



# Memorandum

DATE: March 8, 2017

MEMO TO: MROSD Board of Directors

FROM: Stephen E. Abbors, General Manager

SUBJECT: Update of Implementation Actions at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

This FYI Memorandum presents a status update of the District's activities to implement Phase I Priority Actions of the Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan, which was recently approved by the Board of Directors at their January 25, 2017 meeting (R-17-15). Phase I Priority Actions are scheduled to begin between Years 1 to 3 (2017 – 2019). Some actions will be completed within this timeframe (e.g. trails and parking area); other longer-term improvements will continue into Phase II (e.g. Stables improvements):

**Table 1. Phase I Priorities**

High Priority Actions	Status	Next Steps
Road/trail upgrades and new signage to open west side of Preserve to hiking and equestrian use	Underway	Plans and specifications are underway. Initial construction (new trail construction, retaining wall) expected in summer of 2017. All road/trail construction expected to be completed by November 2018.
Alma College parking area	Underway	Completed schematic design. Presentation to PNR Committee scheduled for March 28, 2017. Pending PNR input, staff will forward design to Board for construction documentation.
Bear Creek Road trail crossing	Underway	Completed schematic designs for phased crossing (includes potential undercrossing). Presentation to PNR Committee scheduled for March 28, 2017. Pending PNR input, staff will forward design to Board for approval to complete construction documentation.
Bear Creek Stables improvements Includes: public restroom with flush toilets; stabilization of old barn; demolition of dilapidated structures; restoration and revegetation of degraded pastures; new livery stables; new public arena; drainage, health and safety improvements to	Underway	RFQP for design development issued on January 27, 2017. Target March 22, 2017 for Board award of contract.

paddocks; and site infrastructure (roads, parking)		
Water supply infrastructure	Underway	Water to be supplied by San Jose Water Company (SJWC). RFQP for design development released on January 20, 2017. Target March 22, 2017 for Board award of contract. Target August 2017 to secure SJWC water connection. Water tanks and piping servicing the Stables to follow in 2018.
Stables long-term tenant lease	Scheduled for FY17-18	Ongoing coordination with Stables Site Plan development. Target 2018 (Q4 FY17-18) for release of RFP for long-term tenant lease; requires completion of 50% design and implementation plan for Stables improvements.
Cultural resource evaluation, stabilization and enhancement plan	Underway	Cultural resource evaluation for west-side (Phase 1) sites expected to be completed by June 30, 2017.
Pond Management Plan	Underway	Consultant work is underway.
Management of bat populations	Underway	Summer 2016: Consultant completed population surveys and produced a Bat Exclusion and Habitat Replacement Plan. Summer 2017: Consult with CDFW on habitat replacement strategies. Following consultation, design and construct bat houses (or retrofit existing structures.) Winter 2017: Exclude bats from Alma College Structures.
SOD long-term management plan	Underway	Spring 2017: Pilot SOD Blitz to map distribution of impacted forest. Follow-up SOD Blitzes in 2018 to complete mapping and track trends in distribution of pathogen. FY2018-19, Prepare Preserve-specific management plan
Alma College Site Rehabilitation and Cleanup Includes: demolition and cleanup of dilapidated structures (garage, classroom, and 1950 library); site safety and security improvements; hazardous materials remediation; vegetation management; chapel stabilization; rehabilitation of shrines, lily pond, and roman plunge; interpretive elements; native plant installation	Underway	Spring 2017: Complete site safety and security improvements (repair fencing, re-secure buildings); submit demolition permit application to Santa Clara County; initiate design of stabilization measures for Chapel and 1934 Library; initiate design of alternative bat structures

Road maintenance plan and weed control	Underway	Control of weed populations along roads and trails is a 4-year effort to restore native plant communities. Year 1 initiated in Fall 2016; Year 2 begins in Fall 2017.
Retrofit structures and trails to reduce seismic risk	Underway	Spring-Summer 2017: Conduct trench study for subsidiary fault traces near Alma College structures.
Hazardous materials plan	TBD*	
Webb Creek bridge replacement	Underway	RFQP for design development released on January 26, 2017. Target March 22, 2017 for Board award of contract.
<b>Moderate/Low Priority Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
Wildlife-friendly horse water troughs	TBD*	
Picnic sites near Alma College and Stables	TBD*	Picnic sites to be included in site design
Regional trail connections	TBD*	
Rare plant population surveys and monitoring	Scheduled for FY17-18	Site-specific surveys to be completed prior to construction of road and trail improvements and other projects with potential to impact resources.
Upper Lake improvements	Scheduled for FY17-18	Proposed FY17-18 Action Plan includes engineering design of priority pond improvements.
Bear Creek Stables Lower Priority Improvements: New caretaker house, rehabilitation of barn, new hay barn, trailer parking and storage area, additional upgrades to roads, parking and boarder paddocks and arena.	TBD*	

*\*TBD projects would be initiated in either FY18-19 or FY19-20. The District's three-year capital improvement plan is currently underway, and expected start dates of capital improvements are still being confirmed.*

The Preserve Plan implementation schedule with key milestones is shown in Attachment 1. Milestones are organized by major components: (a) Bear Creek Stables, (b) Public Access, (c) Alma College, and (d) Resource Management and Restoration. The schedule starts with Board approval of the Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan and Environmental Impact Report and extends out through year 2020.

Prepared by: Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Manager  
Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager  
Jay Lin, P.E., Engineering & Construction Manager  
Brian Malone, Land & Facilities Services Manager

Attachment: March 8, 2017 Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan Implementation Diagram

# BEAR CREEK REDWOODS PRESERVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

