TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES

DATE: APRIL 8, 2002 CMR:169:02

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF $40,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PREFABRICATED BRIDGE AT THE ARASTRADERO PRESERVE–CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 10001, OPEN SPACE TRAILS

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that Council approve a Budget Amendment Ordinance (BAO) in the amount of $40,000 from the Infrastructure Reserve to provide an additional appropriation for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project 10001, Open Space Trails. Funding is advanced from the proposed 2002-03 CIP.

BACKGROUND
Council approved the creation of CIP project 10001, Open Space Trails and funded it for restoration of park trails, trail heads, picnic areas, fences, and park amenities. $211,000 was appropriated in FY 2001-2002 for trail improvements, of which $155,000 is restricted for grant-funded projects. Of the remaining $56,000, $40,000 has been spent on a trail maintenance study for the Foothills Park trails; $4,400 on replacement barbecues and picnic tables; and $11,600 on the structural repair of the wooden boardwalk trail at the Baylands Nature Center. Staff has begun the implementation of the Trail Master Plan for the Arastradero Preserve, which was adopted by Council in March 2001. The construction of a pedestrian, bike, and horse bridge at the Los Altos Hills entrance to the Preserve near Arastradero Road has been identified as a high-priority project for habitat protection and trail user safety.

DISCUSSION
Staff has received written bids for the construction of cement footings for a prefabricated bridge and would prefer to proceed with the project in spring, rather than late summer, so that the project can be completed before peak user periods. The project involves design and construction of cement moorings for a seventy-foot prefabricated metal bridge that would span Arastradero Creek at the Los Altos Hill entrance to Arastradero Preserve. The project also includes the installation of the bridge and the preparation of trails leading to the bridge.
on both sides of the creek. This bridge is intended to move hikers, bikers and equestrians away from the edge of Arastradero Road, across a creek, and through a grassland meadow to an existing trail that heads to Arastradero Lake. Construction of this bridge will allow the existing Perimeter Trail along Arastradero Creek and Arastradero Road to be closed and restored to native habitat. This existing trail route has been determined to cause significant harm to the environment through significant soil erosion into the adjoining creek. The new trail alignment will not only reduce erosion problems, but will also greatly improve access for preserve visitors to enter the preserve and pass each other on the trail.

**RESOURCE IMPACT**
The $40,000 appropriated for this project would be deducted from the $153,000 in open space trail improvement funds requested in Fiscal Year 2002-2003. The attached BAO requests an increase in expenditures of $40,000 from the Infrastructure Reserve for CIP Project 10001. This is a one-time expense and no future year resource needs are anticipated as a result of this BAO. Attachment B summarizes the BAO's approved to date in 2001-2002 that impact reserves. This request will reduce the FY 2002-2003 funding for Park Trails (CIP10001) by an equivalent $40,000.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**
This is consistent with existing City policies especially regarding infrastructure maintenance and renovation.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**
Findings for a mitigated negative declaration for the Arastradero Preserve Trail Master plan, which included this specific project, were approved by Council on May 14, 2001. Staff has completed all necessary CEQA (Environmental Quality Act) documentation. This project is intended to correct erosion damage to Arastradero Creek caused by inappropriately sited trails.

**ATTACHMENTS**
Attachment A: Budget Amendment Ordinance
Attachment B: Budget Amendment Ordinances Impacting the Infrastructure Reserve Approved to Date in 2001-2002