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Subject: Special Liaison Report - Mid Pen Board of Directors Meeting Aug 14th, 2019
Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:04:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Natalie and Daren,

Don and Jeff suggested that you add this special liaison report to the meeting handouts for next week's PRC meeting along side the subcommittee spreadsheet:

Commissioner Moss gave an overview presentation of his 2018 Palo Alto to the Sea hike at the Aug 14, 2019 Mid Peninsula Open Space District Board of Directors meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to show the many Bay Area regional trails and bike paths that pass through Mid Peninsula OSD lands and are helping to link the entire Bay Area in a comprehensive system of trails on public lands. It was the first time that all of these partners were given a single evening to present side-by-side. It proved as you will see below that Palo Alto today is already an integral partner in this comprehensive system. And, the entire audience and board were most appreciative of that fact.

Palo Alto to Sea Trail

The 2017 Palo Alto Parks and Recreation Master Plan gives a conceptual-level vision for a Palo Alto to the Sea trail that would provide future east-west connections between District preserves and County and State parklands to the southern San Mateo County coast. The Master Plan describes a Palo Alto to the Sea Trail as follows: Improving trail connections and access to our parks and open space was identified as an important priority by the community. Linkages promote the "Green Necklace" vision for the City allowing regional connections to adjacent cities and open spaces... including multi-modal trails.

This followed six other compelling presentations from key MROSD partners - SF Bay Trail(touches PA), Bay Area Ridge Trail(touches PA), SFPUC(within 1 mile of PA), POST(touches PA), Facebook (re: Dumbarton Rail Corridor)(within 1 mile of PA), & San Mateo County Parks (Ohlone/Portola Trail)(touches PA).

The presentation that David gave:

Palo Alto Hike to the Sea - 2018

3-Day Hike – 45 miles, almost all on public land

11 maps, 10 parks, 6 agencies, 2 private easements

2017 20-Year Palo Alto Parks Master Plan

Healthy citizens is a high priority.

Linkages promote the "Green Necklace" vision for the City - regional connections to adjacent cities and open spaces... including multi-modal trails

- Day 1 (11 miles): Palo Alto Arastradero Preserve, Palo Alto Foothills Park, Los Trancos OSP, Montebello Ridge OSP, camp atop Black Mountain
- Day 2 (16 miles): Black Mountain, Montebello Ridge OSP, Skyline Ridge OSP, Long Ridge

OSP, camp at Portola Redwoods SP

- Day 3(18 miles): PortolaSP, San Mateo'sPescaderoCreek County Park, Basin Easement Trail thru Private Property, Big Basin SP, ButanoFire Road thru Private Property, ButanoSP, Cloverdale Rd past Cloverdale Ranch, GazosCreek SB

A summary of the other presentations is attached. And, an overview map of the Palo Alto to the Sea route is attached.

Commissioner David Moss

Other external trails planning activities in San Mateo County that the District participates in include:

- South Skyline Bay Area Ridge Trail Extension
- Phleger Estate Trail Assessment and Planning
- San Mateo County Ohlone Portola Heritage Trail
- District 4 Caltrans Bicycle Plan and District 4 Caltrans Pedestrian Plan
- California Coastal Trail/Coastal Bluffs Coastal Trail Connections
- California Coastal Trail /Tunitas Creek Beach Master Plan
- City of Half Moon Bay Pedestrian and Bikeways Master Plan

Partner Presentations

To share some of the current and emerging regional trail planning initiatives and priorities in San Mateo County, the District has invited trail partners to present their regional trails program priorities, conceptual visions and current planning work. Representatives from the San Francisco Bay Trail Program, Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, POST, San Mateo County Parks, and City of Palo Alto will present information on these regional trail initiatives.

- **San Francisco Bay Trail**

The San Francisco Bay Trail is a vision of a continuous 500-mile walking and cycling path along the shoreline of San Francisco Bay running through 9 counties, 47 cities and across 7 toll bridges. With over 350 miles in place, including paths on 5 toll bridges, the Bay Trail is now 70% complete as a recreation and active transportation corridor. Numerous shoreline partners are working to connect communities to parks, open space, schools, environmental education centers, and transit stations, for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

- **Bay Area Ridge Trail**

Thirty years ago, the vision for the Bay Area Ridge Trail (Ridge Trail) was developed to unite the ridge lines encircling the Bay Area into one continuous park with a 550-mile Ridge Trail. In 1987, Greenbelt Alliance, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, and citizen advocates came together to help form the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Today, 375 miles are open and ready to explore, 80% of which are open to hikers, bikes, and horses. The first Ridge Trail segment was dedicated at Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve in May 1989. Most recently, the Ridge Trail Council dedicated a 5.2-mile segment on the Mt Umunhum Summit at Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve in 2017. Currently, the Ridge Trail Council is supporting the Highway 17 Wildlife and Regional Trail Crossing and related trail connections. The completed connection will create over a 50-mile continuous stretch of Ridge Trail.

- **SFPUC South Skyline Ridge Trail Extension**

The proposed San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Bay Area Ridge Trail Extension includes construction of a new trail parallel to upper Highway 35 from the Highway 92 intersection south to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) Phleger Estate. The new extension, combined with transferring an approximately 2 mile trail easement from Highway 92 north through Skylawn Cemetery to the existing Fifield-Cahill Ridge trail at Cemetery Gate on Cahill Ridge, would allow the SFPUC to manage and provide 16.5 miles of trail across the 23,000-acre SFPUC Peninsula Watershed. The proposed project also includes the operation of the 16.5 miles of trail, trailhead improvements, and a new enhanced ADA trail loop at Cemetery Gate.

- **Bay to Sea Trail**

The Bay to Sea Trail will be an approximately 40-mile multiuse (hike, bike, equestrian) trail that guides and connects people to open space in the Peninsula between the San Francisco Bay and Pacific Ocean. This east-west trail will also connect people to regional trails within San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, and other counties. A Bay to Sea Trail Planning Coalition (Planning Coalition) was formed in 2018 and is comprised of representatives from public land agencies (county, city, special district, etc.), non-profit organizations, state agencies, and others who play a critical role in planning, designing and managing this trail. This coalition recognizes the benefits and need of working in collaboration on this regional trail project, understanding that the full trail will cross lands managed by numerous agencies and affect many communities directly and indirectly. The Planning Coalition will engage externally with community members, agencies and organization advisors to seek input as needed throughout the project.

- **Ohlone-Portolá Heritage Trail**

To recognize the 250th anniversary of Gaspar de Portola's expedition and the first European sighting of the San Francisco Bay, which was the catalyst for the development of California, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors sought to create a trail system that traverses the expedition route. In total, the trail will span approximately 90 miles. It will traverse the route used by the expedition from Año Nuevo north to Pacifica following Ohlone trails between villages and then to the discovery sight at Sweeney Ridge. The trail will then continue south to the Crystal Springs Regional Trail at San Bruno Avenue, to the Town of Woodside and City of Menlo Park. Half of the proposed trail exists and utilizes portions of the California Coastal Trail and Crystal Springs Regional Trail. The remaining segments will need to be developed. Approximately 95 percent of the proposed trail is on public lands.

- **Dumbarton Rail Corridor Feasibility and Environmental Review**

The San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) is exploring the feasibility of reopening the Dumbarton Rail Corridor to enhance mobility options between the East Bay (Union City) and San Francisco Peninsula (Redwood City). As part of the Dumbarton Corridor Transportation Study, the feasibility of a multiuse path adjacent to passenger rail is being explored. If deemed feasible, a 4.6-mile long segment of this multiuse path would connect to the District's Bay Trail connection at Ravenswood Open Space Preserve and may be included as a section of the Bay to Sea Trail. This path would create an off-street transportation/recreation connection between downtown Redwood City, the Bay Trail, and the open space areas along the Bay.



Palo Alto-to-the-Sea

Palo Alto-to-the-Sea
Conceptual Trail
 Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)
 8/15/2018

