

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Parks Department



**DATE:** November 24, 2015  
**COMMISSION MEETING DATE:** December 3, 2015

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Marlene Finley, Parks Director  
**SUBJECT:** Parks Department Updates

**RECOMMENDATION**

Review and accept report.

**BACKGROUND**

This report covers Department activities since the Commission's October 1, 2015 meeting.

**UPDATES:**

**Staffing:** The Department is in the process of promoting two Park Ranger IIIs and hiring a new Natural Resources Park Ranger III position. In addition, the Department is filling the vacant Parks Equipment Mechanic/Operator and the Fiscal Office Specialist positions.

**San Mateo County Parks Foundation Events:** The Director participated in the recruitment, evaluation and hiring process for the Executive Director position. In addition, County Park staff hosted tours of the parks for new Executive Director Michele Beasley over the month of October, and helped plan and host the reception for retiring Executive Director Julia Bott.

**Events:** The Director participated in many events over the last two months, including the reception for the California Coastal Commission and King Tides event at Surfers' Beach.

**San Mateo County Trails Workshop:** Forest Service Trails Program Manager and Civil Engineer Garrett Villanueva led a three day Trails Workshop for park staff. The workshop included site visits to Green Valley, Pedro Point Headlands, Pillar Point Bluffs and Wicklow County Park. The purpose of the workshop was to share trail design expertise, review the trail assessment database and GIS collector application, problem

solve for two trails currently in mid-design phase and determine best approaches for reducing erosion and sediment transport along coastal bluffs. Crowdsourcing for trail data, clinometers and using I-pads to collect trail condition reports were some of the tech highlights. Park staff and Mr. Villanueva also spent an evening with Trail Center leadership talking about 2016 volunteer projects.

**Parks Business Practices:** With Chaparral Concession currently operating in Folger Stable and Wunderlich Park, the Department is now working with business consultant CHM Government Services on the future request for proposals for the current Boardsports operation, reviewing the Parks fee strategy, and recently developed the Coyote Point Marina capital reserve plan, component renewal schedule and cyclic maintenance workbook. CHM vice president Margaret Bailey will likely make a presentation to the Commission at your meeting on February 4, 2016.

**Amah Mutsun Land Trust:** The Director and Natural Resource Manager met with representatives of the Amuh Mutsun band of the Ohlone people to discuss common interests and how Parks and the Amuh Mutsun Land Trust Stewardship Corps may work together in the future. The Amuh Mutsun traditional territory and sphere of influence lies in the south county, Ano Nuevo area. In addition, we discussed permitting collection of rocks and plants for traditional cultural practices.

**Open Roads with Doug McConnell:** Both San Mateo County Parks and San Mateo County Parks Foundation are sponsoring Doug McConnell's show "Open Roads" on ABC. For his first shoot of the season, Doug McConnell has selected Devil's Slide Trail and the California Coastal Trail. Crews are scheduled to visit and film within the next few days.

**Pedro Point Trail:** The Director attended the Pacifica City Council meeting on November 23, 2015 where the Council decided unanimously to take final action to purchase the 5-acre Colt property, acquiring the last parcel to enable the connection of the Coastal Trail from Devil's Slide to Pacifica. Both the California Coastal Conservancy and the City of Pacifica have stated their intention to transfer properties at Pedro Point to San Mateo County Parks, should the County Board of Supervisors accept the transfers.

**Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST):** Park program managers and management staff from POST met for a half-day retreat at the Folger Stable Carriage House. Initiatives, future trail easements and additional management agreements were some of the topics discussed.

**Flood Park Presentation and Public Meetings:** Reimagine Flood Park was the topic of a presentation by the Director and Community Program Manager Carla Schoof at the Menlo Park City Council meeting on November 17, 2015. Public meetings to share the final park designs are scheduled for December 9 and 16, 2015.

End of report