

PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

R-15-67 April 21, 2015

AGENDA ITEM 1

AGENDA ITEM

Concept design plans for the Mount Umunhum Summit Project.



GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Review and confirm the draft conceptual design plans for the Mount Umunhum Summit Project.

SUMMARY

The Mount Umunhum Summit Project will further open the Mount Umunhum summit to public access and provide a summit experience that is unique to the site while still remaining in alignment with the scale and type of amenities typical of other Preserves. Improvements for public access have been developed at a conceptual design level (Attachment 1). These improvements will be presented to the Planning and Natural Resources Committee (PNR) for review and feedback.

MEASURE AA

The Mount Umunhum Summit Project would further the District's Vision Plan Priority Action Items and Measure AA Projects. The Measure AA Project List, which was approved by the Board on October 29, 2014, includes Project #23-4 from AA Project Portfolio 23 - Sierra Azul: Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation. The Summit Project, 23-4 furthers the goals of Project Portfolio #23 as it establishes new facilities, including trails and parking areas to allow for public access at the summit of Mount Umunhum.

DISCUSSION

Construction of visitor serving amenities at the summit area of Mt. Umunhum is on an expedited schedule to enable public access to the summit by the end of 2016. In order to meet this aggressive schedule, the landscape architects hired to complete the design, Restoration Design Group (RDG), have already completed the draft conceptual design for the summit. This conceptual design was developed after several site visits with the entire consultant team, as well as an on-site meeting at the summit with Valentin Lopez, Amah Mutsun Tribal Chairperson, and members of the Amah Mutsun Trust to obtain input on the design.

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In order to move forward with the development of more fully refined construction design documents, staff is seeking concurrence from the PNR on the proposed direction, theme, and overall circulation at the summit area. As part of this review, the General Manager recommends Committee applying the same design guidelines that were established for the Guadalupe Creek Overlook for use in the development of the larger Summit Project to create a world-class summit destination. These design guidelines are as follows: 1) restore and protect sensitive natural resources, 2) provide a memorable visitor experience, 3) integrate and complement the natural setting, and 4) incorporate a "timeless" look and feel that will provide for design longevity. The consultants (RDG) will join staff in presenting the draft conceptual design plans at this meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this high priority project in the amount of \$611,000 were included in the Planning Department's Fiscal Year 2015-16 Action Plan and Budget. This project is funded through a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy and is also part of Measure AA (Project #23-4).

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

This is the first time the PNR will have seen the draft conceptual plans for the Mount Umunhum summit area; however, the PNR has previously reviewed and confirmed the proposed design guidelines for the Guadalupe Creek Overlook, which is also part of the larger Mount Umunhum Project.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Construction of the Mt. Umunhum summit area was included in the Mount Umunhum Environmental Restoration and Public Access Plan EIR, which was certified by the Board on October 17, 2012 (Report R-12-91).

NEXT STEPS

Following PNR concurrence of the design guidelines and draft preliminary conceptual design, staff will proceed with the development of a 50% plan set, which will be brought back to the PNR in June 2015 to meet the construction schedule of October 2016.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft concept design plans for Mt. Umunhum summit

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MOUNT UMUNHUM SUMMIT PROJECT

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District



CONCEPT PLAN

21 April, 2015





Restoration Design Group Team

SANDIS Rutherford + Chekene Ware Associates Leslie Stone Associates Tim Best Vic Claassen Lech Naumovich Cornerstone Earth Group