



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE, FUNDING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Committee conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20. All Board members and staff participated via teleconference.

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Director Cyr called the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Jed Cyr and Larry Hassett

Members absent: Karen Holman

Staff present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Jennifer Woodworth, Planning Manager Jane Mark. Planner II Melissa Borgesi, Planner II Ari Nuri

Director Cyr announced this meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order allowing Committee members to participate remotely. The public has the opportunity to comment on the agenda, and the opportunity to listen to this meeting through the internet or via telephone. Director Cyr described the process and protocols for the meeting.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Woodworth reported no public comments had been submitted.

Director Holman joined the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Hassett moved, and Director Cyr seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approve the March 9, 2021 Legislative, Funding, & Public Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Director Hassett moved, and Director Holman seconded the motion to approve the March 9, 2021 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs committee meeting minutes.

Public comment opened at 2:05 p.m.

Ms. Woodworth reported no public comments had been submitted.

Public comment closed at 2:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

2. Designation of the Stevens Creek Nature Trail, Skid Road Trail, and White Oak Trail in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve as part of the regional Stevens Creek Trail (R-21-118)

Planner II Melissa Borgesi provided the staff report presenting a film highlighting the route, common uses of, and points of interest along the Stevens Creek Trail. Ms. Borgesi explained the Friends of Stevens Creek trail created a working group of agencies to support the Stevens Creek Trail. Several of the District's current trails contribute to the regional Stevens Creek Trail, and are proposed for trail designation and to receive Stevens Creek Trail signage in the form of medallions to be included with existing District trail signs.

Director Hassett requested and received additional information regarding the locations of the three trails in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve (OSP) proposed for the Stevens Creek Trail designation and also potential future trails, which the Board may consider at a later time.

Public comment opened at 2:21 p.m.

District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth read the submitted comments into the record.

Ross Heitkamp provided comments in support of the proposed Stevens Creek Trail designation to support regional trails and thanked the District for its work on the project.

Alex Sabo, with the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, supported the designation of the three trails as part of the Stevens Creek Trail, which will help close gaps in the Stevens Creek regional trail and support other regional trails, including the Ridge Trail and Bay Trail.

Joel Gartland supported the Stevens Creek Trail designation stating it is a critical regional trail connection and supports other regional trails, including the Ridge Trail and Bay Trail. The regional trail designation will also help promote awareness of the trail.

Public comment closed at 2:25 p.m.

Motion: Director Hassett moved, and Director Holman seconded the motion to forward to the full Board of Directors the recommendation to designate the Stevens Creek Nature Trail, White Oak Trail, and Skid Road Trail in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve as part of the regional Stevens Creek Trail.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

3. Bay Area Ridge Trail Designation at El Sereno Open Space Preserve (R-21-117)

Planner I Ari Nuri provided the staff report presentation describing the trail's location and project background. Ms. Nuri explained the trail segment proposed for designation as Bay Area Ridge Trail helps support the District's and partner agencies' regional trail goals. Additional regional trail connections are included in the Highway 17 crossing project to provide an integral throughway in the area.

Public comment opened at 3:34 p.m.

District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth read the submitted comments into the record.

Ross Heitkamp provided comments in support of the proposed Bay Area Ridge Trail designation to support the future Highway 17 crossing and fill regional trail gaps.

Brian Vermilion supported the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the increase the number of multi-use trails in the Bay Area.

Alex Sabo, with the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, supported the designation of the trails as Bay Area Ridge Trail to support regional trail connections and contribute to almost 40 miles of dedicated Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Public comment closed at 2:37 p.m.

Motion: Director Holman moved, and Director Hassett seconded the motion to:

1. Recommend the Board of Directors designate 2.2 miles of the Aquinas Trail and the 1.3-miles of the Serenity Trail in El Sereno Open Space Preserve as a new segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.
2. Recommend the Board of Directors designate the 0.2-mile section of the Montevina Ridge Trail from the Aquinas Trail intersection to the roadside parking area on Montevina Road as an "access route" to the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

Director Cyr adjourned the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee at 2:38 p.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, MMC
District Clerk