



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 8, 2020

Contact: Joshua Hugg, 650-691-1200 x555, jhugg@openspace.org

Midpen Honors Senator Beall with Commemorative Bench

Los Altos, CA — The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District announced today that it has recognized state Sen. Jim Beall with a commemorative bench to honor his long-time dedication to the health of the open space lands of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

“Over the last several years, Sen. Beall has actively worked to enable our ability to protect and restore lands in the Upper Guadalupe Watershed and enhance the movement of wildlife in and out of the San Francisco Peninsula,” Midpen General Manager Ana María Ruiz said. The bench is located on the Aquinas Trail in El Sereno Open Space Preserve, which is in Senate District 15, which Sen. Beall represented for the past eight years. The bench faces south to overlook the lands surrounding Lexington Reservoir, with a view of San Jose to the east. Recently, Sen. Beall helped secure funding to allow Midpen acquire a privately held 182-acre tract of land in the El Sereno preserve.

“I’m honored and excited about the placement of the bench in our beloved Santa Cruz Mountains,” Sen. Beall said. “I’m hopeful that the open space district will be able to acquire and preserve more open space for future generations to enjoy, as my family long has.”

The plaque embedded on the bench reads:

Dedicated to State Senator Jim Beall, a long-time public servant of the South Bay, whose family settled in this area in the 1930s. He loved the land and fought for the preservation of open spaces and protection of habitat health in these Santa Cruz Mountains. November 2020

###

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District’s mission is to acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land of regional significance in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education. On the San Mateo County coast, our mission also includes preserving agricultural land of regional significance and rural character and encouraging viable agricultural use of land resources. Midpen has successfully protected nearly 65,000 acres of public open space land in the Santa Cruz Mountains region since 1972.

openspace.org



Credit: Vince Hernandez



Credit: Pat Beall



Credit: Vince Hernandez