Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE, FUNDING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Administrative Office
5050 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

The Board of Directors conducted this meeting in accordance with California Government Code section 54953.

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Holman called the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee to order at 2:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Jed Cyr, Karen Holman, and Yoriko Kishimoto

Members absent: None

Staff present: General Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Hilary Stevenson, Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Acting Assistant General Manager Jane Mark, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager Maria Soria, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk Shaylynn Nelson, Executive Assistant/Deputy District Clerk Nelia Lopez, Planner I Alyssa Cano, Administrative Assistant Charles Tanner, Planner II Mattea Ottoboni

Chair Holman announced this meeting is being held in accordance with Government Code section 54953. The public has the opportunity to comment on the agenda, and the opportunity to listen to this meeting through the internet or via telephone. This information can be found on the meeting agenda, which was physically posted at the District's Administrative Office, and on the District website.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy District Clerk Shaylynn Nelson reported there were no public speakers for this item.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Approve the April 21, 2026 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Public comment period opened.

Ms. Nelson reported there were no public speakers for this item.

Public comment period closed.

Motion: Director Kishimoto moved, and Director Cyr seconded the motion to approve the April 21, 2026 Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs committee meeting minutes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

2. Naming and Use Designation for New Bear Creek Redwoods Trail and Parking Area (R-26-123)

Planner I Alyssa Cano and Administrative Assistant Charles Tanner presented the staff presentation. General Manager Ana Ruiz and Assistant General Manager Brian Malone, Planner II Mattea Ottoboni assisted with answering questions.

Director Kishimoto inquired whether staff considered naming the parking lot *Bear Creek North Parking Lot*.

Ms. Cano explained that one consideration when selecting a parking area name is to consider how it will fit on the guide maps and *Bear Creek North Parking Area* was too long to fit.

Director Holman expressed that she would prefer that limited space in the guide map not be the primary reason that a name is not selected. She inquired whether staff considered that *Bear Creek North Parking Area* could be shorted by using "N" for north and "Pkg" to indicate parking.

Ms. Cano stated that she can discuss the suggestion with the District's Geographic Information Systems team but noted that the Bear Creek area has many long names and it is best to keep the names shorter.

Director Holman noted that including Bear Creek in the parking area name may help visitors identify the location.

Ms. Cano explained that the Alma College parking lot is also located within the area and naming it the *Bear Creek Parking Area* may mislead visitors into thinking that there in only one parking lot within the preserve.

Director Kishimoto inquired of the General Manager why Bear Creek was not also referenced in the parking lot name to assist visitors while coordinating meetups with other visitors.

Ms. Ruiz explained that typically when visitors are organizing meetups, they will naturally state the name of the preserve where they are meeting. She further noted that the parking lot names will be most helpful to patrol and emergency response staff since visitors often do not memorize parking lot names.

Chair Holman requested that the staff report specify that the Easy Access Trail can accommodate people with walkers and wheelchairs.

Public comment period opened.

The following person provided comment:

- Michael Bushue

Public comment period closed.

Motion: Director Cyr moved, and Director Kishimoto seconded the motion to forward the following naming and use designation recommendations for Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve to the full Board of Directors for their review and consideration:

1. Name the new parking area currently under construction the "North Parking Area".
2. Name the new accessible (Easy Access) loop trail the "Quail Loop Trail".
3. Designate the use for the new loop trail as hiking only, with equestrian use limited to a connecting segment between the new parking area and Toad Hollow Trail.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 3-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Holman adjourned the meeting of the Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee at 2:28 p.m.

Shaylynn Nelson
Deputy District Clerk