



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

R-10-144  
Meeting 10-32  
Date of Meeting

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

### **AGENDA ITEM**

Informational Update on the Vision for Public Access at Mount Umunhum in Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Receive an update on the initial vision for public access at Mt. Umunhum; and
2. Continue to work with the Sierra Azul/Bear Creek Redwoods Ad Hoc Committee to finalize the Committee's recommendation for the project description to be presented to the Board for consideration at the Special Meeting on December 9, 2010.

#### **SUMMARY**

This brief presentation will provide information on the initial vision for public access to the summit of Mount Umunhum, as created by staff and tentatively approved by the Committee, which incorporates public input gathered as a result of the first public workshop on September 30, 2010, in Los Gatos. This vision will be finalized and presented to the Board at a third public meeting on December 9, 2010, as the Committee recommendation for public access at Mount Umunhum.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The first public workshop for the Mount Umunhum Site Planning Project provided abundant feedback on the initial three themes for public access. In addition, visitors to the District's website were offered a similar opportunity to comment on the three themes. Comments were also received via the websites' dedicated Mount Umunhum e-mail address, and from comment cards sent in after the meeting. In addition to this feedback, staff met with two new stakeholder groups for their input (bringing the total stakeholder groups interviewed to 29). All input was considered in the development of a vision for public access, which was presented to the District's Management Team for their review and input during two meetings, reviewed and refined by field staff at a workshop led by Restoration Design Group, the landscape architects and planning consultants working on the project, administrative staff, and the Mount Umunhum Site Planning Team. Staff incorporated all input into a vision for public access, which has been refined and

tentatively approved by the Sierra Azul/Bear Creek Redwoods Ad Hoc Committee; the Committee's recommendation for public access will be presented to the Board at the meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is associated with this informational report.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Broad public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act to over 4,600 postcard recipients and 390 e-mail recipients for this meeting and the Special Meeting scheduled for December 9, 2010.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE**

An informational presentation on a vision for public access to Mt. Umunhum is not a project under CEQA. No decisions will be made by the Board to undertake a particular public access project.

**NEXT STEPS**

An open house is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010, from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m., at the District's Administrative Office, to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the vision for public access. Input will be analyzed and included in a refined vision to be presented to the Ad Hoc Committee on Tuesday, November 30, 2010, for their approval. At its meeting on December 9, 2010, this refined vision will be presented to the Board as the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation for public access at Mount Umunhum. If approved by the Board, this will serve as the project description for purposes of CEQA and the environmental review process will move forward including additional opportunities for public comment. The December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will also serve as the initial scoping meeting to identify potential environmental impacts to inform the environmental review process.

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