



## EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, May 18, 2020 4:00 p.m.

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF WILL ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order No. N-29-20 and the Alameda County Health Officer's current Shelter in Place Order, effective March 31, 2020, the East Bay Regional Park District ("Park District") Headquarters will not be open to the public and the Park Advisory Committee and staff will be participating in the meetings via phone/video conferencing.

#### Members of the public can listen to the meeting in the following way:

Via the Park District's live audio stream, on the Park District's YouTube channel, which can be found at:

<https://youtu.be/vx-1DJ6WJBU>

#### Public comments may be submitted one of two ways:

1. Via email to [sclay@ebparks.org](mailto:sclay@ebparks.org). Email must contain in the subject line **public comments – not on the agenda** or **public comments – agenda item #**.
2. Via voicemail at **510-544-2021**. The caller must start the message by stating **public comments – not on the agenda** or **public comments – agenda item#** followed by their name and place of residence, followed by their comments.
3. If you are interested in speaking during Public Comments, please contact the Recording Secretary at [sclay@ebparks.org](mailto:sclay@ebparks.org) for call in information by 3:00 pm on Friday, May 15, 2020. Email must contain in the subject line, **Park Advisory Committee meeting 5-18-20 call in request**.

Comments received **during the meeting and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item is closed** and will be provided in writing to the PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE, including transcribed voicemails. All comments received by the close of the public comment period will be available after the meeting as supplemental materials and will become part of the official meeting record. *However, to ensure that the Board Members will be able to review your comments prior to the close of the meeting, please submit your public comment by no later than 3:00 pm on Friday, May 15, 2020.* Please try to limit your written comments to no more than 300 words. The Park District cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted. To ensure that the Park District receives your comments, you are strongly encouraged to submit your comments in writing in advance of the meeting.

For future meetings, the Park District is exploring additional ways for the public to submit comments.

If you have any questions about utilizing the audio stream, please contact the Recording Secretary of the Committee, **Sharon Clay** at [sclay@ebparks.org](mailto:sclay@ebparks.org) or 510-544-2021. To ensure the best opportunity for Park District staff to address your question, please contact the Recording Secretary prior to 3:00 pm on **Friday, May 15, 2020**.

#### Board of Directors

Ellen Corbett  
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General Manager

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](http://www.ebparks.org)), the Headquarters reception desk, and at the meeting.

Accommodations and Access

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 at 510-544-2020 as soon as possible, but preferably at least three working days prior to the meeting.

## AGENDA

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
4:00 pm	1. Roll Call (Virtual) 2. Approval of Minutes – April 27, 2020 3. Board Member Comments 4. Foundation Update 5. Public Comments Public comments may be submitted one of two ways: 1) Via email to <a href="mailto:sclay@ebparks.org">sclay@ebparks.org</a> Email must contain the subject line, <b>Public Comments – not on the agenda or comments on the agenda, and indicate the item # by FRIDAY, May 15, 2020.</b> 2) Via voicemail at 510-544-2021. The caller must start the message by stating <b>Public Comments – not on the agenda” followed by their name and place of residence, followed by their comments.</b> 4. If you are interested in speaking during Public Comments, please contact the Recording Secretary at <a href="mailto:sclay@ebparks.org">sclay@ebparks.org</a> for call in information by 3:00 pm on Friday, May 15, 2020. Email must contain in the subject line: <b>Park Advisory Committee meeting 5-18-20 call in request.</b>	Recording Secretary  Ayn Wieskamp Carol Johnson, AGM Public Affairs
4:15 pm	6. Presentations (I) a. District Outreach to Elected Officials about the Parks During the Shelter In Place Order (R) b. Concord Hills Regional Park LUP Adoption (I) c. Intro to Roddy Ranch Golf Course Planning	Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government & Legislative Affairs Lisa Baldinger, Legislative & Policy Analyst Devan Reiff, Principal Planner Devan Reiff, Principal Planner
5:45 pm	7. PAC Member Comments 8. Report from Chair 9. Board Committee Reports 10. Old Business 11. New Business	Rick Rickard, PAC Chair
6:00 pm	12. Adjournment	

ATTACHMENTS

1. District Outreach to Elected Officials Memo
2. Concord Hills Regional Park LUP Adoption Memo
3. Intro to Roddy Ranch Golf Course Planning Memo
4. 2020 Work Plan Calendar
5. Articles & Correspondence

EXHIBITS

1. Concord Hills Regional Park Map
2. Concord Hills Regional Park Draft EIR
3. Roddy Ranch/Deer Valley Park Map

Park Advisory Committee Members

Rick Rickard Chair)  
 Carlyn Obringer (Vice Chair)  
 Erich Pfuehler, Staff Coordinator

2020 Meeting Dates

January <del>27</del>	July 27
February <del>24</del>	August -No Mtg.

R - Recommendation for Future Board  
Consideration  
I - Informational  
D - Discussion

~~March 23~~  
~~Canceled~~  
~~April 27~~  
May 18  
June 22

September 28  
October 26  
November 23  
December 7

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**Unapproved Meeting Minutes**  
**PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
April 27, 2020

ATTENDING: Andrade, Best, Bueren, Burke, Brubaker, Cary, Deschambault, Dieter, Gregory, Ho, Lacy, Nason, Obringer, Rickard, Robinson, Sanwong, Skaredoff, Tsutsui, Williams  
ABSENT: Corkin  
STAFF: Pfuehler, Johnson, O'Connor, Ciaburro, Barial Knight, Holt, Reiff, Willis, Kelchner, Clay, James, Llamido  
BOARD: Elizabeth Echols, Beverly Lane  
PUBLIC: None

1. **Roll call:** The recording secretary took roll call. PAC chair Rickard opened the meeting. He stated consistent with Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 12, 2020 in response to the threat of COVID-19 and the Alameda County Health Department's Order dated March 16, 2020, the Park Advisory Committee may utilize teleconferencing to remotely participate in meetings.
2. **Approval of the February 24, 2020 Minutes:** The February 24, 2020 minutes were approved at the April 27, 2020 meeting. Motion made by PAC member Williams seconded by PAC member Obringer. PAC members Best, Burke and Ho abstained due to being absent. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Board Member Comments:** Director Echols thanked the Park Advisory Committee for the opportunity to join the meeting. She expressed appreciation to the committee for their work which is important to the Board's decision-making process.

Echols stated she has had a lifetime passion for the East Bay regional parks. She grew up exploring the trails and spending time out in nature. She participated in several Park District programs as a child, was a Junior Ranger and served as a day camp counselor at Tilden Regional Park. Echols reported she has enjoyed learning about the operational and public policy aspects of the Park District.

Echols touched on the Covid-19 pandemic. The goal is to keep the parks as open as possible, as long the District can continue to protect the health and safety of the public and staff. Echols said the parks offer the public an opportunity for improved physical and mental health. This was reflected in the public health orders stating being outdoors is deemed an essential activity. The District parks are open, but it is a rapidly evolving situation. Echols thanked Assistant General Manager of Operations Jim O'Connor for his work procuring Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and putting protocols in place to keep staff healthy.

Echols said the business of the Board is ongoing. She will be glad when some of the District's milestones can be celebrated, such as the Albany Bay Trail connection and beach restoration.

PAC member Nason thanked Director Echols for her help with the homeless encampment

near Point Isabel which needed port-a-potties and hand washing stations. Nason said she was pleased with the coordination between the Board, staff and City of Richmond to work together to address the situation.

4. **Foundation Update:** Carol Johnson, Assistant General Manager Public Affairs provided a Regional Parks Foundation (RPF) update. Johnson stated the Foundation has curtailed some of their fundraising activities since the shelter in place order to assist the Park District with messaging. The Foundation has assisted by communicating to its members through social media and other communication channels. Johnson noted people are very supportive of the parks being maintained and open.

Johnson reported a new diversity and inclusion subcommittee has been created in the Foundation. A team of Foundation Board Members and staff will consider how the Foundation and District together can provide services to at-risk communities.

5. **Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

6. **Presentations:**

- (I) **a. Emergency Operation Center Update – Anthony Ciaburro, AGM of Public Safety and Chief of Police, Jim O’Connor, AGM of Operations**

Anthony Ciaburro, Assistant General Manager of Public Safety presented an overview about the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Ciaburro explained the EOC is virtual. Because of the Covid-19 emergency, the EOC was created on March 24 and initially met five days per week. Currently, the EOC meets three days per week. The EOC encompasses all divisions and meets to collectively solve problems.

The EOC is comprised of an incident commander (Chief of Police) to oversee the center, manage staff and help guide staff to address challenges. The health liaison officers interface with the county health departments. For the safety of staff and the public, the District needs to understand the rules and recommendations issued by the health departments. The safety officer is charged with safety precautions related to Covid-19. The public information officer helps disseminate the proper information regarding messaging in the parks and to park users. In addition, a legal team is part of the EOC to offer legal advice. The operations section implements tasks needed to manage the parks. Operational issues such as closing a park, managing personnel or completing a related project. The planning section plans and anticipates what may be needed. Examples include PPE for staff and protocols for various activities such as entering a building. The logistics section does the ordering, puts kits together for staff to use to clean their vehicles, distribute masks, etc. The finance and administrative section tracks expenditures. Unlike other emergency incidents, this is unique as no repairs are required.

O’Connor provided the second portion of the EOC presentation. He noted the District is in week seven of planning and reacting to the shelter in place. The District’s initial actions were to close all visitor centers, concession operations, campgrounds and picnic areas. In addition, staffing in the field was reduced to a minimum based on information provided by the public health departments. Most parks remained open, but after March 17 the District reacted to crowding in parks and the challenges of maintaining social distancing. O’Connor

explained there are a few complete park closures which include: Ardenwood Farm, Bay Point is closed for construction, Point Isabel, Castle Rock Recreation Area, Sunol Regional Wilderness and Del Valle.

O'Connor reported challenges include maintaining social distancing, litter, dog waste, dogs off leash and parking, as well as closed restrooms and water fountains. O'Connor thanked Public Affairs for their work creating a series educational signage for the parks. Signs include dogs, no picnicking or gathering, social distancing and pack it in/pack it out. The newest sign recommends wearing cloth masks in situations where you can't properly social distance. Trash collection resumed as of April 24 after consulting with public health departments and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Williams asked if there has been a surge in car break-ins since the parking lot closures. Ciaborro replied there has been a slight uptick, but there are surges of car break-ins at different times. It could also be attributed to the fact the parks are one of the few places still open.

PAC member Brubaker asked if there is any data about the increase in visitors. O'Connor replied normally data is gathered via kiosks and fee collections which are not occurring at this time. Anecdotally, many staff are reporting they have seen more visitors than ever.

PAC member Andrade noted he's seen more people in local parks. He suggested park users new to regional parks think they are the same as urban parks. They don't come prepared and can get lost. He suggested a sign could educate new users about what they should do and expect when hiking in a regional park.

PAC member Robinson expressed concern for the closure of the upper parking lot at Black Diamond Mines. She noted it forces park users to walk from the lower parking lot and onto a confined trail space. O'Connor replied staff felt the road from the parking lot was wide enough and allowed for adequate social distancing. Closing the upper parking lot reduced the patron load, but also provided the road for additional walking. Robinson said the parking closures make it difficult to access other District parks in Contra Costa County. Robinson asked if there is a way to allow access to Black Diamond Mines and Contra Loma without allowing access to the picnic areas. O'Connor replied the District tried reopening the parking lots, but many park users ignored the no picnicking signage. The main park area had to be re-closed.

PAC member Dieter commented the Park District could do better with the garbage service. O'Connor explained the curtailment of trash collection and the restrooms was to ensure staff would be protected before resuming this work. Staff worked closely with the public health departments and within the CDC guidelines to create protocols and have the necessary PPE. Although these activities are seen as low risk from a public health perspective, it is understandable staff would be concerned about protecting themselves and their families.

**Recommendation: This was an informational item only.**

(I) **b. COVID-19 Park District Communication – Carol Johnson, Assistant General Manager Public Affairs and Dave Mason, Public Information Supervisor**

Johnson stated Public Affairs is working to communicate to the public in the simplest direct way about expected behavior in District parks. Public Affairs has been in daily contact with the public health departments to keep parks open for the benefit of access to nature, wellness and healing during this time. Johnson mentioned she has a great team which produced over 2,000 signs and a variety of other communication channels to get the word out.

Dave Mason, Public Information Supervisor provided an update about Public Affairs work on Covid -19 and Park District communications. Mason stated this is not only a crisis, but a continually changing situation with multiple information sources. The primary sources are the public health agencies and governor. Staff had to determine quickly what the shelter in place order meant to the District and how to communicate it in a clear way to the public.

Mason reported there are challenges in ensuring the District provides accurate communication to the public. The public has many questions. Public Affairs created a strategy to provide quick, clear information about parks and facilities through different ways. Safety guidelines needed to be conveyed to inform visitors about what they need to do and what to expect in the parks. Mason stated some of the key messaging included the state and local orders about essential activities. Many people depend on the parks for their health and wellness. Another important message to the public was the District needed park users to be responsible and follow the rules, so parks can remain open.

Mason explained the EOC plays an important role because it allows for good communication between Operations and Public Safety. This also provides for consistent messaging which is accurate. Internal communication is important for staff. The District website is important, as are public service announcements (PSAs) being broadcast in local media. Mason explained a PSA was put together in a three-day time period; eight press releases were put together; 140 social media posts just on Covid-19; five NextDoor notices to the whole District totaling 800,000 people; 60,000 e-mail blasts; an op-ed; media partnerships did informational ads; signage in the parks; virtual town halls; etc. Information was provided to Board Members and employees. Public Affairs has also been responding to information requests from citizens via social media and correspondence. Mason reported Public Affairs has received positive posts from park users thanking the District for keeping the parks open and stating how important the parks are to them. Mason thanked Operations and Public Affairs for their quick work to install the signage in the parks. It took a day and a half for the signage to be created, printed and installed. Mason stated Public Affairs' work continues to get the most updated information out to the public.

PAC member Deschambault commented she visited Las Trampas and felt there was a lot of good compliance. There were two Hispanic families that passed her on the trail without masks. She inquired if the Park District is producing signs in Spanish. Mason replied all signage has Spanish translation, including sending messages to different ethnic media outlets and on the District website.



**Recommendation: This was an informational item only.**

**(I) c. Concord Hills Regional Park Naming Update – Devan Reiff, Principal Planner, Edward Willis, Planner**

Brian Holt, Chief of Planning and GIS stated Acquisition, Stewardship and Design continues to move projects forward. The District is committed to the idea that access to parks and open space is more critical than ever. Holt introduced Devan Reiff, Principal Planner who provided the presentation.

Reiff explained the naming of new parks follows not only a District policy adopted in 2004, but also with an understanding about the context of the new park. The land is viewed several different ways: historic cultural, natural and aesthetic. Reiff oriented the committee to the location of the property in the City of Concord. It is a portion of the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. It is located at the eastern section of the City of Concord and the border of the City of Pittsburg. There are views of the Delta, Mount Diablo and Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve.

The Concord Hills Land Use Plan (LUP) was released in October 2019 after five years of community engagement, participation by Concord residents, elected officials and city staff. It was developed in close coordination with the U.S. Navy and City of Concord. The main goal of this plan is to maximize resource conservation, protect public access and provide new recreational facilities.

Reiff explained the naming policy and guidelines: Regional Parks, Trails, structures, areas and facilities will be named after natural features such as plant and animal life, geographic, topographic or paleontological, or cultural features such as archaeological and historic artifacts, historic persons, families or events. Existing historically related names are respected.

Reiff explained there has been several years of process and community engagement. Twelve names have been suggested and vetted. At a community meeting in October the twelve were: Concord Hills, Concord Naval Weapons, Delta Hills, Delta View, Diablo Creek, Diablo Valley, Diablo Vista, Los Medanos, Meridian Hills, Monte del Diablo and Todos Santos. The District partnered with the cities of Pittsburg, Concord and the non-profit Save Mount Diablo to post these names as an online survey. Another category, Other, was added, to enable viewers to suggest their own park name. There were over 1,200 votes and the top four were Concord Hills, Diablo Vista, Monte del Diablo and Los Medanos. Under the Other category, the top park name suggestions included: Chupan, Miwok, Bay Miwok and Volvans Miwok. Reiff explained without the participation and suggestions from Native American descendants, staff felt it was culturally insensitive to use a native name for the park. Staff are currently in the beginning stages of informal discussions with native representatives throughout the Bay Area and hope to return to the PAC in May with the results of those conversations.

Edward Willis, Planner, explained the polling process. The PAC members participated in live polling. The highest votes received were for the Other category, tied for second were Concord Hills and Delta View, Diablo Vista was third and Delta Hills was fourth. Willis walked the PAC members through a second poll where the members could type in their

own park name. The results named Concord Hills as the overwhelming choice. Other names suggested: Port Chicago Memorial, Port Chicago, Diablo View, Delta Hills, Bay Miwok, Delta View, Delta Vista and native names.

Reiff provided the survey results from 300 votes from the City of Concord poll. The Other category was highest, second was Concord Hills and third was Monte del Diablo. He thanked Obringer for her help coordinating the survey with the City of Concord.

Reiff thanked Robinson for her assistance with the City of Pittsburg's polling. Out of 151 votes, Other was the first, Los Medanos second and Monte del Diablo third. Save Mount Diablo's survey had 430 votes. Concord Hills came in first, Other was second, and there was a tie for third between Los Medanos and Monte del Diablo. Results from the Park District's 236 votes were Other was first, Monte del Diablo second, Los Medanos third and Concord Hills fourth.

Robinson thanked Reiff and the planners for reaching out to the City of Pittsburg for their input. Obringer also thanked staff for including the City of Concord in the process. She reported it hasn't come before the Concord City Council, but is scheduled on May 12. Andrade suggested the Park District might name one of the trails after local jazz musician Dave Brubeck who grew up on a cattle ranch in the area.

**Recommendation: This was an informational item only**

**7. PAC Member Comments**

PAC Member Andrade observed there are many undeveloped trails within the District's system. Staff might consider developing them to have additional trails along with the major well-known trails.

PAC Member Dieter thanked staff for organizing the Zoom meeting.

PAC Member Skaredoff suggested it would be nice if Concord Hills could have a Native American name. He stated consulting with the local representatives of the various native peoples would be a key element. Maybe they would be able to suggest a title and not just one of the subgroups.

**8. Report from Chair** – Rickard reported he's attended the regular and special Board meetings via YouTube. He encouraged the members to check the District website and listen to some of the meetings.

**9. Board Committee Reports** – none.

**10. Old Business** – none.

**11. New Business** – none.

**12. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Summary of Actions:

1. The PAC approved the February 24, 2020 minutes.



## **PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of May 18, 2020

**TO:** Park Advisory Committee

**STAFF REPORT  
PREPARED BY:** Erich Pfuehler and Lisa Baldinger, Government Affairs

**SUBJECT:** District Outreach to Elected Officials about the Parks  
During the Shelter In Place Order

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The East Bay Regional Park District has experienced unprecedented increase in visitation since shelter-in-place orders were put in place. Park District staff has used a variety of communications platforms and mediums to provide the public with information on safe use, closures and temporary policy changes due to the pandemic. This presentation by Government Affairs staff Erich Pfuehler and Lisa Baldinger will provide a high-level overview with visual examples of EBRPD's engagement efforts with the public and in partnership with Elected officials during the COVID-19 response.

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## PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of May 18, 2020

**TO:** Parks Advisory Committee

**STAFF REPORT  
PREPARED BY:** Devan Reiff, AICP, Principal Planner

**SUBJECT:** Concord Hills Regional Park LUP Adoption

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Devan Reiff, Principal Planner, will make a presentation on this informational agenda item.

### RECOMMENDATION

- I. Recommend certification of the Environmental Impact Report and adoption of the Land Use Plan for the Concord Hills Regional Park

### BACKGROUND

The development of the a new regional park at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) became a reality in July, 2019, after nearly two decades of focused efforts by the Park District and its partners including the United States Navy (Navy), the City of Concord (Concord), and the National Park Service (NPS).

The future park is approximately 2,500 acres, located within the City of Concord and borders the city limit of Pittsburg (Attachment 1). The Parks Advisory Committee (PAC) received informational reports on the new regional park Land Use Plan (LUP) on November 25, 2019 and on the Park naming, on April 27, 2020. The LUP was developed over a period of five years of public engagement and participation; most recently at a public meeting held by the Park District at the future visitor center, in October 2019, where a naming exercise was conducted, and online public surveys conducted on the future park's name, in February and March, 2020.

The LUP and draft environmental impact report (EIR) were published on October 18, 2019, and the public comment period was open until December 6, 2019 complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The final LUP and EIR were published on May 1, 2020 (\ Attachments 2 and 3). Adoption recommendations for the LUP will occur at public meetings of the Board Executive Committee on May 7, 2020, the PAC meeting of May 18, 2020, with final adoption considered at the Board of Directors meeting on June 2, 2020.

At the May 7, 2020 meeting of the Board Executive Committee, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend the full Board adopt the Concord LUP and certify the EIR. The Committee did not make a recommendation of a name for the future park, instead, directing staff to engage with tribal representatives in discussions about a park name which honors native people and heritage, and to return to the Executive Committee in June or July with the results of those conversations. Following the June or July Executive Committee meeting, staff will return to the PAC at a future meeting for the PAC's park naming recommendation.

## Land and Land Transfer

Starting during World War II, the Navy began acquiring property for munitions storage and shipment on property that later became the CNWS. Changes in military operations ultimately led to the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommended closure of the 5,028-acre inland area of the CNWS in November of 2005.

Since that time, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) has worked closely with the National Park Service (NPS), the City of Concord, the Navy and various state and federal regulatory agencies in planning for reuse of the inland portion of the CNWS. The Park District's efforts have also included participation as a member of the Concord Community Reuse Project Technical Advisory Group and Community Advisory Council.

Following closure of the inland area of the CNWS, the Concord City Council was appointed as the Local Reuse Authority (LRA), authorized with developing a Reuse Plan that would guide the disposition and development of the former CNWS. The City of Concord adopted the Concord Community Reuse Plan in 2010, which largely preserved the eastern portion of the property for parks and open space, while designating the western portion of the property for development of approximately 12,000 homes, 6 million square feet of commercial development, and various other uses including over 700 acres of community and neighborhood parks. In 2012, the Concord City Council (City Council), sitting as the LRA, approved the Concord Community Reuse Project Area Plan, which reaffirmed the prior City Council's direction on the Reuse Plan and designated up to 2,537 acres of the former CNWS as conservation open space for the purposes of establishing a new regional park to be conveyed to the Park District through a Public Benefit Conveyance (PBC).

On September 3, 2013, the Board of Directors authorized the Park District (Resolution 2013-9-198) to submit an application to the NPS for a PBC through the Federal Lands to Parks Program. The Park District requested approximately 2,540 acres of the surplus property through a PBC for public park and recreational use, by application to the NPS. In May, 2014, the NPS approved the Park District's application for a PBC and submitted a "Request for Assignment" to the U.S. Navy for up to 2,540 acres for the purposes of public park and recreation purposes and granting a public benefit allowance of 100 percent of fair market value of the property.

In July 2019, the U.S. Navy conveyed 2,216 acres of the land to the National Park Service, who assigned constructive possession of the property to the Park District for the future "Concord Hills Regional Park." The Board accepted this "Phase I Public Benefit Conveyance" by adopting Resolution No. 2019-07-176. Fee title conveyance of the 2,216 acres and an additional 327 acres are set to transfer from the National Park Service to the Park District at a later date.

## Park Land Use Plan

In December, 2014, the Board of Directors authorized the Park District to initiate the development of a Land Use Plan (LUP) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the future "Concord Hills Regional Park." Staff has developed the draft LUP in coordination with the Navy's disposal and reuse process and various regulatory agreements. "Concord Hills" has been a

placeholder name since 2013 for the future park, and the PAC and full Board will have the opportunity to select an official park name during the LUP adoption process.

Starting in 2015, the draft LUP was developed with extensive community input through multiple public meetings, presentations to the Concord Reuse Project Community Advisory Committee, and input from a project stakeholder group made of City of Concord residents and representatives from numerous interested organizations. That process of community engagement into the planning of the future park continued through October, 2019, when the Park District hosted a public meeting at the future Visitor Center, attended by 100 people, and online public surveys conducted on the future park's name, in February and March, 2020. Additionally, staff has provided the Park District Board of Directors, Park Advisory Committee, and Executive Committee regular updates at key points of development of the LUP in the past five years.

The final LUP (Exhibit 2) includes an extensive trail network, picnic facilities, backcountry and group camping sites, environmental and historic interpretation, and a potential visitors center highlighting the history of the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial and Diablo Valley history. Additionally, the plan incorporates conditions of the National Historic Preservation Act and Endangered Species Act, described below, for the Concord Reuse Project, including designating a substantial portion of the PBC area as a conservation area for mitigation purposes for the Concord Reuse Project.

### Land Use Plan Summary

The vision for the Regional Park is supported by five goals. These goals guided the development of the Land Use Plan, and will guide the ongoing development, implementation, and management of the Regional Park:

- **Biological Resources:** Develop and manage the Regional Park for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of natural resources and reduced risk of wildfire.
- **Cultural and Historic Resources:** Develop and manage the Regional Park to benefit the overall landscape character of the parklands and specific cultural and historic resources.
- **Circulation and Trails:** Develop and manage the Regional Park to complete gaps in regional trails networks, provide a range of recreational trails throughout the Regional Park, and facilitate and encourage multi-modal access to the site (e.g. bike, pedestrian, vehicular, public transit).
- **Recreation and Education Facilities:** Develop and manage recreational and educational facilities that offer a range of opportunities to experience the unique natural, cultural, social, and military history of the CNWS and the Central Contra Costa County region.
- **Interpretive Facilities:** Establish a historical interpretation program and visitor center in partnership with the National Park Service, with support from and in collaboration with the Friends of Port Chicago and others, to honor the veterans who served at the CNWS,

to convey the significance of the events at Port Chicago, and to provide displays on the history of Concord and the Diablo Valley region, and to allow convenient public access to the National Park Service's Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial (Exhibit 3).

The purpose of the LUP is to guide the development and management of the Regional Park over a period of at least fifty years, with consideration to the site's natural and cultural resources, recreational and educational opportunities, and relationship to the Concord Reuse Project.

The following summarizes key recommendations of the Concord Hills LUP:

- **Parkland planning units:** Within the expansive 2,543-acre Regional Park, the footprint of recreational uses will be limited to 86 acres (three percent of the total area). Natural Units will constitute approximately 95 percent of the Regional Park, including Special Protection Features on 620 acres, which will be areas where public access will be restricted.
- **Biological resources program:** The Park District will provide biological resource protection, limitation of public access in certain areas with protected species, and create habitat improvements by removing railroad tracks and former military buildings and structures.
- **Magazine reuse:** On the Park District property are approximately 75 former weapons magazines. These spaces can be repurposed for other uses, such as picnic sites or locations for arts and cultural expression or habitat enhancement. These magazines offer the Park District a unique opportunity for interpretation and education.
- **Visitor Center Complex:** The Complex will be the heart of the park, a retrofit of Building IA-24, previously used by the Navy as a machine shop. In partnership with NPS, the Complex will provide a central information hub for the public to learn about the Park and the history of the land, including histories of native peoples, Diablo Valley, the military and the events at Port Chicago.
- **Pedestrian/bicycle and equestrian access:** the LUP includes trail connections between Concord Hills Regional Park and four neighboring regional trails.
- **Trails:** The Regional Park will provide a variety of trail experiences for park users. There will be over 22 miles of trails within the Regional Park, as well as over five miles of maintenance roads and former rail lines that will be open for recreational use.
- **Camping and Picnic sites:** The Regional Park will include one large reservable group campsite and one reservable backcountry campsite. There will be five (5) group picnic sites and 13 small picnic areas.
- **The Diablo Center:** A new facility will provide an opportunity for special events away from the central activity areas of the Regional Park.
- **Community Orchard:** Will be located in the historic Navy homestead and orchard south of Bailey Road.



## California Environmental Quality Act

The Park District issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) on June 23, 2017 for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Concord Hills LUP. The draft Concord Hills Land Use Plan and Draft EIR was released on October 18, 2019. The Park District held three opportunities for the public to comment on the LUP and EIR: a community meeting at the future park, on October 26, 2019; a Park Advisory Committee meeting on November 25, 2019; a Board Executive Committee meeting on December 5, 2019. Comments were also received in writing. Seven comments were received during the comment period, and responses to comments were included in the Final EIR, published May 1, 2020.

In the analysis for the Draft EIR, each of the subject areas identified in the CEQA Guidelines was analyzed. Under CEQA, the District has determined that, due to the past and current uses of the project site, no environmental impacts associated with Agriculture, Forestry or Mineral Resources are expected to occur, as a result of the LUP. The sixteen environmental issue areas analyzed were not expected to have significant impacts, or their effects could be mitigated to a less than significant level: Aesthetics; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Noise; Population and Housing; Public Services and Recreation; Transportation and Traffic; Utilities and Service Systems and Wildfire.

## ATTACHMENTS

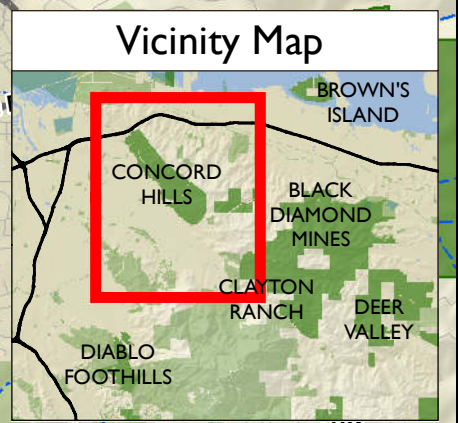
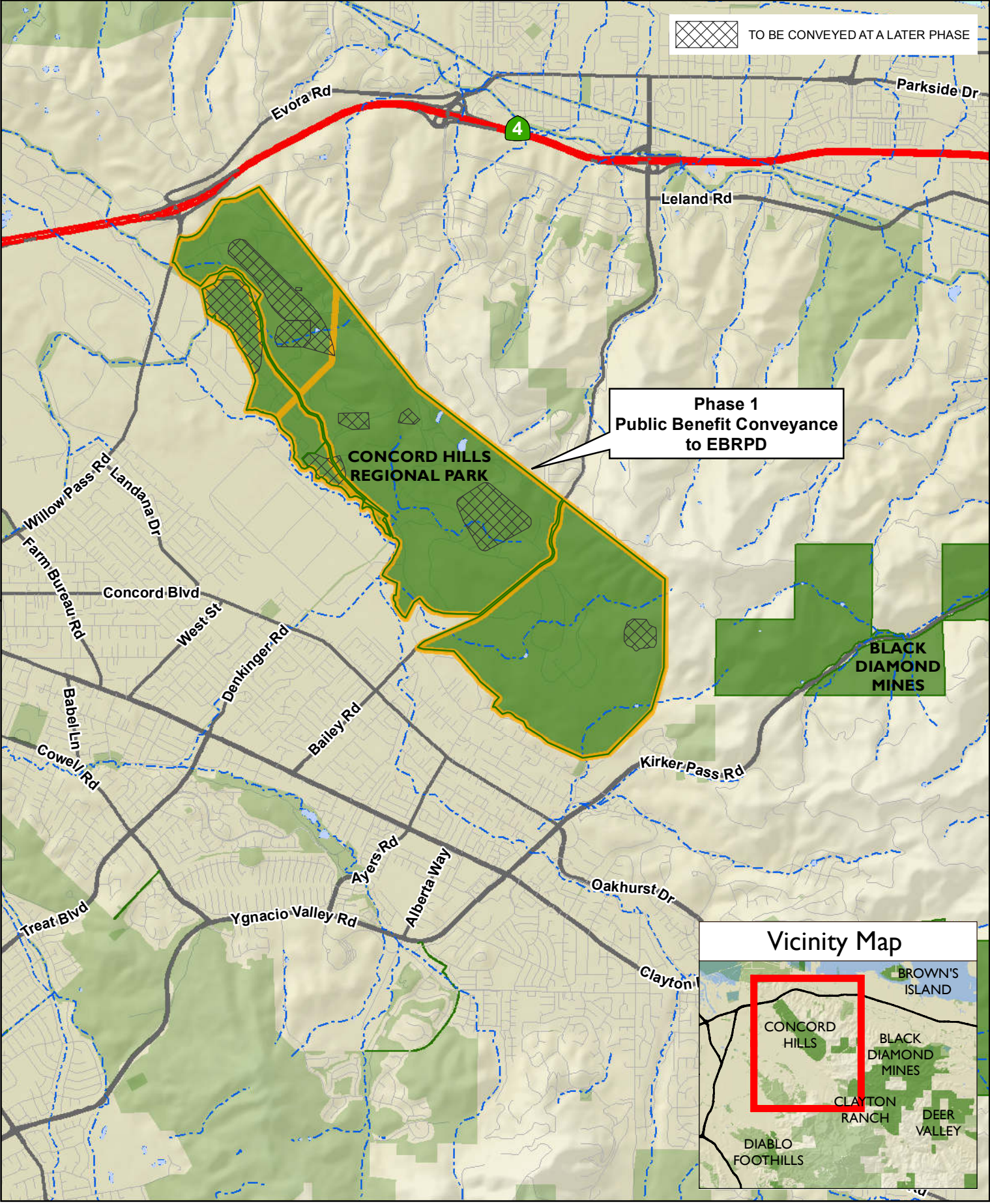
1: Location Map

2. Land Use Plan: see link at project web page:

<https://www.ebparks.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=33162>

3: EIR Executive Summary

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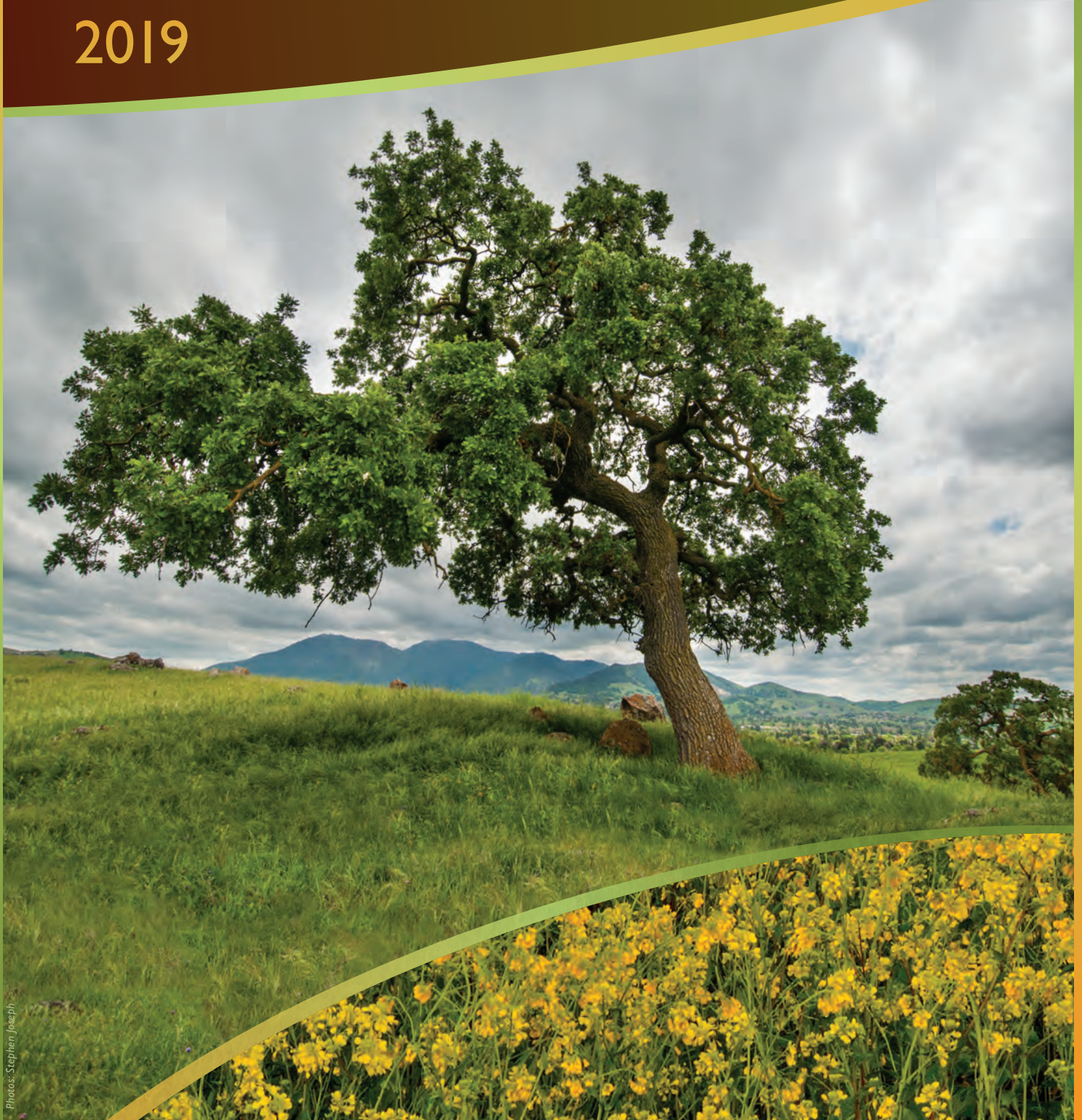


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# Concord Hills Regional Park

**LAND USE PLAN**  
**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**  
**REPORT**  
**Volume I**

# 2019





# Concord Hills Regional Park

LAND USE PLAN • **DRAFT** ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

**Volume I**

October 18, 2019

SCH# 2017062063



Photo: Stephen Joseph

**East Bay**   
Regional Park District

Healthy Parks Healthy People

**Planning and GIS Department**  
Acquisition, Stewardship and Development Division  
East Bay Regional Park District  
2950 Peralta Oaks Court  
Oakland, CA 94605





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# 1. Executive Summary

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This chapter presents an overview of the proposed Concord Hills Regional Park Land Use Plan, herein referred to as the “proposed project” or “proposed Plan.” This executive summary also provides a summary of the alternatives to the proposed project, identifies issues to be resolved, areas of controversy, and conclusions of the analysis contained in Chapters 4.0 through 4.16 of this Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). For a complete description of the proposed project, see Chapter 3, Project Description. For a discussion of alternatives to the proposed project, see Chapter 5, Alternatives to the Proposed Project.

This Draft EIR addresses the environmental effects associated with adoption and implementation of the proposed project. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that local government agencies, prior to taking action on projects over which they have discretionary approval authority, consider the environmental consequences of such projects. An EIR is a public document designed to provide the public and governmental agency decision-makers with an analysis of potential environmental consequences to support informed decision-making.

This Draft EIR has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of CEQA (California Public Resources Code, Division 13, Section 21000 *et seq.*) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15000 *et seq.*) to determine if approval of the identified discretionary actions could have a significant impact on the environment. The East Bay Regional Park District (District), as the Lead Agency, has reviewed and revised as necessary all submitted drafts, technical studies, and reports to reflect its own independent judgment, including reliance on applicable District technical personnel and review of all technical reports. Information for this Draft EIR was obtained from on-site field observations; discussions with public service agencies; analysis of adopted plans and policies; review of available studies, reports, data, and similar literature in the public domain; and specialized environmental assessments (e.g., air quality, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, noise, geotechnical, and transportation and traffic).

## 1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROCEDURES

This Draft EIR has been prepared to assess the environmental effects associated with implementation of the proposed project. The six main objectives of this document as established by CEQA are:

- To disclose to decision-makers and the public the significant environmental effects of proposed activities.
- To identify ways to avoid or reduce environmental damage.
- To prevent environmental damage by requiring implementation of feasible alternatives or mitigation measures.

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- To disclose to the public reasons for agency approval of projects with significant environmental effects.
- To foster interagency coordination in the review of projects.
- To enhance public participation in the planning process.

An EIR is the most comprehensive form of environmental documentation identified in the CEQA statute and in the CEQA Guidelines. It provides the information needed to assess the environmental consequences of a proposed project, to the extent feasible. EIRs are intended to provide an objective, factually supported, full-disclosure analysis of the environmental consequences associated with a proposed project that has the potential to result in significant, adverse environmental impacts. An EIR is also one of various decision-making tools used by a lead agency to consider the merits and disadvantages of a project that is subject to its discretionary authority. Prior to approving a proposed project, the lead agency must consider the information contained in the EIR, determine whether the EIR was properly prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, determine that it reflects the independent judgment of the lead agency, adopt findings concerning the project's significant environmental impacts and alternatives, and adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations if the proposed project would result in significant impacts that cannot be avoided.

### 1.1.1 EIR ORGANIZATION

This Draft EIR is organized into the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Executive Summary.** Summarizes environmental consequences that could result from implementation of the proposed project, describes recommended mitigation measures, indicates the level of significance of environmental impacts before and after mitigation, and includes a summary of alternatives.
- **Chapter 2: Introduction.** Provides an overview describing the Draft EIR document.
- **Chapter 3: Project Description.** Describes the proposed project in detail, including the characteristics, objectives, and the structural and technical elements of the proposed action.
- **Chapter 4: Environmental Evaluation.** Organized into 16 sub-chapters corresponding to the environmental resource categories identified in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, this section provides a description of the physical environmental conditions in the vicinity of the proposed project as they existed at the time the Notice of Preparation was published, from both a local and regional perspective. Additionally, this chapter provides an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, and recommended mitigation measures, if required, to reduce the impacts to less than significant where possible, and to reduce their magnitude or significance when impacts cannot be reduced to a less-than-significant level.
- **Chapter 5: Alternatives to the Proposed Project.** Considers alternatives to the proposed project, including the CEQA-required "No Project" Alternative and a Limited Footprint Alternative.
- **Chapter 6: CEQA-Mandated Sections.** Discusses growth inducing impacts, unavoidable significant effects, and significant irreversible changes as a result of the proposed project.



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- **Chapter 7: Organizations and Persons Consulted.** Lists the people and organizations that were contacted during the preparation of this EIR.
- **Appendices:** The appendices for this document contain the following supporting documents:
  - Appendix A: Notice of Preparation (NOP) and NOP Comment Letters
  - Appendix B: Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Data
  - Appendix C: Biological Resources

### 1.1.2 TYPE AND PURPOSE OF THIS DRAFT EIR

According to Section 15121(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, the purpose of an EIR is to:

Inform public agency decision makers and the public generally of the significant environmental effects of a project, identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and describe reasonable alternatives to the project.

As described in the CEQA Guidelines, different types of EIRs are used for varying situations and intended uses. Because of the long-term planning horizon of the proposed project and the permitting, planning, and development actions that are related both geographically and as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions for implementation, this Draft EIR has been prepared as a program EIR for the proposed project, pursuant to Section 15168 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Once a program EIR has been certified, subsequent activities within the program must be evaluated to determine whether additional CEQA review needs to be prepared. However, if the program EIR addresses the program's effects as specifically and comprehensively as possible, subsequent activities could be found to be within the program EIR scope, and additional environmental review may not be required (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168[c]). When a program EIR is relied on for a subsequent activity, the lead agency must incorporate feasible mitigation measures and alternatives developed in the program EIR into the subsequent actions (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168[c][3]). If a subsequent activity would have effects that are not within the scope of a program EIR, the lead agency must prepare a new Initial Study leading to a Negative Declaration, a Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an EIR. For these subsequent environmental review documents, this program EIR will serve as the first-tier environmental analysis.

### 1.1.3 RELATIONSHIP TO PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOCUMENTS

Recent environmental review documents that have evaluated the project site are described below:

- **Concord Community Reuse Plan Environmental Impact Report (City of Concord, SCH# 2007052094) and Final Environmental Impact Report Addendum and Initial Study of Environmental Significance for the Concord Reuse Project Area Plan.** The Final EIR prepared by the City of Concord for the Concord Community Reuse Plan (Reuse Plan) analyzed a Preferred Alternative that included over 2,300 acres of open space as part of an anticipated Public Benefit Conveyance (PBC) from the United States Department of the Navy (Navy) to the District. The Draft EIR for the Reuse Plan was released in May 2008 and a Draft Revised EIR was released in August 2009. The Final EIR was certified in January 2010.

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The component of the Reuse Plan for the proposed Regional Park site was described as “Large open space area to provide habitat protection/restoration and recreational opportunities on a regional scale,”<sup>1</sup> including a trail system for hiking and biking, picnic areas, campgrounds, interpretive facilities, staging areas, and environmental education, historical interpretation, and Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial visitors center locations.

In 2012, the City of Concord refined the Reuse Plan, adopted the resulting Concord Reuse Project Area Plan (Area Plan), certified an addendum to the Reuse Plan Final EIR, and amended the City of Concord’s 2030 General Plan to include the Area Plan. The Addendum prepared for the Area Plan did not identify any new impacts or mitigation measures beyond those identified in the Reuse Plan EIR.

- **Concord Reuse Project Specific Plan (City of Concord, SCH #2018112056).** In November 2018, the City of Concord released a Notice of Preparation for the environmental review of a Specific Plan that the City is preparing for the Concord Reuse Project. The Specific Plan, to be released in 2020, intends to implement, refine, and augment the City’s Area Plan. The Notice of Preparation states that the City will prepare an EIR to evaluate the potential physical environmental effects of the multi-phase development project, including the Tournament Sports Park.<sup>2</sup> Lennar Concord LLC has been selected as the Master Developer for Phase 1 of the Specific Plan Area, with development to occur based on parameters defined in the Specific Plan as lands become available for transfer from the United States Navy, and as areas owned by BART and the United States Coast Guard become available for development.
- **Environmental Impact Statement for the Disposal and Reuse of the Former Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Concord (US Department of the Navy).** The Navy prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the Navy’s proposal to dispose of surplus property at the Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS), and the potential subsequent redevelopment of the property in accordance with the Area Plan. The Draft EIS was released in October 2014 and the Final EIS was released in August 2017. The Preferred Alternative evaluated in the EIS includes “a 2,537-acre regional park, which would encompass the east side of the property along the ridgeline of Los Medanos Hills, and the Mount Diablo Creek corridor.”<sup>3</sup> The regional park would also “include some limited recreational uses, including trails, picnic areas, shaded seating areas, and interpretive areas.”<sup>4</sup> The EIS acknowledges the District’s planning process but, since the proposed Land Use Plan had not yet been formally adopted at the time that the EIS was prepared, “the proposed action evaluated in [the Navy] EIS remains reuse of the property in a manner consistent with the City of Concord’s Area Plan.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> City of Concord, 2010, Concord Community Reuse Project Final EIR, page 2-14.

<sup>2</sup> This boundary does not extend north beyond Highway 4 and is different than the earlier Concord Reuse Project Area Plan boundary, which extended beyond Highway 4 and did not include the Coast Guard base.

<sup>3</sup> US Department of the Navy, 2017, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Disposal and Reuse of the Former Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Concord, page ES-3.

<sup>4</sup> US Department of the Navy, 2017, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Disposal and Reuse of the Former Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Concord, page ES-8.

<sup>5</sup> US Department of the Navy, 2017, Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Disposal and Reuse of the Former Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Concord, page 1-16.

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- **Biological Opinion (United States Fish and Wildlife Service).** Concurrent with preparation of the EIS, the Navy initiated formal consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the proposed transfer and redevelopment of the CNWS in accordance with the City of Concord's Area Plan. On May 30, 2017, the USFWS issued its Biological Opinion, which concludes the formal consultation with the USFWS. The Biological Opinion outlines the proposed project, existing biological resource conditions on the project site, proposed conservation measures, and the USFWS' conservation recommendations.

## 1.2 SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed Plan is a long-term plan for the management and operations of a new Regional Park that has been prepared by the District. The project site is located on approximately 2,543 acres in the eastern portion of Concord. The vast majority of the new Regional Park, approximately 2,417 acres, or 95 percent of the site, would be designated as a conservation area and preserved for conservation and management of natural and cultural resources. Public access within the conservation area would be limited to passive recreation trails. The remainder of the property, approximately 126 acres, or 5 percent of the site, would be located in Recreation/Staging Units and would be available for park facilities and passive recreation. These facilities would be located primarily on land already developed with existing facilities (building sites, paved and unpaved roads, parking areas, bunkers, and railroad tracks from the Navy operation of the property) that would be reused. One significant reuse of existing facilities is the proposed "Concord Hills and Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial Visitor Center Complex," to be built inside a refurbished machine shop and warehouse. Of these 126 acres, only 35 acres would be developed with recreational facilities.

## 1.3 SUMMARY OF PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

Chapter 5, Alternatives to the Proposed Project, of this Draft EIR analyzes the following alternatives:

- **No Project Alternative.** Under the No Project Alternative, the proposed Plan would not be adopted, the new Regional Park would not be developed, and the project site would remain largely in its existing use, with the exception that the remediation activities planned by the Navy would occur. The site may still be used as grazing land, as it is currently, and it is expected that the City would pursue utilizing the site for mitigation for the Area Plan (and the Specific Plan) but would largely remain unutilized and closed to the public. The District would not manage the project site. However, because the Regional Park would not be developed, the site would not be placed under a restrictive covenant pursuant to the Biological Opinion, and it is therefore possible that the project site could be made available for urban development.
- **Limited Footprint Alternative.** Under Limited Footprint Alternative, the proposed Plan would be amended such that future Regional Park uses would be scaled back to focus the intensity of use in the previously developed areas of the project site. North of Bailey Road, proposed facilities and trails within the western portion of the site would be maintained. South of Bailey Road, the inner loop of proposed trails would be maintained, but the trails and roadways extending out from this loop and

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

South Park Road would not be developed. Under this alternative, areas where features or improvements of the proposed Land Use Plan would not be constructed would be left in their existing conditions undisturbed. Under this alternative, the Regional Park would accommodate fewer visitors and fewer employees, and would provide less programming. With its smaller footprint, it is unknown whether the park would be created and managed by the District. It is assumed that this alternative would adhere to the Biological Opinion within the Regional Park area; however, the portions of the project site that would not be included in the Regional Park would not be managed to the same level as they would be under the proposed project.

### 1.4 ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

Section 15123(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an EIR identify issues to be resolved, including the choice among alternatives and whether or how to mitigate significant impacts. With regard to the proposed project, the major issues to be resolved include decisions by the District, as Lead Agency, related to:

- Whether this Draft EIR adequately describes the environmental impacts of the proposed project.
- Whether the benefits of the proposed project override those environmental impacts that cannot be feasibly avoided or mitigated to a level of insignificance (if applicable).
- Whether the proposed land use changes are compatible with the character of the existing area.
- Whether the identified mitigation measures should be adopted or modified.
- Whether there are other mitigation measures that should be applied to the proposed project besides those identified in the Draft EIR.
- Whether there are any alternatives to the proposed project that would substantially lessen any of the significant impacts of the proposed project and achieve most of the basic objectives.

### 1.5 AREAS OF CONTROVERSY

The District issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) on June 23, 2017. The CEQA-mandated scoping period for this EIR was between June 23, 2017 and July 26, 2017, during which interested agencies and the public could submit comments about the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. During this time, the District received comment letters from regional and local agencies, as well as an organization and members of the general public. The comments received focused primarily on the following issues:

- Visual impacts.
- Biological resource impacts.
- Creek restoration.
- Erosion.
- Flooding and drainage.
- Mosquito control.
- Impacts from recreation uses.

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- Site access and circulation and associated impacts.
- Traffic impacts.

To the extent that these issues could potentially result in environmental impacts and to the extent that analysis is required under CEQA, they are addressed in Chapter 4 of this Draft EIR.

### 1.6 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table 1-1 summarizes the conclusions of the environmental analysis contained in this Draft EIR and presents a summary of impacts and mitigation measures identified. It is organized to correspond with the environmental issues discussed in Chapters 4.1 through 4.16. The table is arranged in four columns: 1) impact; 2) significance without mitigation; 3) mitigation measures; and 4) significance with mitigation. For a complete description of potential impacts, please refer to the specific discussions in Chapters 4.1 through 4.16. Significance notations throughout the table are:

- S—Significant impact of the proposed Plan on the environment.
- PS—Potentially significant impact of the proposed Plan on the environment.
- LTS—Less than significant impact of the proposed Plan on the environment.
- N/A—Not applicable to the proposed Plan.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Significance without Mitigation</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Significance with Mitigation</b>
<b>AESTHETICS</b>			
<b>AES-1:</b> The project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AES-2:</b> The project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.	No Impact	N/A	N/A
<b>AES-3:</b> The project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AES-4:</b> The project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AES-5:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative aesthetic impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>			
<b>AQ-1:</b> Implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AQ-2:</b> Implementation of the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AQ-3:</b> Construction and operation activities associated with the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of air pollution.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AQ-4:</b> Implementation of the proposed project would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>AQ-5:</b> Implementation of the proposed project would not cumulatively contribute to air quality impacts in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin.	LTS	N/A	N/A

LTS = Less than Significant; PS = Potentially Significant; S = Significant; N/A = Not Applicable

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>			
<p><b>BIO-1.1:</b> Construction and operation of Regional Park facilities would result in direct and indirect impacts to up to 16.5 acres of California annual grassland, which provides suitable habitat for special-status plant species. This would be a significant impact.</p>	S	<p><b>BIO-1.1a: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> A focused survey for big tarplant will be conducted within suitable habitat in areas of the project site that may experience ground disturbing activities. The surveys will be conducted prior to initial ground disturbance and during the appropriate blooming period (late summer and early fall). The survey area will include all suitable habitat that may be impacted as well as a 50-foot buffer. Surveys are to be conducted in a year with near-average or above-average precipitation. The purpose of the surveys will be to assess the presence or absence of big tarplant. If this species is not found in the survey area, then no further mitigation will be warranted. If big tarplant is found in the impact area, then Mitigation Measures BIO-1.1b and BIO-1.1c will be implemented.</p> <p><b>BIO-1.1b: Avoidance Buffer.</b> Populations of big tarplant shall be avoided to the extent feasible. Avoided populations shall be protected by establishing and observing a 50-foot buffer between plant populations and the impact area. All such populations located in the impact area, and their associated designated avoidance areas, will be clearly depicted on any construction plans. In addition, prior to initial ground disturbance or vegetation removal, the limits of the identified buffer around special-status plants to be avoided will be flagged or fenced. The flagging will be maintained intact and in good condition throughout project-related construction activities. If complete avoidance is not feasible, Mitigation Measure 1.1c will be implemented.</p> <p><b>BIO-1.1c: Implementation of Plan Management Prescriptions BIO 8 through BIO 16.</b> The destruction of populations of big tarplant on the project site shall be mitigated by specifically managed portions of the Regional Park's open grasslands within designated Natural Units for this species. The vast majority of the Los Medanos Hills and areas located southeast of Bailey Road are not proposed for development. These same areas represent the most suitable habitat for big tarplant on the project site. A review of the regional</p>	LTS

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p><b>BIO-1.2:</b> Implementation of the proposed Land Use Plan could result in harm to or loss of western pond turtles or their eggs. This would be a significant impact.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p>occurrences of this species reported in various databases reveals that off-site populations generally occur on specific soil types (namely Altamont clay, Altamont-Fontana Complex, and Diablo clay). These same soil types underlie much of the Natural Units within the project boundaries. As such, specific habitat management measures (i.e., Plan management prescriptions BIO 8 through BIO 16 identified in Chapter 4 of the proposed Land Use Plan) to enhance the open space for the California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and burrowing owl, will also benefit the germination, growth, and long-term viability of populations of the big tarplant, if it is present.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>
<p><b>BIO-1.3:</b> Regional Park development and recreation could result in the disturbance of an active golden eagle nest. This would be a significant impact.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-1.2: Preconstruction Surveys.</b> The East Bay Regional Park District shall require a qualified biologist to conduct surveys for communal/traditional western pond turtle nesting areas prior to initiating any ground-disturbing activities with 0.25-mile of potential western pond turtle aquatic habitat. If a communal/traditional nesting area is detected, the East Bay Regional Park District shall install temporary exclusion fencing around any construction areas within 0.25-mile of the aquatic habitat; have a qualified biologist conduct a preconstruction survey for individual turtles within 0.25-mile of the communal/traditional nesting area, and relocate any turtles detected during the survey or during construction to suitable habitat outside of the active construction areas; and have a qualified biologist conduct a Worker Environmental Awareness Program that includes discussion of the western pond turtle.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>
<p><b>BIO-1.3a: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> Within 15 days prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities during the breeding season (February 1 to August 31), a qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey for nesting golden eagles within 0.5-mile of the limits of work areas, including access and staging areas.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-1.3b: Nest Buffers.</b> If nesting eagles are present, a buffer free from new construction disturbance shall be established within a 0.5-mile radius of the nest. No new project-related construction activities (i.e., activities that were not already ongoing when the</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1** SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Significance without Mitigation	Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>nest was established, or that are of a substantially greater intensity than when the nest was established) shall be undertaken within the buffer. In some cases (e.g., if the activity is not visible from the nest site), it is possible that a lesser buffer would be adequate to avoid disturbance of the nesting eagles, but such a variance would be set by a qualified biologist in consultation with the CDFW and USFWS. In such a case, the biologist shall monitor the behavior of the nesting birds during the first full day of construction activity immediately surrounding the buffer. The biologist shall look for signs of stress such as repeated alarm calls, agitated behavior, or departure of the birds from the nest. If the birds do not show signs of habituation to the new disturbance by resuming their normal nesting activities, work within the vicinity of the nest shall stop and the CDFW and USFWS shall be consulted to refine the buffer determination. If the birds continue their normal activities, the biologist shall inspect the nest site every 1 to 2 days (the frequency determined in consultation with the CDFW and USFWS) for as long as the nest is active and work is ongoing within the reduced buffer to confirm that the birds are tolerant of the construction activities.</p>	
		<p>Any required buffer shall remain in place until young are no longer dependent on the nest, or until the nesting attempt fails (for reasons other than project activities) and it is determined that the birds will not attempt to re-nest. A qualified biologist shall determine through direct observation when the nest is no longer in use (e.g., if the young have fledged or the nesting fails for non-project-related reasons). Constant monitoring of the nest is not necessary, but before construction activities occur within the buffer area, the biologist must confirm that the nest is no longer active.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.3c: Recreational Facilities Siting and Design.</b> If, prior to the establishment of trails or other recreational features on the project site, the eagles move to a new nest tree and breed successfully there, no new trails or other recreational features that can be seen by eagles on the nest will be established within 0.25-mile of the nest tree unless the new trail and all existing trails and other</p>	

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p><b>BIO-1.4:</b> Regional Park development and maintenance activities in occupied burrowing owl habitat could result in loss of burrowing owls. This would be a significant impact.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p>recreational features within this distance are closed during the breeding season when the nest is active. However, any ongoing activities that were part of the existing environmental background at the time of nest establishment can continue, since by establishing a nest in a given area the eagles would be demonstrating tolerance of ongoing conditions in the area.</p> <p><b>BIO-1.4a: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> Pre-activity surveys for burrowing owls shall be performed by a qualified biologist no more than 15 days before initial ground disturbance activities within a development area. A survey to determine presence or absence may be performed at any time to facilitate passive relocation efforts (which can only occur outside of the nesting season of February 1 to August 31). In addition, a pre-activity survey by a qualified biologist must be conducted no more than 15 days prior to the commencement of grading, to confirm the absence of burrowing owls. This survey shall be conducted in all areas on and within 250 feet of the impact area and shall be conducted in accordance with the California Burrowing Owl Consortium guidelines.</p> <p><b>BIO-1.4b: Buffers.</b> For burrowing owls present during the nonbreeding season (generally September 1 to January 31), a 150-foot buffer zone shall be maintained around the occupied burrow(s) if practicable. If such a buffer is not practicable, then a buffer adequate to avoid injury or mortality of owls (based on the determination of a qualified biologist) shall be maintained. If an adequate buffer (as determined by a qualified biologist) cannot be maintained, the birds shall be passively relocated. During the breeding season (generally February 1 to August 31), a 250-foot buffer, within which no new activity will be permissible, shall be maintained between project activities and occupied burrows. Owls present on the site after February 1 will be assumed to be nesting unless evidence indicates otherwise as confirmed by a qualified biologist. This protected buffer area shall remain in effect until August 31, or based upon monitoring evidence, until the young owls are foraging independently or a qualified biologist has</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1** SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>determined that the nest is no longer active. In some cases (e.g., if an activity is not visible from the nest site), it is possible that a breeding-season buffer less than 250 feet would be adequate to avoid disturbance of nesting burrowing owls, but such a variance would be set by a qualified biologist in consultation with the CDFW. In such a case, the biologist shall monitor the behavior of the nesting birds during the first full day of construction activity immediately surrounding the buffer. The biologist shall look for signs of stress such as repeated alarm calls, agitated behavior, or departure of the birds from the nest. If the birds do not show signs of habituation to the new disturbance by resuming their normal nesting activities, work within the vicinity of the nest shall stop and the CDFW shall be consulted to refine the buffer determination. If the birds continue their normal activities, the biologist shall inspect the nest site every 1 to 2 days (the frequency determined in consultation with the CDFW) for as long as the nest is active and work is ongoing within the reduced buffer to confirm that the birds are tolerant of the construction activities.</p>
		<p><b>BIO-1.4c: Passive Relocation.</b> If construction will directly impact occupied burrows, eviction of owls should occur outside the nesting season to prevent injury or mortality of individual owls. No burrowing owls may be evicted from burrows during the nesting season (February 1 through August 31) unless evidence indicates that nesting is not actively occurring (e.g., because the owls have not yet begun nesting early in the season, or because young have already fledged late in the season). Relocation of owls during the nonbreeding season shall be performed by a qualified biologist using one-way doors, which should be installed in all burrows within the impact area and left in place for at least two nights. These one-way doors shall then be removed and the burrows backfilled immediately prior to the initiation of grading.</p>
<p><b>BIO-1.5:</b> Regional Park construction activities during nesting season could reduce the productivity of nesting white-tailed kites.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-1.5a: Avoidance.</b> To the extent feasible, construction and tree removal activities should be scheduled to avoid the nesting season. If construction activities are scheduled to take place outside the</p> <p><b>LTS</b></p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>nesting season, all impacts on nesting white-tailed kites will be avoided. The nesting season in Contra Costa County typically extends from February 1 through August 31.</p>
		<p><b>BIO-1.5b: Pre-Activity Surveys.</b> If it is not possible to schedule construction and vegetation removal activities between September 1 and January 31, then pre-activity surveys for nesting white-tailed kites shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed during project implementation. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than seven days prior to the initiation of construction activities. During this survey, the biologist shall inspect all trees and other potential nesting habitats in the impact area plus a 300-foot buffer for nests. If removal of potential nesting substrate or project grading will occur during more than one nesting season, or in different parts of the site in phases over the course of a single season, then additional pre-activity surveys shall be performed within seven days prior to initiation of work in any particular area. If the pre-activity survey does not identify the presence of any active nests of white-tailed kites on or within 250 feet of the site, construction activities may proceed. If active nests are identified within 250 feet of the activity area, Mitigation Measure BIO-1.7c will be implemented.</p>
		<p><b>BIO-1.5c: Nest Buffers.</b> If white-tailed kite nests known to have eggs or young, or that cannot be confirmed to be inactive or to lack eggs or young, are found, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate construction-free buffer around each nest in consultation with the CDFW. Generally, a buffer of 300 feet for white-tailed kites is adequate to avoid causing nest abandonment. The buffer shall remain in place until the qualified biologist has confirmed that the nest is no longer active.</p>
<p><b>BIO-1.6:</b> Regional Park development activities during the nesting season could reduce the productivity of nesting shrikes and common yellowthroats. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-1.6a: Avoidance.</b> To the extent feasible, construction and tree removal activities should be scheduled to avoid the nesting season. If construction activities involving removal of trees, shrubs, or other vegetation; demolition of buildings; or grading are scheduled to take place outside the nesting season, all impacts on nesting birds</p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1** SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>protected under the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code will be avoided. The nesting season for most birds in Contra Costa County, including the loggerhead shrike and San Francisco common yellowthroat, extends from February 1 through August 31.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.6b: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> If it is not possible to schedule construction and vegetation removal activities between September 1 and January 31, then pre-activity surveys for nesting loggerhead shrikes and San Francisco common yellowthroats will be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed during project implementation. Surveys will be conducted no more than seven days prior to the initiation of construction activities. During this survey, the biologist shall inspect all trees and other potential nesting habitats (e.g., shrubs and buildings) in the impact area plus a 100-foot buffer for nests. If removal of potential nesting substrate or project grading will occur during more than one nesting season, or in different parts of the site in phases over the course of a single season, then additional pre-activity surveys must be performed within seven days prior to initiation of work in any particular area. If the pre-activity survey does not identify the presence of any active nests of loggerhead shrikes or San Francisco common yellowthroats on or within 100 feet of the site, construction activities may proceed. If active nests of either species are identified within 100 feet of the activity area, Mitigation Measure BIO-1.5c will be implemented.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.6c: Nest Buffers.</b> If nests known to have eggs or young, or that cannot be confirmed to be inactive or lack eggs or young, are found, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate construction-free buffer around each nest in consultation with the CDFW. Generally, a buffer of 100 feet for loggerhead shrikes and San Francisco common yellowthroats is adequate to avoid causing nest abandonment. The buffer shall remain in place until the qualified biologist has confirmed that the nest is no longer active.</p>	
<p><b>BIO-1.7:</b> Removal of trees or structures within the project site could result in the loss of day-roost habitat, the injury or mortality of</p>	<p><b>PS</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-1.7a: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> A pre-activity survey for roosting bats shall be conducted by a qualified bat biologist prior to any removal</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p>individual bats, or the abandonment of active roosts. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>		<p>of trees, buildings, magazines, or other structures that could potentially support roosting bats. Any trees or structures immediately adjacent to the impact areas that are identified by a qualified bat biologist as being high-potential roost sites shall be surveyed as well. If suitable roost sites are found but a visual survey is not adequate to determine presence or absence of bats (which would be particularly likely in the case of potential roost trees), acoustical equipment shall be used to determine occupancy. This survey shall be conducted prior to the beginning of the breeding season (i.e., prior to March 1) in the year in which construction or demolition in a given area is scheduled to occur so that adequate measures can be implemented, if feasible, to relocate the bats during the nonbreeding season.</p>	
		<p>Because the aforementioned survey will be conducted prior to the breeding season, weeks or months may pass between that survey and the initiation of construction or demolition in a given area. Therefore, a second pre-activity survey for roosting bats, following the methods described above, shall be conducted by a qualified bat biologist within 15 days prior to the commencement of these activities in a given area to determine whether bats have occupied a roost in or near the project's impact areas.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.7b: Roost Buffers.</b> If a maternity roost of any bat species is present, the qualified bat biologist (in consultation with the CDFW) shall determine the extent of a buffer free from new construction-related disturbance that will be maintained around the active roost. A typical buffer is 100 feet, though this buffer may be reduced in consultation with the CDFW. This buffer shall be maintained from April 1 until the young are flying, typically after August 31, as determined by a qualified bat biologist.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.7c: Eviction.</b> If a bat day roost is found in a structure or in a tree that is to be completely removed or replaced, individual bats shall be safely evicted under the direction of a qualified bat biologist. Eviction of bats shall occur at night, so that bats will have less potential for predation compared to daytime roost</p>	

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Significance without Mitigation	Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>abandonment. Eviction shall occur between September and March 31, outside the maternity season, but may not occur during long periods of inclement or cold weather (as determined by the bat biologist) when prey are not available or bats are in torpor. If a roost is found in a building or magazine, bats shall be evicted by installing one-way doors on entry/exit points, or by opening the roosting area to allow air flow through the cavity. Demolition should then follow no sooner than the following day (i.e., there should be no less than one night between initial disturbance for air flow and the demolition). This action should allow bats to leave during hours of darkness, thus increasing their chance of finding new roosts with a minimum of potential predation during daylight. If feasible, one-way doors shall also be used to evict bats from tree roosts. If use of a one-way door is not feasible, or the exact location of the roost entrance in a tree is not known, the tree(s) with roosts that need to be removed shall first be disturbed by removal of some of the tree's limbs not containing the bats. Such disturbance shall occur at dusk to allow bats to escape during the darker hours. The tree would then be removed the following day. All of these activities shall be performed under the supervision of the bat biologist.</p> <p>In some circumstances in which construction will occur near a roost but the roost itself will not be destroyed or altered, it may be beneficial to the bats to allow them to continue using a roost while construction is occurring on or near the roost site. If a qualified bat biologist, in consultation with the CDFW, determines that the risks to bats from eviction (e.g., increased predation or exposure, or competition for roost sites) are greater than the risk of colony abandonment, then the bats shall not be evicted.</p>	
		<p><b>BIO-1.7d: Alternative Bat Roost.</b> If a day roost of pallid bats or Townsend's big-eared bats, both California species of special concern, will be impacted, an alternative bat roost structure shall be provided because suitable roosts of these special-status bats are likely more limited than those of other, more common species. The</p>	

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p><b>BIO-1.8:</b> Construction activities could result in injury or mortality of badgers, and increased human activity on the site may increase vehicular mortality or disturbance of badger dens. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p><b>PS</b></p>	<p>design and placement of this structure shall be determined by a qualified bat biologist based on the species of bat to be displaced, the location of the original roost, and the habitat conditions in the vicinity. This bat structure shall be erected at least one month prior to removal of the original roost structure. This structure shall be checked during the breeding season for up to three years following completion of the project, or until it is found by a qualified bat biologist to be occupied by bats, to provide information for future projects regarding the effectiveness of such structures in minimizing impacts to bats.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>
<p><b>BIO-1.8a: Pre-Activity Survey.</b> Pre-activity surveys for badger dens shall be performed within 15 days prior to commencement of grading or other ground-disturbing activities. These surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the characteristics of badger burrows. If active badger burrows are identified within the proposed development area, they should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. If avoidance is not feasible, a qualified biologist should determine if the burrow is being used as a maternity den. If young are determined to be present, a buffer free from new construction-related disturbance shall be established around the den; the dimensions of this buffer shall be determined by the biologist in consultation with the CDFW. The buffer shall be maintained until young vacate the den, as determined by a qualified biologist.</p>	<p><b>BIO-1.8b: Relocation.</b> If the occupied burrow is simply being used as a refugium by a single badger, or after young have been weaned from a maternity den, one of the following measures shall be implemented to avoid potential impacts on individual badgers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active trapping and relocation of badgers to suitable off-site habitat by a qualified biologist.</li> <li>▪ An on-site passive relocation program, through which badgers are excluded from occupied burrows by installation of a one-way door in burrow entrances, monitoring of the burrow for one</li> </ul>		

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p><b>BIO-2:</b> The project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>BIO-3:</b> Regional Park development would result in the loss of up to 0.05-acre of jurisdictional wetlands and/or other waters. This would be a significant impact.</p>	<p><b>S</b></p>	<p><b>BIO-3a: Permitting.</b> Prior to placing any fill in jurisdictional wetlands and/or other waters of the U.S. or state, the District will provide the necessary permit application/notification materials to the USACE for a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit, to the RWQCB for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification, and to the CDFW for a Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, as applicable (e.g., impacts to jurisdictional wetlands that are not in a channel may not necessitate CDFW notification). The District will comply with all conditions of these permits/agreements when performing the work; for example, if any compensatory mitigation is required by one or more permit/agreement, then the District will provide such mitigation in accordance with permit/agreement requirements.</p> <p><b>BIO-3b: Impact Minimization.</b> Impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and/or other waters of the U.S. or state will be minimized to the smallest area necessary to perform the activity, and all temporary impact areas will be restored to pre-activity conditions after construction has been completed.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>BIO-4:</b> The project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>BIO-5:</b> Regional Park development could result in the loss of heritage trees protected by the City of Concord's Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance. This would be a significant impact.	S	<b>BIO-5: Tree Removal Permit.</b> Prior to removing or trimming any heritage tree protected by the City of Concord's Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance, the District will obtain any necessary permit from the City of Concord to impact that tree. The District will then comply with any conditions of the permit, including any tree replacement that might be required.	LTS
<b>BIO-6:</b> The project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>BIO-7:</b> The project would not contribute to significant biological resource impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES</b>			
<b>CULT-1:</b> The project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>CULT-2:</b> Implementation of the proposed Plan could result in the inadvertent disturbance to unknown archaeological resources. This would be a potentially significant impact.	PS	<b>CULT-2: Preconstruction Training, Archaeological Monitoring, and Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources.</b> Prior to construction, a qualified archaeologist with expertise in California archaeology will develop an archaeological resources training program for all construction and field workers involved in ground-disturbing activities that details the recognition and importance of archaeological resources, and establishes accidental discovery procedures should archaeological resources be encountered during construction. Project personnel would be provided the detailed information of who to contact at the District if resources are encountered.  In accordance with the executed MOA, archaeological monitoring is necessary when ground-disturbing activities occur within or adjacent to the boundaries of any National Register-eligible historic properties, including prehistoric site P-07-000861. Monitoring is not necessary in other portions of the project site. Monitoring should	LTS

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>be conducted by a qualified archaeological monitor that meets the standards of the Register of Professional Archaeologists.</p> <p>If an archaeological resource is encountered, all activity within 100 feet of the find should immediately halt until it can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist (and a Native American representative if the artifacts are prehistoric). Prehistoric archaeological materials include obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or toolmaking debris; culturally darkened soil (“midden”) containing heat-affected rocks, artifacts, or shellfish remains; and stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones, or milling slabs); and battered stone tools, such as hammerstones and pitted stones. If the archaeologist (and Native American representative) determines that the resources may be significant, they shall notify the East Bay Regional Park District (District). The archaeologist shall consult with Native American representatives in determining appropriate treatment for prehistoric or Native American cultural resources.</p>	
		<p>In considering any suggested mitigation proposed by the archaeologist and Native American representative, the District shall determine whether avoidance is feasible in light of factors such as the nature of the find, project design, costs, and other considerations. If avoidance is not feasible, other appropriate measures (e.g., capping, data recovery, and/or interpretation as agreed upon between the District, the archaeological consultant, and Native American representatives) shall be instituted. In accordance with PRC 15126.4(b)(3)(C) when data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provision for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information from and about the historical resource, shall be prepared and adopted prior to any excavation being undertaken. Work may proceed in other parts of the project site while mitigation for archaeological resources is being carried out.</p>	

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>CULT-3:</b> Implementation of the proposed Plan could result in the accidental discovery of human remains. This would be a potentially significant impact.	PS	<b>CULT-3: Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains.</b> If human skeletal remains are uncovered during project construction, work shall immediately halt within 100 feet of the find. The District shall contact the Contra Costa County coroner to evaluate the remains and follow the procedures and protocols set forth in Section 15064.5 (e)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines and Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c). If the County coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the District shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. The Native American Heritage Commission would then identify the person(s) thought to be the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American, who would help determine what course of action should be taken in treating the remains (PRC Section 5097.98).	LTS
<b>CULT-4:</b> Construction activities during implementation of the proposed Plan could result in the discovery of archaeological resources or human remains and the determination that such discoveries are tribal cultural resources. This would be a potentially significant impact.	PS	<b>CULT-4:</b> Implement Mitigation Measures CULT-2 and CULT-3.	LTS
<b>CULT-5:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cultural resource impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>ENERGY</b>			
<b>ENE-1:</b> The project would not result in a substantial increase in natural gas and electrical service demands, and would not require new energy supply facilities and transmission infrastructure or capacity enhancing alterations to existing facilities.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>ENE-2:</b> The project would not result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>ENE-3:</b> The project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.	LTS	N/A	N/A

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>ENE-4:</b> The project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less than significant cumulative impacts with respect to energy conservation.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEOLOGY AND SOILS</b>			
<b>GEO-1:</b> The project would not result in significant impacts from directly or indirectly causing potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure (including liquefaction), or landslides.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEO-2:</b> The project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEO-3:</b> The project would not result in significant impacts associated with location on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEO-4:</b> The project would not result in a significant impact associated with its location on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEO-5:</b> The project would not have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>GEO-6:</b> Implementation of the proposed Plan could result in the accidental discovery of paleontological resources. This would be a potentially significant impact.	PS	<b>GEO-6:</b> Preconstruction Training, Paleontological Monitoring, and Inadvertent Discovery of Paleontological Resources. Prior to construction, a qualified paleontologist meeting the standards of the SVP with expertise in California paleontology shall develop a paleontological resources training program for all construction and field workers involved in ground-disturbing activities that details the recognition and importance of paleontological resources, and establishes accidental discovery procedures should paleontological resources be encountered during construction.	LTS

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
		<p>Paleontological monitoring is necessary for all ground-disturbing activities that occur in previously undisturbed formations mapped as Pleistocene-aged Older Alluvium, Eocene-aged Markley, or Kreyenhagen formations. Monitoring is also necessary for ground-disturbing activities that exceed 10 feet in depth in previously undisturbed sediments mapped as Holocene alluvium. Monitoring is not necessary in other locations on the project site, including artificial fill, landslide deposits, Oro Loma Formation, or in areas that have been previously disturbed. Monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor that meets the standards of the SVP.</p> <p>If paleontological resources, such as fossilized bone, teeth, shell, tracks, trails, casts, molds, or impressions are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work shall stop in that area and within 100 feet of the find until a qualified paleontologist can assess the nature and importance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate salvage measures in conformance with SVP standards, and in consultation with the East Bay Regional Park District.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<b>GEO-7:</b>	The project would not contribute to significant cumulative geology and soils impacts.		LTS
<b>GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</b>			
<b>GHG-1:</b>	Implementation of the proposed project would not directly or indirectly generate GHG emissions that would result in a significant impact on the environment.		LTS
<b>GHG-2:</b>	Implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs.		LTS
<b>GHG-3:</b>	Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in significant cumulative impacts with respect to GHG emissions.		LTS

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>			
<b>HAZ-1:</b> The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-2:</b> The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-3:</b> The project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-4:</b> The project would not result in a significant impact associated with location on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-5:</b> The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport and therefore would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area.	No Impact	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-6:</b> The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-7:</b> The project would not expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HAZ-8:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative hazards and hazardous materials impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY</b>			
<b>HYD-1.1:</b> In the absence of appropriate stormwater runoff controls, Plan construction would result in non-point source pollution that could violate water quality standards or waste discharge	PS	<b>HYD-1.1:</b> Prior to construction, the District shall prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in accordance with the requirements of the statewide NPDES Construction General Permit. The SWPPP shall be designed, without limitation, to address the	LTS

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Significance with Mitigation
<p>requirements or otherwise degrade surface water or groundwater. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p>following objectives: (1) all pollutants and their sources, including sources of sediment associated with construction, construction site erosion, and all other activities associated with construction activity are controlled; (2) where not otherwise required to be under a Regional Water Quality Control Board permit, all non-stormwater discharges are identified and either eliminated, controlled, or treated; (3) site BMPs are effective and result in the reduction or elimination of pollutants in stormwater discharges and authorized non-stormwater discharges from construction activity; and (4) stabilization best management practices (BMPs) are installed to reduce or eliminate pollutants after construction are completed. The SWPPP shall be prepared by a qualified SWPPP developer and included as part of construction specifications. The SWPPP shall include the minimum BMPs required for the identified Risk Level in accordance with NPDES Construction General Permit requirements. BMP implementation shall be consistent with the BMP requirements in the most recent version of the California Stormwater Quality Association Stormwater Best Management Handbook-Construction or the Caltrans Stormwater Quality Handbook Construction Site BMPs Manual.</p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>
<p><b>HYD-1.2:</b> In the absence of appropriate stormwater runoff controls, Plan operations would result in non-point source pollution that could violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise degrade surface water or groundwater. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p><b>PS</b></p>	<p><b>LTS</b></p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<p><b>HYD-2:</b> The project would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin.</p> <p><b>HYD-3:</b> if not designed appropriately, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could cause substantial erosion or siltation of Mount Diablo Creek. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p> <p><b>HYD-4:</b> Without appropriate design, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently cause localized flooding on-site. The impact would be potentially significant.</p> <p><b>HYD-5:</b> Without appropriate consideration for existing drainage patterns, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently result in substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p>LTS</p>	<p>runoff at its source rather than in downstream centralized controls)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Source control BMPs in the form of design standards and structural features for all proposed areas of development.</li> <li>▪ Source control BMPs for landscaped areas shall be documented in the form of a Landscape Management Plan that relies on Integrated Pest Management and also includes pesticide and fertilizer application guidelines designed to minimize any off-site discharges.</li> <li>▪ Treatment control measures (e.g., bioretention, porous pavement, vegetated swales) targeting any potential pollutants such as sediment, pathogens, metals, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus compounds), oxygen-demanding substances, organic compounds (e.g., PCBs, pesticides), oil and grease, and trash and debris. The SCP shall demonstrate that the project has the land area available to support the proposed BMP facilities sized per the required water quality design storm.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>HYD-3:</b> if not designed appropriately, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could cause substantial erosion or siltation of Mount Diablo Creek. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p> <p><b>HYD-4:</b> Without appropriate design, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently cause localized flooding on-site. The impact would be potentially significant.</p> <p><b>HYD-5:</b> Without appropriate consideration for existing drainage patterns, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently result in substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p>PS</p>	<p><b>HYD-3:</b> Implement Mitigation Measures HYD-1.1 and HYD-1.2.</p> <p><b>HYD-4:</b> Implement Mitigation Measures HYD-1.2</p>	<p>LTS</p>
<p><b>HYD-3:</b> if not designed appropriately, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could cause substantial erosion or siltation of Mount Diablo Creek. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p> <p><b>HYD-4:</b> Without appropriate design, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently cause localized flooding on-site. The impact would be potentially significant.</p> <p><b>HYD-5:</b> Without appropriate consideration for existing drainage patterns, Project elements whose locations and designs have yet to be finalized, could inadvertently result in substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. This would be a potentially significant impact.</p>	<p>PS</p>	<p><b>HYD-5:</b> Implement Mitigation Measure HYD-1.2.</p>	<p>LTS</p>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Significance without Mitigation</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Significance with Mitigation</b>
<b>HYD-6:</b> In the absence of appropriate stormwater runoff controls, Plan construction and operation would result in non-point source pollution that could conflict with a water quality control plan. This would be a potentially significant impact.	PS	HYD-6: Implement Mitigation Measures HYD-1a and HYD-1b.	LTS
<b>HYD-7:</b> The project would not be in a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones with risk of release of pollutants due to project inundation.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>HYD-8:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative hydrology and water quality impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>LAND USE AND PLANNING</b>			
<b>LAND-1:</b> The project would not physically divide an established community.	No Impact	N/A	N/A
<b>LAND-2:</b> The project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>LAND-3:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative land use and planning impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>NOISE</b>			
<b>NOI-1:</b> The project would not cause a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>NOI-2:</b> The project would not cause a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>NOI-3:</b> The project would not cause exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>NOI-4:</b> The project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive aircraft noise levels.	No Impact	N/A	N/A

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Significance without Mitigation</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Significance with Mitigation</b>
<b>NOI-5:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative noise impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>POPULATION AND HOUSING</b>			
<b>POP-1:</b> The project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure).	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>POP-2:</b> The project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.	No Impact	N/A	N/A
<b>POP-3:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative population and housing impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PUBLIC SERVICES AND RECREATION</b>			
<b>PS-1:</b> The project would not result in the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-2:</b> The project, in combination with past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to fire protection services.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-3:</b> The project would not result in the need for new or physically altered police facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-4:</b> The project, in combination with past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to police services.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-5:</b> The project would not result in the need for new or physically altered park facilities or other recreational facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, or other performance objectives.	LTS	N/A	N/A

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>PS-6:</b> The project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur, or be accelerated.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-7:</b> The project would not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>PS-8:</b> The project, in combination with past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less than significant cumulative impacts with respect to parks.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
<b>TRAF-1:</b> Construction activity associated with the proposed Regional Park could result in temporary impacts to the circulation system. This would be a potentially significant impact	PS	<b>TRAF-1: Traffic Control Plan.</b> The District shall prepare, or shall require construction contractor(s) to prepare, and implement a traffic control plan (TCP) for each of the three Plan phases, prior to commencing construction on that phase. The TCPs will aim to reduce traffic impacts on the roadways at and near the work sites, as well as to reduce potential traffic safety hazards and ensure adequate access for emergency responders and construction vehicles, as appropriate. The District and construction contractor(s) shall coordinate development and implementation of the TCPs with the City of Concord, as appropriate. To the extent applicable, the TCP shall conform to the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control) (Caltrans, 2014). The TCP shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts on local road circulation during unanticipated road and lane closures (if any).</li> <li>▪ Flaggers and/or signage shall be used to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone.</li> <li>▪ Identifying truck routes designated by the County. Haul routes that minimize truck traffic on local roadways shall be utilized to the extent possible.</li> </ul>	LTS

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**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

TABLE 1-1	SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
Impact				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sufficient staging areas for trucks accessing construction zones to minimize disruption of access to adjacent public right-of-ways.</li> <li>▪ Controlling and monitoring construction vehicle movement through the enforcement of standard construction specifications by on-site inspectors.</li> <li>▪ Scheduling truck trips outside the peak morning and evening commute hours to the extent possible.</li> <li>▪ Limiting the duration of unanticipated road and lane closures (if any) to the extent possible.</li> <li>▪ Construction activities that may encroach on bicycle routes or multi-use paths, advance warning signs (e.g., “Bicyclists Allowed Use of Full Lane” and/or “Share the Road”) shall be posted that indicate the presence of such users.</li> <li>▪ Implementing roadside safety protocols. Advance “Road Work Ahead” warning and speed control signs (including those informing drivers of State legislated double fines for speed infractions in a construction zone) shall be posted to reduce speeds and provide safe traffic flow through the work zone.</li> <li>▪ Coordinating construction administrators of police and fire stations (including all fire protection agencies), and recreational facility managers. Operators shall be notified in advance of the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of detours and lane closures, where applicable.</li> <li>▪ Repairing and restoring affected roadway rights-of-way to their original condition after construction is completed.</li> </ul>		
<b>TRAF-2:</b> The project would increase traffic volumes on area roadways, but would not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b).		<b>No Impact</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>TRAF-3:</b> The project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment).		<b>LTS</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>TRAF-4:</b> The project would not result in inadequate emergency access.		<b>LTS</b>	N/A	N/A

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**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>TRAF-5:</b> The project would increase traffic volumes on area roadways, but would not contribute in a considerable way to cumulative transportation and traffic impacts.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTILITY AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</b>			
<b>UTIL-1:</b> The project would have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-2:</b> Despite implementation of the proposed project policies, implementation of the proposed project could result in an increase in water demand that could exceed the capacity of CCWD and City facilities, resulting in the need to construct additional facilities, the effects of which could be significant.	S	<b>UTIL-2:</b> The District shall work with the City's Local Reuse Authority and the Engineering Division to ensure that all required water distribution systems, water storage tanks, pump stations, and other facilities at the site to supply the demand for potable water are constructed to meet the CCWD's requirements and standards.	LTS
<b>UTIL-3:</b> The project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to water service.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-4:</b> The project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities, the construction or relocation of which would cause significant environmental effects.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-5:</b> The project would not result in the determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-6:</b> The project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to wastewater service.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-7:</b> The project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-8:</b> The project would comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.	LTS	N/A	N/A

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**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Significance without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Significance with Mitigation
<b>UTIL-9:</b> The project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable development, would not result in significant impacts with respect to solid waste.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-10:</b> The proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded storm water drainage facilities, the construction or relocation of which would cause significant environmental effects.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>UTIL-11:</b> The project, in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts with respect to stormwater infrastructure.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>WILDFIRE</b>			
<b>FIRE-1:</b> The project would be located near a State Responsibility Area but it would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>FIRE-2:</b> The project would be located near a State Responsibility Area but it would not, due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>FIRE-3:</b> The project would be located near a State Responsibility Area and would require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) but would not exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>FIRE-4:</b> The project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.	LTS	N/A	N/A
<b>FIRE-5:</b> The project would not contribute to significant cumulative wildfire impacts.	LTS	N/A	LTS

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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**PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of May 18, 2020

**TO:** Parks Advisory Committee

**STAFF REPORT PREPARED BY:** Devan Reiff, AICP, Principal Planner

**SUBJECT:** Introduction to Roddy Ranch golf course planning

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Devan Reiff, Principal Planner, will make a presentation on this informational agenda item.

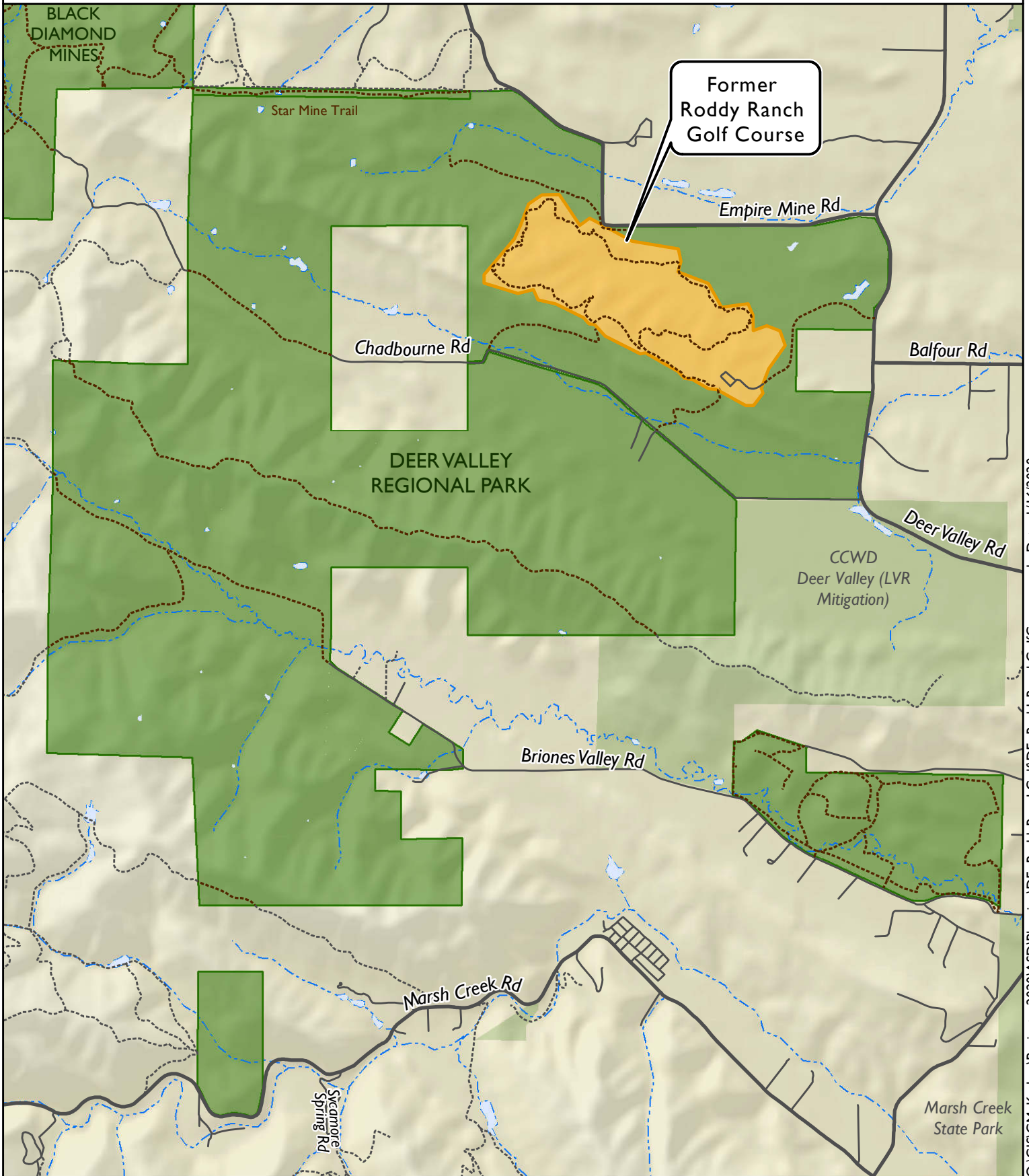
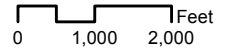
BACKGROUND

The former Roddy Ranch golf course, in Antioch, was acquired by the Park District and the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy in 2018. At 230 acres, the golf course property is a significant addition to the future Deer Valley Regional Park, a larger combination of protected land in unincorporated Contra Costa County (see Attachment 1).

The Park District has retained Restoration Design Group, and a team of sub-consultants to start the existing conditions reporting and park planning that will eventually open the former golf course as a new regional park, to serve the communities of Antioch, Brentwood and East County.

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# Deer Valley Regional Park Former Roddy Ranch Golf Course



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## PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020 WORK PLAN

*Please note trails related topics are still being considered, but may be bundled together in July and September*

JAN 27	FEB 24	MAR 23	APR 27	MAY 18	JUN 22	JULY 27	SEP 28	OCT 26	NOV 23	DEC 7
<b>Director Waespi</b>	<b>Director Rosario</b>	<b>Director Waespi</b>	<b>Director Echols</b>	<b>Director Wieskamp</b>	<b>Director Coffey</b>	<b>Director Corbett</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Director Coffey</b>	<b>Director Rosario</b>	
Nomination of Officers (R) – Bueren, Pfoehler 2020 Work Plan (R) – Rickard, Pfoehler History of Government Affairs (l) – Pfoehler, Hoffman Legislative Priorities (l) – Pfoehler	Year in Review (l) – Doyle 2020 Public Affairs Strategic Plan (l) – Johnson Community Relations Plan (l) – Koh, Johnson	CANCELED	Covid -19 Communications (l) – Mason, Johnson Emergency Operations Center Update (l) – Ciaburro, O'Connor Concord Hills Regional Park Naming Update (l) – Reiff	Intro to Roddy Ranch Golf Course Planning (l) – Holt Concord Hills Land Use Plan and Naming (R) – Holt, Reiff District Outreach to Elected Officials about the Parks during the Shelter in Place Order (l) – Pfoehler, Baldinger	CAFR (R) – Auker Measure CC and WW review (R) – Rasmussen Measure FF Implementation (l) – Rasmussen Park and Public Interest Community Engagement Project (l) - Baldinger	Arts in the Parks Study (l) – Abbios, Mattingly Trail Use Data and Messaging (l) – Pfoehler Capital Projects update (l) - Goorjian Major Infrastructure Renovation and Replacement Fund (l) – Auker, Spaulding	Southern Las Triampas LUP (R) - Holt Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (l) – Auker, Spaulding Dog Use Policy report (l) – Johnson, Love McKay/GSA Property – Crown Beach Scoping and Input (l) – Holt	Regional Parks Foundation Capital Campaign update (l) – Johnson, Schirmer Review Volunteer Program (l) - Bletz 2021 PAC Goals (R) – Rickard, Pfoehler	2021 Proposed Budget (R) – Auker Grants update (l) – Rasmussen	Holiday Dinner – Contra Costa County
Exec. Comm. Subcommittee Nomination of Officers and 2020 Work Plan (R) – Pfoehler, Bueren					Finance Subcommittee CAFR (R) - Auker	BBQ Meeting – Black Diamond Mines		Exec. Comm. Subcommittee Goals 2021 (R) – Pfoehler, Rickard	Finance Subcommittee 2021 Budget (R) – Auker	

**2020 PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

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# Los Angeles Times

## California considers unprecedented \$25-billion economy recovery fund, rental relief



Noah, who declined to give his last name, participates in an April 1 demonstration with the Los Angeles Tenants Union and its supporters in Boyle Heights. Democrats in the California Senate are proposing a plan to allow struggling tenants to pay their short-term rent over as long as a decade. (Christina House/Los Angeles Times)

By [JOHN MYERS](#) SACRAMENTO BUREAU CHIEF  
MAY 12, 2020, 3 AM  
SACRAMENTO —

Two unprecedented proposals to help Californians weather the fiscal storm unleashed by the coronavirus crisis are expected to be unveiled Tuesday by Democrats in the state Senate — one to help struggling renters, the other to create a \$25-billion economic recovery fund by issuing long-term vouchers to those willing to prepay their future state income taxes.

Taken together, the ideas suggest lawmakers are willing to launch never-before-tried experiments to avoid the unpaid debts and deep cuts to government services that resulted from the Great Recession more than a decade ago.

“We need some short-term assistance,” said Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) in an interview with The Times on Monday. “But we’ve got to be thinking long term on how to do this in a very strategic way.”

The proposals are scheduled to be formally unveiled Tuesday morning in Sacramento, two days before Gov. Gavin Newsom sends lawmakers a plan to erase [a short-term budget deficit that could total more than \\$54 billion](#).

Neither the renter-assistance program nor the economic recovery fund would have a direct effect on the state budget in the coming weeks and months. Still, lawmakers believe both ideas could boost [California’s shattered economy](#).

The unconventional effort to help renters would ask landlords to forgive rent payments in exchange for equally sized tax credits spread out over a 10-year period starting in 2024. The tax credits would be transferable, meaning the property owner could sell them to an outside investor and get cash immediately.

“This is a substantive proposal that protects those who are struggling to afford their rent and also keeps rental properties from going into foreclosure,” state Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Gardena) said. “This equitable strategy will keep people housed.”

Some local governments have already stepped up to address concerns about renters being evicted during the public health crisis, promoting a variety of rental assistance programs. Pending legislation at the state Capitol also [seeks to prevent evictions](#) during the coronavirus state of emergency, which was declared by Newsom in March and has no targeted end date.

The exact number of troubled renters is unclear. As of 2018, there were 17 million renters in California, [and more than half of them were rent-burdened](#).

Under the Senate proposal, tenants would agree to reimburse the state for the rent payments and would have 10 years to do so. Some who could prove financial hardship could have the total amount forgiven — in effect, their rent would be covered by the state.

The idea will hinge on the willingness of rental property owners to cooperate, and whether they see the long-term tax break as worth the loss of short-term

rental income. Atkins said she is optimistic, arguing that landlords benefit by keeping their properties occupied.

“When you have to find a new tenant, that’s not an easy process,” she said.

The economic stabilization plan crafted by Senate Democrats in response to the COVID-19 pandemic is even more ambitious. It would offer any California taxpayer, from individuals to large corporations, a chance to prepay a decade’s worth of income taxes for a slight discount. In total, the state would offer \$30 billion in long-term tax credits for \$25 billion in upfront cash.

In essence, it would be a cash advance on long-term state tax revenues, using the money to fund short-term economic relief programs, which could include small-business assistance and relief for local governments.

“It’s really a 21st-century New Deal,” state Sen. Bob Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) said. “We’ve got to get money into the system.”

Taxpayers could use the vouchers to cover taxes owed in those future years or sell them sooner to investors. That could make the documents valuable to a variety of investors, said John C. Carson Jr., the president of Raymond James Financial.

“If the state were to issue such a security that could be bought and sold in the secondary market, we expect that there would be strong interest from institutions and other investors,” he said in a statement.

By accelerating the collection of tax revenues that would otherwise be paid more slowly, the program would mean less government cash for future lawmakers to spend. Senate budget staffers estimate a \$3-billion-a-year decrease in available revenues from 2024 through 2033.

They do not believe the program would affect tax dollars that are constitutionally guaranteed for public schools, because the vouchers would be counted as part of annual tax proceeds when cashed in. Such a calculation could, however, direct a larger amount of actual tax revenue toward schools in those years and away from other programs.

Other key questions will need to be addressed. It's likely that it will be easier to create the \$25 billion economic recovery fund — envisioned as being collected over as much as two years — than determining which of the state's many needs should get the help and which ones would be left out. A document provided to The Times by Senate Democrats offers an early set of suggestions, including worker retraining, expedited infrastructure projects, wildfire prevention and homelessness assistance.

Atkins insisted the priorities would be clear. "It's got to be tied to the economy and the critical needs," she said.

It is also unknown how the two relief proposals will play either with Newsom or in the state Assembly. To have an immediate effect, both will have to be considered alongside a budget deficit plan that must be approved by the Legislature no later than June 15. Democrats hold a supermajority of seats in both houses and could, in theory, approve both plans without Republican votes.

For those legislators who were in office during the last recession or whose service began in its immediate aftermath, the idea of thinking outside the conventional world of government might hold a special appeal.

"You have to think differently," Atkins said. "You have to rethink, reshape and be willing to adjust and consider new options, because the world is different. The world has been upended."

POLITICS

# Bay Area, California would reap billions under House Democrats' coronavirus bill

Tal Kopan May 12, 2020 Updated: May 12, 2020 5:55 p.m.



*\*\*\* BESTPIX \*\*\* WASHINGTON, DC - MAY 07: U.S. Speaker of the House Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) speaks during a weekly news conference at the U.S. Capitol May 7, 2020 in Washington, DC. Speaker Pelosi spoke on the latest regarding the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. (Photo by Alex Wong/Getty Images)*

*Photo: Alex Wong / Getty Images*

WASHINGTON — Facing dire budget shortfalls because of the coronavirus pandemic, California and the Bay Area could get more than \$50 billion from the federal government to help — if House Democrats have their way.

The House is scheduled to vote on its latest coronavirus relief bill Friday, and with Democrats in the majority, the measure is expected to pass. But a showdown is expected with the Republican-controlled Senate and President Trump, who say any further coronavirus relief should wait for a clearer picture of how previous measures have affected the economy.

And when the time comes to pass something, Republicans say they will resist giving money to states and localities if they do not use it directly for coronavirus needs. They are also insisting on liability protections for businesses, which Democrats oppose.

“Not acting is the most expensive course,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco, said as she introduced the bill Tuesday. “We are presenting a plan to do what is necessary to deal with the corona crisis and make sure we can get the country back to work and school safely.”

The bill includes \$3 trillion in coronavirus relief, with nearly \$1 trillion of that going to state and local governments.

That money is divvied up based on formulas factoring in need and population size, and would be released over two years. According to an estimate done by the Congressional Research Service, which was provided to The Chronicle by the House Appropriations Committee, California and the Bay Area would receive a large chunk of change.

The state would directly receive an estimated nearly \$21.5 billion this year and \$26 billion next year. Cities and counties in the state would directly receive a cumulative \$30.5 billion this year and \$15 billion next year.

Another windfall to California residents would be the repeal of the cap on state and local tax deductions on federal taxes. The bill would eliminate the cap for 2020 and 2021, repealing the \$10,000 limit for joint filers that Republicans passed in their 2017 tax bill. The GOP has rejected the idea in the past. An analysis by California's tax board in 2018 estimated that loss of the full deduction cost state taxpayers \$12 billion.

San Francisco would get more than \$1.2 billion in federal relief this year and \$600 million next year under the Democrats' bill. San Jose would get \$428 million this year and \$214 million next year, and Oakland would get \$368 million this year and \$184 million next year.

Smaller cities would not be left out. Walnut Creek, for example, would get a total of \$24.5 million over the two years. San Rafael would get almost \$30 million. And Burlingame would get \$15 million.

The state is facing a budget deficit of \$54 billion, the state Department of Finance projects, amid mounting demand for social services and plummeting tax revenue. San Francisco's shortfall alone could near \$2 billion.

Actual allocations could vary not only based on what Congress ultimately passes, but also changing circumstances. One of the variables is the local unemployment level, which could remain stubbornly high in the state.

Governors and local officials of both parties have called on Congress to allocate money for their hurting budgets. The combination of revenue decimated by stay-at-home orders and expenses related to the pandemic have put enormous pressure on state and local governments, most of which are required to balance their budgets.

# The Mercury News

## Walters: Perfect storm clobbers California cities

LA Mayor Eric Garcetti has proposed a \$10.5 billion 2020-21 budget that would furlough 16,000 workers.



(Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti via AP, File)

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti last week proposed a \$10.5 billion 2020-21 budget that slashes appropriations throughout city government and would furlough 16,000 workers.

By [DAN WALTERS, CALMATTERS](#) |

PUBLISHED: April 26, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. | UPDATED: April 26, 2020 at 4:26 a.m.

California's nearly 500 cities had been hurting financially even before the COVID-19 pandemic clobbered the state's economy and triggered a downward spiral of tax revenues.

Although their revenues had climbed sharply during the previous decade, cities had seen even sharper increases in spending for employee pensions and health care and an epidemic of homelessness.

With a pandemic-induced recession, California's city officials are now hastily revising their budgets for the current fiscal year, which ends on June 30, and drafting new plans for 2020-21 that anticipate severe drops in revenues.

The state's largest city, Los Angeles, typifies the syndrome. Mayor Eric Garcetti last week proposed a \$10.5 billion 2020-21 budget that slashes appropriations throughout city government and would furlough 16,000 workers.



Los Angeles and the five other California cities with populations of more than 500,000 will get some relief from Washington. The \$2 trillion CARES Act contains aid for large cities, but it must pay for COVID-19 costs, not offset lost revenues, and must be spent by Dec. 31.

Big city officials, therefore, are looking for creative ways to spend their windfalls that satisfy the law and still provide some fiscal relief.

Sacramento is the smallest of the six and Mayor Darrell Steinberg expects to receive \$89.6 million from CARES, almost exactly the city's estimate of its projected shortfall from revenue losses related to COVID-19.

"This \$89,623,427 stimulus check from the federal government starts our economic recovery," Steinberg tweeted last week. He intends to use the CARES money to jump-start economic enhancement and housing projects promised from a sales tax increase approved by city voters last year, thus freeing up the sales tax money to plug the state's budget deficit.

Five-hundred miles to the south, in San Diego, Mayor Kevin Faulconer is also seeking creative uses of the \$249 million his city expects to receive from CARES, a sum that, as in Sacramento, almost exactly matches its projected budget shortfall.

"We expect to hear more on that and how you can spend those dollars soon," Faulconer told the city council. "They will likely be restricted to COVID-related



costs, but there may be some flexibility in that. That is something my entire team has been working on.”

While CARES may help big cities to avoid fiscal meltdowns, it does nothing for California’s other 400-plus municipal governments, which are coping with many of the same issues, especially big drops in sales tax from shutdowns of retail businesses.

Prior to COVID-19 rearing its ugly head, many cities, as well as counties and school districts, were planning to place tax increases on the November ballot. However, the surprisingly negative results of the March 3 election on local tax and bond measures have raised doubt about the political wisdom of such proposals.

When the election’s ballots were finally tallied this month, just 96 of the 239 tax and bond measures had passed, Michael Coleman, who tracks local government finances in California, calculated.

Coleman’s detailed account includes results of post-election probing by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates, a leading California polling firm, about why the measures fared so poorly. It ascribed the losses to several factors, including voter pessimism, “tax fatigue,” early reports of the COVID-19 pandemic, logistical problems in voting and a sharp drop in support for taxes outside major urban areas.

With the pandemic now in full bloom, erasing millions of jobs, asking Californians to pay higher taxes would be a fool’s errand. Cities will have to weather, as best they can, the perfect storm of rising demands for spending, plummeting revenues and hostility to new taxes.

## Patch

# Rattlesnakes Emerge In East Bay Amid Hot Weather

**A four-foot rattlesnake was spotted in one East Bay park, drawn out by this weekend's hot weather. Here's what to do if you see one.**

By [Nick Garber](#), Patch Staff

Apr 26, 2020 10:42 am PT



*A four-foot rattlesnake was spotted hanging out in an East Bay park this weekend. Here's what to do if you see one. (Shutterstock / Viktor Loki)*

EAST BAY, CA — Undeterred by our social distancing guidelines, rattlesnakes are emerging in East Bay parks and open spaces as the weather heats up in the region. One four-foot rattlesnake was spotted hanging out on the side of a trail Saturday at Diablo Foothills Regional Park near Walnut Creek, officials said.

"Remember to keep your social distance from other park users as well as park wildlife," the East Bay Regional Park District Police Department said on Facebook.

During past rattlesnake seasons, East Bay officials have advised the public to take the following precautions when visiting regional parks:

1. Always hike with a friend so you can help each other in case of emergency.
2. Look at the ground ahead of you as you are walking.
3. Look carefully around and under logs and rocks before sitting down.
4. Avoid placing your hands or feet where you can't see clearly.
5. Check the area around picnic tables, campsites, and barbecues before using them. If you encounter a rattlesnake in these areas, notify park staff.
6. Keep pets on the designated trails and away from snakes if they see one.
7. Bring plenty of water for yourself and your pets as many parks do not have a direct water supply.

### What to Do If You See a Rattlesnake:

Leave it alone - do not try to capture or harm it. All park wildlife is protected by law. If you see a snake on a trail, wait for it to cross and do not approach. Then move carefully and slowly away.

### What to Do If Bitten by a Snake:

1. If bitten by a rattlesnake, stay calm and send someone to call 911. Remain calm by lying down with the affected limb lower than the heart. Do not waste precious time on tourniquets, "sucking," or snake bite kits. If you are by yourself, walk calmly to the nearest source of help to dial 911. Do not run.
2. If bitten by any other kind of snake, wash the wound with soap and water or an antiseptic and seek medical attention.

3. If you are not sure what kind of snake bit you, check the bite for two puncture marks (in rare cases one puncture mark) associated with intense, burning pain. This is typical of a rattle snake bite. Other snakebites may leave multiple teeth marks without associated burning pain.

Snakes are an important resource in the natural environment. They are prime controlling agents of rodent, insect, and other reptile populations, according to the district. They must be enjoyed from afar and left where they are found; it is illegal to collect, kill, or remove any plants or animals from the East Bay Regional Park District, according to officials, who asked the public to help protect wildlife and their environment for present and future generations.

Additional information is available at [www.ebparks.org/parks/safety/#Snakes](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/safety/#Snakes) or download a PDF version of our [Common Snakes](#).

# Some Californians Defy Stay-at-Home Order During Hot Weekend

By [The Associated Press](#) • Published April 26, 2020 • Updated on April 27, 2020 at 12:11 am

A lingering heat wave lured people to California beaches, rivers and trails again Sunday, prompting warnings from officials that defiance of stay-at-home orders could reverse progress and bring the coronavirus surging back.

Tens of thousands of people packed the sand at Newport Beach in Orange County, where residents compared weekend crowds to July 4 and lifeguards reminded people to stay apart if they were in groups of six or more.

Neighboring Huntington Beach also saw big gatherings, despite the closure of beach parking lots and metered parking restricted along Pacific Coast Highway.

Robin Ford, a resident of the coastal city known for its pier, surveyed the crush of visitors with concern.

“Our beach is so big, that I feel people can distance themselves — but it’s a lot more crowded today,” Ford told the [Orange County Register](#) on Saturday. “Unless all these people are in one household, it does look like they are not social distancing. They could be spread out more.”

Weekend temperatures reached the 80s and 90s in much of the state. While most recreation remains shuttered under various orders, officials were wary that those still open could draw people who will ignore rules to stay separated and seek sun and air after being mainly confined indoors for more than a month.

Los Angeles city and county beaches, trails and playgrounds were closed, and officers on horseback were patrolling those areas to enforce social distancing rules.

“We won’t let one weekend undo a month of progress. While the sunshine is tempting, we’re staying home to save lives,” Garcetti tweeted Sunday. “The places we love — our beaches, hiking trails — will still be there when this is over. And by staying home, we’re making sure our loved ones will be too.”

To the north, police in Pacific Grove said they had to close the picturesque Lovers Point Park and Beach at the southern end of Monterey Bay because of a lack of social distancing.

Most people who flocked to the East Bay Regional Park District’s nearly 125,000 acres (195 square miles) of park land east of San Francisco followed social distancing guidelines, but some people ignored the signs and gathered in large groups, the district’s general manager told the [San Francisco Chronicle](#).

The biggest violators refused to leave closed picnic areas when asked, Robert Doyle said.

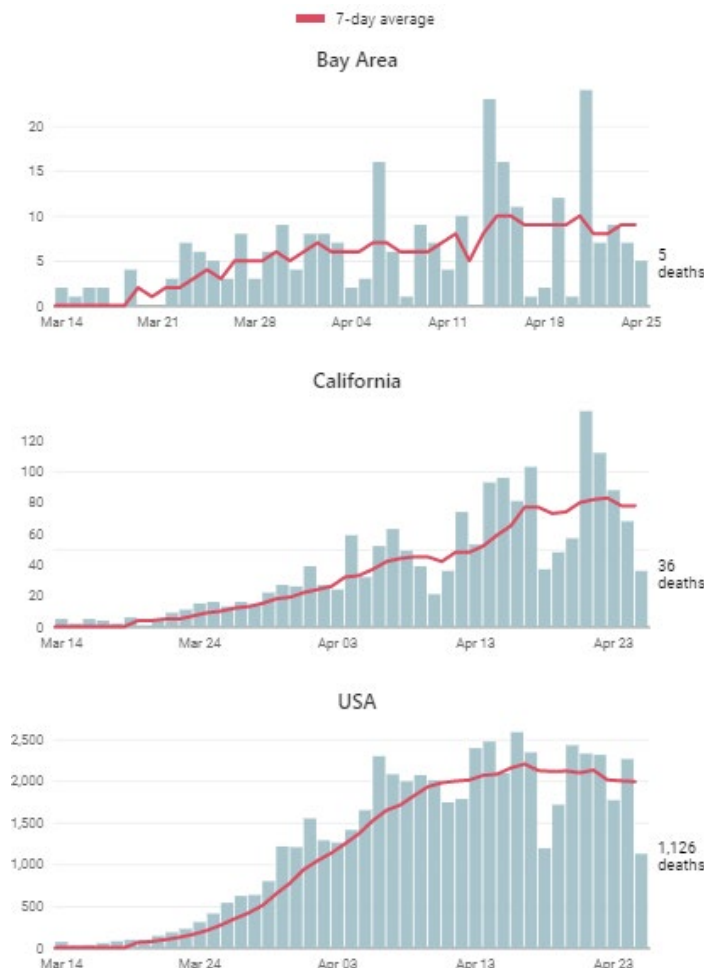
In Sacramento, boats crowded the water at Discovery Park and many families set up blankets and chairs by the riverside.

“We want to continue to remind the community that yes, the weather is nice, but COVID-19 is still around, and we’ve been making some great progress,” Sacramento County Sheriff’s Deputy Zaheem Buksh told [KCRA-TV](#). “So let’s continue to make that progress by practicing social distancing.”

California has had more than 42,500 coronavirus cases and nearly 1,700 deaths, more than half of them in the Los Angeles area, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. However, the number of infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested, and studies suggest people can be infected with the virus without feeling sick.

Last week, health officials announced a Santa Clara County woman died in early February from COVID-19 — weeks before the first previously known U.S. death from the virus. An autopsy released by the county Saturday concluded she suffered a massive heart attack caused by coronavirus infection, which also spread to her trachea, lungs and intestines.

San Francisco Mayor London Breed said more than a month into the crisis the Bay Area still faces shortages of personal protective equipment and testing kits. It’s causing challenges that will exacerbate if the virus surges back, she said.



“We have known that this crisis was coming to our country for a long time now, and the fact is that as of April, we’re still having the same conversations about the challenges,” Breed said Sunday on CBS News’ “Face the Nation.” “I know that most cities are seeing the same data I’m seeing that if we do absolutely nothing, it gets worse.”

*Coronavirus Deaths in Your City and State — and Across the US*

*These charts use daily coronavirus death data from Johns Hopkins University to show the seven-day moving average of deaths at the city, state and country level.*

*The impact of coronavirus [varies enormously](#) in the United States from one place to another.*

*Source: Johns Hopkins University. Credit: Visuals by Amy O’Kruk/NBC, data analysis by Ron Campbell/NBC*

For most people, the virus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness and death.

Cases continue to grow in California but at a manageable pace that hasn't overwhelmed hospitals, health authorities have said. State and local stay-at-home orders have been cited as successfully slowing the rise in coronavirus hospitalizations and deaths. Recent polls show Californians overwhelmingly support them.

There have been small protests by people who want to reopen the state, contending their liberty and livelihoods are at stake. Three people were arrested at a rally Saturday in Encinitas, just north of San Diego, and cited for violating health orders, Sheriff's Lt. Ricardo Lopez said.

## Visitors to East Bay parks asked to wear face masks

The East Bay Regional Park District on Friday asked parks visitors to wear face masks or other face coverings in accordance with the Bay Area's recent COVID-19-related face covering order in San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

Park visitors are expected to wear a face covering in parking lots, near staging areas and entrance gates and when standing or walking within six feet of another person. Visitors will also be required to continue practicing physical distancing to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

"For the safety of individuals, the public and park employees, visitors should follow all local health agency recommendations, including the new 'Cover Your Face' directive," EBRPD General Manager Robert Doyle said. "Visitors should carry cloth face coverings with them when in regional parks and wear them whenever six-foot social distancing cannot be maintained."

Runners and other people exercising in their local park should take additional precautions to avoid spreading the virus such as exercising away others when possible and avoiding spitting.

Updates about East Bay park-related closures related to the coronavirus can be found at [ebparks.org/coronavirus](http://ebparks.org/coronavirus).

— *Bay City News Service*

**Patch**

# Parks Ask Visitors To Wear Face Coverings

**Park Districts across the Bay Area are asking visitors to cover their faces when within six feet of others.**

By [Charles Woodman, Patch Staff](#)

Apr 24, 2020 12:57 pm PT | Updated Apr 24, 2020 4:15 pm PT



The coverings can be simple cloths masks. (Shutterstock)

LAMORINDA, CA — Anyone who visits a Bay Area park is being asked to wear a face covering or mask to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Five counties, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo, have joined together to issue a "Cover Your Face" order. The order asks that everyone visiting a park bring a face mask, and wear it at any time they're within six feet of someone else. Parks say that includes when visitors are running, hiking and biking, there are no exceptions.

Park District General Manager Robert Doyle says the move is necessary to protect as many people as possible from the coronavirus:

"For the safety of individuals, the public, and park employees, visitors should follow all local health agency recommendations, including the new 'Cover Your Face' directive. Visitors should carry cloth face coverings with them when in Regional Parks and wear them whenever six-foot social distancing cannot be maintained."

The mask requirements include areas near or just outside the parks, like in parking lots, staging areas and entrance gates.

Hikers are advised to wear masks at all times because narrow trails can make it nearly impossible to keep a six foot space. Meanwhile runners are advised to take extra caution because they sweat out extra airborne particles.

The order does not apply to children under 12, and children 2 or younger should never wear a face mask because of the risk of suffocation.

To find out more about which parks are open or closed during the pandemic, you can visit the East Bay Regional Park District at there website [here](#).





# Park District Asks Visitors to Wear Cloth Face Coverings When Within Six Feet of Others in Parks

By ECT -Apr 24, 2020



*photo by EBRPD*

Oakland, CA – On Friday, April 17, 2020, a “Cover Your Face” order was issued for five Bay Area counties – San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Contra Costa, and Alameda – asking the public to carry cloth face coverings and wear them when within six feet of others, including when hiking,

running, and biking.

The new order recommends that all people engaged in outdoor recreation “bring a Face Covering and wear that Face Covering in circumstances where it is difficult to maintain compliance with social distancing requirements, and that they carry the Face Covering in a visible and readily accessible location, such as around the person’s neck or in a pocket for such use.”

“For the safety of individuals, the public, and park employees, visitors should follow all local health agency recommendations, including the new ‘Cover Your Face’ directive,” said Park District General Manager Robert Doyle. “Visitors should carry cloth face coverings with them when in Regional Parks and wear them whenever six-foot social distancing cannot be maintained.”

Visitors should be prepared to wear cloth face coverings when in parking lots, staging areas, and around entrance gates since they can be crowded, making it difficult to maintain 6-foot social distancing. Hikers should also be prepared to put on cloth face coverings when hiking on narrow or crowded trails since maintaining six-foot social distancing may be challenging.

The new order also recommends that runners and cyclists, who “more forcefully expel airborne particles,” should take extra steps to avoid exposing others, including:

- Wearing a Face Covering when possible
- Crossing the street when running to avoid sidewalks with pedestrians
- Slowing down and moving to the side when unable to leave the sidewalk and nearing other people
- Never spitting
- Avoiding running or cycling directly in front of or behind another runner or cyclist who is not in the same household.

Local health agencies are also recommending that those doing strenuous exercise keep further distance when possible.

For children, parents and caregivers should closely supervise the use of face coverings to avoid misuse. The "Cover Your Face" order does not require face coverings for children aged 12 years or less, and children two years or less should not wear face coverings because of the risk of suffocation. Additionally, people from the same household are exempt from needing to wear a cloth face covering when within six feet of each other.

The Park District is updating park signage to inform visitors about the new "Cover Your Face" health directive and the recommendation to keep further distance when doing strenuous exercise.

For up-to-date information about COVID-19 park-related closures, visit [www.ebparks.org/coronavirus](http://www.ebparks.org/coronavirus).



# As tempting as warm weather may be, you still need to maintain physical distance

By [Andre Senior](#)

Published 4 days ago

## As tempting as warm weather may be, you still need to maintain physical distance

Cabin fever is the symptom that so many of us are dealing with nowadays and increasing temperatures on the horizon for the weekend could be the cure, but that comes with a warning for those heading outdoors.

**OAKLAND, Calif.** - Cabin fever is the symptom that so many of us are dealing with nowadays and increasing temperatures on the horizon for the weekend could be the cure, but that comes with a warning for those heading outdoors.

“Look, we’re walking into a very warm weekend and most beautiful weekend,” said Gov. Gavin Newsom during his Thursday briefing as he acknowledged the potential problems that the weather will bring with it. “People are prone to wanting to go to the beaches, parks, playgrounds (or) go on a hike.”

How you do each of those things depends on where you live because of the different shelter-in-place orders in each Bay Area county.

Earlier this week, KTVU reported on the rules in San Mateo, which are perhaps the strictest in the region, restricting people from traveling more than five miles from their home for recreation.

In the East Bay, counties such as Alameda include no such restriction in their shelter-in-place orders, but social and physical distancing is strictly enforced.

As people head outdoors to enjoy warmer weather, authorities say they will be watchful that people are adhering to the rules.

“We’re really encouraging park patrons to come to the parks, enjoy, get their recreation but do it safely,” said Capt. Lance Brede with the East Bay Regional Park District Police Dept.

The department is a 74-person team charged with overseeing 125,000 acres in 73 parks across Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Capt. Brede said one area expected to see an increase in hikers, bikers and dog walkers is Tilden Park.

“We anticipate this weekend that that park will get heavily used. Lake Chabot located in Castro Valley is a heavily used park that we’re monitoring,” Capt. Brede said Thursday.

The East Bay Regional Park District Police said they’ll be using their helicopter to monitor their facilities from the air for people picnicking or playing group sports.

If they spot increase usage, they could take measures which include limiting access to certain park, if necessary.

## Letters to the Editor

San Francisco Chronicle April 23, 2020

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### Full funding needed

The East Bay Regional Park District applauds “[Good for jobs and environment](#)” (Editorial, April 18) about the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a landmark, bipartisan national commitment to parks, public lands and trails that has been good for jobs and the environment. Since the initial COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders were issued, parks in the East Bay, Bay Area and elsewhere have seen an overwhelming surge in visitation and have been essential for the public’s physical and mental health.

Full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which comes from revenue paid by energy companies, needs to be part of the economic recovery plan. Parks and trails will be important to the country’s healing as state and local health departments revise stay-at-home orders.

In parks across the country — national, state, and local — there exist roads and infrastructure, some built as early as the 1930s, that are in need of modernization to accommodate the current level of public access. These needs will only continue to increase during and after the current health crises. What will people do when other activities are still restricted in the future? Parks truly are the only game in town.

LWCF dollars can provide much-needed jobs and access to essential outdoor activity. Over the past 50 years, the LWCF has provided over \$16 billion in funding for various parks and trails in the East Bay Regional Park District.

As for state and local governments, the LWCF has provided over 40,000 grants in its 50-plus years, totaling over \$16.7 billion.

Whether as part of an infrastructure bill or independent legislation, Washington should act now to permanently fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Robert E. Doyle, Walnut Creek, General Manager, East Bay Regional Park District

# EAST BAY TIMES

## Coronavirus: Popular Mission Peak entrance to remain closed through May 4

Fremont officials had requested longer closure

By JOSEPH GEHA | [jgeha@bayareanewsgroup.com](mailto:jgeha@bayareanewsgroup.com) | Bay Area News Group

PUBLISHED: April 21, 2020 at 6:29 p.m. | UPDATED: April 22, 2020 at 10:02 a.m.



*FREMONT, CA – MARCH 29: Visitors enter a gate to the Mission Peak Regional Preserve from the Stanford Avenue parking lot on Sunday, March 29, 2020, in Fremont, Calif. (Aric Crabb/Bay Area News Group)*

A major entrance to Mission Peak Regional Preserve in Fremont will remain closed through May 4, the East Bay Regional Park District decided Tuesday, after top local officials requested a longer closure, citing concerns about crowding and the possible spread of COVID-19.

Robert Doyle, the park district's general manager, said the "very popular" Stanford Avenue staging area and trailhead will be kept closed to cars and pedestrians until the park district staff can be properly equipped to get restrooms cleaned and reopened safely, and pick up trash that visitors have been leaving behind.

Mission Peak will still be accessible via the trailhead near the Ohlone College parking garage, a little more than a mile and a half north of Stanford Avenue.

The decision comes after Fremont's city manager Mark Danaj, and Police Chief Kim Petersen, issued separate letters to the park district requesting and then demanding the closure of the staging area and trailhead, respectively.

In an April 9 letter, Danaj claimed city staff and elected officials had seen visitors of the Stanford Avenue staging area failing to comply with social distancing requirements in effect under the current county and state health orders, and requested the district close the area until one week after shelter in place orders are lifted.

On Tuesday, in making the closure decision, Doyle pushed back against Fremont's requests.

"We do not agree with the city's position that (the closure) should be extended longer, nor do they have the authority...to demand that we do that," Doyle said.

Doyle focused on the lack of trash pickup and the closed restrooms leading to sanitation issues as the main reasoning for his decision to close the entrance, though acknowledged crowding in the parking lot.

“In general, we are seeing fair compliance with the social distancing. But what we’re getting is the crowds in the parking lot before they can distance as they head up the trail,” he said.

The park district has been working to secure protective equipment for workers and set up protocols so trash pickup — which has been halted in the district during the pandemic — can resume, and bathrooms at parks can be safely cleaned and reopened, according to Dave Mason, a park district spokesman.

Doyle said at the meeting Tuesday he was “disappointed” in park visitors who are ignoring the district’s pleas for people to leave no trash behind, instead leaving litter and even bags of dog poop near overfilled trash cans or in parking areas.

Though Fremont officials had requested longer closures, Doyle ordered the closure only through May 4, as he’s expecting shelter in place orders to be extended, not lifted.

“So that creates a situation where a temporary closure becomes a longer term closure,” he said.

“We believe this is an important park for the public. We also believe that the district has been complying with the health order and that the risk to the public is not there if they follow the protocols that we have put in place,” he said.

As a result of Danaj’s April 9 letter, the park district temporarily closed the Stanford Avenue staging area over Easter weekend to cut back on crowding, as it did with several other parks, but then reopened the area with a plan to further discuss the city of Fremont’s request at its April 21 meeting.

Petersen said in a follow up letter on April 13 the park district hadn’t gone far enough, and claimed that due to overcrowding, operating Mission Peak was a violation of the county health order.

Petersen ordered the park district to close the staging area and trails because leaving it open posed “an unreasonable and avoidable risk of the spread of the virus by members of the public who continue to ignore social distancing guidelines.”

Park district officials said Petersen had no authority to demand the closure of the area, but the district nonetheless ordered the temporary closure of the Stanford Avenue entrance [at a special April 16 meeting](#), agreeing to keep it closed until it was again discussed at the April 21 meeting. Petersen said in a written statement to this news organization after Tuesday’s meeting that she was “very happy to hear of the decision and grateful for the partnership we have with the (East Bay Regional Park District).”

Doyle noted at Tuesday’s meeting that when the Stanford Avenue entrance reopens, the district may have added more signage in the area reminding visitors of the requirement to wear masks or face coverings, which multiple Bay Area counties are instituting.

# EAST BAY TIMES

## Park It: East Bay facilities' trash collection to expand; some restrooms to reopen

Garbage dumping, unsanitary conditions have been found at several park locations

By **NED MACKAY** | East Bay Regional Park District

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*Aric Crabb/staff archives Visitors, before reports of current problems, walk past a COVID-19 warning sign at the Stanford Avenue staging area at Mission Peak Regional Preserve in Fremont, where toilets are closed, trash has accumulated and there have been problems with social distancing. The city of Fremont has asked the East Bay Regional Park District through mid-May to close the Stanford Avenue staging area, one of a number of park locations where there have been issues of trash dumping and unsanitary conditions.*

As the coronavirus pandemic runs its course, the East Bay Regional Park District and other public agencies continue to grapple with the problem of

how to serve the public while also preventing the spread of COVID-19.

As the park district general manager, Robert Doyle, said April 16 at an emergency board meeting, “The vast majority of the park system has remained open. ... The park system is much beloved, but we don’t want it to be beloved to the point where it is not safe to staff or the public.”

One of a number of park locations where there have been issues of trash dumping and unsanitary conditions is the Stanford Avenue staging area at Mission Peak Regional Preserve in Fremont, where toilets are closed, trash has accumulated and there have been problems with social distancing. The city of Fremont has asked the district to close the Stanford Avenue staging area through mid-May. The health departments of Alameda and Contra Costa counties have declared that parks are an essential service and would like the district to keep its parks generally open.

At the April 16 meeting, the board accepted Doyle’s recommendation to close the Stanford Avenue staging area and adjacent trails April 18-21. The board planned to accept public comment at its regular meeting on April 21 and reconsider the closure issue. Meanwhile, Mission Peak can still be accessed through the trailhead at nearby Ohlone College. The board generally supported reopening as soon as feasible, with the first priority being trash collection, then cleaning and maintaining the restrooms to alleviate sanitation problems.

**Maintenance ongoing:** Although activities in the East Bay Regional Parks have been severely restricted because of the coronavirus pandemic, park rangers and other park district staff are still working to protect and maintain the parklands. Jim O’Connor, the district’s assistant general manager of operations, has offered an overview of the ongoing efforts.

“We’re working hard to keep the parks open for the community we serve,” he said.

Besides keeping the parks in order, a primary concern is field employees' safety, because their jobs involve directly interacting with park visitors. As a result, staffing was initially reduced to about two rangers per park to provide for adequate social distancing in staff offices and workshops. Staff rotates through the positions, giving time for them to shelter in place and care for their families. While on the job the rangers keep a watchful eye on the parks and facilities, assist park visitors and work on weed abatement and other basic maintenance.

Because of the need to protect the staff who perform these tasks, the district initially greatly limited trash collection and closed restrooms. However, to address sanitation issues, the rangers will soon expand trash collection and reopen a limited number of restrooms. Meanwhile, please "go before you go" to the parks. Not all restrooms will be available. The restrooms likely to open first are those that have running water, thus allowing hand washing.

Expansion of services is contingent, though, on obtaining enough PPE (personal protective equipment) for the rangers. And the priority has to be to equip health care workers and first responders, including the district's own firefighters and police.

Speaking of the parks' Fire Department, Fire Capt. Mike Sweany is in charge of a nine-person crew working now at Berkeley's Tilden Regional Park, cutting and burning brush piles to reduce the fuel load in anticipation of the upcoming fire season. Limited firefighting training is also under way, where it's possible while maintaining social distance. The district's O'Connor noted that it's important for the public to partner with park district staff to help keep the parks open and safe.

**Reminders:** It has often been said but is worth repeating that maintaining social distance and cooperating with staff instructions are basic ways to combat and defeat this pandemic. Another helpful habit is packing out trash. If you carried it in, you can carry it out. Discarded trash can blow into creeks and have other adverse environmental impacts.

Also, the district and county health departments are urging people to visit parks close to home, instead of driving long distances. And if you find a crowd upon arrival at a park, please return home or visit one that is less crowded. It's important to be considerate of park neighbors too. Please don't block driveways, roadways or fire gates, and try to keep the noise down. If we all work together, we will get through this health emergency sooner rather than later. The district board and staff really appreciate the public's help during this difficult time.

**Online:** For up-to-date information on park district responses to the coronavirus pandemic and for maps of all the regional parks, be sure to visit the district's website at [ebparks.org](http://ebparks.org).



## EAST BAY TIMES

# Firefighters rescue Oakland parkgoers after separate falls

Parks police, ambulances also respond; no report of serious injury in either incident

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OAKLAND — Firefighters and East Bay parks police responded to rescue people injured in separate injury incidents Wednesday, authorities said.

Shortly before 12:05 p.m., Oakland firefighters responded to Redwood Regional Park's Skyline Gate, for an injury to a hiker near the West Ridge trail, an Oakland Fire Department dispatcher said.

The hiker, who had recently undergone surgery, fell from the trail and was not able to return on her own, East Bay Regional Park District police Capt. Alan Love said. Rescuers used a low-angle rope rescue system to bring her back up, Love said.

Around 12:30 p.m., Oakland firefighters responded to reports of a call at Joaquin Miller Park, 3450 Joaquin Miller Road, before moving to the Sequoia Bayview trailhead near the 10800 block of Skyline Boulevard, for a person who fell off a nearby trail.

Oakland Fire Department battalion chief Heather Mozdean said at least one fall involved a couple of dogs who were able to be walked out without issue. Ambulances and East Bay Regional Park District firefighters and police responded to both incidents, but Mozdean did not offer specifics on injuries. There was no word of any hospital transport.

Love reminded all East Bay parks visitors to exercise care while visiting, including hydration, sanitization and packing out trash at visits' ends.