

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

R-21-111 Meeting 21-26 August 25, 2021

AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM 6

Design of Administrative Office Interpretive Elements

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve designs for the final two remaining time-sensitive public interpretive elements that will be fabricated and installed in the future Administrative Office located at 5050 El Camino Real in Los Altos: (1) interior topographic relief model; (2) interior interpretive wall exhibit.

SUMMARY

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) contracted with EDX Exhibits to provide planning and design services for public-facing interpretive elements for the future Administrative Office located at 5050 El Camino Real. The project goal is to provide members of the public who visit the office with opportunities to create meaningful personal connections to interpretive themes inspired by the District's work and mission. The General Manager is seeking Board of Directors (Board) design approval of interpretive elements. As designed, the fabrication and installation of the proposed interpretive elements fall within the project budget.

BACKGROUND

Since purchasing the current 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos office building in 1990, the District's success in growing the regional greenbelt, restoring natural lands, and expanding public access has created the need for additional office space. As a forward-thinking and fiscally prudent public agency, the District planned for its long-term office space needs by setting aside general reserve funds. After exploring alternatives, purchasing and repurposing an existing, larger office building and selling the current building to offset costs emerged as the most cost-efficient, environmentally sound long-term solution.

At the July 2017 public meeting, the Board adopted a resolution to enter into a purchase and sale agreement for the building located at 5050 El Camino Real in Los Altos (R-17-90). Escrow closed on February 1, 2019. Construction to repurpose the building to meet District needs in fulfilling its mission and serving the public started in February 2021 and is scheduled to be completed in March 2022. This new office space presents multiple opportunities to enhance public awareness of the District and foster a deeper connection to the local natural resources and iconic Bay Area landscapes through informative and inspirational interpretive elements. To proceed with the planning and design of the interpretive elements project, the District completed a competitive consultant selection process in the fall of 2020, entering into a contract with EDX Exhibits (EDX) (R-20-133). EDX was chosen based on their design quality and relevance, expertise and competency, commitment to accessibility and diversity, and overall cost.

The Board approved the interpretive project goals and themes as part of a project brief presented by EDX on January 27, 2021 (R-21-18). Draft design schematics were presented on March 10, 2021 (R-21-37) and the Board gave direction on an overall design approach and general tone, mood, and color palette for the project. The Board selected Scheme 1: Bringing the Preserves to the People, which focuses on bringing the preserve experience into the office space by exploring multiple habitats found on District lands. This scheme uses natural and reused materials that reflect what one can find at the preserves, as well as smooth transitions and natural colors to draw people into the preserve experience. This scheme also attempts to stay truer to scale to provide as realistic an experience as possible to foster curiosity and interest in heading out to the land to gain a full sensory preserve experience.

On July 14, 2021 (<u>R-21-97</u>) the Board approved designs for three time-sensitive interpretive elements: (1) three exterior interpretive signs; (2) four exterior banners; (3) interior wall quotes.

Staff and Consultant Coordination

The Administrative Office project architect, Noll & Tam, created the overall design for the building reconfiguration, including spaces for interpretive elements for which EDX is creating the specific interpretive content. Many of the Phase I interpretive elements are being fabricated and installed as part of the current building construction process. The remaining Phase 2 interpretive elements will be fabricated and installed separately through a separate contract process, once EDX has completed their design.

DISCUSSION

The focus of this item is to receive Board approval and input on designs for the following interpretive elements detailed in Attachment 1.

Topographic Relief Model

EDX has designed a topographic relief model to be located near the reception desk area that highlights the District's boundaries, topography, habitats and preserves. Reading rails will provide information about each preserve, including an image, short description and allowed uses. The model will be fabricated and installed as part of Phase 2.

Interpretive Wall Exhibit

The main lobby has a 24-foot by 9-foot wall space identified for interpretive elements. EDX is designing an illustrative mural that aligns with the chosen scheme of "*Bringing the Preserves to the People*" that highlights the iconic landscapes, habitats, plants and animals found in District preserves using natural and reused materials, smooth transitions, and natural colors to draw people into the preserve experience. Overlayed on the mural are panels containing text and images that align with the approved themes. To support accessibility and foster connection and curiosity, EDX has included touchable objects and discovery moments.

Status of Other Approved Elements

Three Outdoor Interpretive Signs

Noll & Tam identified three locations along the walkway between the sidewalk at El Camino Real and the building's front door for interpretive signs. Noll & Tam selected the sign material and design, and EDX created the sign designs, which were approved by the Board on July 14, 2021. The signs align with the approved project interpretive themes:

- Midpen agency: Introducing the whole story and "why" of the District.
- Importance of open space: Conveying how we care for the land and the land cares for us.
- Open space is for everyone: Inviting personal connections to open space.

Four Outdoor Banners

Noll & Tam identified four locations on the front of the building facing El Camino Real for large banners. Noll & Tam selected the banner material and design, and EDX created the banner designs, which were approved by the Board on July 14, 2021. The banners convey the District's mission in a way that can be seen from the sidewalk and street. The banner designs focus on the four main elements of the District's mission:

- Preserving land
- Protecting agriculture
- Restoring natural resources
- Public enjoyment

Wall Quotes

Noll & Tam identified three wall locations within the lobby and board room for quotes that were approved by the Board on July 14, 2021. The District's two mission statements will be featured in the board room. Measure R language will be featured near the reception desk and a Wallace Stegner quote will be featured in the public lobby area.

Monitor

A 60-inch monitor will be located in the main lobby for use during public meetings and to display informational and interpretive content. The monitor will be installed in the public atrium space along the front stairwell wall as part of the current office construction project. Staff will curate content for the monitor from existing assets.

Large-Scale Wall Images

The following large-scale photographic images are being fabricated and installed as part of the current construction project:

- Image of Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve with Mindego Hill in the background and poppies in the foreground will be located on the back stairwell wall.
- Image of a redwood forest from a District preserve wrapping the elevator shaft.
- Backlit image of Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve showing Alpine Pond as seen from/near the Daniels Nature Center to be mounted in the hallway.

Project Timeline

The exterior interpretive signs, four exterior banners and wall quotes will be fabricated and installed as part of the current Administrative Office construction project. The topographic relief model and interpretive wall exhibit are subject to a separate competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process that is already in process. Time is of the essence to allow fabrication to begin in the fall of 2021 with the goal of completing installation before the office project is completed in March 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Fiscal Year 2021-22 (FY22) budget includes \$16,168,483 for the New Administration Office (AO) Facility project #31202 of which \$200,000 is set aside for the interpretive elements. The interpretive elements, as designed, continue to fall within the budget allocation.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REVIEW

This project has previously come to the full Board of Directors at the following public meetings:

- November 18, 2020: The Board awarded a contract to EDX Exhibits to complete phase 1 planning and design. (R-20-133, meeting minutes)
- January 27, 2021: The Board reviewed, discussed and approved the project brief, which documents the interpretive foundations that will inform and guide the project. (<u>R-21-18</u>, <u>meeting minutes</u>)
- March 10, 2021: The Board reviewed, discussed and approved the Scheme 1 design approach, which provides an overall design approach and general tone, mood and color palette for the project. (<u>R-21-37</u>, <u>meeting minutes</u>)
- June 2, 2021: The Board confirmed their preference for use of the aluminum material chosen by the project architect for the four banners on the outside of the building, rather than a cut steel option shown at the March 10, 2021 board meeting. (<u>R-21-70</u>, <u>meeting</u> <u>minutes</u>)
- July 14, 2021: The Board reviewed, discussed and approved designs for the exterior banners and interpretive signs, and the interior wall quotes. (R-21-97, meeting minutes)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Approval of office interpretive elements is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act. Furthermore, the AO Project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Section 15301, Existing Facilities. District staff filed Notices of Exemption with Santa Clara County on September 24, 2020.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, designs for the topographic relief model and interpretive wall exhibit will be fabricated and installed.

Attachment:

1. Draft Designs

Responsible Department Head: Korrine Skinner, Public Affairs Manager

Prepared by: Leigh Ann Gessner, Public Affairs Specialist II

R-21-111

Renée Fitzsimons, Interpretation & Education Program Manager

Staff contact: Leigh Ann Gessner, Public Affairs Specialist II

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District AO Interpretive Elements Project

Final Design Board Packet

August 25, 2021



200 East Boston St., Seattle, WA 98102 | 206 528-5556 | www.edxseattle.com





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Site Plan

El Camino Real



Various locations

NOT TO SCALE

Scene 07: Quotes

Purpose: Provide quotes that align with Midpen's values in publicly accessed spaces.



Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model

SCENE 03: Lobby 3D Relief Model Purpose

Locate and describe unique features of each Midpen preserve.

Interpretive Themes:

- Open space is for everyone
- Midpen agency

Audience:

- People who come to Midpen offices for information and to attend meetings.
- Midpen employees, volunteers, and partner organizations.
- People with and without prior knowledge of Midpen's work and Midpen's open space preserves.





Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model



Perspective view A: 3D relief model of region showing Midpen preserves. Relief model will show vertically exagerated topography to accentuate the geography. Note that north on the model aligns roughly with geographic north.

Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model





Scene 03: Lobby 3D Relief Model Reference Images



Reference image for 3D relief model.

Suggested technique is a Fiberglas map with gelcoat top coat, UVC inhibiting paints. Text and labels are applied last, and the entire model is coated with a UV-blocker clear coat to protect from sunlight. Reference image for 3D relief model and reading rail





Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Features

CE-03.01-100

3D RELIEF MODEL

Midpen Preserves to be identified on model:

Bear Creek Redwoods

Coal Creek

El Corte de Madera Creek

El Sereno

Foothills

Fremont Older

La Honda Creek

Long Ridge

Los Trancos

Monte Bello Preserve

Picchetti Ranch

Pulgas Ridge

Purisima Creek Redwoods

Rancho San Antonio

Ravenswood

Russian Ridge

Saratoga Gap

Sierra Azul

Skyline Ridge

St. Joseph's Hill

Stevens Creek Shoreline

Teague Hill

Thornewood

Windy Hill

Miramontes Ridge

Tunitas Creek

Other features to be identified on model:

- **State routes:** 1, 9, 17, 35, 82, 84, 85, 87, 92, 101, 237, 280, 680, and 880.
- **Towns:** Pacifica, Burlingame, Hillsborough, San Mateo, Foster City, Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City, Menlo Park, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Fremont, Newark, Union City, Woodside, Portola Valley, Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Milpitas, Half Moon Bay, San Jose, Cupertino, Saratoga, Los Gatos, San Gregorio, La Honda, Pescadero, Boulder Creek
- Bodies of water: Pacific Ocean, San Francisco Bay, Half Moon Bay
- Midpen overall service area boundaries
- Possible shading to denote main habitat types, in consultation with Midpen GIS department



Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics





Our Mission To acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically

On the San Mateo County Coast, our mission also includes preserving agricultural land of regional significance and rural character, and encouraging viable agricultural use of land resources.









and Douglas fir forests



Chaparral habitat with small meadow and wooded areas near creeks 5 Foothills Preserve 0.2 MILES OF TRAILS Hiking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

12+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

A El Sereno Preserve

6+ MILES OF TRAILS



6 Fremont Older Preserve Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms Open grasslands and high hilltops pr sweeping views of the Santa Clara Vall Adjacent ridges with chaparral and oal

🔽 La Honda Creek Preserve 11+ MILES OF TRAILS Hiking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash Restrooms Diverse coastal landscape with rolling

grasslands, grazing cattle, redwood fore and spectacular views of the coast and nearby ridgelines. A destination for birders

Long Ridge Preserve 14+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms Mixed evergreen forests and rolling hills with grasslands, oaks and vistas. Include one of the longest continuous segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Los Trancos Preserve 6+ MILES OF TRAILS Hiking, Horseback Riding, Restroom Many different species of oak trees and mixed evergreen forests with some grass knolls and notable geologic features. Highlight is a self-guided walk along the San Andreas Fault.



Range, Features the historic Picchetti ry still in operation Pulgas Ridge Preserve 6+ MILES OF TRAILS

Monte Bello Preserve

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Restrooms, Backpack Camping, Family Friendly

vergreen forests along Stevens Creek. Rich wildlife and ecosystem diversity. Features

Grand vistas, rolling grasslands and mixed

the Black Mountain backpack camp

Picchetti Ranch Preserve

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, Restrooms, Family Friendly

Canyon of madrone, coast live oak and

alifornia bay trees. Views of the Sierra Azul

18+ MILES OF TRAILS

3+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Dogs on Leash, Easy Access, Restrooms Forested canvons, grasslands and ridgetor iews toward the San Francisco Bay and urrounding hillsides. Features a designated off-leash dog area.

GL-03.01-200 Size: 54"w x 12"h Scale: 19.75%



GL-03.01-300 Size: 54"w x 12"h Scale: 19.75%



Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics

EXPLORE YOUR OPEN SPACE PRESERVES

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District cares for many open space preserves throughout the greater Santa Cruz Mountains region. They are free and open to the public. For more information, please visit **openspace.org.**





Our Mission

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.

On the San Mateo County Coast, our mission also includes preserving agricultural land of regional significance and rural character, and encouraging viable agricultural use of land resources.

GL-03.01-200 ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY



Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve

7+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Wheelchair Accessibility, Restrooms, Family Friendly, Easy Access

Shaded redwood and Douglas fir forests, cool creeks, ponds and local cultural history.

Coal Creek Preserve

3+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

Mixed evergreen forests and open grassland ridges with views of the San Francisco Bay.

El Corte de Madera Creek Preserve

34+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Restrooms

Mixed evergreen and redwood forests on steep terrain, with unusual rock formations. Popular for mountain biking.



Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics



El Sereno Preserve

6+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

Chaparral habitat with small meadows and wooded areas near creeks.



La Honda Creek Preserve

11+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms

Diverse coastal landscape with rolling grasslands, grazing cattle, redwood forests and spectacular views of the coast and nearby ridgelines. A destination for birders.

Long Ridge Preserve

14+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms

Mixed evergreen forests and rolling hills with grasslands, oaks and vistas. Includes one of the longest continuous segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Los Trancos Preserve

6+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Restrooms

Many different species of oak trees and mixed evergreen forests with some grassy knolls and notable geologic features. Highlight is a self-guided walk along the San Andreas Fault.



Foothills Preserve

0.2 MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

Grassy ridgetop with views, steep chaparralcovered slopes and ravines with oak and madrone woodlands.





GL-03.01-200

ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY

Fremont Older Preserve

12+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms

Open grasslands and high hilltops providing sweeping views of the Santa Clara Valley. Adjacent ridges with chaparral and oaks.





Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics



Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Restrooms, **Backpack Camping, Family Friendly**

Grand vistas, rolling grasslands and mixed evergreen forests along Stevens Creek. Rich in wildlife and ecosystem diversity. Features the Black Mountain backpack camp.

Picchetti Ranch Preserve

3+ MILES OF TRAILS

18+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, **Restrooms, Family Friendly**

Canyon of madrone, coast live oak and California bay trees. Views of the Sierra Azul Range. Features the historic Picchetti Winery, still in operation.

Pulgas Ridge Preserve

6+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Dogs on Leash, Easy Access, Restrooms

Forested canyons, grasslands and ridgetop views toward the San Francisco Bay and surrounding hillsides. Features a designated off-leash dog area.

EXPLORE YOUR OPEN SPACE PRESERVES

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District cares for many open space preserves throughout the greater Santa Cruz Mountains region. They are free and open to the public. For more information, please visit openspace.org.



Miramontes Ridge Preserve

On the western slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains — not currently open to the public.

Tunitas Creek 26 **Preserve**

> On the San Mateo County Coast — not currently open to the public.

GL-03.01-200 ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY GL-03.01-300 ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY





Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics



Purisima Creek Redwoods Preserve

22+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, Restrooms

Redwood forests lush with wildflowers and ferns, Purisima Creek, chaparral-covered slopes and grassland ridges to the Coast.

Rancho San Antonio Preserve

25+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, Restrooms, Family Friendly

Extensive trails through diverse environments including shaded woodlands and open hillsides.

Ravenswood Preserve

2+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Easy Access, Family Friendly

Bayside trails and a boardwalk along salt marsh wetlands. Includes section of the San Francisco Bay Trail and offers migratory bird watching.







16 Russian Ridge Preserve

13+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, Restrooms, Family Friendly

Varied landscapes—rolling grasslands with seasonal wildflowers, hilltops with sweeping vistas, working coastal ranchlands, forested canyons with ancient oaks.

Saratoga Gap Preserve

1+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding

Mixed evergreen forests with a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail that connects to other Midpen preserves and nearby state and county parks.

Sierra Azul Preserve

25+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Wheelchair Accessibility, Easy Access, Restrooms

Abundant wilderness, rare habitats, diverse plants and animals in Midpen's largest preserve. Includes spectacular views from Mount Umunhum.

GL-03.01-300 ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY



Scene 03 Lobby 3D Relief Model Graphics



Skyline Ridge Preserve

12+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Easy Access, Restrooms, Family Friendly

Expansive views along the ridge with meadows, mixed evergreen forests. Includes quiet Horseshoe Lake and the David C. Daniels Nature Center near Alpine Pond.



22 Teague Hill Preserve

0.2 MILES OF TRAILS

1+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Horseback Riding

Small preserve includes short section of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and forests of Douglas fir, oaks, bay laurels and madrones.

Thornewood Preserve

Hiking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash

Mixed evergreen forests, pond and open

meadows with a rich cultural history.

Easily accessible from nearby cities.

20

St. Joseph's Hill Preserve

4+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Restrooms

Steep chaparral and oak woodland environments. Ready access to nature from nearby cities.





13+ MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Dogs on Leash, Easy Access, Restrooms

Hilly open grassland, a pond and forests of redwood, Douglas fir, bay laurel, madrone and oak. Sweeping views to the coast and the San Francisco Bay from the summit of Windy Hill.

GL-03.01-300 ENLARGED FOR LEGIBILITY

Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Area

0.7 MILES OF TRAILS

Hiking, Biking, Easy Access, Family Friendly

Salt marsh wetlands along the San Francisco Bay with connections to nearby public park trails. Easy viewing of shorebirds and ducks.



Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall



SCENE 05: Exhibit Wall Purpose

Convey how Midpen cares for the land and the land cares for us through a unified vista showing the unique qualities of the midpeninsula baylands, foothills, skyline, and coastal regions.

Interpretive Themes:

- Open space is for everyone
- Importance of open spaces
- Midpen agency

Audience:

- People who come to Midpen offices for information and to attend meetings.
- Midpen employees, volunteers, and partner organizations.
- People with and without prior knowledge of Midpen's work and Midpen's open space preserves.





Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall



Exhibit wall showing layering of mural on appleplywood with graphic panels in front. Band in front is made of reclaimed redwood. Inset into mural are discovery panels with small graphics. Inset into the redwood band are discovery tactile elements.



Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall



Detail of exhibit wall showing layering of illustrated mural on appleplywood with graphic panels in front. A subtle band of lighting shines up onto the mural from the top edge of the redwood band below. On top of redwood band will be a ribbon of graphics identifying species and preserves. Tactile elements are perched on top of the redwood band.



Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall



Details: Exhibit wall showing layering of mural on appleplywood with graphic panels in front. Band in front is made of reclaimed redwood. Inset into mural are discovery panels with small graphics. Inset into the redwood band are discovery tactile elements.



Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall, Key to Element Types

In this elevation the colors are a key to show each type and quantity of different elements represented on the wall. They do not represent actual colors in the exhibit.





Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall Mural Sketch

Layers of the Appleply mural, with direct-printed full-color imagery

GL-05.06-100 First Layer: closest to visitor, includes oak tree and foreground
GL-05.06-120 Second Layer: encompasses middle ground
GL-05.06-130 Third Layer: includes background and features on horizon
GL-05.06-140 Fourth Layer: farthest from visitor, includes elements in far distance

NOTE: The mural illustration is a draft sketch showing the correct geographical arrangement of key features including topography and large plants. The final artwork will be completed in Phase II during exhibit fabrication.

The mural shows a geographically accurate view looking north up the Peninsula and showcasing the main habitats Midpen protects and cares for. Left to right: Coastal, Skyline, Foothills and Baylands regions.





Mural sketch with redwood band, tactiles, and graphics in place.



Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall Examples from Mural Artist

Artist name: Joyce Mihran Turley

Joyce sketched the image for this deliverable. These are examples of her finished work.











Scene 05: Intro Panels

One View Many Lands

From coastal terraces, across forested ridgelines, down to briny baylands, this mural captures the essence of what Midpen protects for all of us.

N ear the Coast, we restore grasslands, forests and watersheds. Wildlife — including rare and endangered species — live here among working ranchlands.

Along the crest of the Santa Cruz Mountains, we protect and care for special habitats, like redwood forests.

In the foothills surrounding urban areas, our open spaces provide homes for plants and animals and nearby nature for people to explore and enjoy.

Along the shore of the San Francisco Bay, we preserve salt marsh wetlands. In turn, they protect us by storing carbon and providing natural flood protection.

We Care for the Land The Land Cares for Us



Midpen preserves open space lands so that plants, animals and people can thrive.

We care for increasingly fragile ecosystems with science and a long-term view. Thousands of different plants and animals — many of which are found only here — rely on these protected places.

In turn, the land provides spaces for the healing power of nature to do its work. The results are tangible. As lands are protected and cared for, they provide clean air and water, local food, resilience to climate change and places where people can connect with nature. All living things, including people, benefit.

Open Space By and for the People

Saving open space in our region has always been about determination, creativity and commitment.

Late 1960s: Where there had once been orchards, ranches and open space, cities and towns grew.

Early 1970s: People agonized, organized and proposed a solution — a publicly funded entity to protect the open spaces that support the health and beauty of our region. In 1972, voters established Midpen.

Today: The work is not over. Thousands of people — voters, visitors, volunteers, staff — continue to protect the essential habitats of our region.

Together, we support Midpen's mission to preserve land, restore nature and provide opportunities for public education and enjoyment of open space.

GL-05.01-300

GL-05.01-200

GL-05.01-100

Scene 05: Topic Panels



CARING FOR COASTAL GRASSLANDS

Rich in native plants and wildlife, California's coastal grasslands evolved over millennia with herds of grazing wildlife and periodic fires that preserved the habitat's open productive qualities.

important habitat from encroaching shrubs and trees. Carefully managed conservation grazing is one way we work to enhance this unique community of grasses and wildflowers. Birds, badgers and other grasslanddependent animals benefit.

On the San Mateo County Coast, Midpen's mission includes protecting agricultural land, preserving rural character and encouraging viable agricultural land use.

They use their hearing more than their evesight to detect pre



RESTORING OUR WOODS, WATERSHEDS & FORESTS

Life-rich habitats define our region. Fogdrenched forests with towering redwoods. Tumbling streams with steelhead trout and salamanders. Oak woodlands with California quail, lupines and poppies, and chaparral with fire-adapted manzanita and sticky monkey flower.

Our projects are as varied as the landscape. Improving forest health for wildlife and to make our region more resilient to fire and climate change. Restoring ponds and creeks for frogs, fish and people downstream. Protecting wildlife corridors to allow



GL-05.02-500

GL-05.02-400

GL-05.02-300

INDIGENOUS LANDS & TRIBAL PARTNERS

True wealth is the ability to carry indigenous knowledge forward to provide for all people, animals, plants, Mother Earth, wind, water and shadows.

- Valentin Lopez, Chair of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, 2021

are an integral and honored part of modern tribal life. Midpen partners with local tribes in many ways. traditional knowledge and methods — like prescribed burns for ecological health, and provide space for ceremonial gatherings.



Saltwater surrounding cord grasses. Raucous shorebird calls. Cooling breezes. Teeming with life, these are our region's baylands. Their secret superpower is carbon storage.

Midpen works to preserve baylands by protecting this watery habitat from development and restoring its web of shallow salt marshes. Today, only about 15 percent remain.

Why do these places matter? They help restore our climate,



GL-05.02-100

MIDPENINSULA R E G I D W AL OPEN SPACE

Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall





GL-05-03-050 Salt marsh harvest mouse reveal 6" circle

CE-05.05-100 Tactile Bobcat, coyote tracks

CE-05-03-400 Discovery in Redwood face rough-skinned newt

> GL-05-04-100 & 200 Ribbon Panels 6"h x 49.625"l

redwood base

GL-05.01-100 Main Panel: Midpen's history 24"w x 76"h GL-05.02-100 Topic panel: Preserving Our Baylands 17"w x 70"



Scene 05: Graphic Panels

Open Space By and for the People



Saving open space in our region has always been about determination, creativity and commitment.

ate 1960s: Where there had once been orchards, ranches and open space, cities and towns grew.

Early 1970s: People agonized, organized and proposed a solution — a publicly funded entity to protect the open spaces that support the health and beauty of our region. In 1972, voters established Midpen.

Today: The work is not over. Thousands of people — voters, visitors, volunteers, staff — continue to protect the essential habitats of our region.

Together, we support Midpen's mission to preserve land, restore nature and provide opportunities for public education and enjoyment of open space.



lways been

Enlarged to show coast live oak acorn illustration

GL-05.01-100 cropped to show text Size: 24"w x 76"h shown 20% of actual size

Text details: 105 words, 37% reading ease, 12th grade reading level

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE

Scene 05: Graphic Panels

PROTECTING OUR BAYLANDS

Saltwater surrounding cord grasses. Raucous shorebird calls. Cooling breezes. Teeming with life, these are our region's baylands. Their secret superpower is carbon storage.

Midpen works to preserve baylands by protecting this watery habitat from development and restoring its web of life. The entice Ban Francisco Bay used to be surrounded by shallow salt marshes. Today, only about 15 percent remain. Why do these places matter? They help restore our climate,



PROTECTING OUR BAYLANDS

Saltwater surrounding cord grasses. Raucous shorebird calls. Cooling breezes. Teeming with life, these are our region's baylands. Their secret superpower is carbon storage.

Midpen works to preserve baylands by protecting this watery habitat from development and restoring its web of life. The entire San Francisco Bay used to be surrounded by shallow salt marshes. Today, only about 15 percent remain.

Why do these places matter? They help restore our climate, provide homes to unique plants and animals and give us places to spend time in nature.



GL-05.02-100 cropped to show text Size: 17"w x 70"h shown 30% of actual size

Text details: 86 words, 61% reading ease, 7th grade reading

10% of actual size

MDPENINSULA R E G I O MAL OPEN SPACE

Scene 05: Reveal Panels





GL-05-03-025 Discovery in mural Size: 6" circle Scale: 50% The endangered salt marsh harvest mouse only lives here in the salt marshes surrounding the San Francisco Bay.

> GL-05-03-050 Reveal Size: 6" circle Scale 100%



Exhibit Wall Elements





Key	Species
А	Rough-skinned newt (tactile)
В	Salt marsh harvest mouse (reveal panel)
С	Black-tailed deer, buck
D	Grassland flowers: Common fiddleneck, Yellow mariposa, Ruby chalice clarkia, Douglas Iris
Е	Bobcat and coyote tracks (tactile)
F	California quail, covey with adults and young
G	Spotted towhee, singing
Н	Background foliage: Pearly everlasting, Sticky monkeyflower, Flowering currant, California buckeye



Reference Images



Common fiddleneck

California quail





Yellow mariposa

Black-tailed deer



Rough-skinned newt

Spotted Towhee

Reference Images



Pearly everlasting



Ruby chalice clarkia







Douglas iris

California buckeye

Sticky monkeyflower

CE-05.05-200

Tactile

Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall





GL-05-03-250 **Discovery Panel Reveal** Mountain lion 6" circle

CE-05-03-500 Discovery in Redwood face American badger

GL-05-04-300 & 400 **Ribbon Panels** 6"h x 49.625"l

GL-05.02-300 Topic Panel: Indigenous Lands & Tribal Partners 17"w x 66" or 70"


Scene 05: Graphic Panels

INDIGENOUS LANDS & TRIBAL PARTNERS

True wealth is the ability to carry indigenous knowledge forward to provide for all people, animals, plants, Mother Earth, wind, water and shadows.

Native Americans are the original residents and caretakers of these lands. Traditional cultural practices are an integral and honored part of modern tribal life.

Midgen partners with local tribes in many ways. There are projects to restore native plants, practice traditional knowledge and methods — like prescribed burns for ecological health, and provide space for ceremonial gatherings.

"Umunhum" means "resting place of the hummingbird" in the Mutsun language.



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- Valentin Lopez, Chair of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, 2021

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GL-05.02-300 cropped to show text Size: 17"w x 70"h shown 30% of actual size

Text details: 101 words, 39% reading ease, 11th grade reading level

10% of actual size





GL-05-03-100 Discovery in mural Size: 6" circle Scale: 50% We study how mountain lions use open space and protect wildlife corridors to help them safely coexist with people.

> GL-05-03-150 Reveal Size: 6" circle Scale 100%



Exhibit Wall Elements



			Key
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Key	Species	
A	Black-tailed deer, doe and fawn	
В	Mountain lion (reveal panel)	
С	Grinding stone and California black oak acorns (tactile)	
D	American badger (discovery reveal)	
E	Background foliage: Blue-blossom ceanothus, King's mountain manzanita	
F	Central tree: Coast live oak	

Reference Images





American badger



King's mountain manzanita





Black-tailed deer, doe and fawn



Reference Images



Left: Black oak acorns Right, below: Coast live oak







ATTACHMENT 1 AREA SHOWN ON THIS PAGE 6 Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall A We Care for the Land The Land Cares for Us RESTORING OUR WOODS, WATERSHEDS & FORESTS CE-05.05-300 Tactile Banana slug CE-05.03-600 redwood base Discovery in redwood face Burrowing owl GL-05-04-500 & 600 **Ribbon Panels** SKYLINE RIDGE PRE **RUSSIAN RIDGE PRESERVE** EL CORTE DE MADERA CREEK PRESERVE burrowing ow banana slug 6"h x 49.625"l

GL-05.02-400 Topic Panel: Restoring Woods, Watersheds & Forests 17"w x 66" or 70" GL-05.01-200 Main Panel: We Care for the Land 24"w x 76"h



Scene 05: Graphic Panels

We Care for the Land The Land Cares for Us



Midpen preserves open space lands so that plants, animals and people can thrive.

We care for increasingly fragile ecosystems with science and a long-term view. Thousands of different plants and animals — many of which are found only here rely on these protected places.

In turn, the land provides spaces for the healing power of nature to do its work. The results are tangible. As lands are protected and cared for, they provide clean air and water, local food, resilience to climate change and places where people can connect with nature. All living things, including people, benefit.

> GL-05.01-200 cropped to show text Size: 24"w x 76"h shown 20% of actual size Text details: 94 words, 65% reading ease, 7th grade reading level



Scene 05: Graphic Panels

RESTORING OUR WOODS, WATERSHEDS & FORESTS

Life-rich habitats define our region. Fogdrenched forests wiht towering redwoods. Tumbling streams with steelheed trout and salamanders. Oak woodlands with California quail, lupines and poppies, and chaparral with fire-adapted mansanita and sticky monkey flower.

Our projects are as varied as the landscape. Improving forest health for wildlife and to make our region more resilient to fire and climate change. Restoring ponds and creeks for frogs, fish and people downstream. Protecting wildlife corridors to allow wide-ranging wildlife room to roam.

Gray foxes are the only fox native to Californi



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Gray foxes are the only fox native to California. They can climb trees in pursuit of food. GL-05.02-400 cropped to show text Size: 17"w x 66"h shown 30% of actual size

Text details: 79 words, 50% reading ease (lots of specific names), 9th grade reading level



Exhibit Wall Elements





Reference Images



Blue wild rye



Coffeeberry



Banana slug

Reference Images





Burrowing owl



Red-shafted northern flicker

Pacific poison oak



Western fence lizard

ATTACHMENT 1 AREA SHOWN ON THIS PAGE Scene 05: Atrium Exhibit Wall ð 6 GL-05-03-350 **Discovery Panel Reveal** San Francisco garter snake 6" circle One View Many Lands GL-05.03-250 CARING FOR COASTAL GRASSLANDS Discovery Panel Reveal Marbled murrelet 6" circle CE-05.03-700 Discovery in Redwood face California red-legged frog CE-05.05-400 Tactile Redwood/Douglas fir cones redwood base GL-05-04-700 & 800 **Ribbon Panels** California red-legged frog RUSSIAN RIDGE PRESERVE LA HONDA CREEK PRESERVE PURISIMA CREEK REDWOODS PRESERVE Douglas fir coast redwood

6"h x 49.625"l

GL-05.02-500 Topic Panel : Protecting Coastal Grasslands 24"w x 76"h GL-05.01-300 Main Panel: One View, Many Lands 17"w x 66" or 70"



Scene 05: Graphic Panels

One View Many Lands



From coastal terraces, across forested ridgelines, down to briny baylands, this mural captures the essence of what Midpen protects for all of us.

N ear the Coast, we restore grasslands, forests and watersheds. Wildlife — including rare and endangered species — live here among working ranchlands.

Along the crest of the Santa Cruz Mountains, we protect and care for special habitats, like redwood forests.

In the foothills surrounding urban areas, our open spaces provide homes for plants and animals and nearby nature for people to explore and enjoy.

Along the shore of the San Francisco Bay, we preserve salt marsh wetlands. In turn, they protect us by storing carbon and providing natural flood protection. GL-05.01-300 cropped to show text Size: 24"w x 76"h shown 20% of actual size Text details: 111 words, 58% reading ease, 9th grade reading level

Scene 05: Graphic Panels

CARING FOR COASTAL GRASSLANDS

Rich in native plants and wildlife, California's coastal grasslands evolved over millennia with herds of grazing wildlife and periodic fires that preserved the habitat's open productive qualities.

Today, we have to use other tools to protect this important habitat from encroaching shrubs and trees. Carefully managed conservation grazing is one way we work to enhance this unique community of grasses and wildflowers. Birds, badgers and other grasslanddependent animals benefit.

On the San Mateo County Coast, Midpen's mission includes protecting agricultural land, preserving rural character and encouraging viable agricultural land use.

Northern harrier hawks are often seen gliding low over open grasslan They use their hearing more than their eyesight to detect prey.



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Text details: 92 words, 26% reading ease, 12th grade reading level

10% of actual size

Scene 05: Reveal Panels



GL-05-03-200 Discovery in mural Size: 6" circle Scale: 50% Marbled murrelets are endangered seabirds that nest in old-growth trees. We work to protect and restore their coastal forests.

> GL-05-03-250 Reveal Size: 6" circle Scale 100%





The colorful (and endangered) San Francisco garter snake needs open areas near water to bask and hunt California red-legged frogs and other prey.

GL-05-03-300 Discovery in mural Size: 6" circle Scale: 50% GL-05-03-350 Reveal Size: 6" circle Scale 100%



Exhibit Wall Elements





Reference Images



Silvery blue butterfly



Acmon blue butterfly

Mock heather





California oatgrass

Reference Images





California red-legged frog



Blue-eyed grass

Summer lupine

Varied lupine





