



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

R-12-84  
Meeting 12-29  
August 22, 2012

## AGENDA ITEM 10

### AGENDA ITEM

Authorization to Amend a Contract with Timothy C. Best, Certified Engineering Geologist, for Trail Work Related to the Staging Area and Trails Project and the Watershed Protection Program (WPP) at El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve

### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to amend the current contract with Timothy C. Best (Mr. Best), CEG, in the amount of \$33,300 (including a 15% contingency) for a total authorization amount not-to-exceed \$117,945, to include additional engineering design services, permitting assistance, and construction monitoring for trail improvements associated with the El Corte de Madera Creek Staging Area and Trails Project and Watershed Protection Program.

### SUMMARY

The proposed contract amendment of \$33,300 covers additional engineering design services, permitting assistance, and construction monitoring associated with construction of the new Bear Gulch Trail ("Bear Gulch" is a temporary name for reference purpose only) and realignment and restoration of the Steam Donkey Trail, which are part of Phases 2 through 4 of the El Corte de Madera Creek Staging Area and Trails Project (see Attachment 1). These services are expected to be provided over the next three to five fiscal years. Preliminary design work on the Bear Gulch and Steam Donkey Trails was initially conducted in association with the Watershed Protection Program (WPP). Given grant opportunities and the trails' proximity and connection to the proposed staging area, the Bear Gulch and Steam Donkey Trails were also added as components of the Staging Area and Trails Project.

### BACKGROUND

Mr. Best prepared a Road and Trail Inventory (RTI) for the El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve) in 2002 that identified road- and trail-related sediment sources and treatment recommendations. The WPP was developed during the same period in partnership with the National Marine Fisheries (NMFS), San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The purpose of this multi-agency WPP is twofold: to protect and restore watershed integrity in the Preserve and downstream critical habitat for the federally-threatened steelhead trout and federally-endangered coho salmon, while also maintaining opportunities for year-round multiple-use recreation and environmental education within the Preserve. Implementation of the WPP involves applying

site-specific recommendations identified in the RTI to remedy ongoing erosion and sedimentation issues within the Preserve.

On January 21, 2004, the Board adopted the WPP for the Preserve. While much of the priority work identified in the RTI has been completed to date, several high and moderate priority projects remain, including work on portions of the following trails: Springboard, Steam Donkey, El Corte de Madera Creek, Resolution, South Leaf, Methuselah, Blue Blossom, and the proposed Bear Gulch Trail. The newly-formed Natural Resource Department currently manages overall implementation of the WPP with the exception of the proposed Bear Gulch Trail construction and Steam Donkey Trail realignment and restoration, which are being managed by the Planning Department in connection with the Staging Area and Trails Project. Work on the remaining WPP trails will continue over the next three years.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff proposes to amend Mr. Best's contract to continue work on the Bear Gulch and Steam Donkey Trails, which requires engineering geologic design, plans and reports for permitting, and oversight during construction as required by permitting agencies. Though preliminary design work has begun for the Bear Gulch and Steam Donkey Trails, the Staging Area and Trails Project is a multi-phased project, requiring the current draft trail construction plans to be modified to reflect the phased implementation.

Mr. Best has great familiarity with the Preserve and both projects. As part of the Staging Area and Trails Project, he assisted staff in the design and permitting for the Phase 1 Connector and Crossing Trails (see Attachment 1), which are anticipated to be constructed later this summer. The new Bear Gulch Trail and Steam Donkey Trail realignment and restoration constitute Phases 2 through 4. Mr. Best provides detailed evaluation of field conditions and develops practical, cost-effective solutions to problems. In addition, he provides an excellent work product at very reasonable cost that he continually adapts to meet specific District needs. His work products provide great value to the District, as they are both unique among his peers and highly useful tools for planning, permitting, and construction. Staff is pleased for the opportunity to continue working with him.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The Planning Department FY2012-13 budget contains funds to cover the costs associated with this work.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW**

No Board Committee review is required for this portion of the Project.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice of this Agenda Item was provided per the Brown Act. No additional notice is required.

## **CEQA COMPLIANCE**

Retention of consultant services to prepare design documents and construction oversight does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## **NEXT STEPS**

Upon approval by the Board of Directors, the General Manager will be authorized to amend a contract with Mr. Best to perform additional engineering design services, permitting assistance, and construction monitoring to implement the Bear Gulch and Steam Donkey Trail improvements, which are associated with the El Corte de Madera Creek Staging Area and Trails Project and the Watershed Protection Program. These services are expected to occur over the next three to five fiscal years. Design and permitting for Phase 2 of the Staging Area and Project are anticipated to begin later this fiscal year.

### **Attachment**

1. Staging Area and Trails Project Overall Phasing Map.

### **Responsible Department Head:**

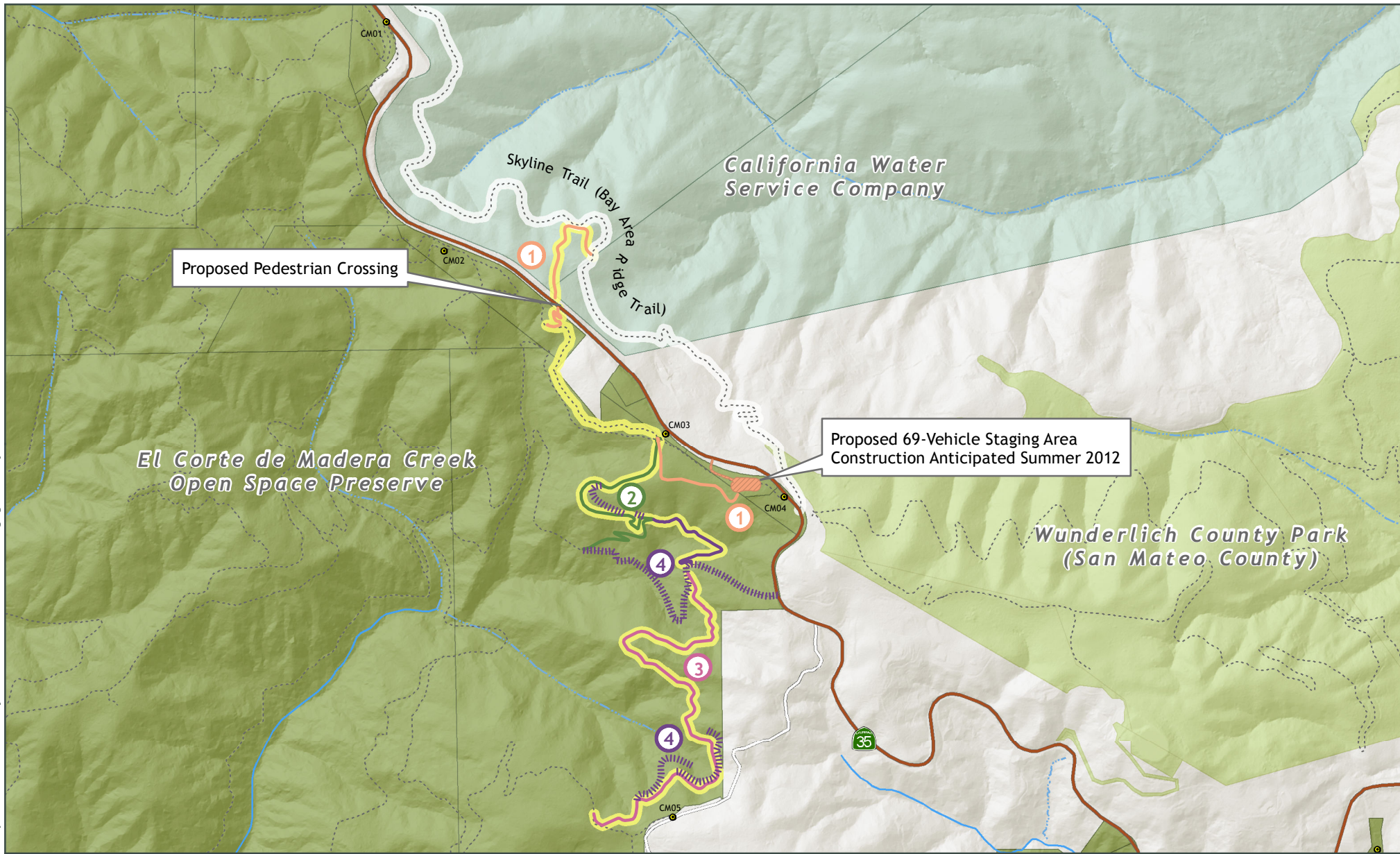
Ana Ruiz, AICP, Planning Manager

### **Prepared by:**

Tina Hugg, Planner III

### **Contact person:**

Same as above



### El Corte de Madera Creek OSP Staging Area and Trails: Project Overview Map

#### Property Information

- MROSD Preserves
- Other Protected Open Space or Park Lands
- Watershed Land
- Private Property

#### Proposed Trail Construction

- Phase 1 Trail Construction
- Phase 2 Trail Construction
- Phase 3 Trail Construction
- Phase 4 Trail Construction
- Phase 4 Trail Restoration

- Existing Public Trail
- Existing Alignment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Proposed Extension of the Bay Area Ridge Trail
- MROSD Gate

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)



May, 2011



While the District strives to use the best available digital data, this data does not represent a legal survey and is merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.