

R-13-51 Meeting 13-12 May 22, 2013

AGENDA ITEM 4

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Approval of a Recommendation from the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee to Designate the Names for the "Connector Trail" and the "Bear Gulch Trail" respectively as the Sierra Morena Trail and the Oljon Trail, which are Part of the Staging Area and Trails Project at El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION



Approve the recommendation from the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) to designate the names for the "Connector Trail" and the "Bear Gulch Trail" respectively as the Sierra Morena Trail and the Oljon Trail, which are part of the Staging Area and Trails Project (Project) at El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve (Preserve).

SUMMARY

This item is a follow-up to the LFPAC meeting on October 9, 2012. During the design and permitting of the Project, staff assigned temporary working names for the three new trails: "Connector Trail", "Cross Over Trail", and "Bear Gulch Trail". The full Board of Directors (Board) approved designating the Cross Over Trail as the Molder Trail at its Board meeting on October 10, 2012 (see Report R-12-103). The full Board is being asked to approve LFPAC's recommendation to name the "Connector Trail" the Sierra Morena Trail and the "Bear Gulch Trail" the Oljon Trail.

DISCUSSION

During Project design and permitting, staff assigned the following temporary working names for the three new trails: "Connector Trail", "Cross Over Trail", and "Bear Gulch Trail" (see Attachment 1). At its meeting on October 9, 2012, LFPAC recommended bringing all three names forward for Board approval.

The Molder Trail was brought before the Board on October 10, 2012, in time for a retirement event planned by the California Water Service Company to honor General Superintendent Paul Molder who was instrumental in Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) obtaining agreement from Cal Water management to construct this trail across the Bear Gulch Watershed land.

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The Sierra Morena Trail is recommended as the permanent name for the "Connector Trail" because, as laid out in the field, it was intended to be a natural extension of the existing Sierra Morena Trail that now starts at Gate CM03 and goes north towards Gate CM02. To prevent confusion for visitors, the District generally avoids changing names at trail junction points.

The Preserve's history was the impetus for the proposed name of the Oljon Trail for the "Bear Gulch Trail". Staff consulted with California State Parks Archaeologist Mark Hylkema regarding possible local Ohlone names based on the tribes thought to have resided in the region. The name "Oljon Trail" would honor the Native American tribe that occupied the lower San Gregorio Creek drainage into which El Corte de Madera Creek drains.

FISCAL IMPACT

This item has no fiscal impact other than budgeted staff time.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

LFPAC considered this item at its October 9, 2012 meeting and recommended approval.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

NEXT STEPS

With the Board's approval, staff will move forward with the new trail names and finalize signage for the Project reflecting these names.

Attachment:

1. Trail Overview Map

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