




Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

Memorandum

DATE: January 24, 2019

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Ana Ruiz, General Manager 

FROM: Julie Andersen, Senior Resource Management Specialist
Meredith Manning, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Highway 17 Wildlife and Regional Trail Crossings Final Revised
Alternatives Report, Summary of Public Comments, and Next Steps

BACKGROUND

The Highway 17 Wildlife and Regional Trails Projects: MAA 20-1 (Wildlife Crossing) and MAA 20-2 (Regional Trail Crossing) were among the highest ranked priority actions during the Vision Plan Process in 2014. A total of \$14 million in Measure AA funds is allocated to the two projects.

DISCUSSION

In 2016, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) began a Feasibility Study to evaluate multiple locations along Highway 17 to construct dedicated wildlife and regional trail crossings within the project study area (see Attachment 1). Over the past three years, the project team identified eight project alternatives, conducted two public meetings, held numerous stakeholder and partner agency meetings, and entered into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for the first phase of the project. On June 27, 2017 (R-18-66), the Board of Directors approved advancing all eight alternatives to Caltrans for review. At this time, the Highway 17 Wildlife and Regional Trail Crossings Revised Alternative Report, and a Summary of Project Comments received and responses to those comments has been finalized. District staff have sent notifications on the availability of these documents for review to the public and stakeholder agencies. These documents are available online at the project website:

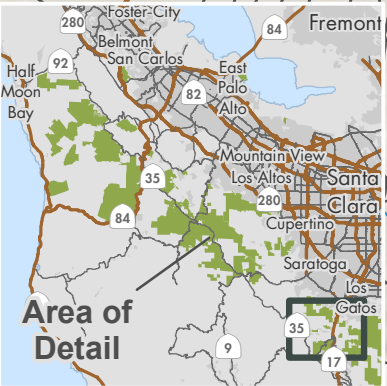
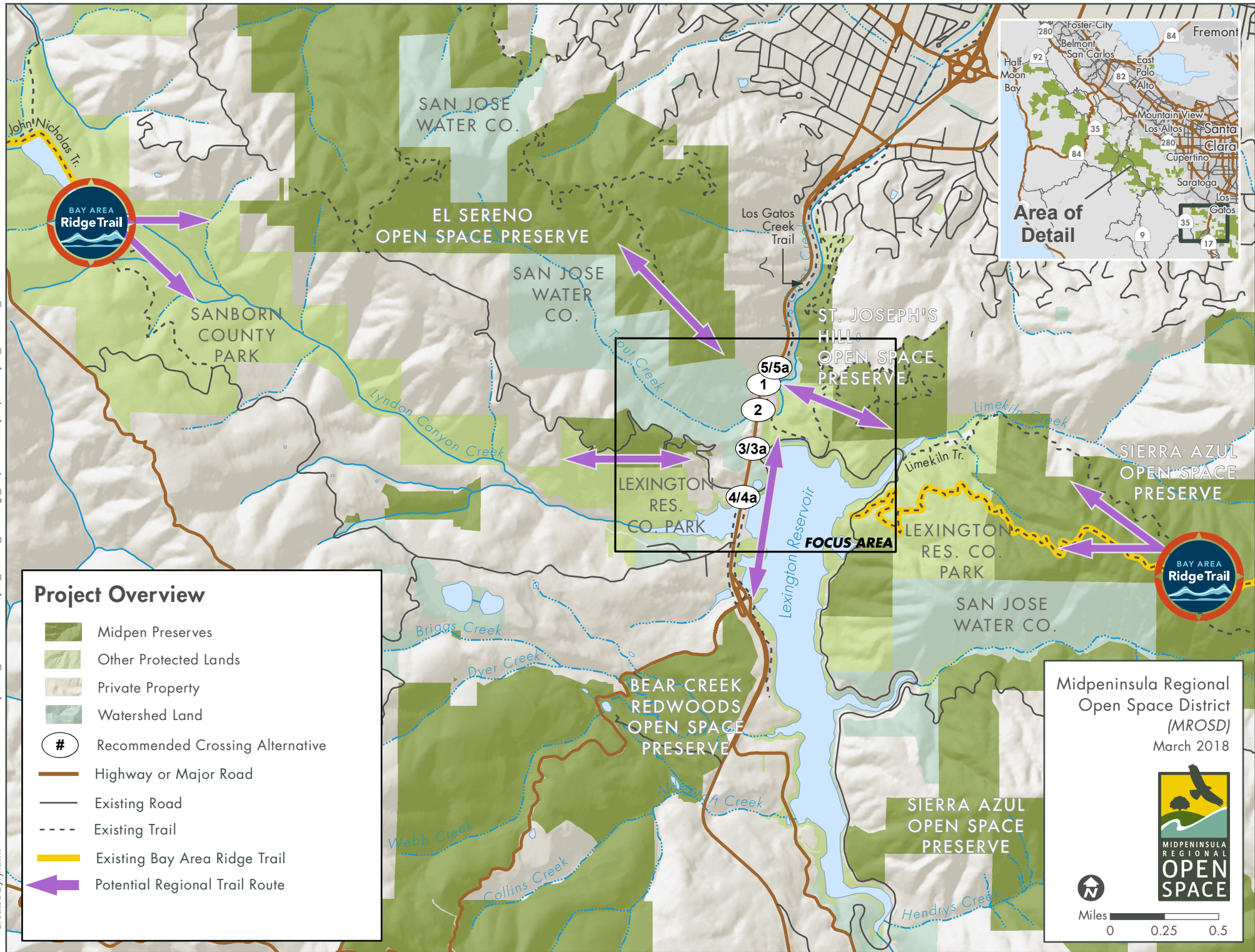
www.openspace.org/Hwy17

NEXT STEPS

- January 2019: Final Revised Alternatives Report (RAR)
- February 2019: Meeting with Caltrans to discuss Caltrans Project Study Report and Project Development Support (PSR-PDS) (currently underway). The PSR-PDS will build upon information contained in the RAR.
- Spring 2019: Initiate Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for next phase of the Caltrans process: Project Approval and Environmental Document (PAED).

- Summer 2019: Present Final PSR-PDS to the Planning and Natural Resources Committee and full Board for review and authorization. The Board will determine which Project Alternatives to advance to the next phase (PAED) based on information provided by Caltrans during the current PSR-PDS phase.
- FY2019-20: Begin PAED concurrently with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review. Identify preferred project alternative(s).

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Project Overview

- Midpen Preserves
- Other Protected Lands
- Private Property
- Watershed Land
- Recommended Crossing Alternative
- Highway or Major Road
- Existing Road
- Existing Trail
- Existing Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Potential Regional Trail Route

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(MROSD)
March 2018

MIDPENINSULA
REGIONAL
**OPEN
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Miles

While the District strives to use the best available digital data, these data do not represent a legal survey and are merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.