



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

SPECIAL MEETING

PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Administrative Office – Board Room
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

April 15, 2014

DRAFT MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Cyr called the Special Meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee to order at 2:02 p.m.

Members Present: Jed Cyr, Yoriko Kishimoto, and Curt Riffle

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Assistant General Manager Kevin Woodhouse, General Counsel Sheryl Schaffner, Acting Operations Manager Michael Newburn, Skyline Superintendent Brian Malone, Operations Project Manager Aaron Hébert, Planner III Gina Coony, and District Clerk Jennifer Woodworth

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Riffle moved, and Director Kishimoto seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

VOTE: 3-0-0

IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes

August 27, 2013

February 18, 2014

Motion: Director Cyr moved, Director Riffle seconded the motion to approve the minutes, as amended.

VOTE: 3-0-0

2. Harkins Bridge Replacement (R-14-73)

Operations Project Manager Aaron Hébert described the current state of the Harkins Bridge, its current uses and location in the Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve. Mr. Hébert described various types of bridges the District could use to replace the Harkins Bridge, including concrete arch, railcar, I-beam, and prefabricated truss. Mr. Hébert explained that staff is recommending use of a prefabricated truss bridge as it is the environmentally preferred alternative and due to the location of the Harkins Bridge site.

Assistant General Manager Kevin Woodhouse stated that the Board approved the costs associated with the Harkins Bridge replacement as part of the FY2014-15 Budget.

Director Riffle inquired regarding the lifespan of the recommended bridge type and whether it has the carrying capacity required for emergency vehicles.

Mr. Hébert stated that a prefabricated truss bridge is estimated to last 30-50 years and explained that the recommended bridge type meets all county weight and width requirements to allow for emergency vehicles to pass.

Director Riffle inquired as to whom the primary users of this bridge are to which Mr. Hébert explained that due to its proximity to a parking area, the Harkins Bridge is used by hikers, cyclists, equestrians, District staff, etc.

Director Riffle inquired if the process for replacing District bridges can be streamlined in order to allow staff to move forward with replacements without requiring Committee or Board approval.

Mr. Hébert explained that because each site is unique with unique elevations, locations, and required uses, staff must account for those differences when determining the type of replacement bridge to recommend.

Public hearing opened at 2:28 p.m.

No speakers present.

Public hearing closed at 2:28 p.m.

Director Riffle suggested that an inventory of the District's bridges be completed to determine their current status and potential need for replacement.

Acting Operations Manager Michael Newburn explained that District staff has been trained to inspect the bridges, and an inspection of the District's bridges is underway.

Motion: Director Kishimoto moved, and Director Riffle seconded the motion to recommend to the full Board that a prefabricated truss bridge is the preferred option to replace the Harkins Bridge in Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve.

VOTE: 3-0-0

Director Kishimoto inquired if staff maintains a list of structures on District properties and whether those structures are prioritized for demolition, such as the Log Cabin at La Honda Creek.

Skyline Area Superintendent Brian Malone stated that the Real Property department does maintain a list of structures on District properties, and additional requests for demolitions will be before the Committee and Board in the future.

Planner III Gina Coony stated that prioritization of structures for demolition, including the Log Cabin at La Honda Creek, was included as part of the Vision Plan and related Vision Plan Implementation Guide, which is currently being created by staff. Prioritization of structure demolition is also included as part of the District's annual Action Plan approved by the Board each fiscal year.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cyr adjourned the Special Meeting of the Planning and Natural Resources Committee of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 2:38 p.m.

Jennifer Woodworth, CMC
District Clerk