



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Fremont Older Open Space Preserve
Prospect Road Preserve Parking Area
22500 Prospect Road
Saratoga, CA 95070

July 11, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Director Harris called the meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee to order at to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jed Cyr and Cecily Harris

Members Absent: Curt Riffle

Staff Present: General Counsel Sheryl Schaffner, Planning Manager Jane Mark, Planner III Gretchen Laustsen, Engineering and Construction Manager Jason Lin, Capital Project Manager III Dale Grogan, Land and Facilities Manager Brian Malone, and District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No speakers present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

VOTE: 2-0-0 (Director Riffle absent.)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approve the April 20, 2016 Planning and Natural Resources Committee Minutes

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the April 20, 2016 Planning and Natural Resources Committee meeting.

VOTE: 2-0-0 (Director Riffle absent.)

2. Proposed Prospect Road Parking Area (Net Canopy) Safety Structure at Fremont Older Open Space Preserve (R-16-88)

Planner III Gretchen Laustsen provided the staff presentation summarizing the history of the project, including modifications to the golf course made by Saratoga Country Club to reduce the number of golf balls entering the parking lot. Additionally, Ms. Laustsen explained that due to the terrain of the area and infeasibility of modifying or relocating the parking lot, staff recommends construction of a protective structure to prevent golf balls from entering the parking lot.

Capital Project Manager III Dale Grogan displayed renderings of the proposed protective structure and described the measures to be used to protect the existing trees. The fifteen-foot height of the netting was selected to meet Santa Clara County Code requirements, and construction is anticipated to begin in fall of 2016. Construction will take approximately eight weeks, during which time portions of the parking lot will be closed during the week but not on weekends.

Director Harris inquired regarding measures to prevent birds from nesting in the netting or bird entrapment.

Mr. Grogan explained when he visited another golf course with a similar netting structure, birds were able to easily take flight from the netting. Also, the netting will be able to be rolled back to allow for debris removal.

Director Harris questioned the sequence of Board action for the projects, especially as it relates to the proposed Use and Management Plan amendment.

Planning Manager Jane Mark stated the proposed Use and Management Plan amendment will require Board approval at the time the construction contract is brought forward for approval.

Public comment opened at 2:16 p.m.

A member of the public asked why the netting would be horizontal instead of vertical.

Mr. Grogan reported a study to determine the trajectory of the golf balls entering the parking lot concluded vertical and horizontal netting is needed.

A member of the public inquired if the netting structure would provide additional shade for the parking lot.

Mr. Grogan stated the netting will not provide additional shade; however, all of the trees, except one, will remain in the parking lot, and tree limb removal will be minimal.

A neighbor to the preserve spoke in favor of the protective structure.

Public comment closed at 2:25 p.m.

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Harris seconded the motion confirm and recommend Board approval of a proposed Use and Management Plan Amendment for construction of a net canopy safety structure over the Prospect Road Parking Area.

VOTE: 2-0-0 (Director Riffle absent.)

ADJOURNMENT

Director Harris adjourned the meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 2:28 p.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, MMC
District Clerk