




Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

# Memorandum

DATE: July 26, 2017

MEMO TO: MROSD Board of Directors

FROM: Ana Ruiz, AICP, Assistant General Manager and Alicia Halpern, Planner I

THROUGH: Steve Abbors, General Manager 

SUBJECT: Minor Revision to Wording on the Save the Redwoods League Partner Signboard to be placed at Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

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This FYI Memorandum presents an update on the Save the Redwoods League (League) partner signboard project at Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (Preserve). In response to a request from the League's legal counsel, the General Manager has approved a slight amendment to the Board-approved text on the signboard frame (R-17-20). The original approved wording was as follows: "Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Save the Redwoods League Partnership". To remain consistent with Board intent for including the word "partnership" and address the League's request, the wording has been amended as follows: "Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Save the Redwoods League" (to be placed along the top edge of the frame) and "Partners in Conservation" to be placed on the bottom edge of the frame (see Attachment 1). The "Partners in Conservation" language meets the Board's desire to recognize the continual partnership with the League at the Preserve without using the word "partnership", which has a specific legal definition that does not apply.

## Background

The Preserve expanded significantly in 1984 due to a property acquisition partially funded by the League. The League's ability to designate memorial groves within the Preserve was a condition of that purchase agreement. The League requested, and the Board has authorized, the installation of a centralized recognition signboard at the west entrance of the Preserve. This new centralized signboard will reduce the number of future individual recognition signs installed in the remaining undedicated groves by 90%. Staff first presented the proposal for a centralized signboard to the Legislative, Funding & Public Affairs Committee on January 10, 2017. The Committee recommended staff proceed with a signboard frame titled "Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Save the Redwoods League Partnership." On February 22, 2017, the full Board approved the centralized signboard and frame language. The Board also authorized the General Manager to enter into an agreement with the League to formalize the Signage Plan and the League's responsibility to fund the fabrication, maintenance, and replacement of both the centralized signboard and individual signs. During the development and review of the draft agreement, the League's legal counsel stated that using the word "Partnership" had potential legal implications and the League would prefer to change the "Partnership" wording to "Partners in Conservation." District General Counsel reviewed this proposal and agreed changing the wording would be a reasonable action from a legal standpoint. Since the Board approved this

signboard, the General Manager is informing the Board of the slight wording change in the event the Board would rather have this item return for full Board review.

### **Next Steps**

Pending no further direction from the Board, the General Manager will direct staff to place the order for the signboard frame with the revised wording that includes “Partners in Conservation”. Staff will continue to work with the League to finalize the signboard content and install the signboard in the Board-approved location at the Preserve’s western entrance adjacent to the existing District signboards.

### **Attachment**

1. Updated Signboard Frame with new “Partners in Conservation” wording

**MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT  
AND SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE**

**PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION**