



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-18-37
Meeting 18-14
April 11, 2018

AGENDA ITEM 3

AGENDA ITEM

Award of Contract for Engineering and Design of Two New Trail Loops at La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the Acting General Manager to enter into a contract with Fall Creek Engineering for a base contract amount of \$147,590.
2. Authorize a 15% contingency of \$22,138, to be expended only if necessary to cover unforeseen conditions, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$169,728.

SUMMARY

The La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve Master Plan includes phased trail construction to expand public access and provide a variety of loop and connecting trails within the upper, central, and lower areas of the Preserve. Phase 1 trails were opened to the public in fall 2017. Phase 2 trails include two new loop trails in the lower Preserve. Engineering geology, geotechnical, structural engineering, and civil design services are necessary to complete the trail design documents and obtain permits. District crew will construct these trails. On February 12, 2018, staff released a request for proposals to four pre-qualified civil engineering firms and received three proposals. Fall Creek Engineering was determined to be the most qualified firm to complete the work at a fair and reasonable price. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 budget includes sufficient funds to cover costs through the end of this fiscal year. The proposed FY2018-19 Capital Improvement Action Plan (CIAP) includes additional funds to complete design and engineering work under the recommended contract.

DISCUSSION

Phase 2 implementation of the La Honda Creek Master Plan includes expansion of the Preserve trail system to include multi-use (hiking/biking/equestrian) and hiking/equestrian loop trails linking to the existing Harrington Creek Trail (Attachment 1). Master Plan Implementation Measure 3.1.g states: *Open new loop trails in the eastern area of the former Driscoll Ranch; utilize existing roads for portions of the loop trails; realign and/or improve drainage of existing steep sections of road to address erosion; construct new trail at a 3-4 foot width and follow contours, where feasible.* These new trails will provide visitors access to varied terrain and a diversity of habitats, including dense redwood forest of the La Honda Creek Canyon. The southern trail will create a loop that connects to the new Sears Ranch Parking Area and will be open to hiking and equestrian use only. The northern trail will establish a second loop that will

be open to multi-use (includes bicycles). Skyline Field Crew scouted the proposed loop trails and identified preliminary alignments.

The preliminary trail alignment for both segments totals nearly five miles, traversing steep side slopes and crossing several stream channels. Engineering geological and geotechnical assessments are necessary to inform the structural design of bridges and retaining walls. For these reasons, as well as the significant trail length, design and engineering fees for the new trails are anticipated to be slightly higher than typical.

Future connecting trails to the Red Barn area are also planned under Phase 2. These future connections will be designed under a separate contract that will be brought to the Board of Directors for approval later this year.

Consultant Selection

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued on February 12, 2018 to four pre-qualified civil engineering firms from the July 2017 On-Call Engineering Services Request for Qualifications. Staff received the following three (3) proposals on February 21, 2018:

Consultant	Location	Proposal Amount
Fall Creek Engineering (FCE)	Santa Cruz	\$147,590
Timothy Best	Santa Cruz	\$162,130
GHD	San Jose	\$134,118

An evaluation team of Planning and Land and Facilities staff ranked the proposals based on the firm or team's experience in the design and engineering of wildland trails, quality of the proposal, and the team's proposed approach to the project. Staff determined that the team led by Fall Creek Engineering (FCE) was the most qualified to perform the work and presented the best-fit proposal. FCE has proven on numerous District projects to have a highly collaborative and responsive approach, and have recently led the design of more than 40 miles of new trails at the Santa Cruz Land Trust's San Vicente Redwoods Preserve. The Acting General Manager therefore recommends that the contract be awarded to FCE.

The FCE base contract includes sufficient budget to address known topographic and geologic constraints. However, due to the uncertainty inherent in the preliminary scoping phase of the project, and the likelihood that additional structural engineering may be required given the topography of the project area, a 15% contingency in the amount of \$22,138 is recommended.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 Action Plan and Budget Project MAA05-007 includes \$171,000 for the La Honda Creek Phase II Trails. These funds will shift to MAA Portfolio #07 (Lower La Honda Creek) during the third quarter budget adjustments in May 2018 as this portfolio description most accurately represents the new trail location. Sufficient funds will be included in the FY2018-19 and FY2019-20 budgets to fully fund the recommended contract, as shown in the table below.

	FY2017-18	FY2018-19	FY2019-20	TOTAL
La Honda Creek Loop Trail Project budget (MAA07-XXX)	\$171,000	\$157,053	\$200,000	\$528,053
<i>Recommended Action: Award of Contract:</i>	40,000	100,000	29,728	\$169,728
<i>Spent-to-Date (as of 3/19/18):</i>	\$0			
<i>Encumbrances:</i>	\$0			
<i>Remaining Balance (proposed):</i>	\$131,000	\$57,053	\$163,010	\$351,063

The following table outlines the Measure AA Portfolio #07 budget, costs to date, and the fiscal impact related to the proposed contract:

MAA 07 - La Honda Creek: Driscoll Ranch Public Access, Endangered Wildlife Protection and Conservation Grazing - Portfolio Appropriation	\$14,825,000
<i>Life-to-Date Spent (as of 3/19/18):</i>	\$11,724,364
<i>Encumbrances:</i>	\$88,490
<i>Recommended Action: Award Contract (includes contingency):</i>	\$169,728
Balance Remaining (Proposed):	\$2,842,418

The recommended action is eligible for Measure AA reimbursement.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

Extensive Board and Committee review occurred during development of the La Honda Creek Master Plan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Potential environmental impacts of the proposed new trails were analyzed in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the La Honda Creek Master Plan, adopted by the Board in August 2012.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, the Acting General Manager will enter into a contract with Fall Creek Engineering. Final contract signature is subject to meeting all District requirements. Trail design and engineering will begin upon issuance of a notice to proceed, and continue through 2018, with permitting and construction in 2019 and 2020, respectively. The Legislative, Funding, and Public Affairs Committee will review proposed trail naming recommendations and forward these to the full Board of Directors for approval at a later date. Once construction is nearing completion, the Board will be notified of a grand opening date to announce and celebrate the public opening of the new trail additions. Additional Board review is not anticipated for this project since the construction is planned to be completed by District crew.

Attachments:

1. La Honda Creek Loop Trail Map

Responsible Department Head:

Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Department Manager

Prepared by:

Lisa Bankosh, Planner III

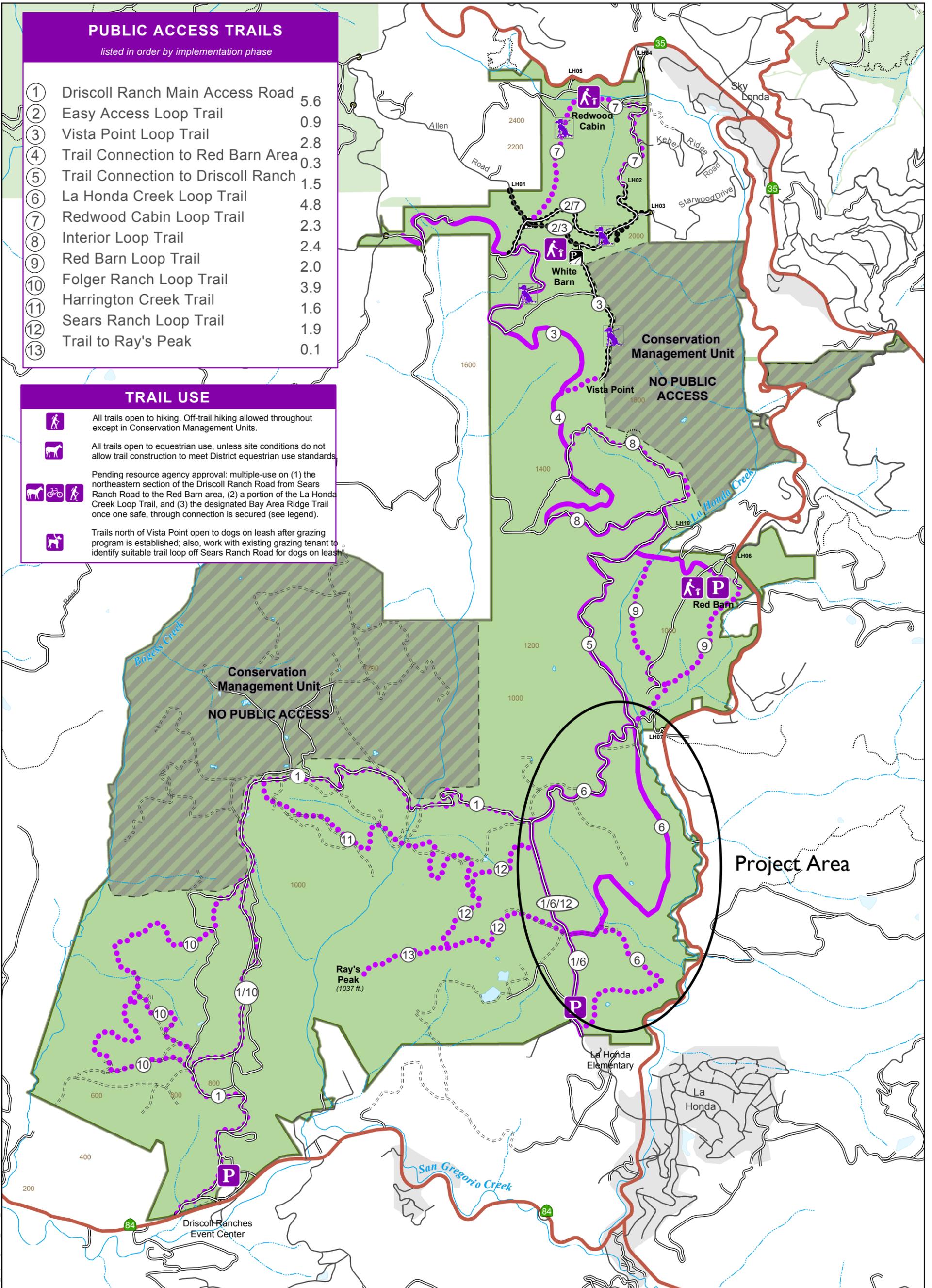
PUBLIC ACCESS TRAILS

listed in order by implementation phase

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----|
| ① | Driscoll Ranch Main Access Road | 5.6 |
| ② | Easy Access Loop Trail | 0.9 |
| ③ | Vista Point Loop Trail | 2.8 |
| ④ | Trail Connection to Red Barn Area | 0.3 |
| ⑤ | Trail Connection to Driscoll Ranch | 1.5 |
| ⑥ | La Honda Creek Loop Trail | 4.8 |
| ⑦ | Redwood Cabin Loop Trail | 2.3 |
| ⑧ | Interior Loop Trail | 2.4 |
| ⑨ | Red Barn Loop Trail | 2.0 |
| ⑩ | Folger Ranch Loop Trail | 3.9 |
| ⑪ | Harrington Creek Trail | 1.6 |
| ⑫ | Sears Ranch Loop Trail | 1.9 |
| ⑬ | Trail to Ray's Peak | 0.1 |

TRAIL USE

-  All trails open to hiking. Off-trail hiking allowed throughout except in Conservation Management Units.
-  All trails open to equestrian use, unless site conditions do not allow trail construction to meet District equestrian use standards.
-  Pending resource agency approval: multiple-use on (1) the northeastern section of the Driscoll Ranch Road from Sears Ranch Road to the Red Barn area, (2) a portion of the La Honda Creek Loop Trail, and (3) the designated Bay Area Ridge Trail once one safe, through connection is secured (see legend).
-  Trails north of Vista Point open to dogs on leash after grazing program is established; also, work with existing grazing tenant to identify suitable trail loop off Sears Ranch Road for dogs on leash.



La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve

Map Projection: UTM Zone 10N, NAD 1927
 Data Sources: USGS, CA Dept. of Fish & Game, County of San Mateo, and MROSD.
 Map Printed August 2012

0 0.2 0.4 Miles



Attachment 1. La Honda Master Plan Public Access Trails

- | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|---|
| Trails | Facilities | Roads | Conservation Management Unit (No Public Access) |
| ●●●● Existing Public Trails (Hiking, Equestrian) |  Existing Parking Area | ----- Unmaintained Road |  |
| ●●●● New Public Trails (Hiking, Equestrian) |  New Parking Area | ———— Paved Road | |
| — New Multiple-Use Public Trails (Hiking, Equestrian, Bicycling) |  New Interpretive Site | —— Highway | |
| — New Segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail (Hiking, Equestrian, Bicycling) |  New Equestrian Parking Area | | |

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