



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

Memorandum

DATE: November 12, 2025

MEMO TO: MROSD Board of Directors

THROUGH: Ana Ruiz, General Manager *dear*

FROM: Brian Malone, Assistant General Manager

SUBJECT: Madonna Creek Equestrian Bridge Removal

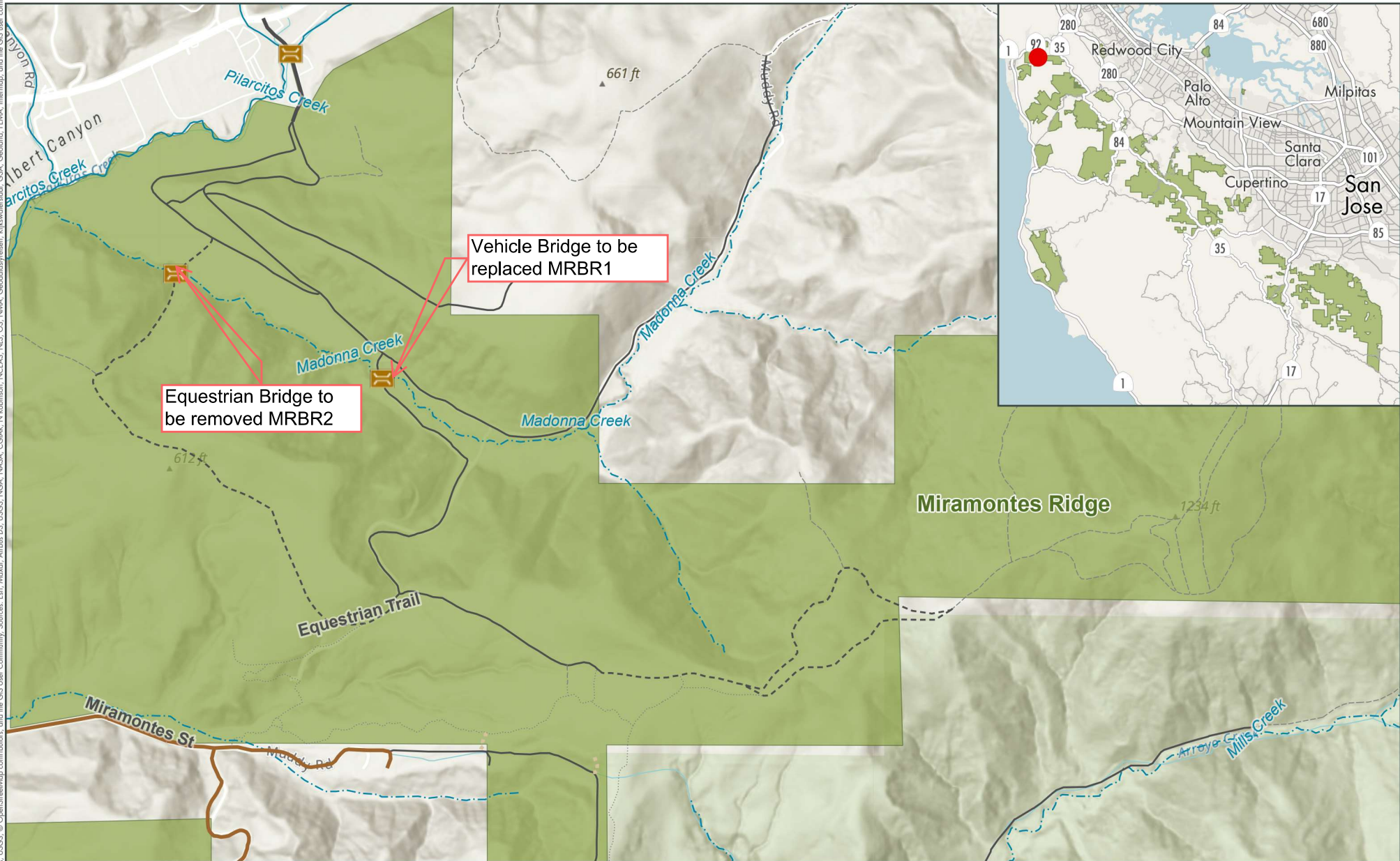
Much of the work to implement elements of MAA Portfolio 1 : ***Miramontes Ridge Gateway to the Coast: Public Access, Stream Restoration and Agricultural Enhancement*** are underway, including land preservation, habitat restoration, Bay Area Ridge Trail extension (via the SFPUC extension), and partnering to enhance water availability for fish and agriculture. Projects that have not yet started include development of a staging area and loop trail (Johnston Ranch Loop trail and Parking Area – planned for fiscal year 2027-28) and “repair bridges”.

Originally, two bridge repair projects were planned: a vehicle bridge replacement and an equestrian trail bridge replacement. The vehicle bridge replacement is on track, with work starting this 2026 calendar year (project #61054 Replace Bridge MRBR1). However, the equestrian bridge replacement is no longer feasible (part of MAA01-006 Madonna Creek Habitat Enhancement, Water Supply and Bridge Replacement). This project included replacement of a failed equestrian bridge over Madonna Creek that became inaccessible due to a partial dam failure that is being separately repaired under project #35003: Miramontes Ridge – Madonna Creek Dam Repair. The bridge had exclusively served the private horse boarding facility of 12 horses, known as Madonna Creek Ranch Stables, which operates through an existing lease. Unfortunately, recent geotechnical explorations have determined that in order to replace the equestrian bridge, an extensive and costly replacement of the dam is required.

Given these latest findings and a cost-benefit analysis, the General Manager is removing the equestrian bridge replacement from the MAA01-006 scope of work. The bridge is not accessible to the general public and there is no general public access planned in the near term for the Madonna Creek Ranch area of the preserve. The failed bridge will simply be removed from the site for safety reasons. Horses boarding at Madonna Creek Ranch Stables will still have access to existing ranch roads through other access points, although a full loop will no longer be available due to the failed bridge.

If in the future, public access to the Madonna Creek Ranch area is planned and trail access requires crossing Madonna Creek, a new more feasible bridge location will be investigated at a later time. Despite removal of the equestrian bridge replacement work, all the commitments for restoration and public access under ***MAA Portfolio 1*** will be nonetheless met with ongoing and planned projects.

###



Atlas

Stream

- Perennial
- Intermittent

Bridge

- Present

Trail

- Paved Road
- Unpaved All-Season Road
- Unpaved Seasonal Road
- Trail

- Abandoned / Unmaintained Road
- Abandoned / Unmaintained Trail
- Restored
- Preserve Boundary

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
10/23/2025



mi 0 0.2 0.4

