



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-17-124
Meeting 17-30
November 15, 2017

STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM 1

AGENDA ITEM

Open Space Vision Plan Overview

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Receive a presentation on the 2014 Open Space Vision Plan and Conservation Atlas.

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Study Session is to provide an overview of the 2014 Open Space Vision Plan (Vision Plan) and its Priority Actions, which the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors (Board) approved on January 29, 2014. At their January 24, 2017 Annual Strategic Plan Retreat, the Board reviewed the District's Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18. Several of the updated FY2017-18 goals highlighted the promotion and implementation of a regional open space vision with the community and partners that focused on conservation and environmental protection (see Attachment 1). The Board sought an informational presentation on the District's regional role with the public and with partners in implementing a shared conservation vision and goals.

This overview is to refresh the Board on the common conservation vision and goals, which are organized around five key Vision Plan themes: (a) Natural, Cultural & Scenic Landscapes, (b) Outdoor Recreation & Healthy Living, (c) Healthy Plants, Animals & Waterways, (d) Enriched Experiences and (e) Viable Working Lands. The Vision Plan process identified 54 Priority Actions in all. The Board prioritized the 54 Priority Actions into two tiers. Tier 1 Priority Actions provide the District with a more defined, nearer-term focus (during the next 20 years), while Tier 2 consists of longer-term priorities to be completed, as capacity and resources allow. In June 2015, the District published a final Vision Plan document summarizing the process, community and stakeholder input, highlighting the key components of the Vision Plan. The final Vision Plan report, along with a Summary Report, Technical Appendices and Conservation Atlas, are posted on the District website (<https://www.openspace.org/our-work/projects/vision-plan>). In addition, the District distributed the final documents to the Board, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and other stakeholders. This presentation also serves as a precursor to a future Board presentation regarding the re-prioritization of the Board approved Five-Year Measure AA projects list (R-14-130), which includes projects prioritized from the Top 25 Vision Plan Priority Actions (also known as Measure AA Portfolios) for implementation.

BACKGROUND

The District's Vision Plan Project, entitled '*Imagine the Future of Open Space*,' is a multidisciplinary effort combining scientific analysis with broad public engagement to create a shared vision for the future of the District and the region's open space. The District initiated the Vision Plan Project in August 2012, to engage the District's partners, stakeholders, and the public in a process to determine a District-wide 40-year vision for land preservation, resource management, public recreation, and working lands. The project was structured around a strategic five-phase public engagement process. An infographic demonstrates the step-by-step visioning process and how community values shaped the key conservation themes and open space priority actions (see Attachment 2).

A 32-member Community Advisory Committee (CAC) representing stakeholders and members of the community was formed to guide the Vision Plan process and provide input on the development of the priorities. The CAC held 10 public meetings during the course of the Vision Plan development. The District conducted an extensive and robust 18-month public engagement process, starting with its first public workshop on October 21, 2013 and held a total of five public workshops with over 230 attendees, plus an additional 11 Board Meetings. In addition, the District used an online participation platform MindMixer (Imagine.openspace.org) that ran concurrently with the public workshops and engaged over 450 online participants to provide input on the Themes, Goals and Priority Actions. The CAC assisted the District with rating the Priority Actions that resulted from public workshops and online rankings.

Priority Actions are the land acquisition, resource management, public access and interpretation/outdoor education projects that the District will implement in order to achieve the Vision Plan themes and goals. On January 29, 2014, the Board approved 54 Vision Plan Priority Actions which were prioritized as Tier 1 (Top 25 high-priority priority actions) and Tier 2 (29 additional priority actions) (R-14-25). These Priority Actions captured the priorities expressed through the public engagement process (see Attachment 3). A map depicting the geographic distribution of the 54 Vision Plan Priority Actions is presented in Attachment 4.

Completion of the Vision Plan enabled the District to develop a Capital Expenditure Plan, which formed the basis for the \$300 Million for the Measure AA bond measure and the ballot language for Measure AA (MAA). Following the successful passage of MAA measure, the District used the Top 25 Vision Plan Priority Actions to develop the Five-Year MAA Projects List, Annual Budget and Action Plan as well as the Three-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the Board's consideration.

Following Board's 2014 approval of the priority actions, the District held one additional meeting with the CAC to review the status of the Vision Plan and future tasks required to complete the project. The CAC determined that there was no need to continue the CAC meetings during the Vision Plan implementation. In June 2014, the District completed the Final Vision Plan documents, which included a final report, technical appendices, Summary report and Conservation Atlas. The Summary report is included as Attachment 5.

Vision Plan Implementation

Implementation of the recommended Vision Plan Priority Actions will occur over the next 30-40 years, where the pace of implementation is determined by available funding and resources. With

the publicly-supported MAA funding measure, the District is able to accelerate the pace of implementation, where the additional funding would be directed at the 25 first tier Vision Plan Priority Actions (also known as MAA Portfolios). The second tier 29 Vision Plan Priority Actions would be considered as part of the Annual Action Plan and Budget development process, where capacity and resources allow. In addition, the District would need to address policy development prior to carrying out certain priority actions. Expected policy issues for board discussions include types of multiuse trails, appropriate situations for dog access in preserves, situations appropriate for public access to certain sensitive natural areas, and types of partnerships with cities and other agencies. Conditions and opportunities present in any given year influence how annual Action Plan and CIP priorities are set by the Board of Directors.

Since the Board's approval of the Vision Plan Priority Actions in January 2014, the District has been working towards the fourth year of Vision Plan implementation. In alignment with the Board-adopted priorities or "big rocks" in the FY2017-18 Annual Action Plan and Budget, the District has completed or will be completing key accomplishments associated with the Vision Plan implementation, including but not limited to these four Vision Plan Priority Actions/MAA Portfolios:

- **Vision Plan Priority Action (MAA Portfolio) #23: *Sierra Azul: Mt Umunhum public access and interpretation projects***: The District completed new land conservation, public access trails and Summit improvements, and restoration plantings at Mount Umunhum. Implementation of Priority Action #23 fulfills four of the five Vision Plan themes, including: Enriched Experiences, Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living, Natural, Cultural and Scenic Landscapes, and Healthy Nature.
- **Vision Plan Priority Action (MAA Portfolio) #7: *La Honda Creek: Driscoll Ranch access, endangered wildlife protection, and conservation grazing projects***: The District has been completing a number of priority actions at La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve, associated with stewardship priorities, such as sedimentation reduction and erosion control of the roads and trails and grazing infrastructure improvements in the southern portion of the preserve. In addition, the District is completing new trails and parking area at Sears Ranch Road. Implementation of Priority Action #7 fulfills all five Vision Plan themes, including: Enriched Experiences, Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living, Natural, Cultural and Scenic Landscapes, Healthy Nature, and Viable Working Lands.
- **Vision Plan Priority Action (MAA Portfolio) #21: *Bear Creek Redwoods: public recreation and interpretation projects***: Concurrently, the District has been completing a number of priority actions at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve, following the Board's approval of the Preserve Plan and Environmental Impact Report in January 2017. The District is completing roads and trails improvements for the western side of the preserve, new parking area and pedestrian crossing at Bear Creek Road adjacent to the former Alma College site, and extensive invasive vegetation management in the preserve for the targeted opening of the preserve in late 2018. Implementation of Priority Action #21 fulfills four of the five Vision Plan themes, including: Enriched Experiences, Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living, Natural, Cultural and Scenic Landscapes, and Healthy Nature.

- **Vision Plan Priority Action (MAA Portfolio) #2: *Regional: Bayfront habitat protection and public access partnerships*:** Following the completion of the conceptual trail design and environmental review document, the District has been working towards securing the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's approval of the trail easement agreement for the Ravenswood Bay trail connection project. The District has completed 50% designs and is securing regulatory permits for the construction of the new 0.6-mile trail connection from University Avenue to the existing Bay trail at Ravenswood Open Space Preserve. In addition, the District is partnering with the City of East Palo Alto on the completion of the improvements at Cooley Landing Park, where Measure AA funding will be used to partially fund the completion of these public access improvements. Implementation of Priority Action #2 fulfills four of the five Vision Plan themes, including: Enriched Experiences, Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living, Natural, Cultural and Scenic Landscapes, and Healthy Nature.

Future Review and Updates of the Vision Plan

The District recommends an overall review and update of the Vision Plan be conducted in 10 years following the 2014 approval, where the update process would anticipate to start in 2023-2024. At that time, additional funding and resources will be needed to engage the public and stakeholders in an update process. Each year the District Board and staff have an opportunity to fine-tune the implementation schedule for the Vision Plan Tier 1 and Tier 2 Priority Actions as part of the Annual Action Plan and Budget process and the Three-Year CIP process.

FISCAL IMPACT

The project is within budget. No increase to the FY2017-18 budget is anticipated. Budget approval for implementing Priority Actions will be considered during the annual Action Plan and Budget and Three-Year CIP development. The estimated order of magnitude cost of implementing the twenty-five (25) Vision Plan Tier 1 Priority Actions is approximately \$300 Million.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

Due to the district-wide significance of the Vision Plan, the General Manager recommended a presentation of the Vision Plan to the full Board. The District will present this Vision Plan Overview to communities in the northern jurisdiction of the District's boundaries, as part of fulfilling the Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee's goals for extending outreach to communities that the Board has not had opportunities to engage with and/or hear from these voices since the Vision Plan process.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice was provided pursuant to the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

A review of the Vision Plan does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Any necessary environmental review required by CEQA shall be completed before any specific project is commenced.

NEXT STEPS

The District will be updating the Measure AA 5-Year Projects List and presenting a draft list of proposed new Measure AA projects to the Board in early 2018 to inform the Board's future discussions at their Annual Strategic Plan Board Retreat and Prioritization Board Retreat in early 2018.

Attachment

1. FY2017-18 Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives
2. Vision Plan Infographic
3. January 29, 2014 Board Report (R-14-25)
4. Map of 54 Vision Plan Priority Actions
5. Summary Report of Open Space Vision Plan

Responsible Department Heads:

Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Manager

Casey Hiatt, GIS Administrator

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager

Prepared by:

Same

Contact person:

Same



Long Ridge Open Space Preserve

Kevin Neilson



Monte Bello Open Space Preserve

Jack Gescheidt



Attachment 1

Ravenswood Open Space Preserve

Ellie Van Houtte

Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2017-18

Goal 1 – Promote, establish, and implement a common environmental protection vision with partners

- Objective 1 – Review, and if needed refine, the District's Vision Plan
- Objective 2 – Build and strengthen diverse partnerships to implement a collaborative approach to environmental protection on the Peninsula, South Bay and San Mateo Coast
- Objective 3 – Implement and communicate progress on the District's Vision Plan
- Objective 4 – Build and strengthen relationships with legislators to advocate environmental protection goals

Goal 2 – Connect people to open space and a regional environmental protection vision

- Objective 1 – Communicate the purpose of the regional environmental protection vision to help guide future decisions and to clarify and strengthen the District's regional role with the public and partners
- Objective 2 – Refine and implement a comprehensive public outreach strategy, including the engagement of diverse communities and enhanced public education programs
- Objective 3 – Develop and implement strategies to accommodate an expanding public use of District preserves consistent with environmental protection vision

Goal 3 – Strengthen organizational capacity to fulfill the mission

- Objective 1 – Provide the necessary resources, tools, and infrastructure, including technology upgrades and capacity building to meet project commitments
- Objective 2 – Continuously improve recent process and business model changes to effectively and efficiently deliver Vision Plan projects and the District's ongoing functions
- Objective 3 – Reflect the changing community we serve in the District's visitors, staff, volunteers, and partners

Goal 4 – Position the District for long-term financial sustainability to fulfill the District's mission on behalf of the public

- Objective 1 – Continue to engage constituents for bond sales and via the work of the Bond Oversight Committee
- Objective 2 – Pursue discretionary funding opportunities and partnerships to augment operating, capital, and bond funding sources
- Objective 3 – Ensure large capital expenses and land acquisitions are evaluated within the long-term financial model and remain financially sustainable



Monte Bello Open Space Preserve

Karl Gohl



IMAGINE *the Future of* YOUR Open Space

Why a Vision Plan?

Midpen set out to chart a course for the next 40 years and beyond with *Imagine the Future of Open Space*, an 18-month visioning process designed to help focus, inspire, and coordinate open space conservation and management on the San Francisco Peninsula, San Mateo Coast, and South Bay regions.

1 Community Advisory Committee



A 32 member Community Advisory Committee was formed representing stakeholders to track and guide the Vision Plan process.

2 Community Conversations

Midpen staff and volunteers set out to gain input from the public on their vision of open space by conducting interviews on Midpen lands, at community gatherings, and on the web.

Over **700** in-person interviews conducted

"What is your vision of open space?"

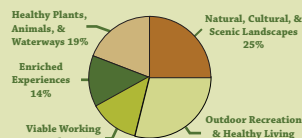
"Trails and open space allow me to get out of the city, recharge and enjoy creation."



What we heard

interpretive access open space habitats restoration watershed complete projects public connections bay creek trails projects public bay regional fencing ridge wildlife parking fish corridor multi-use improve grasslands provide protect

Themes in Community Conversations



3 Conservation & Recreation Needs

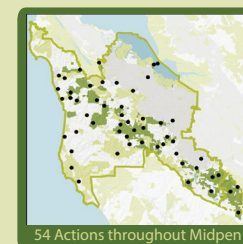
To complement the community conversations, Midpen researched conservation needs and recreational opportunities within the Vision Plan area.

Global Biodiversity Hotspots



4 Future Open Space Actions Throughout Midpen

The public input and research were used to develop a list of 54 actions to achieve the community's vision of open space on the Peninsula.



5 Public Participation & Action Prioritization

7 public workshops and hearings

Over **400** attendees

Over **600** online participants



6 Top 25 Future Open Space Priority Actions

Input from the public workshops and web polls were used to identify the Top 25. In February 2014, the Midpen Board of Directors approved the final Vision Plan actions and their prioritization. Midpen plans to focus initial efforts on completing these Top 25, as the next step towards your vision of the future of open space lands.

To explore the individual Top 25 Future Open Space Actions visit: www.openspace.org/vision



The Top 25 will:

Add **200 miles+** of new trails

Open **20,000+ acres**

Protect **Redwood Forests**

Ensure **clean water & salmon habitat**



www.openspace.org



Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

R-14-25
Meeting 14-04
January 29, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 1

AGENDA ITEM

Vision Plan Priority Actions

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve a two tier grouping of the Vision Plan Priority Actions as provided in Attachment 1.

SUMMARY

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) initiated the Vision Plan Project in August 2012 to engage the District's partners, stakeholders, and the public in a process to determine a District-wide 40 year vision for land preservation, resource management, public recreation, and working lands. With the completion of the Deliberation phase of the Vision Plan process, the District is now entering the Deciding phase whereby the Board will consider prioritizing the fifty-four (54) projects that emerged from the Vision Plan process into two "tiers". The first tier includes twenty-three (23) top priority (nearer-term) projects and the second tier includes thirty-one (31) lower priority (longer-term) projects. Of the lower priority 31 projects, the Board asked to review an addition six (6) second tier projects for possible inclusion in the first tier. The rationale and recommendations for placement in the tiers is discussed below. The two tiers capture the priorities expressed through the public engagement process and will inform the General Manager's annual Action Plan and Budget recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Implementation of the recommended Vision Plan Priority Actions will occur over the next 30-40 years and the pace of implementation will be determined by available funding. In the event that the District pursues a public funding measure to accelerate the pace of implementation, it is anticipated that such additional funding would be directed at the 23 first tier projects. A variety of other generally smaller projects, in addition to selected Vision Plan Priority Actions, will comprise each annual Action Plan. Conditions and opportunities present in any given year will influence how those annual Action Plan priorities are set by the Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION

The District's Vision Plan Project, entitled 'Imagine the Future of Open Space,' is a multidisciplinary effort combining scientific analysis with broad public engagement to create a shared vision for the future of the District and the region's open space. The project has been structured around a strategic five-phase public engagement process represented by the acronym SHEDD: Getting Started, Hearing the voices, Enriching the conversation, Deliberating, and Deciding. The District is now poised to complete the final phase of this process, Deciding. The resources and effort that has been dedicated to the Vision Plan project, including consultations with District staff, outreach to partners, the public at large, and the Community Advisory Committee, and exhaustive review of resource data has

culminated in a list of high priority actions. The priority actions are spread across the District and represent a 40 year vision for land preservation, resource management, public recreation, and working lands on the Peninsula, San Mateo Coast, and South Bay regions within the District's boundaries. On January 14, 2014, the Board reviewed the public input received on the Vision Plan Goals and Priority Actions as well as the analysis conducted by District staff and technical consultants on how well the Priority Actions deliver the Vision Plan Goals.

Two Tier Recommendation

The Vision Plan process identified 54 Priority Actions in all. The General Manager recommends categorizing the 54 Priority Actions into two tiers (Attachment 1). Tier 1 Priority Actions would provide the District with a more defined, nearer-term focus (during this next 20 years), while Tier 2 would consist of longer-term priorities.

The Vision Plan establishes a long-term, publicly-vetted path to guide the District into the future to fulfill its overarching mission. Even with this Vision Plan in place, the District will remain flexible so that it can respond to new opportunities as they arise. The Board of Directors has the discretion during annual Action Plan and Budget review to revise project priorities or add new projects for the next fiscal year in response to change conditions and opportunities.

Of the 54 Priority Actions, the General Manager is recommending 23 Priority Actions for Tier 1. These projects have received the greatest level of public support and meet the largest number of Vision Plan goals based on the planning and scientific analysis work (Attachments 1 and 2).

The recommended Tier 1 Priority Actions were determined by evaluating all 54 of the Priority Actions across the following four metrics:

- 1) Level of public support given through the public deliberation meetings;
- 2) Level of public support given through Mindmixer;
- 3) Level of support given by the Community Advisory Committee; and/or
- 4) Level of success and beneficial impact in implementing the Goals for the Vision Plan.

A Priority Action was identified as Tier 1 if it rated highly by three of these four metrics (in the upper quartile of the rated results). Also, in order to ensure a wide distribution of Tier 1 projects across the District's jurisdiction, Priority Actions that were rated the highest in any one of these metrics, in each subregion, were also included in the Tier 1 list.

Evaluation of Board Identified Priority Actions

During the January 14, 2014 Board workshop on the Vision Plan project, the Board identified six (6) additional Priority Actions beyond the original 23 for their potential inclusion into Tier 1. The rating results for these 6 Priority Actions is presented in Attachments 1 and 2.

Staff did not include these six Priority Actions in Tier 1 because they did not meet the evaluation standards outlined above of having been rated highly by three of the four metrics (in the upper quartile of the rated results) or rated highest in any one of the metrics in the subregion where it is located. There are a few additional points for the Board to consider in reviewing these Priority Actions:

- Priority Actions 08 (Sierra Azul: Fire Management), 25 (Major Roadway Signage), 30 (Rancho San Antonio: Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing, and Transit Solutions), and 40 (Skyline Subregion: Fire Management and Forest Restoration Projects) were not rated by the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) because of time limits for the meeting during which the CAC was

rating the Priority Actions. However, even if these Priority Actions were rated by the CAC and rated highly, this would not have resulted in any of these Priority Actions accumulating at least 3 high ratings in the Public Deliberation Process. These Priority Actions did not rate high in the technical analysis because of their limited ability to deliver the goals for the Vision Plan.

- Priority Action 25 (Major Roadway Signage) was not included in the Priority Actions taken to the Public Deliberation Meetings or the CAC, again because of time limits for these meetings. However, this Priority Action was rated online, where it received a low score.
- Priority Actions 18 (South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor) and 30 (Rancho San Antonio: Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing, and Transit Solutions) received relatively high point values for their online rating.

Although none of these six priority actions meets the Tier 1 evaluation standards as described above, Priority Actions 18 and 30 (South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor and Rancho San Antonio: Interpretive Improvements, Refurbishing, and Transit Solutions) could be considered for Tier 1 based on other factors or policy considerations such as geographic distribution, proximity to urban centers, and usage, in addition to their relatively high point values for their online rating.

FISCAL IMPACT

The project is well within budget, having expended \$184,000 of the \$282,900 budgeted for the planning and analysis tasks and \$155,000 of the \$180,000 budgeted for the public engagement tasks. No increase to the FY2013-14 budget is anticipated.

Budget approval for implementing Priority Actions will be considered during the annual Action Plan and Budget development. The estimated order of magnitude cost of implementing the twenty three (23) Vision Plan Tier 1 Priority Actions is approximately \$312 Million.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Board waived Committee review of this project in lieu of full Board engagement. Over the course of the Project, the General Manager has provided the Board of Directors with regular Vision Plan progress updates, as summarized below:

Board Meeting Date	Topic	Board Report(s)
January 15, 2013 February 27, 2013	Phase 1: "Getting Started"	R-13-08, R-13-09 R-13-10, R-13-32
March 13, 2013 June 12, 2013	Phase 2: "Hearing the Voices"	R-13-33, R-13-57
July 24, 2013	Phase 3: "Enriching the Conversation"	R-13-66, R-13-70
October 2, 2013 January 14, 2014	Phase 4: "Deliberating"	R-13-89, R-14-18

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice was provided pursuant to the Brown Act. Notice was also sent to the interested parties list for this project.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

The Vision Plan does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Any necessary environmental review required by CEQA shall be completed before any specific project is commenced.

NEXT STEPS

February 5, 2014

The Board's decision on Tier 1 Priority Actions at the January 29, 2014 meeting will form the basis for an Expenditure Plan which the Board will consider in tandem with the possibility of placing a Funding Measure on the June 2014 ballot.

February 26, 2014

The Board will make a final decision on placing a Funding Measure on the June 2014 ballot.

Following Board's decision on the action recommended by the General Manager in this Board Report, staff will prepare a current status summary report of the Vision Planning process that describes the methodology used and final tiering results. During the remainder of FY2013-14, work on completing the final Vision Plan deliverables will continue, but at a reduced pace, as key staff members will be focused on completing other Action Plan items as well as supporting the District's informational role related to a potential funding measure, if approved by the Board (Attachment 3 – Vision Plan Timeline).

In addition to the summary report, written materials based on the Vision Plan will be prepared to inform partners, stakeholders, and the public. The Community Advisory Committee will also hold at least one additional meeting to review the status of the Vision Plan and future tasks required to complete the project.

As the District moves into Vision Plan implementation, most Priority Actions will require detailed planning and design work. For many of the Actions, the detailed project level work will require development and/or refinement of applicable Board policies. The Board's deliberation on policy issues (such as types of multi-use trails in specific preserves, camping, or types of partnerships with cities and other agencies) is expected to occur in the context of specific projects where the Board's deliberation will be informed by the best available science and data. The final Vision Plan document will describe the need for future Board policy development as part of the implementation of specific Priority Actions.

Attachment

1. Priority Action List with Associated Tiers and Potential Tier Categories
2. Map of Tier 1 and 2 Priority Actions with Associated Ratings
3. Vision Plan Timeline with June 2014 Funding Measure

Responsible Department Head:

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Manager

Prepared by:

Same

Contact person:

Same

Attachment 1: Priority Action List with Associated Tiers and Ratings

Underlined items indicate top scores in each region

yes = top in subregion and highly rated in ≥ 3 categories; yes = top in subregion and highly rated in < 3 categories.

yes = top in subregion and highly rated in ≥ 3 categories; yes = top in subregion and highly rated in < 3 categories.							Workshop Results			CAC Results									
Title							Wkshp Results (>7.5)	Online (Top 25%)	CAC Results (>7.5)	Highly Rated Goals	Sum	Top in Region	N	Avg	Div	Online Points	N	Avg	Div
Tier 1	01 - Sierra Azul: Loma Prieta Area Public Access, Regional Trails, and Habitat Projects						<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	1	1	4	yes	69	<u>8.2</u>	27	<u>158</u>	21	8.2	8
	04 - Sierra Azul: Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects						1	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	1	4	yes	68	8	23	<u>159</u>	21	<u>8.9</u>	9
	07 - Sierra Azul: Rancho de Guadalupe Family Recreation and Interpretive Projects								1	<u>1</u>	2	yes	70	6.8	20	83	21	8.5	8
	10 - Sierra Azul: Cathedral Oaks Public Access and Conservation Projects						1	1	1	1	4		70	7.6	22	124	21	7.8	11
	11 - Bear Creek Redwoods: Public Recreation and Interpretive Projects						1		1	<u>1</u>	3	yes	65	8.1	22	76	21	8	15
	16 - South Bay Foothills: Wildlife Passage and Ridge Trail Improvements						<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>		2	yes	64	<u>8.6</u>	18	94	21	<u>8.6</u>	14
	17 - El Sereno: Dog Trails & Connections							<u>1</u>			1	yes	66	6.8	31	<u>193</u>	21	6.6	26
	23 - Peninsula/South Bay Cities: Partner to Complete Middle Stevens Creek Trail							<u>1</u>	1		2	yes	34	6.7	41	<u>133</u>	21	8	18
	27 - Regional: Complete Upper Stevens Creek Trail						<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	1	4	yes	97	<u>8.1</u>	29	<u>141</u>	21	<u>8.1</u>	13
	32 - Windy Hill: Trail Improvements - Preservation - and Hawthorns Area Historic Partnership						1	1	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	4	yes	102	7.7	36	107	21	<u>8.1</u>	17
	34 - Regional: Bayfront Habitat Protection and Public Access Partnerships						<u>1</u>	1	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	4	yes	34	<u>7.6</u>	38	109	21	<u>9.1</u>	5
	38 - Long Ridge: Trail, Conservation, and Habitat Restoration Projects						1	1	1	1	4		83	7.7	20	114	21	8	13
	46 - Russian Ridge: Public Recreation - Grazing - and Wildlife Protection Projects						<u>1</u>		1	1	3	yes	83	<u>8</u>	19	96	21	8.7	11
	47 - Coal Creek: Reopen Alpine Road for Trail Use						1	<u>1</u>		1	3	yes	85	7.8	27	<u>127 #</u>	21	6.9	17
	48 - La Honda Creek/Russian Ridge: Preservation of Upper San Gregorio Watershed & Ridge Trail Completion						<u>1</u>		1		2	yes	82	<u>8</u>	25	82	21	8.3	10
	51 - La Honda Creek: Upper Area Recreation - Habitat Restoration and Conservation Grazing Projects						<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	3	yes	84	<u>8</u>	23	97	21	<u>9.1</u>	9
	52 - El Corte de Madera Creek: Bike Trail and Water Quality Projects						1	1	1	1	4		85	7.5	28	138	21	7.4	14
	55 - Regional: Redwood Protection and Salmon Fishery Conservation						1		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	3	yes	24	7.5	19	52	21	<u>8.3</u>	12
	56 - Regional: Trail Connections and Campgrounds						<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>		2	yes	24	<u>8.4</u>	15	<u>69</u>	21	<u>8.3</u>	16
	58 - Cloverdale Ranch: Wildlife Protection, Grazing, and Trail Connections						1			<u>1</u>	2	yes	30	7.8	29	52	19	7.4	21
	64 - La Honda Creek: Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife Protection, & Conservation Grazing						<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	3	yes	28	<u>9</u>	10	<u>86</u>	19	<u>8.1</u>	25
	67 - Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisima-to-Sea Trail Watershed Protection & Conservation Grazing						<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	3	yes	30	<u>8.3</u>	30	<u>98</u>	19	<u>8.7</u>	7
	74 - Miramontes Ridge: Gateway to the Coast Public Access, Stream Restoration, & Agriculture Enhancement						1		1	1	3		31	7.6	30	65	19	7.6	21

							Workshop Results			CAC Results									
Title							Wkshp Results (>7.5)	Online (Top 25%)	CAC Results (>7.5)	Highly Rated Goals	Sum	Top in Region	N	Avg	Div	Online Points	N	Avg	Div
Potential Inclusion into Tier 1	08 - Sierra Azul: Fire Management						1				1		70	7.5	18	68			
	18 - South Bay Foothills: Saratoga-to-Sea Trail and Wildlife Corridor							1	1		2		65	7.4	32	101	21	8.1	10
	25 - Major Roadway Signage**										0					16			
	30- Rancho San Antonio: Intrepretive Improvements - Refurbishing - and Transit Solutions							1			1		101	5.6	40	130			
	39 - Skyline Ridge: Education Facilities - Trailsand Wildlife Conservation Projects								1	1	2		84	6.4	33	51	21	7.9	16
	40 - Skyline Subregion: Fire Management and Forest Restoration Projects										0		84	6.5	30	48			

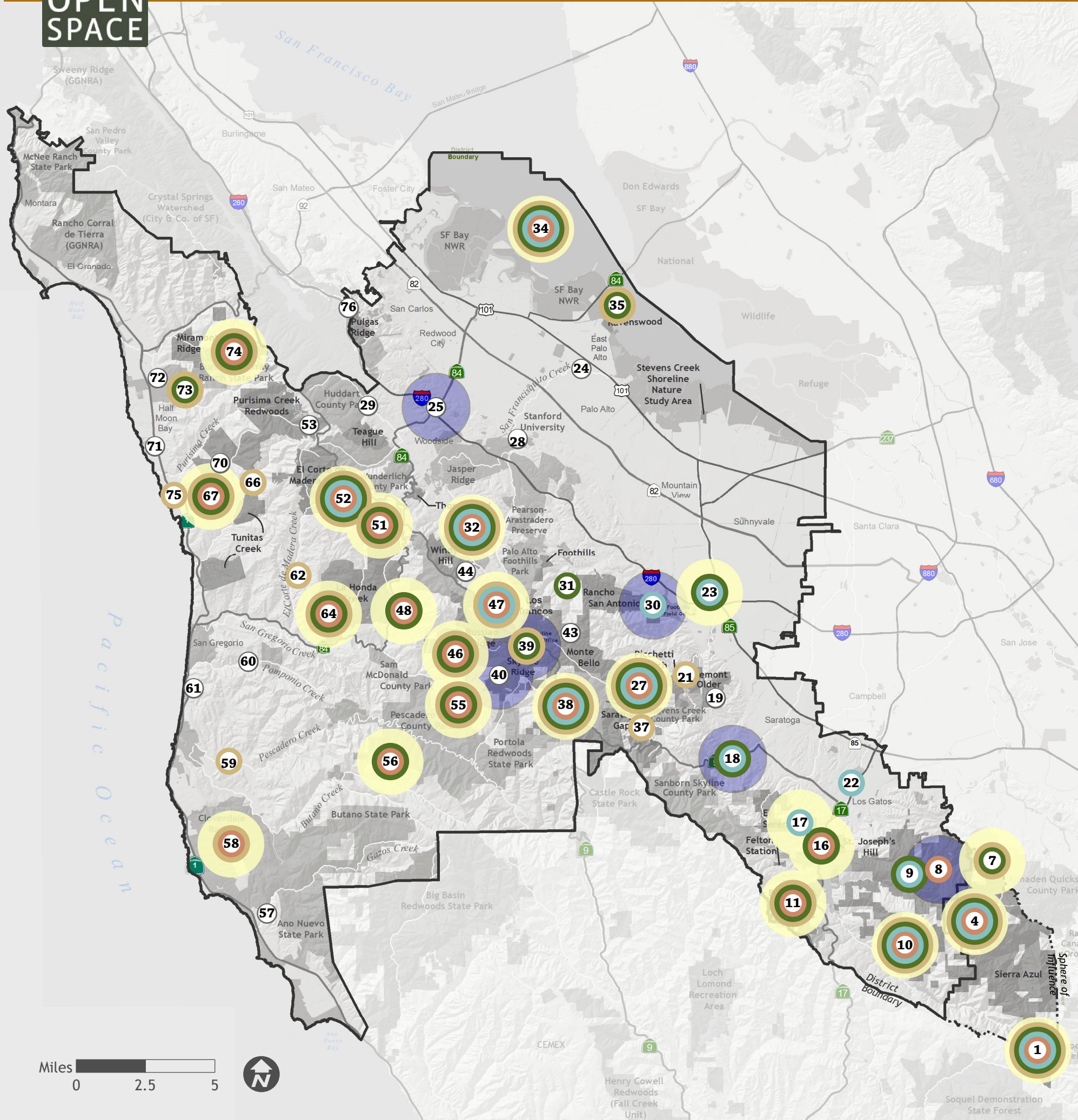
Attachment 1: Priority Action List with Associated Tiers and Ratings

								Workshop Results				CAC Results		
								N	Avg	Div		N	Avg	Div
Tier 2	Title	Wkshp Results (>7.5)	Online (Top 25%)	CAC Results (>7.5)	Highly Rated Goals	Sum	Top in Region				Online Points			
	19 - Fremont Older: Historic Woodhills Restoration & Overall Parking Improvements					0		66	5.8	23	60			
	21 - Picchetti Ranch: Family Nature Play Program				1	1		66	6.1	15	39	21	6.8	25
	22 - Peninsula/South Bay Cities: Los Gatos Creek Trail Connections		1			1		34	4.4	32	120	21	7.2	21
	24 - Peninsula/South Bay Cities: San Francisquito Creek Restoration Partnership					0		34	4.9	34	58			
	28 - Collaborate to Restore San Francisquito Creek Fish Habitat**					0					67			
	29 - Teague Hill: West Union Crk Watershed Restoration Partnership**					0					39			
	31- Rancho San Antonio: Hidden Villa Access and Preservation Projects			1		1		102	5.6	46	73	21	8	15
	35 - Ravenswood: Cooley Landing Nature Center Partnership			1	1	2		34	6.2	42	37	21	8.8	18
	37 - Saratoga Gap: Stevens Canyon Ranch Family Food Education Projects				1	1		83	4.9	25	22	21	6.8	22
	43 - Monte Bello: Campfire Talks & Habitat Projects**					0					27			
	44 - Regional: San Andreas Fault Interpretive Trail Program					0		102	5.8	36	61	21	6.9	17
	53 - Purisima Creek Redwoods: Parking and Repair Projects					0		86	5.8	32	63			
	57 - Gazos Creek Watershed: Preserve Redwoods, Fish & Add Trails**					0					68	21	7.4	25
	59 - Lower Pescadero Creek: Watershed Preservation & Conservation Grazing				1	1		30	7.1	36	39	19	6.9	28
	60 - Lower Pomponio Creek: Watershed Preservation and Grazing**					0					38			
	61 - Advocate to Protect Coastal Vistas**					0					44			
	62 - La Honda Creek/El Corte Madera Creek: San Gregorio Watershed and Agriculture Preservation Projects				1	1		30	7.4	26	41	21	6.9	26
	66 - Tunitas Creek: Additional Watershed Preservation & Conservation Grazing				1	1		30	7.2	28	32	20	6.8	25
	70 - Miramontes Ridge/Purisima Creek Redwoods: Fire Management and Risk Reductions					0		30	6.6	30	41			
	71 - Advocate to Protect Coastal Vistas**					0					40			
	72 - Miramontes Ridge/Purisima Creek Redwoods: Coastside Environmental Education Partnerships					0		31	5.6	40	26			
	73 - Miramontes Ridge/Purisima Crk Rdwds: Mills Creek/Arroyo Leon Watershed, Stream Restoration, & Trails			1	1	2		31	7.1	29	59	19	7.5	12
	75 - Regional: Support CA Coastal Trail				1	1		31	6.9	43	74	19	7.4	23
	76 - Pulgas Ridge: Regional and Neighborhood Trail Extensions					0		102	6.7	38	98	20	6.9	19

** : Not rated at the public workshops
*** : CAC did not rate all actions on 12/18/13
: Same participant generated action also received 119 points



Attachment 2: Priority Action Tiers and Ratings



Highly Rated Priority Actions

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Public Meeting | Community Advisory Committee |
| Online Rating | Goals Accomplished |

Tier 1 and Potential Actions

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Tier 1 Priority Actions | Potential Tier 1 |
|-------------------------|------------------|

IMAGINE *the Future of Open Space*



Attachment 3: Vision Plan Timeline with June 2014 Funding Measure

January

February

March

April - November

Board Workshop

Jan 14, 2014

Public Process Results

Board Workshop

Jan 29, 2014

Priority Action Adoption

Vision Plan Document Development

**Current
Status
Summary
Report**

Board Meeting

November 2014

Final Vision Plan
Document

**Vision
Plan
Project**

**Funding
Measure**

Board Workshop

Feb 5, 2014

Tracking Poll Results
Draft Expenditure Plan

Special Meeting

March 5, 2014

(Meeting will be held
if needed)

**June 2014
Election**

Board Meeting

Feb 12, 2014

Reading of Ordinance #1
(includes Expenditure Plan)
Tax Rate Statement

Deliverables to County

March 7, 2014

Last Board Action

Feb 26, 2014

Reading of Ordinance #2
(includes Expenditure Plan)
Tax Rate Statement



2014 Vision Plan Summary

www.openspace.org/vision



IMAGINE
the Future of Open Space

Table of Contents

2 Overview

4 Community Engagement

6 The Research behind the Vision Plan

8 The Vision: Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living

10 The Vision: Cultural and Scenic Landscape Preservation

12 The Vision: Healthy Nature

14 The Vision: Connecting with Nature and Each Other

16 The Vision: Viable Working Lands

17 Vision Plan Priority Action Portfolios

18 The Vision Plan Is

19 Acknowledgments

Overview

ABOUT

Since its founding by voter initiative in 1972, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen, District) has successfully protected over 62,000 acres of open space in San Mateo, Santa Clara and a small portion of Santa Cruz counties. These lands are located in 26 preserves where local residents hike, bike, run, take docent-led tours and enjoy the spectacular forests, baylands, ridgelines and mountains of the Silicon Valley. These preserves are also home to 90 rare native species that live in a range of diverse and sensitive habitats including redwood forests, rugged peaks, agricultural lands, marshlands, creeks and watersheds.

The mission of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is to acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically-sensitive public enjoyment and education.

ADAPTING to CHANGE

In 2012, as Midpen celebrated its 40th anniversary, its Board of Directors recognized that the District was at an important juncture in its history. In its first 40 years, Midpen had focused on acquiring land, often just ahead of massive development projects throughout the region. Over the same period, the region’s social landscape had changed dramatically, both in terms of its demographics and in its social values and priorities:

- Due to a growing interest in healthy lifestyles, visits to the preserves doubled between 1995 and 2010. People lived and worked in cities, but they played, recharged and stayed healthy in open space.
- Opportunities to partner with state parks, cities, counties, other special districts and nonprofits were on the rise.
- Silicon Valley continued to be a magnet for talented workers from around the country and the world. Not only was the region’s population growing, it was growing more diverse.

1990–2010 Population Changes in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties

	San Mateo County	Santa Clara County	Combined Population	Combined Population by Race/Ethnicity			
				Caucasian	Asian	Black	Latino
1990	649,623	1,497,577	2,147,200	1,502,882	370,883	89,945	420,203
2010	718,451	1,781,642	2,500,093	1,220,151	748,642	66,864	661,712
% Change	10.6%	19.0%	16.4%	-18.8%	101.9%	-25.7%	57.5%

“May we always have beautiful places.”

—Nonette Hanco, Midpen Founding Director

THE VISION PLAN SUMMARY

To systematically arrive at a strategic course for the future, Midpen launched *Imagine the Future of Open Space*, an 18-month visioning process to:

- Engage as many people as possible in a meaningful and structured conversation about the preservation and use of open space in the District,
- Assess critical opportunities for conservation on the San Francisco Peninsula, South Bay, and San Mateo Coastside, and
- Develop a regional vision for the future of open space.

Through a comprehensive community engagement process and a thorough resource assessment, Midpen developed **54 Priority Action Portfolios** focused on the three legs of the mission: land protection, habitat restoration and low-intensity recreation. These were prioritized by the public and approved by Midpen’s Board of Directors in January 2014 as a slate of 25 high-priority project portfolios and 29 additional portfolios to be completed as time and resources allow.

Five months later, the general public demonstrated broad community support for the Vision Plan by passing Measure AA, which authorized Midpen to issue up to \$300 million in bonds over the next 20 to 30 years to fund the hundreds of capital projects within the 25 top priority portfolios.

Experience Nature in Your “Backyard”

Midpen offers free activities for people of all ages. Preserves are open **365** days a year and feature:

- 225** miles of trail for hikers, bikers and horseback riders,
- Environmental education programs like the David C. Daniels Nature Center,
- Robust volunteer and docent programs, with over **500** people who contribute **19,000** hours of their time per year, and
- Over **300** free guided activities per year.

Open Space

Is defined as land that:

Remains in or returns to its natural state and may also include ecologically-sensitive agricultural land,

Protects areas of scenic beauty and preserves natural habitat,

Provides essential life support systems that remove air and water pollution, produce oxygen and mitigate climate change,

Offers opportunities for education, recreation, and renewal of spirit,

Establishes boundaries for urban growth, and

Enhances regional quality of life.

Community Engagement: The People behind the Vision Plan

A variety of constituent groups brought key knowledge to this 18-month conversation through a **32-member Community Advisory Committee** of:

- Local elected officials,
- Community leaders and advocates,
- Conservation and environmental partners,
- Amah Mutsun leadership,
- Hikers,
- Mountain bikers,
- Horseback riders,
- Neighbors and neighborhood associations.



Members of the CAC with Midpen Board and Staff

Local community college students and staff held **725 community conversations** with people in farmers' markets, coffee shops and preserves asking, "What is your vision for open space and why is it important to you?"

There were **38,000 page views** on the Vision Plan's civic engagement web site. A single discussion thread titled "Looking to the Future" had 1,200 comments and 4,100 views.

1,000 new social media followers joined the discussion.

40 partner organizations and associations shared their perspectives.

Altogether **2,200 community members** contributed to the Vision Plan:

- 1,000** participated in workshops and community interviews,

- 600** users registered and provided comments on the civic engagement web site, and

- 600** more participated in a telephone survey.

FINDINGS

From thousands of inputs, comments, statements and survey responses, staff identified five core themes, and associated goals which, when aggregated, represent the social values of a region that is world-renowned for its bright, diverse and forward-looking residents.

- 1. Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living (29%)
- 2. Enjoyment of Natural, Cultural and Scenic Landscapes (25%)
- 3. Healthy Nature—Plants, Animals, Lands and Waterways (19%)
- 4. Connecting with Nature and Each Other (14%)
- 5. Viable Working Lands (13%)



Telephone Survey Results

- 96% view Midpen preserves as an important public resource.
- 90% say that open space improves the quality of life for residents of the densely urban and suburban communities in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.
- 90% say that open space and trails contribute to the community's overall health and wellness.

Vision Plan Goals

Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living: Provide accessible open space lands for recreation and outdoor exercise in nature.

Cultural and Scenic Landscape Preservation: Conserve the area's scenery and rich history; provide places for escape and quiet enjoyment.

Healthy Nature: Take care of the land, air, water and soil so that plants and animals thrive and people can receive nature's benefits.

Connecting with Nature and Each Other: Provide opportunities for people to learn about and appreciate the natural environment and to connect with nature and each other.

Viable Working Lands: Provide viable working lands that reflect our agricultural heritage and provide food and jobs.

The Research behind the Vision Plan



The Vision Plan Area is the 371,000-acre area that includes Midpen lands, its jurisdiction and sphere of influence.

While the community engagement strategies were underway, a research team of staff and local experts assembled and evaluated biological, cultural, agricultural and recreational conditions within the Vision Plan Area. These studies identified critical opportunities for conservation and the open space projects that would result in maximum benefits to wildlife, plants, waterways, interpretation and education, habitat connectivity, and access.

“It’s all about connections. Connecting habitats and connecting trails.”

— Community Member

COMMUNITY INPUT + SCIENCE = VISION PLAN

By combining the results of the community engagement process with rigorous technical analyses and assessment, staff developed 54 major open space priority action portfolios. These project portfolios include hundreds of projects to preserve land, manage resources, conserve and improve agricultural lands, and provide public recreation, interpretative programs, outdoor education and nature engagement activities. The project areas were selected for maximum effectiveness, conservation values and the strength of their alignment with the community’s vision.

In three-hour workshops, held in five locations, **234 members** of the public learned about the **54 portfolios**, their conservation values, goals and associated projects. They then ranked, prioritized and voted on the portfolios in real time using handheld electronic voting pads.



Ray Hosler



Ray Hooley

Meanwhile, on Midpen's civic engagement web site, community members continued to discuss, refine, and develop their priorities. The Community Advisory Committee analyzed the data and provided additional input in its monthly meetings. Staff synthesized **18 months** of qualitative and quantitative data, and developed a ranked list of major open space project portfolios, which were reviewed, adjusted and approved in two public deliberation sessions with Midpen's Board of Directors, with over 100 public members in attendance at each meeting. On January 29, 2014, Midpen's Board of Directors approved a slate of 25 high-priority project portfolios and 29 additional portfolios to be completed as time and resources allow. These **54 Priority Action Portfolios** represent hundreds of projects that will open preserves, build trails and trail connections, improve water quality, protect the coastline, restore native vegetation, connect habitat and strengthen biodiversity.

On June 3, 2014, with a two-thirds majority, District residents approved Measure AA, a general obligation bond measure that authorizes Midpen to issue up to \$300 million in bonds over the next 20 to 30 years to fulfill the capital projects in the **Top 25 Vision Plan Priority Action Portfolios**.

THE FUTURE of OPEN SPACE

Midpen's community-driven Vision Plan will:

- Protect redwood forests,
- Ensure clean water and protect salmon habitat,
- Add over **200 miles** of new trails,
- Open **20,000 acres** of land,
- Create 13 new staging and parking areas,
- Provide outdoor education opportunities at 14 locations,
- Preserve over **50,000 acres** of additional open space,
- Enhance wetlands and ponds for rare wildlife at ten open space preserves,
- Create wildlife corridors in an increasingly urbanized region, and
- Improve ranches and rangelands at four open space preserves.



Jack Geesholt

Left to right: Jed Cyr, Nonette Hanko, Cecily Harris, Larry Hassett, Pete Siemens, Yoriko Kishimoto, and Curt Riffle

—See page 17 for a map of the Top 25 Portfolio Action Portfolios

Portfolio Highlights: Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living



Ellie Van Houtte

Sandy Sommer

Streecher Smith



The Vision: Outdoor Recreation and Healthy Living

Open an Additional 20,000 Acres of Land

Throughout the District, Midpen has lands that are closed because they still need restoration, remediation, safety features, trails and parking lots.

With support from Measure AA, over 20,000 acres will be opened to the public in La Honda Creek, Miramontes Ridge, Bear Creek Redwoods, Purisima Creek Redwoods, Russian Ridge and four areas within Sierra Azul: Mount Umunhum summit, Rancho de Guadalupe, Loma Prieta and Cathedral Oaks.

Build 200 Miles of New Trail

Trail systems will connect cities to the coast and bay and expand recreational opportunities for people of all fitness levels. In addition to the trail systems shown on the map, the Vision Plan will also:

- Expand existing trail systems in Windy Hill, Purisima Creek Redwoods, Russian Ridge, El Sereno, and Sierra Azul,
- Create new trail systems in newly-opened lands in Miramontes Ridge, La Honda Creek, and Bear Creek Redwoods,
- Enhance capacity at high-use preserves like Fremont Older and Rancho San Antonio, and
- Enhance trail systems that also serve as alternate routes to school and work.
 - Improve connections between cities and the Bay.
 - Fill in gaps to establish a continuous 70-mile stretch of the Bay Trail from Redwood City to the South Bay to Fremont.
 - Enhance transportation and recreation in neighborhoods from Mountain View to Saratoga via the Stevens Creek Trail.

“Trails and open space allow me to get out of the city, recharge, and enjoy creation.”

— Community Member



Eric Simmons



David Foote



Midpen Staff



David Tharp

Portfolio Highlights: Cultural and Scenic Landscape Preservation



Sreether Smith

Preserve scenic open space



Midpen Staff

Partner to rehabilitate Hawthorn historic area



Ray Cowan

Provide interpretive services of Mindego Ranch and Native American uses



The Vision: Cultural and Scenic Landscape Preservation

“I like to just lie on the grass under the sun and enjoy the birds chirping, the mountains and all the beauty. These are wonderful places to get away from the stresses of everyday life.”

— Community Member

The Vision Plan Area is full of hundreds of special places, unmatched sweeping views, pristine ridges, inspiring forests, unbroken coastlines and panoramic vistas that are the iconic backdrop of the Silicon Valley. Within these natural and scenic landscapes is **a human history that spans 6,000 years**. A cultural assessment found **81 culturally significant sites** on Midpen lands. These include Native American monuments and gardens, Spanish colonial travel routes, mines and logging operations of American settlers, and homes, ranchos and estates from the region’s rich and colorful local history. The Vision Plan seeks to protect these views and cultural histories, to sustain enduring connections between people and places.

Fremont Older OSP by Tim Chavez

24

Attachment 5

Protect cultural and natural resources using traditional Native American stewardship practices

Alice Cummings

29

Protect coastal views

Frances Freyberg

49

Preserve the Stevens Canyon Ranch

Carla Allen

51

Protect historic Woodhills

Midpen Staff



Attachment 5
The Conservation Value Map combines information about priority watersheds, sensitive and highly significant plant life, rare species and habitat connections—and provides visual indicators of the areas where restoration and conservation efforts will have maximum benefits.



The Vision: Healthy Nature

“These spaces are abundant with nature’s true treasures.

We should see them as jewels, not for sale.”

— Community Member

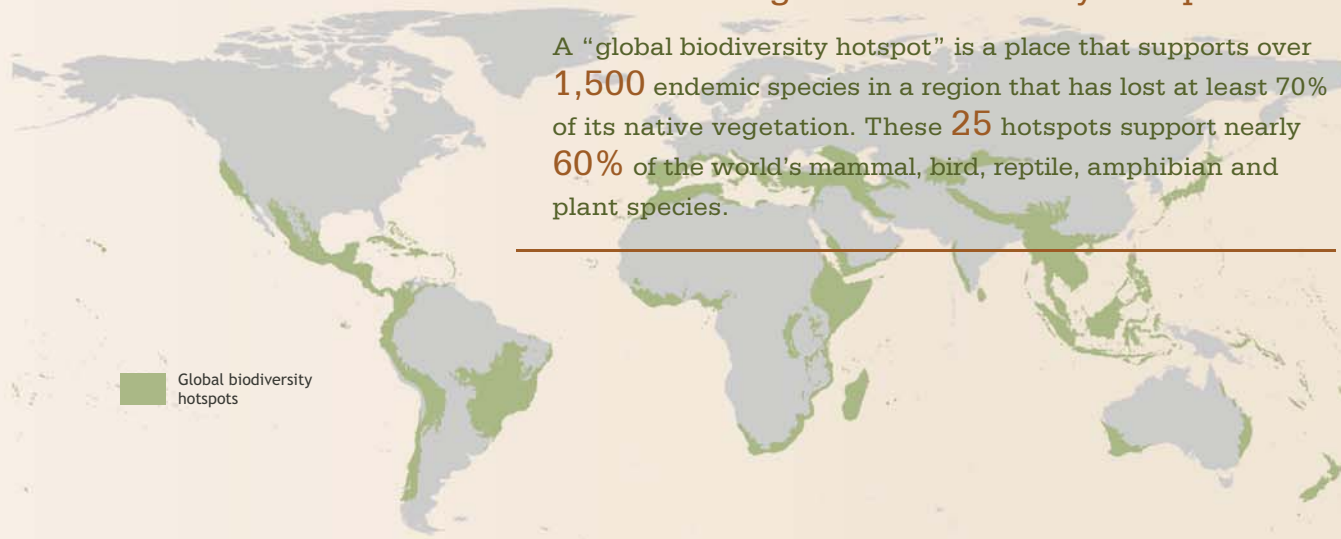
Midpen, along with private partners and other public agencies, has successfully protected much of our region’s precious greenbelt and baylands. However, many of the region’s plants, animals, lands and waterways are still at great risk. Within the Vision Plan Area:

- Nearly half of the region’s **89,315 acres** of sensitive plant communities are not protected,
- Half of the priority watersheds are not protected, and
- Native species compete with invasive species on **10,000 acres**.

The Vision Plan seeks to restore plant communities like redwood forests, repair ponds and creeks, and connect habitat. These priority actions will help plant and animal species adapt to a hotter and drier climate and will restore our wetlands, which will help protect human and wildlife communities from sea level rise.

Midpen, along with most of California, is in one of 25 global biodiversity hotspots.

A “global biodiversity hotspot” is a place that supports over **1,500** endemic species in a region that has lost at least 70% of its native vegetation. These **25** hotspots support nearly **60%** of the world’s mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian and plant species.



Deane Little



Karl Gohl



Santa Clara County Open Space Authority



Midpen Staff

Portfolio Highlights: Connecting with Nature and Each Other



The Vision: Connecting with Nature and Each Other

“Let’s get kids out from behind the computers and learning to enjoy the outdoors!”

— Community Member

Throughout the community engagement process, people talked about nature as a means to achieve personal and social goals—to improve health and wellness, to be better parents, neighbors and community members, and to instill stewardship and curiosity in their own and future generations. They want more youth programs, family outreach and greater engagement with underserved communities. They want new and different ways to participate in open space as citizen scientists, volunteers and docents; and through the use of new technologies. They want all members of the community to lead fuller, happier and healthier lives through open space.

The Vision Plan features many ways to integrate nature into people’s lives.

- **3 preserves**, Skyline Ridge, Rancho San Antonio and Ravenswood, are ideal sites for interpretation and education centers,
- **9 preserves** can feature self-guided tours of the area’s rich stories about Native American ethnobotanists, early farmers and ranchers, the legacy of mining and logging, and a full array of natural history topics, and
- **5 potential family recreation sites** were identified where people of all ages and mobility levels can enjoy picture-perfect scenery, learn about the natural world, exercise and enjoy spending time in nature with friends and family members.

Long Ridge OSP by Jim Mosher



24

Attachment 5

Family recreation and educational services

Jack Giesbrecht



38

Partner to create Cooley Landing education center

Frances Freyberg



46

Enhance environmental education centers

Mopen Staff



50

Create family nature play programs

Jack Giesbrecht

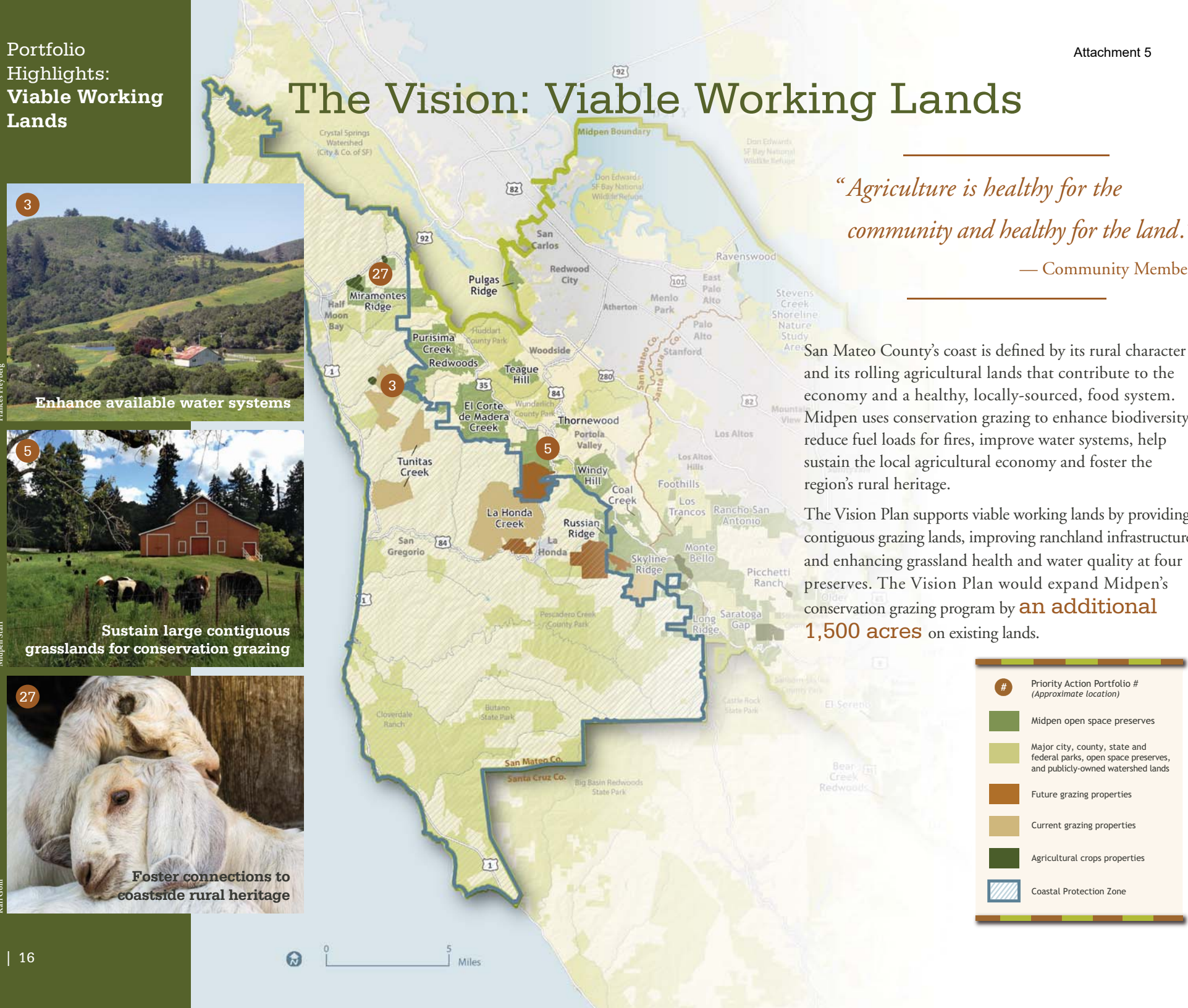
The Vision: Viable Working Lands

“Agriculture is healthy for the community and healthy for the land.”

— Community Member

San Mateo County’s coast is defined by its rural character and its rolling agricultural lands that contribute to the economy and a healthy, locally-sourced, food system. Midpen uses conservation grazing to enhance biodiversity, reduce fuel loads for fires, improve water systems, help sustain the local agricultural economy and foster the region’s rural heritage.

The Vision Plan supports viable working lands by providing contiguous grazing lands, improving ranchland infrastructure, and enhancing grassland health and water quality at four preserves. The Vision Plan would expand Midpen’s conservation grazing program by **an additional 1,500 acres** on existing lands.



Top 25 Portfolios

- Visit www.openspace.org/vision
for full descriptions of all 54 Priority Action Portfolios.



The Vision Plan Is

A living document that uses shared values and principles for open space planning.

A database of geographic information systems data that can be used for conservation planning throughout the Vision Plan Area.

A portrait of the region's incredible and diverse natural resources and people.

A model for civic engagement and organizational change.

A regional vision for open space in which all members of the community lead fuller and healthier lives through outdoor experiences and the appreciation of healthy plants, animals, lands and waterways.

“By listening to the collective wisdom of our community, we have, together, created a long-term vision for open space that protects the health of our lands, its wildlife and its people in perpetuity. In a time of changing climate, this is our contribution toward protecting our region's life support system.”

—Steve Abbors, General Manager

Acknowledgments

With thanks to everyone who participated in community conversations, focus groups, workshops, public meetings, the project web site, social media conversations and who supported the bond measure to realize the capital projects in the Top 25 Vision Plan portfolios.

Board Members

Ward 1: Pete Siemens – Board Vice President (2014)
 Ward 2: Yoriko Kishimoto
 Ward 3: Jed Cyr
 Ward 4: Curt Riffle – Board Treasurer (2014)
 Ward 5: Nonette Hanko
 Ward 6: Larry Hassett – Board Secretary (2014)
 Ward 7: Cecily Harris – Board President (2014)

Executive Staff

Steve Abbors, General Manager
 Ana Montañó Ruiz, Assistant General Manager
 Kevin Woodhouse, Assistant General Manager

Vision Plan Project Team

Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources Department Manager (staff Vision Plan project manager)
 Sandy Sommer, Senior Real Property Planner (staff lead for Public Engagement)
 Casey Hiatt, GIS Administrator (staff lead for Planning and Analysis)
 Alex Roa, Planner I
 Lisa Bankosh, Planner III (staff CAC Coordinator)
 Michele Childs, GIS Technician
 Tina Hugg, Senior Planner
 Vicky Gou, Web Administrator
 Jodi McGraw, Jodi McGraw Consulting
 Linda Blong, Public Dialogue Consortium

Community Advisory Committee

Alex Anderson, Silicon Valley Mountain Bikers
 Ann Waltonsmith, Council Member, City of Saratoga
 Bern Smith, Bay Area Ridge Trail Council
 Carlos Romero, Former Mayor, City of East Palo Alto
 Charles Krenz, Silicon Valley Mountain Bikers
 Chris Cruz, West Valley College
 Chris Overington, Executive Director, Hidden Villa
 Debbie Mytels, Associate Director, Acterra

Community Advisory Committee (cont.)

Dianne McKenna, Sunnyvale Community Leader
 Don Horsley (and Legislative Aide Sarah Rosendahl) Supervisor, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
 Don Weden, Santa Clara County Citizen
 Faye Brophy, Equestrian Trail Riders' Action Committee
 Henrietta Burroughs, Founder, East Palo Center for Community Media
 Jered Lawson, Operator, Pie Ranch
 Joe Simitian (and Policy Aide Kristina Loquist) Supervisor, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
 John Bourgeois, Commissioner, Los Gatos Planning Commission
 Karen Holman, Palo Alto City Council, Palo Alto History Museum
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 Larry Watson, South Skyline Association
 Lennie Roberts, Committee for Green Foothills
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 Reed Holderman, Sempervirens Fund
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 Steve Wood, REI Outdoor Education Programs Director
 Sue Garner, Saratoga/Monte Sereno Community Leader
 Valentin Lopez, Amah Mutsun Tribal Chairman

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 Alex Atkins, Alexander Atkins Design, Inc.
 Deborah Mills, Mills Design

Thanks are due to the entire staff of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District who interviewed the public, contributed ideas, and facilitated the entire Vision Plan effort.



Long Ridge OSP by Charles Tu

Complete Vision Plan Report, Conservation Atlas and Appendices:

www.openspace.org/Vision

Measure AA Planning, Progress and News:

www.openspace.org/MeasureAA



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5.2015