



MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Planning & Natural Resources Committee

Hawthorns Area **Draft Vision and Goals**

August 24, 2021



General Manager's Recommendation

Review and comment on the draft vision and goals for the Hawthorns Area.

No formal Committee action required.



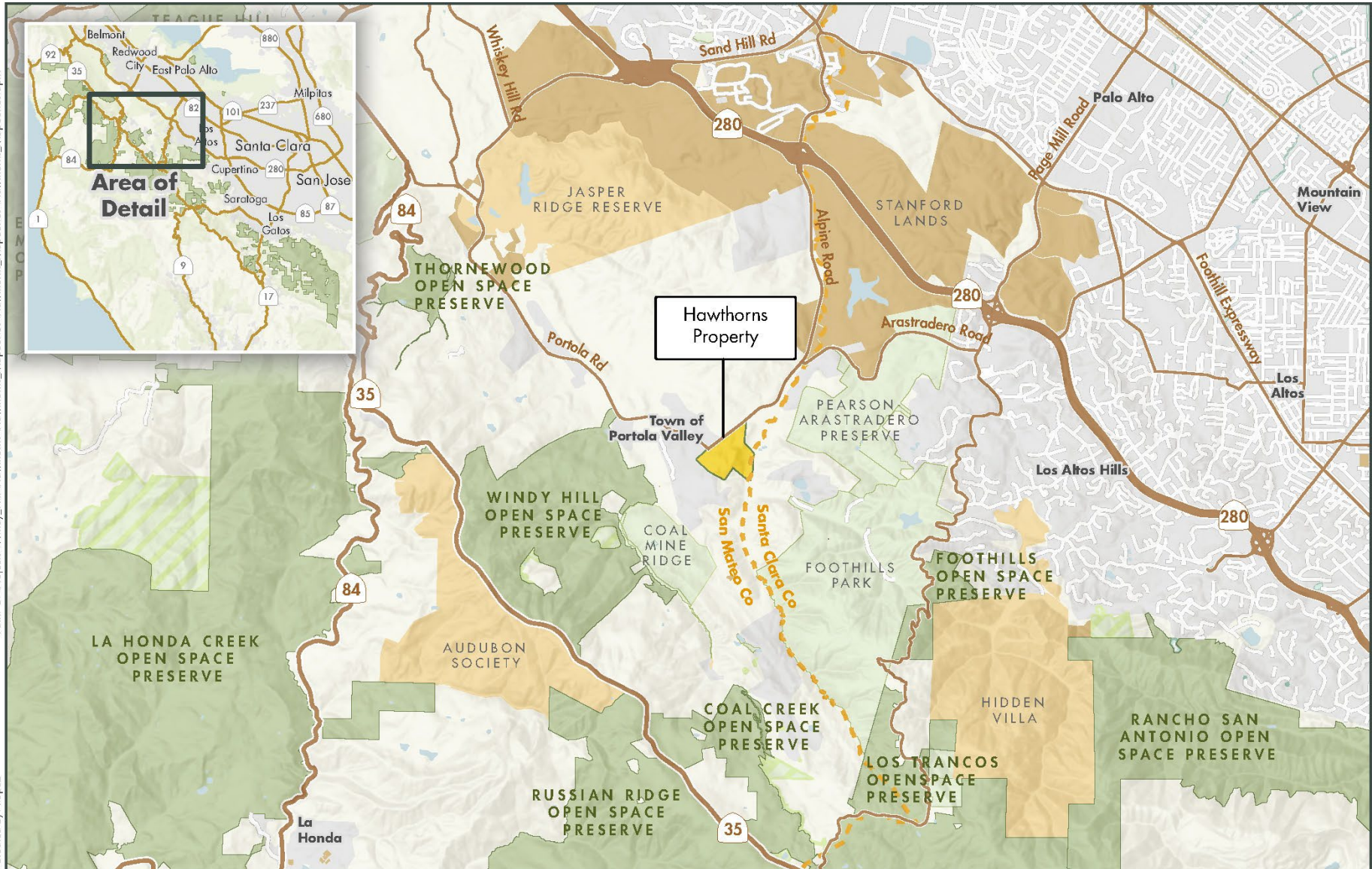
Agenda

- 🌿 Introductions
- 🌿 Presentation
 - Hawthorns Area overview
 - Draft Hawthorns Area vision and goals
- 🌿 Committee questions
- 🌿 Public comment
- 🌿 Committee discussion and guidance



Providing Public Comments

- Members of the public may provide comments by submitting a public comment form at: **www.openspace.org/public-comment**
 - Comments on agenda items must be submitted prior to the time public comment on the agenda item is closed.
 - All comments shall be subject to the same rules as would otherwise govern speaker comments at the Board meeting.
 - Speakers will be muted after reaching the three-minute time limit
 - **All written comments or requests to speak must be submitted via the public comment form.**
- Any comments received after the deadline will be provided to the Board after the meeting.



Hawthorns Area - Regional Map

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| MROSD Preserves | Land Trust |
| Other Protected Lands | Other Public Agency |
| Private Property | Hawthorns Area |

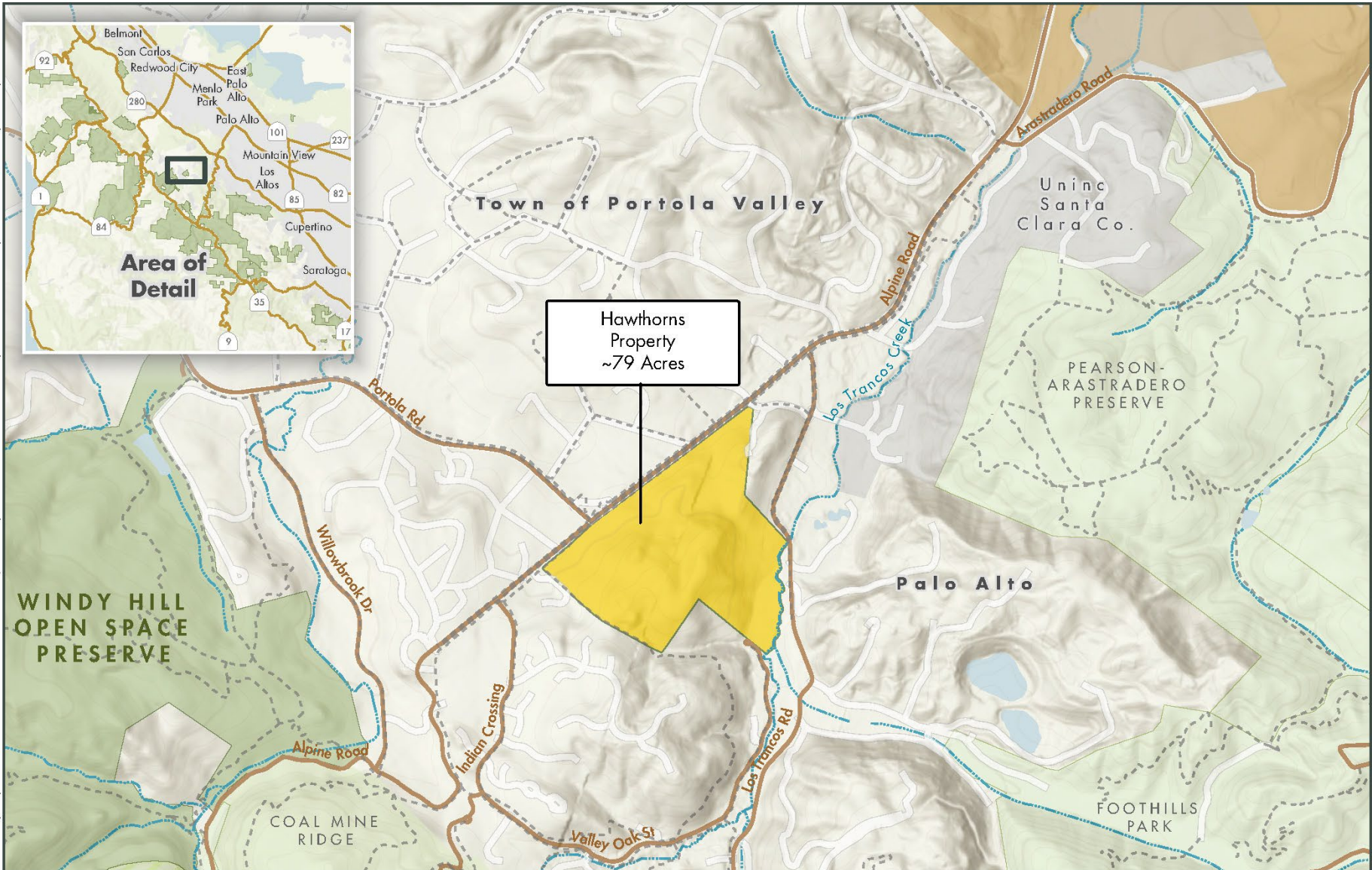
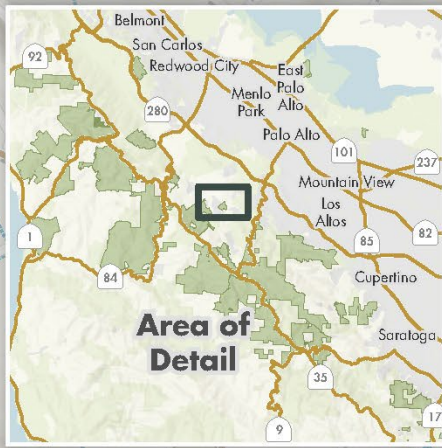
Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(Midpen)
6/16/2021



0 1 2 Miles



Path: G:\Projects\Windy_Hill\Hawthorns_MapSeries\MapSeries\Hawthorns_MapSeries.aprx
Created By: flopez



Hawthorns Area - Local Map

- | | |
|---|---|
|  MROSD Preserves |  Other Public Agency |
|  Other Protected Lands |  Hawthorns Area |
|  Private Property |  Unincorporated Area |

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(Midpen)
6/18/2021



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.


Town of Portola Valley Public Trail Network

 Hawthorns area

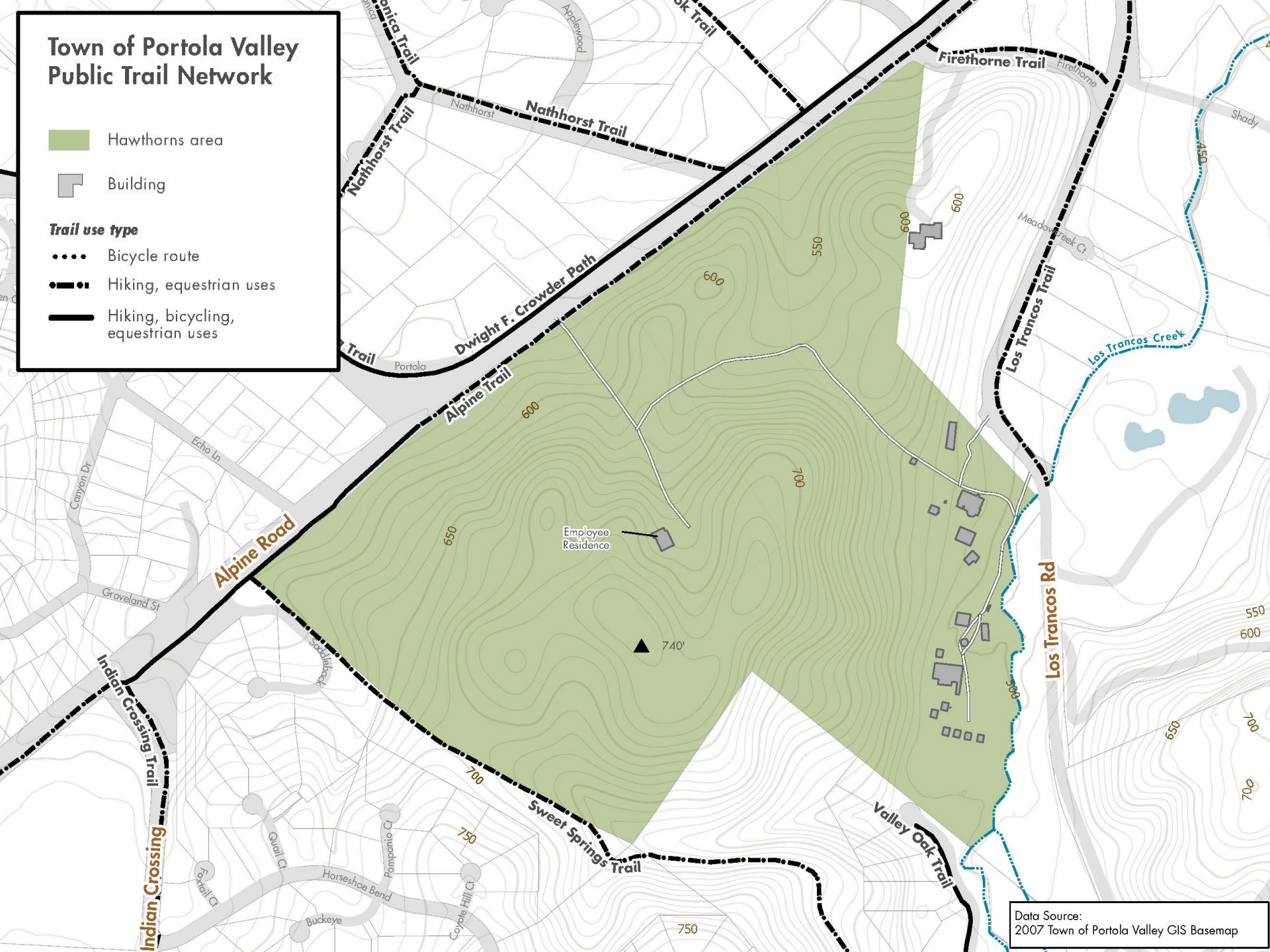
 Building

Trail use type

 Bicycle route

 Hiking, equestrian uses

 Hiking, bicycling,
equestrian uses





Vision and Goals



Vision and Goals

MISSION



**Midpen
purpose and values**



VISION



**Intention specific to
the Hawthorns Area**



GOALS



**Allowable uses and
management strategies**



Mission



MISSION



VISION



GOALS

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.

Draft Vision



MISSION



VISION



GOALS

The Hawthorns Area offers picturesque views of rolling oak grasslands and the Santa Cruz Mountains, provides important wildlife refuge, and reflects the region's natural, agricultural, and social history. The District will protect biotic resources and interpret natural and cultural resources on the Hawthorns Area in a manner consistent with the District's mission and the property's conservation easement.

Draft Goals



MISSION



VISION



GOALS



GOAL #1. NATURAL RESOURCES



GOAL #2. PUBLIC ACCESS



GOAL #3. REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY



GOAL #4. NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY



GOAL #5. AESTHETICS



GOAL #6. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE



Slide Header: Example Goal Title



EXAMPLE GOAL TEXT





Example Goal #0: Develop Vision and Goals



EXAMPLE GOAL TEXT

Example Considerations:

- *2014 Vision Plan*
- *2012 Preliminary Use and Management Plan Amendment*
- *Hawthorns Area Conservation Easement*
- *Public comments and feedback*



Goal #1: Natural Resources



Protect and restore native habitat, wildlife corridors, and other sensitive natural resources.





Goal #1: Natural Resources

 Protect and restore native habitat, wildlife corridors, and other sensitive natural resources.

Considerations:

- Special status species and sensitive habitats
- Grassland restoration and invasive species management
- Los Trancos Creek riparian habitat
- Mature tree protection
- Wildlife passage
- Wildland fire resiliency



Goal #2: Public Access



Open the Hawthorns Area to public access and provide sufficient parking, multimodal access options, an internal trail system, and low intensity recreational amenities that support ecologically sensitive public enjoyment.





Goal #2: Public Access



Open the Hawthorns Area to public access and provide sufficient parking, multimodal access options, an internal trail system, and low intensity recreational amenities that support ecologically sensitive public enjoyment.

Considerations:

- Parking
- Multimodal access
- Trailheads and internal trail systems
- Preserve and trail uses
- Interpretive elements
- Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act



Goal #3: Regional Connectivity



Connect to adjacent public trails and explore opportunities to facilitate new regional trail connections.





Goal #3: Regional Connectivity



Connect to adjacent public trails and explore opportunities to facilitate new regional trail connections.

Considerations:

- Regional trail and park access
- Allowable uses on adjacent trails and paths
- Collaboration with Town of Portola Valley regarding Alpine Road Trail
- Partnerships with nearby jurisdictions, regional agencies, and other organizations



Goal #4: Natural and Cultural History



Interpret the rich natural and cultural history of the Hawthorns Area and pursue partnerships to manage key features of the Hawthorns Historic District.





Goal #4: Natural and Cultural History



Interpret the rich natural and cultural history of the Hawthorns Area and pursue partnerships to manage key features of the Hawthorns Historic District.

Considerations:

- Hawthorns Historic District, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- Historic buildings, structures, and landscape management
- Natural history, interpretive elements, and public education opportunities
- Indigenous history and consultation with Native American tribes



Goal #5: Aesthetics



Highlight scenic viewpoints and protect scenic viewsheds.





Goal #5: Aesthetics



Highlight scenic viewpoints and protect scenic viewsheds.

Considerations:

- Panoramic views from the Hawthorns Area
- Views into the Hawthorns Area from adjacent communities
- Alpine Road Scenic Corridor design guidelines



Goal #6: Operation and Maintenance



Manage the property in a safe and fiscally sustainable manner that promotes ongoing public support and appreciation.





Goal #6: Operation and Maintenance



Manage the property in a safe and fiscally sustainable manner that promotes ongoing public support and appreciation.

Considerations:

- Public health and safety
- Neighbor relationships
- Collaboration with the Town of Portola Valley
- Gates, fencing, signage, patrols, and site security
- Onsite Midpen presence
- Conservation Easement



Next Steps

Milestone	Purpose and Content	Anticipated Schedule
PNR Committee Meeting #2	Draft vision and goals for review	August 24, 2021
PNR Committee Meeting #3	Final vision and goals for recommendation to Board Draft working group composition and formation process	Fall 2021
PNR Committee Meeting #4	Final working group composition and formation process for recommendation to Board	Early 2022
Board Meeting #1	Approve vision and goals Approve working group composition and formation process	Early 2022
Board Meeting #2	Approve working group membership and formation	Mid 2022



General Manager's Recommendation

Review and comment on the draft vision and goals for the Hawthorns Area.

No formal Committee action required.

Provide comments at this PNR Committee meeting by submitting a comment form at: www.openspace.org/public-comment

Provide comments in the future by submitting a comment form available at the project webpage: <https://www.openspace.org/our-work/projects/hawthorns-public-access>