



Proclamation of the
**MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL
OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

GIVEN TO HONOR THE RETIREMENT OF

Renée Fitzsimons

WHEREAS, Renée Fitzsimons has been an employee of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) and will soon be retiring after 21 years of public service;

WHEREAS, Renée, with passion and commitment, has been instrumental in building and nurturing what started as a small, one-person led Docent program within the Public Affairs Department to what is today a beloved and impactful multi-layered and multi-staffed Interpretation and Education Program under the Visitor Services Department; and

WHEREAS, Renée has been the primary exhibit designer and curator of the Daniels Nature Center, including guardian of past resident snakes, Twix and Snickers, and the current resident snake Rolo, each of which have brought incredible enrichment and wonderful moments of joy and curiosity to children and adults alike; and

WHEREAS, through her tireless efforts and commitment, Renée has trained over 400 docents through interactive and meaningful instruction to foster inspiring and personal connections with the public, the preserves, and the mission of the District – and has nurtured the growth and immeasurable value of the District’s esteemed docents, resulting in numerous docents reaching over 30 years of exceptional volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, as a skilled instructor, trainer, supervisor, and presenter, Renée has enhanced public understanding of natural and cultural history, resource management issues, and conservation principles, instilling a deep appreciation for the natural environment and a sense of personal responsibility for caring and stewarding the natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Renée leaves a legacy of significant contributions, including providing the first Certified Interpretive Guide training for District Rangers in 2019, recommending and implementing a new training model for the Docent Naturalist Program, and inspiring and supporting docents to be remarkable purveyors of knowledge and wonder to create meaningful and lasting connections to nature; and

WHEREAS, Renée is recognized by her peers, District Staff, Docents, and the Board of Directors for her hard-work, professionalism, attention to detail, can-do attitude, enthusiasm, drive, passion, care, and determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District extends its appreciation of Renée Fitzsimons for her excellent service to the District for 21 years.

ZOE KERSTEEN-TUCKER, BOARD PRESIDENT

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