.7%	25.8%	26.9%
State Miscellaneous Tier 2	20.992%	21.0%	22.3%	23.6%	24.9%	26.2%	27.5%
State Industrial	15.682%	15.7%	16.3%	16.9%	17.5%	18.1%	18.7%
State Safety	17.205%	16.6%	16.8%	16.9%	17.1%	17.4%	17.6%
POFF	30.495%	29.6%	30.9%	32.2%	33.5%	34.8%	36.1%
CHP	34.616%	35.1%	36.6%	38.1%	39.6%	41.1%	42.6%
Schools	11.442%	11.7%	12.6%	13.6%	14.5%	15.5%	16.4%

(<http://calpensions.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/project11.jpg>)

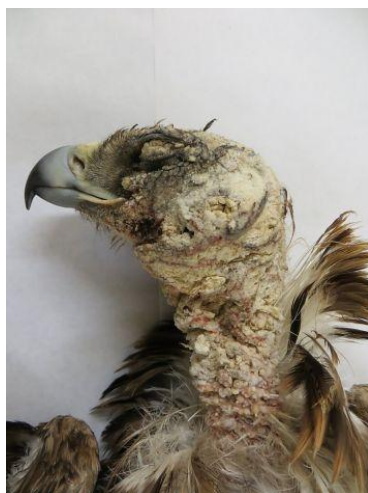
CalPERS projection of state and school employer rates issued last fall

Reporter Ed Mendel covered the Capitol in Sacramento for nearly three decades, most recently for the San Diego Union-Tribune. More stories are at Calpensions.com. Posted 6 Jan 14

Mites blamed for mange outbreak in state's eagles

Peter Fimrite, SF Gate

Monday, January 6, 2014



Mites are being blamed for a mange outbreak that is causing golden eagles to lose their feathers. Photo: Krysta Rogers

Mysterious microscopic parasites are causing golden eagles in different parts of California to lose their feathers, prompting a statewide alert by wildlife scientists who have never heard of such a condition in the big raptors.

The rare outbreak of mange, caused by tiny burrowing mites, was detected on several eagles found over the last year and a half in Alameda, Monterey and San Benito counties.

"Typically wild birds that are free ranging don't have mange," said [Krysta Rogers](#), environmental scientist for the wildlife investigations laboratory of the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#). "There may be some mites or other types of ectoparasites on chicks while the birds are in their nests, but an infestation this severe in a free-ranging adult bird hasn't been documented as far as we know."

Fish and Wildlife officials are urging raptor aficionados, conservationists and birders to be on the lookout for feather loss in golden eagles or other large birds and report cases to the department.

Severe feather loss was first detected on a golden eagle in San Benito in 2012. Suffering young eagles were then found in Alameda and Monterey counties in 2013 and the mites believed to be responsible were collected, Rogers said.

The sample size is small - the tiny burrowing arthropods were collected on only two of the afflicted eagles. The third raptor, which had been hit and killed by a car, was discarded before officials thought to investigate, Rogers said.

Still, it is a potentially serious problem, she said. All three eagles had large bald spots and crusting of the skin on their head, neck, legs and lower abdomen. An eagle that loses its feathers cannot maintain its normal body temperature, which could lead to weakness and trouble obtaining food, Rogers said. That, in turn, could make the bird more susceptible to disease and trauma.

"These eagles experienced significant feather loss and inflammation of the skin, similar to what you'd see on a dog with mange," Rogers said.

It isn't the first time an invasive parasite has cropped up unexpectedly in California. An exotic species of lice was linked earlier this year to baldness in deer. The problem, dubbed hair-loss syndrome, is becoming epidemic across the state and is believed to be a factor in numerous deer deaths, [Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) officials said.

Mite infestations have recently afflicted squirrels in the San Bernardino Mountains and bobcats in various locations in California.

Golden eagles are probably the best-known birds of prey in the Northern Hemisphere. The dark-brown raptors, with golden plumage on the underside, are known for their agility and speed. They have powerful feet and large, sharp talons that enable them to snatch and carry a variety of prey, including hares, marmots and ground squirrels. They are not endangered, but they are federally protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

One of the problems is that nobody knows what kind of mite is attacking the eagles or where it came from. Rogers said the marauders are of the genus *knemidocoptes*, but scientists have not figured out the exact species. It is a difficult problem because there are tens of thousands of mite species and the invertebrates all go after different hosts. For instance, deer mites do not mingle with dog or squirrel mites and none of them would ever be caught dead or alive on a bird.

Scientists at the [U. C. Davis](#) are studying the morphology and genetics of the nearly invisible parasites. State scientists are also working with specialists at the **East Bay Regional Park District** and the Monterey County SPCA to document cases and identify the mite.

"We need more information basically to make some good assessments of whether this is an isolated case, if these birds were all related and exposed to the same parasite" or if this is an introduced species of mite, Rogers said.

Where to report feather losses in eagles:

Find your local wildlife rehabilitation center at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife website at www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WIL/rehab/facilities.html.

Albany will review Bulb campers' ADA requests

By Damin Esper

Correspondent, inside bay area

JANUARY 5, 2014



One of the ramshackle encampment sites at the Albany Bulb on Sept. 3, 2013. (Kristopher Skinner/Staff file)

ALBANY -- The city has received 32 "requests for accommodations" under terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act from current residents of the Albany Bulb and will review the requests over the next few weeks.

The requests come as the city continues to work to clear the homeless population from the Bulb so the land can be turned over to the East Bay Regional Park District as part of the Sylvia McLaughlin Eastshore State Park.

The ADA aspect was raised in a lawsuit filed by residents of the Bulb and housing advocates. A temporary restraining order was denied in November, but the case is still pending.

An emergency shelter with a capacity of 30 has been set up at the waterfront with the intent of giving Bulb residents a place to stay while the city and two local outreach groups worked to secure housing for them. However, according to the city, only one to three people have used the shelter on any given night.

The lawsuit claims the city's temporary shelter is out of compliance with the ADA. The court in part denied the temporary restraining order because specific accommodations had not been requested yet.

According to a news release issued by the city on Dec. 26, the requests state that the individuals are disabled, "due to a variety of physical and mental health conditions. Many of the requests ask that the individuals remain at the Albany Bulb until suitable housing can be obtained to meet their particular needs."

The release said the city is reviewing the requests to determine if any "reasonable" accommodations are "necessary."

The review will determine whether the requested accommodations would "require a fundamental alteration of a city program, cause an undue administrative burden on city operations, or place an undue financial burden on the city."

The release also stated that Albany would not issue citations for violations of the anti-camping ordinance to those 32 individuals, nor would it clear their campsites, until a determination is made on their requests.

However, the release leaves open the possibility of citing or arresting those individuals for other reasons.

The City Council voted in May to begin enforcing the city's anti-camping ordinance beginning in October. Actual enforcement, however, didn't begin until December, when police began issuing warnings to campers and arrested some on outstanding warrants and drug charges. It is believed that about 60 people are currently living on the Bulb.

The City Council also allocated funding to help residents of the Bulb secure housing. The city has said three formerly homeless Bulb residents have been placed in housing.

Albany police begin enforcement at Bulb

By Damin Esper, Correspondent, inside bay area

JANUARY 5, 2014

ALBANY -- Police began warning people living on the Albany Bulb about the city's anti-camping ordinance last weekend and also began arresting some campers on suspicion of criminal offense or outstanding warrants.

As of Wednesday, three people had been arrested on the Bulb, according to Albany's public information officer, City Clerk Nicole Almaguer. Two of those arrested were for outstanding warrants, and one was arrested on suspicion of possessing methamphetamine.

On Monday, an amended lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court on behalf of Bulb residents. The lawsuit, which names 29 plaintiffs as well as Albany Housing Advocates, was originally filed in November.

A previous request for a temporary restraining order preventing the city from using the anti-camping ordinance to remove people from the Bulb was denied Nov. 18.

The amended lawsuit, filed to reflect the enforcement action over the weekend, notes that the eviction is taking place as winter approaches and that reportedly five homeless people in the Bay Area have died because of exposure in the past few weeks.

The suit also claims that police in both Albany and surrounding communities have been directing homeless people to take up residence on the Bulb for years.

"Based on the understanding that the City (of Albany) and its police force approved of their presence on the Bulb, residents erected tents and other structures to shelter themselves from the elements and created an area of privacy for themselves," the lawsuit reads, adding, "These activities have been well-known to the City for many years."

In response, noted the declaration from Albany police Chief Mike McQuiston on file with the court: "The Albany Police Department does not now, nor to my knowledge has it ever, adopted or employed a policy or practice of directing homeless individuals to the Albany Bulb."

It is believed that around 60 people live on the Bulb.

The Albany City Council voted in May to begin enforcing the city's anti-camping ordinance in October in preparation to turn over the land to the East Bay Regional Park District as part of the Sylvia McLaughlin Eastshore State Park, which brought protests from Bulb residents and their advocates.

Enforcement was delayed as the city set up a temporary shelter at the waterfront, consisting of two trailers that can accommodate 30 people.

According to Almaguer, one to three people have been using the temporary shelter on any given night.

The city also contracted with Berkeley Food and Housing Project and the Solano Community Church to help transition Bulb residents into housing. The city said it has moved three former Bulb residents into housing so far.

Albany has allocated more than \$500,000 to pay for outreach and temporary shelter and housing.

Advocates for the homeless say the temporary shelter cannot accommodate many of the Bulb residents who suffer from disabilities. That was a focus in the hearing for the temporary restraining order and continues to be a focus in the current suit.

Almaguer wrote that the city has now received 32 requests for accommodation "for persons claiming to experience a variety of physical and mental disabilities. An administrative process will be conducted to review and respond to the requests."

The suit also states that Albany "does not have a single permanent shelter, transitional house or available unit of subsidized housing."

'Bird-friendly' turbines on Altamont Pass sought by researchers, energy companies

By Jeremy Thomas, January 1, 2014

jethomas@bayareanewsgroup.com



Alameda County officials and environmental groups are hoping a new "shrouded" wind turbine design, shown here in an artist's rendition, will prove safer to birds and bats. Wind energy company Ogin Inc. is seeking the county's approval to test the design by installing 40 of the turbines in the Altamont Pass east of Livermore by mid-2014. (Ogin Inc.)

LIVERMORE -- They're touted as the future of energy production -- clean, efficient and renewable. But there's a dark side to wind turbines for local wildlife -- towers and spinning blades kill thousands of birds and bats on the Altamont Pass east of Livermore each year.

While the hazards there aren't unique, recent studies suggest up to twice as many birds are killed every year at the Altamont Wind Resource Area (AWRA) than previously indicated by official estimates. Independent researcher Shawn Smallwood, head of ongoing mortality surveys in the Sand Hill area and other parts of the Altamont, estimates 10,000 birds are killed each year. It's particularly dangerous for golden eagles; about 60 die annually, he says, making it among the

most lethal zones for the species in the country, based on available records.

"The old (turbine) technology is terrible," Smallwood said. "It kills a lot of birds and bats. It's like a person running across a very busy street. You make it some of the time, but once in a while, you don't."

Nationwide, investors put \$25 billion into wind energy in 2012, with U.S. wind farms reaching 60 gigawatts of capacity, according to the American Wind Energy Association. California is second only to Texas in total wind capacity, with \$11 billion in capital investment.

Altamont Pass -- one of the largest concentrations of wind farms in the country -- is in the middle of a decommission of 4,000 old turbines that use 1970s and '80s technology; nearly all will have to be removed or replaced by 2018. The world's most heavily studied area for wildlife impacts could also be the proving ground for a new type of turbine that county officials and ecologists hope will be less deadly.

Since 2012, Smallwood and his team have been studying flight behavior and counting dead birds every four days for wind energy company Ogin Inc. The company is seeking Alameda County's approval to install 40 of its "shrouded" turbines in the Sand Hill area to test its theory that the turbine's unique design will help prevent golden eagles, red-tailed hawks and other species from colliding with the blades, hopefully reducing deaths.

The key is the shroud -- two concentric covers around the blades -- which the company says not only make them more efficient than older turbines, but also less accessible to approaching birds and bats. At less than 200 feet, they're shorter and smaller than most "next-gen" turbines, which can reach almost 500 feet.

"It's a visual and physical obstacle that, in theory, will prevent birds from flying into the rotor zone," explained John Howe, Ogin's vice president of public and environmental affairs.

The three-year avian impact study could influence how conventional turbines are phased out from the Altamont and elsewhere. According to Alameda County Assistant Planning Director Sandra Rivera, its objectives fall in line with a 2007 settlement reached with wind energy companies, the Golden Gate Audubon

Society and Californians For Renewable Energy (CARE), in which the companies agreed to reduce deaths among four raptor species -- the golden eagle, burrowing owl, American kestrel and red-tailed hawk -- by 50 percent from 2005 figures.

"Hopefully there is an improvement with regards to mortality rates," Rivera said. "If it's positive, we can presume the technology will be used not just at Altamont, but at other locations as well."

A report produced for the Altamont Scientific Review Committee -- a five-member research group that makes recommendations to the Alameda County Planning Director -- shows an average of 5,000 birds died annually in the Altamont area from 2005 through 2011. County officials said there's no way to tell how many fatalities were directly related to turbine collisions, but evidence shows bird strikes have been the single biggest contributing factor.

Smallwood says the official figures underestimate the true impact on mortality rates. He calls the Sand Hill study the "first controlled experiment in any wind farm," saying it will produce more accurate data than ever before.

While Altamont remains dangerous for birds, Smallwood said, conditions are improving, thanks to technological advances and better positioning of turbines -- out of common flight paths and into areas where birds are less likely to hover.

With county approval, Ogin could begin its initial 4-megawatt repower by early summer. Smallwood's team would study the shrouded turbines for a year, making before-and-after comparisons of fatalities, concluding in 2015.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society in Berkeley is supportive of the study.

"We're always cautious about any new turbines or structures that are going to be installed in the landscape, but we're optimistic," said Executive Director Mike Lynes. "Our goal is to create a balance between renewable energy and maintaining local wildlife populations."

A decision on the project's environmental report is tentatively scheduled for March. A second phase calls for 300 more shrouded turbines at a future date, contingent on the study's results. While the design is promising, Howe cautioned

the company isn't making any claims.

"We want to do our homework on this technology," Howe said. "We're approaching this with an open mind."

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Crown Beach Reborn Again.

Tons of sand from the bottom of the Bay restore Alameda's main attraction.

by Kate Madden Yee, Alameda Magazine

Photography by: Courtesy EBRPD

January 2, 2014



COURTESY EBRPD

Crown Memorial State Beach offers magnificent views of San Francisco, boasts easy pedestrian access, and has (relatively) warm water at its shore. The beach stretches 9,000 feet and attracts more than 600,000 visitors per year, making Crown Beach the longest and most heavily used beach on the Bay. And a shoreline that length needs lots of sand—which is why last fall the East Bay Regional Park District completed an almost \$5.7 million project to replenish the park with approximately 82,000 cubic yards of the stuff.

The beach was created in the 1950s, when the area's marshes were filled in to make room for new residential buildings. At that time, the city of Alameda managed it. In 1966, the regional park district agreed to take over management from the state of what was then known as Alameda Memorial State Beach—eventually renamed for Robert W. Crown, the state assemblyman who campaigned to protect the area—and in 1967, to run the city's section of public beach as well. Fifteen years later, the park district used a heavier, coarse-grained sand to engineer a beach system that would protect the shoreline from erosion and offer Alameda residents a beautiful recreation area. Now Crown Memorial State Beach includes a marine reserve at Crab Cove and the Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary, a habitat for water and salt marsh birds.

But between 1990 and 2006, Crown Beach lost more than 82,000 cubic yards of sand to both ordinary erosion and severe storms. In October, the park district began its effort to restore the beach to its 1987 footprint—the last time it was replenished—by mining sand through a dredge barge off Angel Island, transporting it to an offshore pump barge, and depositing it on the beach through a 14-inch pipe. Despite a few delays, the park district finished the job before the end of the year.

"The beach was intended as a low-cost solution to protect the shoreline from wave and wind erosion that would also allow for public recreation," says Diane Althoff, the park district's chief of design and construction. Althoff contributed to the early phases of the Crown Beach build in the 1980s. "Most of the people who use it don't even realize all the protection it offers. When the beach was engineered, its projected life before it would need to be restored was 20 years. We pushed that to 25 years, but the beach has held up well."

And it's a good thing, too, since for many Alamedans, the beach plays an integral part in family memories.

“When my kids were young, we used to walk far, far out into the Bay when the tide was out,” says long-time resident Laurie Wagner. “It was magical to see what was on the Bay floor, but spooky, too, because you knew the tide would come back in. Even though my kids are older now, I still walk Crown Beach a couple times a week with friends—and I’m always touched to live so close to the water.”

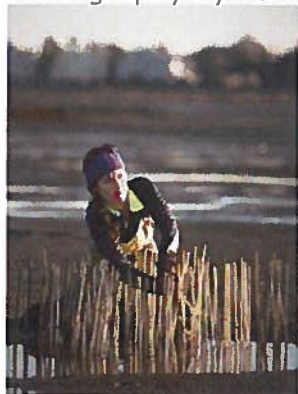
Local birder and songwriter Deborah Crooks says Crown Beach is what makes Alameda home for her. “The new sand makes the park a nice walking beach again, a tranquil spot to check in with nature, especially in the early mornings or the evenings,” she says. “When I first moved to Alameda and went down to Crown Beach, I knew everything was going to be OK.”

How do You Solve a Problem Like Spartina?

Alameda-based marine research suggests a promising outlook for the Bay's once-threatened aquatic environment.

by Susan E. Davis, Alameda Magazine
Photography by: Chris Duffey

January 2, 2014



Pamela Reynolds

CHRIS DUFFEY

Whitney Thornton pauses on her walk along the Bayview Marsh behind Bayview Avenue to peer into a small, plastic cage protecting young wetland plants from the elements. From the shoreline, the cages, planted at seemingly random spots in the shallow water, look like traps for catching fish, clams, or perhaps crabs. But Thornton isn't looking for dinner. Instead, this marine biologist is developing new methods of restoring wetlands damaged by invasive Spartina, or cordgrass.

Alameda, in fact, is the subject of three research projects into native plant restoration, as well as a participant in a long-term Spartina eradication program. The studies essentially measure the health of the complex and rich world of the watery environment at Alameda's shorelines, a microcosm of Bay aquatic life. The developing evidence presents a hopeful future for the Bay's wetlands, one in which the invasive species have been eradicated and the natives flourish once again.

"So many new areas have opened up," says Thornton, a senior staff biologist with the State Coastal Conservancy's Invasive Spartina Project, which oversees and coordinates the efforts of a half-dozen regional organizations and agencies battling cordgrass in the Bay. "It's fantastic to see how fast native species are coming in. It's hopeful; it's beautiful. I take a lot of pride in it."

The picture hasn't always been this rosy. Over the last several decades, Alameda, like many other parts of the San Francisco Bay, has suffered an invasion by *Spartina alterniflora*, a species of cordgrass native to the East Coast. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers first planted it in the Alameda Creek Flood Control Channel in Hayward as part of an experimental bank restoration project in the 1970s. By the early 2000s, the unintended consequences of this planting were clear: The invasive cordgrass, which had hybridized with a native cordgrass, had spread rapidly around the Bay, bringing with it unprecedented environmental havoc. At the time, the biologists who planted it "had no idea what negative effects the East Coast cordgrass would have in San Francisco Bay," says Marilyn Latta, a project manager with the State Coastal Conservancy.

Invasive *Spartina* is deceptively attractive, growing in lush, green meadow-like stands that look natural, even healthy. But the non-native plant causes multiple problems. Healthy wetlands have different zones, or elevations, within which different plant species grow. Invasive *Spartina* grows in all the zones, which means it can rapidly overwhelm native plants such as pickleweed and native cordgrass. This can result in a devastating loss of foraging and nesting habitat for native and migratory birds, as well as other endangered species, like the salt marsh harvest mouse. Invasive *Spartina* also clogs up flood control channels, which can cause coastal flooding—a fact that is somewhat ironic, given that the original patch of *Spartina* was planted to keep flood control channels open. And because the non-native cordgrass produces about 20 times as much pollen as native cordgrass, it spreads across waterways at an alarming rate.

“It is because of this very high productivity and ability to grow just about anywhere in the tidal spectrum that the *Spartina* hybrid swarm may be the most significant threat to San Francisco Bay’s marsh ecosystem since human development,” Peggy Olofson, director of the Invasive *Spartina* Project, or ISP, wrote in the 2004–2005 winter issue of *The Tideline*, a newsletter of the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Indeed, by 2004, biologists were estimating that half of the bay’s 19,000 acres of tidal flats could be infested with cordgrass by 2014—a terrifying prospect, given that 85 percent of San Francisco Bay’s natural marshes had been lost since the 1800s.

The ISP began trying to eradicate non-native cordgrass in Alameda in 2005 by applying herbicide. At the time, the *Spartina* had infested about 21 acres along Crab Cove, Crown Beach, Elsie Roehmer Marsh, the East Shore area, Bay Farm Island as well as Coast Guard Island. The eradication has not been easy. Non-native cordgrass can only be treated when it’s alive, roughly between June and October—it dies back in the winter. Within that window, the herbicide has to be applied at low tide (so that the chemicals can dry and be absorbed by the plant), during the day, and on a day when there is no wind. “And every year, it seems, we run into some logistical challenges with a program this big,” Latta says, “like problems with state funding, or scheduling, or permits.”

One of the trickiest problems is balancing the need to eradicate the invasive cordgrass with the need to protect the endangered California Clapper Rail, a chicken-sized shore bird whose numbers have plummeted in recent decades due to loss of its marshland habitat but which now nests in the hybrid. The long-term plan, Latta notes, is to support the Clapper Rail by creating other kinds of habitat, such as building artificial floating islands and earthen “high-tide refuge islands.” In the meantime, nine cordgrass sites in the Bay can’t be treated, because they are Clapper Rail nesting sites. That’s good for the birds in the short term, as the species only lives in parts of the San Francisco Bay, Monterey Bay, and Munro Bay, but it means invasive *Spartina* is still flowering and spreading its pollen.

Still, the treatment has had a huge effect in Alameda: More than 90 percent of the non-native *Spartina* has been eradicated, leaving less than half an acre still infested. “The city of Alameda has been a fantastic partner,” Latta says. “They’ve done tremendous public outreach and education about this. They are wonderful to work with.”

Baywide, all 24,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflat had been affected, resulting in a net of 800 acres of cordgrass. Of that, just 39 acres remained last year. “That’s 96 percent eradication,” Latta says. “It’s a huge accomplishment that includes the hard work of many partners baywide.”

Eventually, wetland restoration could help fill in vegetation where it is needed, but figuring out what will grow when and where is still being worked out. That’s why Thornton, who also is a researcher at San Francisco State University, has for three years been working on experimental plantings of native

Pacific cordgrass, *Spartina foliosa*, along the Bayview Marsh. “Plants grown locally generally have a better chance of surviving than those taken from far away,” she explains. She has tried transplanting native cordgrass plants from several marshes into four different elevations along Bayview Marsh, with limited success. But as it turns out, the limits are as illuminating as the successes.

Thornton, an exuberant 31-year-old who frequently apologizes for getting “carried away” when she’s talking about wetlands, has long been drawn to ecosystems that seem inhospitable to plant life, such as the desert, wetlands, and high alpine areas. “There are so many cool adaptations that make plants able to live in harsh conditions, and the more I learn, the more I find beauty in these strange ecosystems,” she says. “Salt marshes are one of the toughest environments for plants, because in these systems, they have to deal both with salt stress and the stress of daily changes in water level.” On the Bayview Marsh, she’s finding that both wave action and goose grazing can decimate young plants. But being surrounded by pickleweed helps protect them, as can surrounding them with plastic caging. Thornton also is learning that plants from some sources survive better than plants from others, and that natives planted in some marsh elevations (the middle two) survive better than those planted either high on the shore (where it’s dry and salty) or in deeper water (where they get waterlogged and suffer from a lack of oxygen). “Little tiny steps in elevation can have a big influence on plant communities,” Thornton says. “That’s what’s so interesting about these experiments.”

Luckily, other areas around the San Francisco Bay are having more success with restoration. “The invasive cordgrass has been such a problem,” says Thornton, who is working on seven sites around the Bay. “I take pride in the fact that I’m helping to solve the problem and restore native marshes.”

Along that same stretch of wetland, Ted Grosholz, a professor in the department of environmental science and policy at UC Davis, has been studying how the marsh is recovering, now that the hybrid *Spartina* has been eradicated. Drawing on data collected 10 years ago when the marsh was overgrown with the non-native species, Grosholz is following two processes on the marsh: first, the marsh’s return to unvegetated mudflat (which provides habitat for shorebirds, crabs, fish, and other species that cannot feed in salt marsh vegetation); and second, at higher tidal elevations, the return of native plants (such as native *Spartina* and pickleweed). Both processes, if successful, will be signs of wetland recovery.

What Grosholz has noticed is that the transition to marine mudflats is happening quickly along the marsh. But the transition to native salt marsh is happening more slowly, he says. The return of the mudflats is very good news, because even though this might make the shoreline area look kind of barren, these areas support a whole web of marine life, from the microalgae on the mud’s surface to the small invertebrates that feed on it and the fish, crabs, and shorebirds that, in turn, feed on the invertebrates. As part of his research, Grosholz is tracking the abundance and diversity of the invertebrates, as well as what he calls the “biogeochemistry” of the mud itself, because that affects which species can live there.

Further west, along the farthest stretch of Crown Beach, Katharyn Boyer, a San Francisco State University professor of ecology, and her graduate student (and now research tech) Stephanie Kiriakopolos are studying a meadow of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*), a willowy green plant that grows under the water and provides prime habitat for invertebrates, fish, and shellfish. Most eelgrass in the San Francisco Bay is perennial. Alameda’s is unusual in that it is mostly annual—it flowers, sets seed, and disappears by December of each year, only to sprout again (from seed) in the spring. The primary reason for this, Kiriakopolos and Boyer have found, is that Canada geese eat the eelgrass so far down every year, even getting at the root mass, or rhizome, that the plants can’t survive. Oddly, when Brant geese eat eelgrass in other locations, they simply snip off the leaves, which helps the eelgrass to grow more vigorously, whereas Canada geese seem to be more aggressive and opportunistic.

The finding is noteworthy because it marks the first time that researchers have discovered a system in which seasonal predation (i.e., goose grazing) actually helps a plant thrive as an annual, rather than resulting in its destruction. In fact, Crown Beach has the only eelgrass known to follow this annual pattern in the entire San Francisco Bay.

Eelgrass is important because, like mudflats, it provides habitat to algae, small invertebrates, and fish, which, in turn provide food for larger invertebrates, fish and birds. "It is also valued for stabilizing sediments and for sequestering carbon," Boyer notes. Recently Boyer and Kiriakopolos expanded their Alameda project to participate in a global effort to identify factors that influence growth of eelgrass. Other sites under study in this *Zostera* Experimental Network are in Japan, Finland, and British Columbia, as well as elsewhere in the United States. This project, conducted in 2012 and 2013, compared the roles of nutrient pollution, small invertebrate grazers, and Canada geese in the growth and life history (annual or perennial) of the plants.

The fact that Alameda has become the focal point of three major studies is, of course, exciting. "But it's also a good reminder of how very rich and valuable our coastline could and should be," Boyer says. "The accessibility of this shoreline and the spectacular habitats present provide an unparalleled opportunity to increase our understanding of the inner workings of bay environments."

Dreissenid Mussels Discovered in Lake Piru in Ventura County

December 30, 2013 by [korr2013](#)

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Dreissenid mussels (quagga or zebra) have been discovered in Lake Piru in Ventura County. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is working with United Water Conservation District and Lake Piru Recreation Area staff to contain the infestation. All boaters are being required to clean, drain and dry their watercraft upon exit from the lake. This discovery marks the first time quagga or zebra mussels have been found in a Southern California waterbody that does not receive water from the Colorado River.

On Dec. 18, Lake Piru Recreation Area staff reported the discovery of potential quagga mussels to CDFW. The mussels were found attached to a Lake Piru patrol boat and several additional mussels were subsequently found on devices deployed in the lake for the purpose of detecting mussels and on the shoreline. CDFW staff tentatively identified the mussels, which range in size from one half to three quarter inches long, as quagga. Genetic testing is underway to confirm this identification. Lake Piru Recreation Area staff are working to determine the full extent of the infestation.

Lake Piru, which is managed by United Water Conservation District, is located downstream of Pyramid Lake. Lake Piru drains into Lower Piru Creek, a tributary of the Santa Clara River.

Quagga and zebra mussels, non-native freshwater mussels native to Eurasia, multiply quickly and encrust watercraft and infrastructure, and compete for food with native and sport fish species. These mussels can be spread from one body of water to another attached to nearly anything that has been in an infested waterbody, or via standing water from an infested waterbody entrapped in boat engines, bilges, live-wells and buckets. People who launch vessels at any body of water are subject to watercraft inspections and are encouraged to clean, drain and dry their motorized and non-motorized boats, including personal watercraft, and any equipment that comes into contact with the water before and after recreating at a waterway.

For more information on boat inspection programs and preventing the spread of quagga and zebra mussels visit CDFW's website (www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamusel).

Quagga mussels were first detected in the Colorado River system in January 2007 and were later found in San Diego and Riverside counties. They are now known to be in 26 waters in California. Zebra mussels were discovered in San Justo Reservoir in San Benito County in January 2008.

The Valley Sentinel

Hiking — Regional Parks in the rain

by Beverly Lane, December 28, 2013

Seasonal rains bring green to the grasslands in the East Bay Regional Parks, with a promise of springtime wildflowers. But the rains also bring muddy trails that fill the lug soles of hard-to-clean hiking boots.

There's a lot to be said for winter season hiking. The air is fresh, cool and energizing and the vegetation is lush. There are even winter blooms, like the delicately flowered manzanita and the magenta-colored Indian warrior that grows beneath it.

But if you want to avoid the mud, there are trails in the regional parks where this is possible.

For starters, the inter-park regional trails, such as the Iron Horse Trail, which parallels I-680 through the San Ramon and Diablo Valleys, are all paved, multi-purpose routes for pedestrians, equestrians and bicycle riders. The Lafayette-Moraga Trail is another example. It extends for more than seven miles from Olympic Boulevard in Lafayette to the Valle Vista staging area on Moraga Road.

There are paved trails within the regional parks as well. For a steep hill climb, walk up the Rocky Ridge Trail at Las Trampas Regional Wilderness in San Ramon. It leads up from the trailhead at the north end of Bollinger Canyon Road off Crow Canyon Road.

Nimitz Way at Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley is paved for the first four miles north from Inspiration Point on Wildcat Canyon Road. It's open to all non-motorized modes of transportation. Dogs must be on leash, though.

And in the winter, Tilden's South Park Drive is closed to vehicles to protect the newts, a variety of salamander that migrates across the road to mate in adjacent Wildcat Creek. So you can walk or bicycle there, too. South Park Drive connects Grizzly Peak Boulevard to Wildcat Canyon Road.

There are unpaved trails within the regional parks that tend to be less muddy as well. This is because they traverse sandstone bedrock. Check out the Old Stage Road Trail at Castle Rock Regional Recreation Area in Walnut Creek. You can access it from the staging area at the end of Castle Rock Road, a mile or two past Northgate High School. Be advised, though: between Castle Rock Park and the gate into Mt. Diablo State Park, there are four stream crossings that involve some rock hopping when the stream is running.

Another relatively mud-free hike is on the Chaparral Loop Trail at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve in Antioch. The trail starts at the old Somersville town site, leads up a canyon to the ridge top, then descends again through another canyon. It's a workout, but the views are worth it. You'll see some of those manzanita blossoms, too.

Black Diamond Mines is located at the end of Somersville Road, five miles south of Highway 4 in Antioch.

For information on these and other winter hiking and bicycling possibilities, visit the park district web site at www.ebparks.org. You can download maps of almost every regional park. Or you can pick up maps at trailhead information panels. It's always a good idea to do so. You will need to decide for yourself if you want to do some singing in the rain.* * *

Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont will recreate its annual Victorian Christmas Holiday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8. Activities include live music, visits with Father Christmas, holiday crafts, a Yule Log hunt, and a cookie baking contest. It's always a great show.

Fees for the event are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors ages 62 and older, \$5 for children ages four and up, and free for ages three and under. Parking is free.

Ardenwood is located at 34600 Ardenwood Boulevard, just north of Highway 84 in Fremont. For information call 510-544-2797 or check the park district web site.

Tilden Regional Park's antique merry-go-round celebrates Christmas, too. Its Christmas Fantasy takes place from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. nightly through Dec. 23, rain or shine, with holiday ornaments, gifts, gingerbread cookies, hot cocoa and apple cider all available for purchase, along with rides on the carousel animals, of course

Wheelchair hiker plans new attempt at Sierra

Tom Stienstra, SF Chronicle

Saturday, December 28, 2013



Wheelchair hiker Bob Coomber climbs a single track trail in Holdener Park in Livermore, Ca. , on Thursday Dec. 19, 2013. Bob Coomber doesn't let his disability hold him back as he hikes the many trails and mountains of Northern California in his wheelchair. Photo: Michael Macor, The Chronicle

On the Kearsarge Pass Trail at an elevation of 9,700 feet, set high on a sub-ridge in the eastern Sierra Nevada, the man in the wheelchair collapsed in his seat. He was unable to turn his wheels another foot forward.

" 'I can't do this. This isn't going to work,' " **Bob Coomber** had said. " 'I am completely wasted. Out of gas. I need to get back down to the car and fix my insulin pump. It isn't delivering insulin.' "

It was a devastating setback for America's No. 1 wheelchair hiker, who was honored in 2008 by President **George W. Bush** with the nation's highest physical fitness award.

Coomber had hoped to become the first wheelchair hiker in history to cross the Sierra Nevada. In the fall, he departed out of Independence from the 9,200-foot Onion Valley Trailhead. He set out to cross the 11,700-foot Kearsarge Pass and then wheel himself down the western slopes of the Sierra to Kings Canyon National Park. The planned trek was 22 miles, with total elevation gains and losses of 12,000 feet, and one week to do it.

Instead, Coomber, a mythic figure among wheelchair users across America, the first to ever climb the 14,250-foot White Mountain Peak, was betrayed by his body once again.

Anyone who has hit the wall physically in the outdoors might empathize, he knows, whether in a wheelchair or not.

"When I fail or I meet other people who have failed, I keep it simple and say, 'There's always a next time,' " Coomber said. "I'm not defeated easily. I've been stopped on simple trails because of no energy. Then I go back. When I feel better, I return to that trail. I know I'll get it done.

"I plan to return to Kearsarge. Absolutely. Next July. I know I can do it. This is the biggest physical challenge of my life. I think about it all the time. Every day."

Outdoors Hall of Fame

Coomber, for years a loss-mitigation manager for Wells Fargo Bank in Walnut Creek, is one of a handful of people who has hiked all 65 parks in the East Bay Regional Park District, along with many trails in the Sierra Nevada and elsewhere. In 2007, he was inducted into the California Outdoors Hall of Fame for the scope of his travels and ability to inspire others to take part in the outdoors.

At 58, his life has been one of extremes. Coomber reaches high and often has a vision for himself that others would find impossible to imagine, he admits. At the same time, the defeats - "and I never see them coming" - have melted this man several times.

"When things go wrong, the feelings can last a long time," Coomber said. "I've learned it will last until the next time, when I decide to go for it again. That's the key. Get back off the ground."

Coomber, born in Oakland, wasn't always in a wheelchair. He grew up in Piedmont, and as a boy, he spent time hiking, fishing and participating in baseball, basketball and track. By the time he got to Piedmont High, he was a 6-foot-2 forward on the basketball team, "short but tough," and was a miler on the track team who turned in sub-5-minute times.

"I didn't need a car like the kids today," Coomber said. "I rode my bike everywhere."

Teachers impressed

As he neared graduation, several teachers were impressed with Coomber's energy and encouraged him to live the life he dreamed of.

"For me, I really wanted to do patrol work as a police officer, to be out there, helpful, to serve a need I felt I could fill," Coomber said. "I got along well with people and felt I could connect with anybody."

Then, one morning, at age 21 and already a reserve police officer, he woke up "feeling weird."

The next day, Coomber went to the doctor for tests. Then he got the phone call: He had diabetes, an inability of the body to produce insulin. This means many food groups, such as carbohydrates, do not get broken down and converted into energy.



Bob Coomber hikes along a single-track trail in Livermore's Holdener Park last week in his wheelchair. Photo: Michael Macor, The Chronicle

About 8 percent of Americans have diabetes, which comes in different variations. In Coomber's case, his pancreas stopped functioning. Over the next two years, he lost 75 pounds, slept 12 hours a day and lost feeling in his feet.

"I thought I had a real severe cold and I would get over it," Coomber said, "but it kept going on."

After the diagnosis and a treatment plan, his deterioration continued. He was unable to hold a job, and, eventually, was forced to move back in with his parents.

Diabetic coma

"One day I was staying with a friend and I got so sick that I collapsed," Coomber said. It turned out he was in a diabetic coma, brought on by extreme high blood sugar.

"I woke up three days later in the hospital," Coomber said. "As soon as I could stand up, they wanted to weigh me. I got the shock of my life. When I was 20, when I joined up as a reserve police officer, I weighed about 210. In the hospital that day, age 31, I looked down at the scale and it said I weighed 121. I couldn't believe it."

His life was in danger, he was told. Another diabetic coma and he might not wake up again.

"I realized I had to change a lot of things," Coomber said.

In the next four years, under doctor care, Coomber stabilized the disease, added 30 pounds, gained energy from exercise and returned to work. He felt he was on his way back. Then, on a summer day at Lake Almanor, at age 35, he was walking on the beach and he heard a crack, "much like a loud firecracker." He collapsed.

"I didn't realize the sound was from me, because I couldn't feel it," Coomber said.

Hundreds of fragments

He looked down, he recalled, and saw that his left leg was shaped like a croquet hoop from the knee down, yet there was no pain. At the hospital, the X-ray showed that his lower leg had shattered into hundreds of fragments and shards.

"That was the last time I walked without crutches," Coomber said.

As a derivative of his diabetes, Coomber had developed osteoporosis, which is a lack of bone density. His legs were so weak that he could break bones from walking.

"The doctors were concerned with my long-term prospects," Coomber said.

"They said straight out, 'You're not going to live much longer if you don't change what you're doing.' I felt I could still have a long life in front of me if I could make some changes."

Diabetes, like many afflictions, can be moderated by diet, exercise and by cutting bad habits, such as smoking, drinking too much, and eating too much.

In the next two years, Coomber broke both of his ankles twice, four breaks in all, and then when trying to walk down a set of stairs with his crutches, shattered a knee in a fall. At age 38, in 1993, he was in a wheelchair for good.

'Keep moving forward'

Coomber, who had always hiked, fished and explored, found his spirit restless with each day he faced in a wheelchair. On the streets of Hayward, he started wheeling longer distances, just to see how it felt.

"I realized that as long as I could keep pushing the chair, it would keep moving forward," Coomber said.

"It changed everything. I realized I could do almost anything I wanted to if my body was strong enough for it. I started getting into a program to make my upper body strong. It would allow me to dream again, to go places that were beautiful, where I could experience what anybody seeks in wild places."

His first wheelchair hike was a solo test trip at Garin Regional Park in the Hayward hills. Coomber wheeled himself over a hill and down to Jordan Pond, fished for catfish, and then returned, about a mile in all.

"I felt so happy," Coomber said. "I wasn't so sure I was ever going to be able to do that again. I caught two catfish that day, too. It was like a message to me that I was getting another chance."

Over the past 20 years, Coomber estimates that he has hiked 20,000 miles in his wheelchair. He has become a common sight at East Bay parks. His favorites are trails at Morgan Territory, Sycamore Grove near Livermore, Sunol Regional Wilderness, Hayward Regional Shoreline and Henry W. Coe State Park.

Topping 14,000 feet

In 2007, Coomber gained national attention for becoming the first wheelchair hiker to climb White Mountain Peak, the third-highest peak in California. It took him three days to make the 7.5-mile climb, including 11 hours to complete the final 1.75 miles over 14,000 feet.

In the final 30 feet of that trek, Coomber was framed in a perfect halo of light in a silhouette against the evening sky.

Since that victory, he has hoped to climb the 19,541-foot Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and cross the Sierra Nevada, east to west.

Dreaming does not make it so, he knows, a lesson taught again in the fall.

"As I was trying to make my way down the High Sierra, several times I stopped, to consider turning back around toward Kearsarge Pass to make this work," Coomber said. "When I realized I couldn't, I didn't think of myself as being knocked down again, kicked down again. I thought about coming back, and what I was going to need to do next time.

"There is no question in my mind I can do this. I don't think there is any possibility I won't make it. Hopefully, it's the next time we try."

Berkeley

Berkeley, CA's independent news site

Nature

Dog walkers clash with park district over 'newt road'

December 23, 2013 [Tracey Taylor](#)



New signs (right) instructing walkers to keep dogs on leash on South Park Drive in Tilden Park have prompted an outcry by many locals. Photo: Tracey Taylor

Dog walkers who use South Park Drive in Tilden Park for the five months a year when it is closed to cars say recently erected signs that instruct them to keep their dogs on leash contradict a law drafted by the park district 13 years ago. They want the signs taken down and argue that the cyclists who use the stretch of road when it is free of cars constitute a bigger threat to the newts the road's closure is intended to protect than dogs, whether on- or off-leash.

“There is no legal support for their action. They have acted in excess of their jurisdiction,” said attorney Rena Rickles speaking about the East Bay Regional Park District’s decision to put up the signs in November. Rickles is working pro bono for a group of disgruntled dog walkers more than 50 of whom took their concerns to an EBRPD board meeting on Thursday Dec. 19.



A hand-posted sign on a gate on South Park Drive explains why the road is closed every year for five months. Photo: Tracey Taylor

The district said it had put up the signs to remind walkers of a law (Ordinance 38) which has been in place but not enforced historically. “We were concerned we had a law that we didn’t enforce for many years,” said board member Ayn Wieskamp.

The road is used by many dog walkers when it is closed to cars every year (between Nov. 1 and March 31) in order to protect the area’s newt population during the mating season, which usually coincides with the rainy season. (Passions run high locally about the newts. Last year [local residents lobbied for the district to close the road early](#) due to early rains. With the lack of rain this year, this has not been an issue.)

Many dog walkers prefer to let their pets walk off leash so the dogs can get good exercise. Seniors in particular favor South Park Drive for dog walking as it is paved, wide and largely free of nuisances such as ticks, burrs and poison oak, said Randi Plotner, one of about 20 people who spoke publicly at the EBRPD meeting.

Gene Poschman prepared supporting evidence and materials for the board concerning the issue on behalf of the South Park Drive Users Group. He submitted to the board an e-petition with more than 600 signatures and another petition signed by many dozens of walkers while on South Park Drive. Poschman argued enforcing the ruling was a women’s issue as well as a senior issue. He said

he estimated 70% of the people who walk their dogs on the stretch of road are female.

Liz Horowitz echoed Poschman's statement. "I used to be afraid of hiking alone and now I hike every day," she told the board.

Nancy Powell, another dog walker giving public testimony, urged the board not to fix something that wasn't broken. "In our family we wait for November 1st because it opens a great resource for us. When it's raining the trails off South Park Drive are impassible. It's not possible for seniors to use them."

Like others, Powell said the cyclists who fail to observe the 15 mph limit on the road should be under closer scrutiny by the district. "Ban the bikes...", she said. "No-one goes under 25 mph down that road. Look at the dead newts and see how many have paw prints on them and how many have bicycle tracks."

It was also pointed out that dogs are not attracted to newts — they shy away from their smell and their sliminess.

Signs or no signs, it does not appear that either the leash ruling or the speed limit for cyclists are often enforced by authorities. Lt. Rose Gretchen of the East Bay Regional Park District Police Department said there had been only ten calls over the past 13 years for incidents on South Park Drive. She added that there were more calls that were not documented, and that she believed there were more dog incidents than bike incidents. She said enforcement was a challenge as vehicles are not allowed on South Park Drive so the police do not patrol by car.



A newt and a salamander on South Park Drive. Photo: Alan Shabel

There was a sense of déjà vu for many of the protesters who showed up at Oakland's EBRPD headquarters last week. A good number of them had come out to address the board on exactly the same points in 2000 and were disappointed to have to argue their case again.

Rickles, who was involved 13 years ago, said the relevant law (Ordinance 38 subsection 801.2.a, 2.b. and 2.c.) was reviewed and new language was added in 2000 to ensure that when the stretch of road was closed, people could walk their dogs off leash.

"It was amended to cover this exact situation," she said on Friday. She added that it was "pretty audacious" for the district to go back on its own ruling.

The board conceded it had not consulted its legal department before reviewing the issue this year and putting up the signs, and pledged to do so now.

"We shouldn't lose the memory of Ordinance 38," said board member Beverly Lane who pointed out there had been a big staff turnover at EBRPD with many employees retiring. "Maybe that discussion did not get conveyed beyond the scope of the ordinance."

Meanwhile the signs are still there and, according to the protesters, there has been a decrease in the number of people walking their dogs on South Park Drive.

Diana Jacobs said she had noticed recently that the stretch of road was sometimes almost empty. "For park managers this isn't a good result," she told the board. Eyes and ears on the ground has got to be good for safety, she said.

The board promised to review the situation and report back. Rickles said the only mistake she and the dog-walking lobbyists made was not insisting that the board put the issue on its January 7 agenda. "By the time we get round to February the season will be almost over," she said.

Stop feds' land grab from state parks

December 20, 2013, SF Chronicle Editorial



In an audacious display of bureaucratic arrogance, the federal government is threatening to use its eminent domain powers to seize a state-owned street near Alameda's Crown Beach to accommodate a proposed development of up to 90 homes.

It gets worse. The targeted property is not exactly state surplus. It is a short stretch of McKay Avenue that provides access to the interpretive center at Crab Cove, which sits at the eastern edge of the largest stretch of public beach on the San Francisco Bay. The General Services Administration wants to claim the road to assure utility services for the Roseville (Placer County) developer who outbid the East Bay Regional Park District for the 4-acre site on what is known as Neptune Pointe.

The parks district had hoped to acquire that plot of abandoned federal office space to accommodate a park expansion - funding for which was included in the 2008 Measure WW, which was passed by more than 70 percent of voters in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

So to sum it up: We have the GSA selling its surplus office park to a private developer for \$3 million, a price that was nearly triple the parks district's appraisal, on the presumption that state parks would willingly cede access on McKay Avenue for utilities. When state parks balked, the federal government pulled out the eminent domain threat.

"We're very experienced here at dealing with urban parks and developers and politics ... but this one's for the record books," said Bob Doyle, general manager

of the regional parks district. "We just haven't been able to get a fair shake from day one."

State Attorney General Kamala Harris' office recently sent a strongly worded letter to the U.S. Department of Justice about GSA's threat to use eminent domain to seize the street and sidewalks of McKay Avenue.

"We are extraordinarily troubled by GSA's intent to take public land for a private developer's benefit," Deputy Attorney General John Devine wrote.

The letter went on to cite federal law dictating that agencies disposing of surplus property should give priority to public uses, and can offer it to state and local governments for discounts of "up to 100 percent."

The park district had bid \$1 million, a third of the sale price to Tim Lewis Communities, a home developer based in Roseville. GSA officials said they needed to get full market value out of that 4-acre plot as part of the offices-consolidation project that made that area surplus.

Doyle directs some of his irritation at the city of Alameda for rezoning the land from office space to residential after the sale. The parks district has filed a lawsuit against the city for making the zoning change without an environmental impact report.

However, Alameda City Manager John Russo called the parks-district lawsuit "a bazooka on a fly" and a big waste of taxpayer dollars. He explained that the zoning change was made because the property was being acquired by a developer - and the growth-resistant suburb has long been under pressure from the state to do more to meet housing demand for diverse income levels.

Besides, Russo added, the developer's initial application with the city is not going anywhere until the McKay Avenue dispute is resolved.

"If you don't have access, you don't have a project," he said, adding, "They all need to get together to work something out."

Here's what should happen in the public interest: The GSA's deal with the developer should be nullified by one or both parties because of the lack of access. Parks officials have made plain they are not giving up the street to a development that would preclude expansion plans and could even come in conflict with the park experience and its operations. The GSA should then strike a deal with the

parks district - at a reasonable discount - to facilitate the park expansion that voters overwhelmingly approved five years ago.

Members of Congress need to get off the sidelines and lean on the GSA bureaucrats to work out a deal with the regional parks. The attorney general's office should not be the only high-level voice against the taking of a state-owned street for the benefit of a private developer.

Epperson – footprints of precision and passion



Roger Epperson Ridge

Dedicated in 2011, Roger Epperson Ridge cuts across the Highland Ridge Trail northwest of Morgan Territory Regional Preserve's staging area.

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 **Ger Erickson**

I bequeath myself to the dirt, to grow from the grass I love; If you want me again, look for me under your boot-soles. – Walt Whitman

Mt. Diablo was a mere silhouette, a tower of ragged black beneath a charcoal sky. Diamond Sirius glinted low in the west, but against the shore of the eastern horizon washed a thin wave of dawn – a ripple of blue above pale bronze. The sun would rise in an hour.

I was sitting on a stone monument anchored in Morgan Territory's Roger Epperson Ridge. The inscription chiseled into the rock reads "In memory of Roger Epperson (1954-2008) in recognition of his significant and lasting contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District and the landscapes he loved."

I never met Epperson, a deficiency that shielded me from the pain of his passing. He died five years ago this month in a kayak accident in Hawaii, leaving behind wife Carol Alderdice plus friends and admirers beyond count.

I never met Epperson – but I've seen his footprints all over the place. As supervisor of the district's Round Valley, Morgan Territory and Black Diamond

Mines preserves, he bequeathed a body of work that I and thousands of Bay Area hikers, runners, cyclists, equestrians and campers enjoy on a regular basis.

Have you crossed the bridge that spans the deep arroyo in Round Valley? Have you pitched a tent in the maternal enfolding of Morgan Territory's campground? Ever notice, after a drenching downpour, how fast the trails in Black Diamond shed water and firm up? If so, you've also spotted the track of Roger Epperson.

Epperson earned a reputation for devoting an artist's eye and a bricklayer's muscle to our access to splendor. "Roger would go out with the fire trail grader or the culvert excavator," said Alderdice, who served for three years as one of Epperson's rangers. "You had to let him tell you how he wanted the culvert headwall to look, or grade around a tree or down a slope.

"And while a pond was being built or rehabbed, Roger was on site. 'I want a swale here; I don't want too much of a lip there,' he'd say. It was meant to look like wilderness – not like a machine had pushed dirt up against a tree. He wasn't a park supervisor who'd say, 'Go do it and tell me when you're done.'

Close friend Jim Rease (aka "Roger's other wife") described Epperson as a man whose mind was always on the job: "When we camped and hiked in Prairie Creek Redwoods (in Humboldt County), he'd stop and notice trail work that impressed him. 'That's nice!' he'd say and take a picture of it. 'That would work over in Morgan Territory.'"

An avid art collector and photographer, Epperson marshaled his aesthetic sensibility to extract maximum beauty from the landscape. Whether creating a trail or wielding a camera, "He framed things like a painter," said Rease. 'That's just the right pitch,' he'd say, 'just the right angle. You see this vignette when you sit here.' And he'd refer to landscapes as 'a Francis Gerhardt' or 'a Yoshida woodblock.'"

EBRPD General Manager Bob Doyle, a close friend of Epperson since high school, admired the fearlessness of Epperson's work ethic: "A lot of staff sees land acquisitions and thinks, 'Oh my God, how am I going to take care of that?' Roger would get an assignment and take it to the next – three or four times – level. He never complained about a new acquisition. He had this uncanny ability to look at a piece of trashed property and enjoy converting it."

Alderdice echoed Doyle's impression: "When Roger was told there was no funding for a pavement project or to put up a house at a staging area, he found a way to make it happen. He wouldn't take 'no' for an answer. The new bridge at Round Valley was something Roger started. The district followed through on it because of his insistence."

"Everything Roger built was heavy: 'built for bear,'" said Doyle. "He worked in Shell Ridge Open Space before he got a park district job, and I can still find things he built. They're 8x8s, not 2x4s. They're big pieces of rock with a board on top. Heavy and strong – heavier than an engineer would need."

Those who love the large old oak standing sentinel on the Morgan Territory campground have Epperson to thank. Faced with amputating a major limb or installing a tall, heavy iron brace to save it ... well, take a wild guess which option Epperson chose.

Epperson's perfectionism reflected no stern and stony personality. "He was Puck in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' said Doyle. "Lighthearted. Not just fun loving; he was the creator of the fun. He'd walk into my office, blow past the secretary, come in and do whatever he wanted. He'd sit at my desk with his feet up on it – muddy shoes – completely inappropriate. I really miss that."

Epperson's playfulness extended to his love of language, including a parody of his own fastidious personality. "Roger wouldn't say 'that hit the nail on the head,'" said Alderdice. "He'd say 'that hit the head of the nail on the head with the head

of the hammer.’ He was forever changing the words in songs: Elton John’s ‘count the headlights on the highway’ became ‘count the head lice on the highway.’”

The urge to tinker with words also permeated Epperson’s work as supervisor. Doyle remembers Epperson’s coinage for “overgrazed” as “cow burnt.” And following a saturating rainfall, Epperson would say “that was a real pond filler.”

Despite Epperson’s physically short stature, his commitment to excellence exerted a tall influence on those around him. According to Rease, “Roger’s obsession with details influenced me in my own attention to detail. Before we’d take a trip, he’d research the back roads – always a very circuitous, less-traveled and scenic route. The routes were as good as our destination. That didn’t mean an overbearing pushiness, but a direction that increased everyone’s enjoyment – a game plan with thoughtfulness, which I still strive for whenever we do things with our friends.”

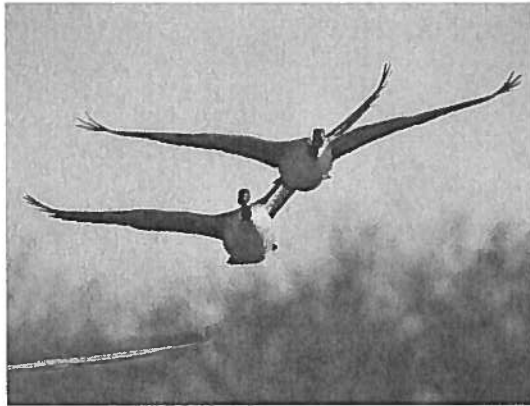
Back at the monument in Morgan Territory, dawn had finally overcome darkness. As the top of the sun’s disk flared above the Sierra and lit the beacon of Diablo’s twin peaks, I read a secondary inscription on the Epperson monument: “All things must pass.” And another line in the George Harrison song came to mind: “Daylight is good at arriving at the right time/It’s not always going to be this gray.”

Ahead lay a morning of communal panoramas and private ravines, the screech of golden eagles and the silence of coyotes – all beneath a sky scoured by the light that had arrived at exactly the right time. I faced the etched rock, pinched the brim of my hat and turned away, sensing the presence of Roger Epperson, one hand my shoulder, the other pointing down the sunward trail.

Bird count in Oakland shows surprisingly low tally

Carolyn Jones, SF Chronicle

Sunday, December 15, 2013



Canada geese are one bird in plentiful supply during the tally. Photo: Brant Ward, The Chronicle

The annual Audubon bird count in Oakland was a breeze this year: There were hardly any birds to count.

"Normally we'd see thousands of scaup and bufflehead and canvasback. This year it's staggering - we've hardly seen any," said Ruth Tobey, one of more than 200 volunteers who scoured the East Bay on Sunday with binoculars and clipboards, counting birds.

"It's like going back to summer camp to see your old friends, but suddenly your friends aren't there," she said. "It's a serious disappointment. But that's why we're here - to record the shifts and changes, for better or worse."

Whether due to drought, the recent cold snap, climate change or some mystery of nature, the bird population at Arrowhead Marsh appeared dramatically lower this year. The final numbers nationwide won't be available until after Jan. 5, when the official Audubon bird count ends.

The great flocks of ducks and shorebirds might have been missing, but birders still found plenty to gawk at. At Arrowhead Marsh near the Oakland airport, a dozen or so volunteers spotted a peregrine falcon, brown pelican, two species of

dowitcher, a great egret sunning itself on an old pier and a host of endangered clapper rails. Plus a whole lot of Canada geese.

"This is really citizen science," said David Rice, a psychologist from Berkeley who ventured through the marsh on a kayak. "It's not about counting rare birds; it's about counting all birds. This way you can pick up changes in populations and try to see the big picture."

Volunteers send their tallies to the Audubon headquarters, where the numbers are compiled into a vast database for scientists and the public to study. Shifts in migrations, breeding and species populations can help scientists plan conservation efforts and get a glimpse at the overall health of the environment - everything from rising pollutants to the melting ice cap to habitat loss.

In previous years, data from the bird count have helped Audubon identify 20 common bird species that are in serious decline, losing at least half their populations in the past four decades. Suburban sprawl, increased use of pesticides and climate change are to blame.

In North America, more than 10,000 volunteers participate in the annual bird count, noting everything from the tiniest hummingbird to 7-foot golden eagles. San Francisco's bird count will be Dec. 27.

At Arrowhead Marsh, where Rice has been counting birds for 35 years, the first thing he noticed Sunday was that the number of birds may be down but the marsh is cleaner than it has been in decades. Tighter regulations on development and water quality, plus litter-removal events like Creek to Bay Day, have made the marsh a nicer place for its feathered residents, he said.

"Audubon and other groups have worked very hard to protect this marsh," he said. "It's paid off."

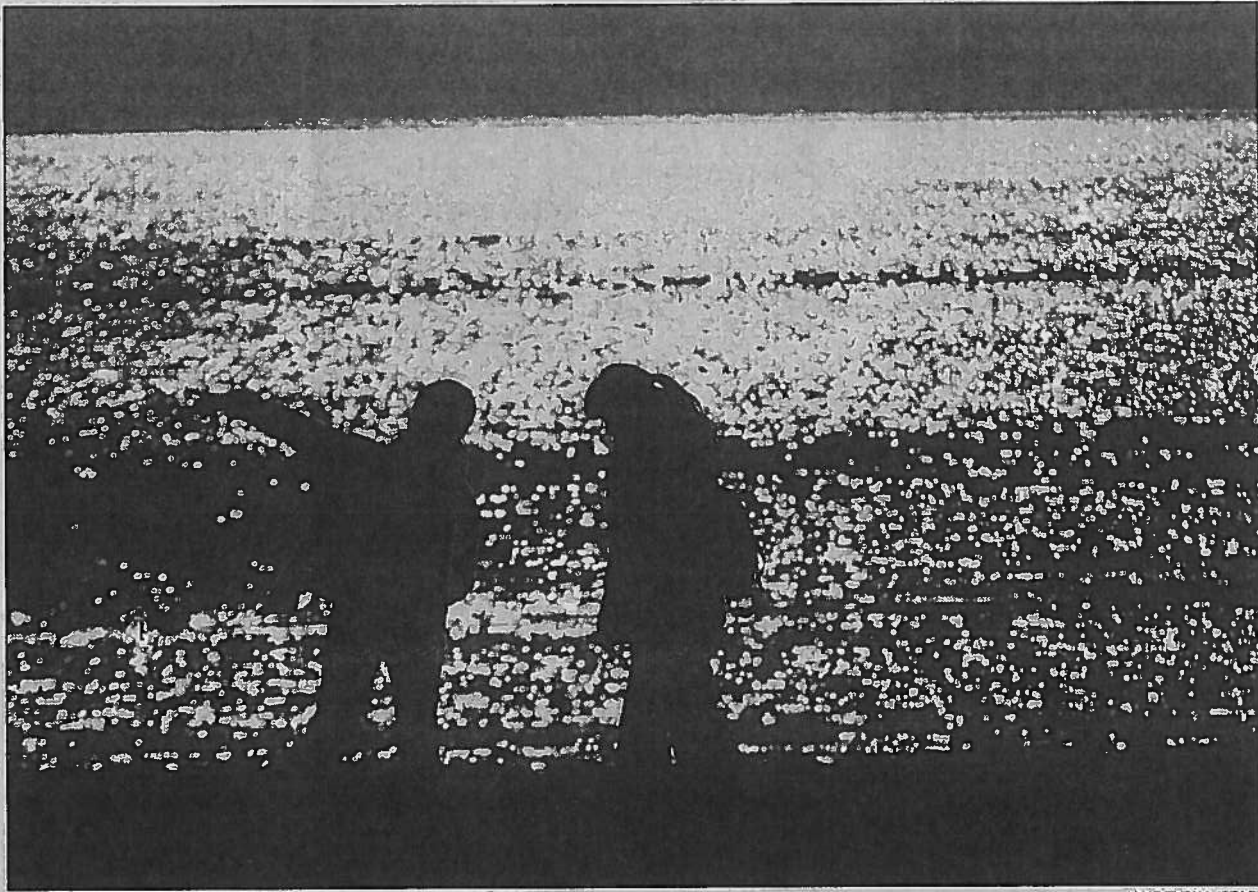
The most exciting bird-watching spot Sunday was not Arrowhead Marsh, however. It was the 2700 block of Woolsey Street in Berkeley. There, in a backyard oak tree, a painted redstart warbler - normally seen only in the southwestern deserts - has been holding court for the past few weeks.

Birders have been making pilgrimages to see the distinctive red-and-black songbird. Many returned Sunday in hopes of adding it to the tally.

Logan Kahle, 16, of San Francisco wasn't too interested in the warbler. For him, the day was about getting outside with his tripod and telescope, and taking it all in - the clucking clapper rails, the graceful diving grebes, the northern harrier swooping over the pickleweed.

"I like to get away from the clutter of urban life," said Logan, who picked up birding from an elementary school teacher. "Birds are probably the most conspicuous form of wildlife - I appreciate just being able to get out and enjoy them."

LENS ON THE BAY



JANE TYSKA/STAFF

BAY AREA NEWS GROUP 12-12-13

Enjoying a restored beach

Grace Chun, left, and Myoko Burr, of Alameda, walk along Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda on Tuesday. At a cost of nearly \$5.7 million, the park district restored the beach and dune system to its 1987 state by adding more than 82,000 cubic yards of new sand.

Tilden Park newt protections have dog-walkers growling

By Marta Yamamoto

Correspondent

12/11/2013

Every year from Nov. 1 to April 1, South Park Drive in Tilden Regional Park in the Berkeley hills is closed to motor traffic. Those in the know, understand the reason: To protect migrating and breeding California newts, *Taricha rosa*, trying to make their way to streams and ponds to mate when it rains.

The closure policy was established in 1993 and has become almost as much a local tradition as holiday shopping. Over the years, the area has evolved and become popular with a variety of users, including dog walkers, who take advantage of no-car policy.

But this year, contrary to tradition, off-leash dog walkers learned that a decision had been made to enforce the on-leash regulation. Dogs are still welcome but they must be on-leash.



▲ A newt at the Tilden Park Nature Area in 2009

The on-leash enforcement was met with surprise and disapproval by dog walkers who have become accustomed to using South Park Drive during inclement weather and led to a petition being posted by Thomas Jordan of Oakland on Change.org.

Jordan and the 250 people who signed that petition wanted the park district to explain and reverse the decision.

According to Anne Scheer, East Bay Regional Park District chief of park operations, the decision was made in October during the district's annual road closure meeting.

Scheer explained that because South Park Drive is officially designated a paved, multiuse trail, the regulation had always been on the books, but had not been enforced.

"We often look at all of our parks and rules and try to make sure we are enforcing whatever rules we have. In this instance, an internal document stated that dogs could be off-leash during the road closure," she said. "I saw this and said it was not correct. South Park Drive is a paved, multiuse trail and our rule is that dogs must be on-leash on that type of trail."

The district was not aware of the petition at the time the decision was made and Scheer said she understands that people want to have a place to exercise their dogs in inclement weather and that many fire roads in the Berkeley hills are muddy when it rains.

She asks that people consider the reasons behind the rule, that many people use South Park Drive because it's paved and closed to vehicles, including bicyclists, parents pushing strollers, wheelchair users and elders with mobility problems. They all require a stable, paved road. "It's always difficult for us in the park district to balance the needs of all our constituents but that's what we have to do and that's what we're trying to do here," Scheer said. "It's all about sharing the planet with other people."

The park district has very lenient dog rules and there are hundreds of miles of trails open to off-leash dogs, as well as an entire park, Point Isabel, where dogs can be off-leash. Scheer recommends people use the district website (www.ebparcs.org) to explore other parks with soil types less affected by rain.

The closure of South Park Drive was originally initiated because of the hundreds of newts being crushed by cars and remains closed as a resource protection issue. Today, newts are safely able to migrate and visitors to the park can see them in their natural setting.

But over the years the benefits of the closure have expanded. Aside from offering a way for different groups to use the road, the closure allows an area of the park that experiences heavy picnic use to rest.

"I find it a win-win situation for the environment and for the public that the road is closed," Scheer said. "It has become very popular and that's a good thing. We love to have people come to our parks and find different ways to use them."

Bay Area Monitor

Prioritizing Conservation: Authorities Angle for Funding

Leslie Stewart Monday, 02 December 2013

“Let’s also think about the areas we want to conserve.”

Laura Thompson, **Bay Trail** project manager at the **Association of Bay Area Governments**, remembered how this idea developed into a key strategy in creating the region’s new **Plan Bay Area**. As a result, in addition to Priority Development Areas, the plan contains more than a hundred Priority Conservation Areas submitted by counties and approved for inclusion by her agency. The goal is to retain and enhance the value the region receives from its rural areas, including agriculture and parks. Counties may also apply to have additional areas receive the designation.

Protecting and conserving land takes money, so the regional plan budget earmarked funds from the One Bay Area Grant Program to support projects in Priority Conservation Areas. Originally, the plan budgeted only \$5 million for a pilot program in the North Bay counties (Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and Solano). “They were farther along in the process of working on Priority Conservation Areas,” according to Craig Goldblatt, transportation planner with the **Metropolitan Transportation Commission**, the agency in charge of allocating most of the plan’s funding. He added, “Commissioners said that other counties would want to participate and cited needs in southern Santa Clara and eastern Alameda counties as examples,” and the amount was doubled. The original \$5 million went to the four North Bay counties, who decided to divide it evenly, and an additional \$5 million was designated for the remaining five counties, to be distributed through a competitive grant process. Subsequently, a partnership with the **State Coastal Conservancy** has added up to \$2.5 million for the competitive grants.

Funded projects, either through the competitive grants or the pilot program, must have a transportation focus and be within or connected to an approved

Priority Conservation Area. Eligible project types include planning activities, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, visual enhancements such as viewing areas, habitat enhancements, and “farm-to-market” capital projects. Protection or enhancement of natural resources, open space, or agricultural lands is also eligible but with some restrictions. The deadline for the competitive grant program for the remaining five Bay Area counties was November 15; final selection of successful applications may happen by March of next year. Because of the way the grant money will be awarded, it’s quite possible that not all five counties will receive project funding.

Meanwhile, North Bay counties have already decided where to spend their funds for the three-year cycle covered by the pilot program. Marin’s six projects are mostly for trails and access easements, and some parkland acquisition. Sonoma will be funding a farm-to-market route along Bodega Highway and an urban footprint model to evaluate greenhouse gas emissions. Solano County plans to improve traffic and safety around Mankas Corner, where streams of bicyclists tour farmlands on narrow roads. Napa will focus on adding parkland near **Skyline Park**, including a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

These projects were selected by county congestion management agencies, which include representatives from city and county governments and receive funds directly from MTC. Like most Plan Bay Area funding, Priority Conservation Area funding is federal transportation money, and there are strings attached, such as local matching funds. In addition, federal transportation money can’t be used to buy land other than transportation easements. John Woodbury, general manager for the **Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District**, noted that arrangements to work around funding restrictions are common. “Napa doesn’t have a lot of jurisdictional players, so it is easier to arrange this kind of swap,” he said, explaining how Napa will make this work. “The county will pay for the parkland acquisition with general fund money that would otherwise pay for Silverado Trail maintenance, and we’ll use the [Priority Conservation Area] funds to pay for that road upkeep.” This is what Thompson says regional agencies are looking for: “Creative partnerships where one agency has transportation funding authority and can use the funds for qualifying projects.”

Woodbury was concerned that Napa's \$1.25 million share of the pilot program funds just begins to cover the land costs, and the conservation project still might not work out. In that case, he expected the county to put the funds into another eligible project category, probably "farm-to-market" routes. "Everything in Napa qualifies for that," he observed, "so it's a loophole you can drive a truck through." Some advocates are frustrated by the regional plan's limited conservation budget after seven park and open space districts had requested that a 5 percent investment of Plan Bay Area funds be set aside for achieving the vital natural resource protection goals of **2008's Sustainable Communities Act**. "Ten million dollars is nothing," **East Bay Regional Park District** board member Beverly Lane complained recently. Compared to the total Plan Bay Area budget, \$10 million doesn't seem like much, but it's comparable to the funds earmarked for programs such as Safe Routes to School. MTC's Goldblatt commented that it was always expected that the funds should be leveraged. Thompson concurred, noting, "Partnering with the State Coastal Conservancy has brought more money to the table."

On the one hand, as Thompson pointed out, "This is a pilot program — we can let agencies determine if they think more money should go to open space in the future." On the other hand, argued Ron Brown, executive director of **Save Mount Diablo**, "That's not even enough to do reasonable pilot projects that demonstrate the need for additional funding."

Woodbury, a former **AC Transit** employee, understands that "it's hard to use transportation funds for conservation, so the amount of money is minimal compared to the need." He summed up the Napa parkland proposal by saying, "We wouldn't even be doing it if it weren't for PCA funding." And then he added, "On how the pilot program is working? Ask me in a year."

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Leslie Stewart is the former editor of the Bay Area Monitor.