

From: [Maryann Chwalek](#)
To: [Tina Hugg](#); [Melissa Borgesi](#)
Subject: La Honda Public Access Working Group - Public Comment
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2020 10:24:15 AM

EXTERNAL

Hi Tina and Melissa,

Sorry to be late on this public comment for the upcoming meeting! I searched on the site last week and did not see a link. Hope it is OK that I emailed you directly.

I attended the last meeting and made a brief comment about gaining access to the trail north from the Sears Ranch parking lot. Just want to underscore what a nice hike this was the day the group took a field trip toward Preserve Gate LH07!! It would seem a win-win to open this trail so that there are more immediate hiking options from the Sears Ranch parking lot.

Also, the hike that day was not long and was at a leisurely pace. So, building on the comment above, opening a trail or trails north past Preserve Gate LH07 would be another win for hikers using the Sears Ranch lot. As an example, I have hiked 6 to 8 miles from the Purissima-Redwoods parking lot on Skyline, and one could easily do more (I'm guessing they do!). Wondering how many miles it would be to walk from the Sears Ranch lot to the area closer to the Red Barn and/or Allen Road permit only lot? It would be interesting to note mileage for different trail routes that could be accessed now from the Sears Ranch lot. While I don't know all the Mid-Pen sites for hiking, I'm guessing most have trail options.

On another note, every time I drive on Rt. 84 in either direction I consider what it would be like to turn into a parking area near the Red Barn or LH07. Each time, my first thought is - risky, and at times downright scary (and I am well familiar with 84 as a La Honda resident of many years). It was the safe choice for the Mid-Pen tour to LH07 to go up to Alice's Restaurant to turn around, so as not to cross traffic. I can imagine what the already overpacked corner at Alice's would be like if that became the route of choice for hikers.

Just also want to thank you for your careful attention to this project, as well as all the other wonderful hiking areas we have to enjoy now!

Best regards, Maryann Chwalek