

Memorandum

TO: MROSD Board of Directors

THROUGH: Steve Abbors, General Manager

FROM: Ana Ruiz, Assistant General Manager

SUBJECT: Location of Public Meetings – Outreach and Civic Engagement

DATE: June 14, 2017

SUMMARY

As part of the Diversity Ad Hoc Committee's (Committee) charge, a review was completed of publicly noticed Board and Committee meetings held offsite in 2015 and 2016 to identify gaps in civic outreach and engagement within the District's jurisdiction. Based on the findings, the Committee expressed support for the General Manager's goal to focus added attention on the northern area of the District with the objective of hosting a few meetings over the next two years in this region. A review of District public meetings was identified as a Committee objective under Goal 2 of the Committee's Goals and Objectives, which states: to engage with communities through public meetings and other means to increase awareness about the District and its projects.

DISCUSSION

The following list identifies the number and location of publicly noticed Board and Committee meetings held in 2015 and 2016 in descending order by total count. This list does not include public meetings held at the Administrative Office.

Number	Location
8	Los Gatos
3	La Honda
3	Half Moon Bay
2	Los Altos
2	Palo Alto
2	East Palo Alto
1	Mountain View

As is evident in the list above and in the attached illustrative map (Attachment 1), a gap in civic outreach exists in the northern reaches of the District. This northern area includes the cities of San Carlos, Redwood City, Menlo Park, Atherton, Woodside, and Portola Valley. Based on the findings, the General Manager has set a goal of placing greater attention on identifying opportunities to host meetings over the next two years in this area, and striving to schedule the first meeting by the end of 2017. Items with a geographic nexus to local residents would be of greatest interest and benefit to these communities, including items relating to Pulgas Ridge, Teague Hill, and Thornewood Open Space Preserves. Another option would be to present items of District-wide interest, which may include new policies, policy revisions, and program updates. The General Manager will work with the District Clerk and Assistant General Managers to identify items to present in the northern area.

