



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

## PROCUREMENT AGENDA ITEM

R-25-43  
Meeting 25-11  
April 9, 2025

## AGENDA ITEM 6

### AGENDA ITEM

Award of Contract with Ascent Environmental to provide Environmental Review (CEQA) Services for the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access Project

### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Ascent Environmental to provide environmental review services to support the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access Project for a base amount not to exceed \$142,261.
2. Authorize a 15% contingency of \$21,340 to cover unforeseen conditions, for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$163,601.
3. Authorize a separate contract allowance of \$25,000 for additional technical studies, if needed, bringing the not-to-exceed contract amount to \$188,601.

### DISCUSSION

The main goal of the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access Project is to provide public access to the currently closed central portion of the Preserve. At the regular meeting of June 26, 2024, the Board of Directors (Board) approved moving the La Honda Creek Public Access Working Group's recommendations for Sites B2, D and E3 and their associated programming and conceptual designs to the environmental review phase. The District is now bringing on a consultant to develop the environmental analysis of the sites and prepare the appropriate level of CEQA document. The recommended contract includes an allowance for additional technical studies that could include an expanded transportation analysis, cultural and tribal cultural resources assessments, air quality modeling, biological surveys, or other studies necessary to inform the CEQA analysis.

### BUDGET / FISCAL IMPACT

**The current fiscal year budget contains:**

- ☒ sufficient funds.
- ☐ insufficient funds; the next quarterly budget update will include a reallocation of unspent funds from other project budgets to cover for this expenditure.
- ☐ insufficient funds; approval of this item requires a fiscal year budget augmentation.

- ☒ future fiscal year budgets will include additional funds to complete the contracted work.

### Measure AA

- ☒ No, this contract is not part of a Measure AA project.
- ☐ Yes, this contract is part of a Measure AA project.

### PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND SELECTION

Staff reached out to three consultants from the Planning Department's CEQA Pre-Qualification list that was developed from a Request for Qualifications and Proposal (RFQP) process in 2024 and received proposals from two consultants, Ascent Environmental and LSA Associates. The recommendation is to enter into an agreement with Ascent Environmental who was deemed to be the most qualified and best suited for the project at a fair and reasonable price.

Consultant	Location	Proposed Fee
Ascent Environmental	Berkeley, CA	\$123,141
LSA Associates	Richmond, CA	\$130,905

### PRIOR BOARD ACTION SUPPORTING THE PROJECT

- **June 26, 2024:** The Board accepted the La Honda Creek Feasibility Study and advanced all three project sites with associated programming and conceptual designs, including Board-requested modifications, into environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act.
  - [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **April 24, 2024:** The Board received a presentation on the La Honda Feasibility Study findings. No action was taken.
  - [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **December 13, 2022:** The Planning and Natural Resources Committee (PNR) reviewed the Existing Conditions/Site Opportunity and Constraints Analysis Report.
  - [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **September 22, 2021:** The Board approved RHAA's award of contract.
  - [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **March 10, 2021:** The Board received a presentation on best practices from the La Honda PAWG pilot process.
  - [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **October 21, 2020:** The Board approved the La Honda PAWG recommendations.

- [Board Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)
- **July 28, 2020:** The PNR forwarded the La Honda PAWG recommendations to the full Board.
  - [PNR Report](#)
  - [Minutes](#)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act. In addition, public notices were provided to parties interested in La Honda Creek Preserve.

## CEQA COMPLIANCE

The scope associated with the contract under Board consideration includes completion of the necessary environmental review under CEQA for the implementation of the actions associated with the La Honda Creek Parking and Trailhead Access Project.

## NEXT STEPS

Following Board approval, the General Manager will execute a contract with Ascent to complete the environmental review as required under CEQA based on the tentative schedule outlined below.

Phase	Schedule
Project Kickoff and Background Information Review	Spring 2025
Project Description Development	Summer 2025
CEQA Document Development and Public Review	Fall/Winter 2026
CEQA Certification and Project Approval	Summer 2026

### Attachment(s)

1. Project Locations Map

Responsible Department Head:  
Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Department

Prepared by/contact person:  
Melissa Borgesi, Planner III, Planning Department

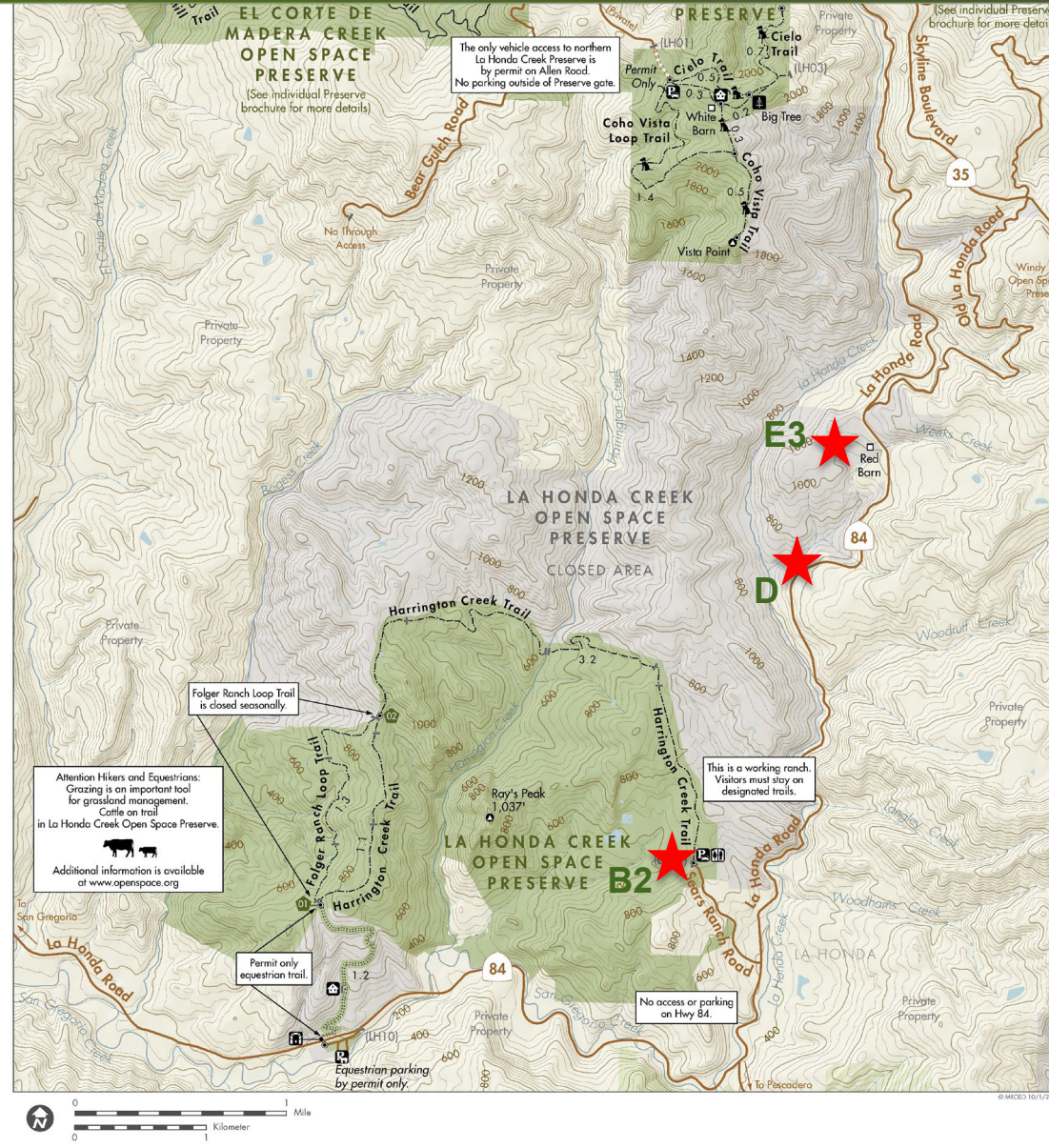


# La Honda Creek CEQA Sites

B2: Sears Ranch Road  
Parking Area

D: Preserve Gate  
LH07

E3: Red Barn Area



OPEN  
SPACE

For More Information  
Visit [www.openspace.org](http://www.openspace.org)  
or call (650) 691-1200

## Map Legend

- Midpen Preserve
- Closed Area - No Public Access
- Other Public Land
- Other Public Land - Restricted Access
- Private or Leased Land - No Public Access
- No Public Entry in Midpen Water Areas
- Road
- Vehicle Driveway
- Equestrian Only
- Hiking, Equestrian
- Hiking, Bicycling, Equestrian
- Trail Junction
- Numbered Trail Junction
- Gate (#)
- Parking Lot
- Equestrian Parking
- Restroom
- Point of Interest
- Notable Flora
- Tunnel
- Other Public or Private Building
- Residence

Dogs on Leash Permitted on Designated Trails

Bicycles not permitted in this Preserve

**In case of emergency, call 911  
or 24-hour Ranger Dispatch  
at (650) 968-4411.**

For your safety,  
and the protection of the preserves:

The preserve is open from dawn until one-half hour after sunset;

Please leave natural features, plants, and animals undisturbed;

Pack it in, pack it out- please do not litter;

Auto burglaries are increasing:  
Take valuables with you and lock your vehicle.