Parks and Recreation Commission to hold Workshop

At 7:00 pm on July 11th, the Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a special workshop to study the Draft Preferred Alternative for the project Master Plan. The Draft Preferred Alternative includes proposed uses for the entire 4500 acre parkland, from the existing lakefront to the western flat area off of San Martin and New Avenue.

The workshop format will allow the Commissioners to discuss in depth the issues facing the master plan prior to making a final recommendation at their meeting in August. The public is invited to attend but opportunities for input may be limited due to time constraints. Further comments will be taken at August 7th Commission meeting.

The Task Force has endorsed the majority of the Draft Preferred Alternative which includes such ideas as a 35 acre Equestrian Center and a six acre historic ranch site area off of San Martin Avenue. Other ideas endorsed include trail staging at Roop Road and at San Martin Avenue, a youth oriented Environmental Education Center at the old Mendoza Ranch and preservation of almost 4000 acres as open space, accessible only by non motorized trails.

Task Force Reviews Alternate Design for Western Flat Area

Over the past months, the Task Force has been divided as whether to recommend the inclusion of a 175 acre golf course on the 320 Western Flat Area. While the Draft Preferred Alternative presented to the Parks Commission in May does include a golf course, the Task Force has continued to explore other acceptable uses for the area. A second design for the western flat area was reviewed at their June meeting.

The new study included two recreational components; Campgrounds and Picnic Facilities, while leaving much of the site in grassland, riparian, or oak woodland restoration projects. The campgrounds would allow both tent and RV camping. Picnic facilities would accommodate family and group picnics, with an events pavillion to host such events as weddings and community meetings. Some Task Force members heartily endorsed this plan while others either opposed it or were concerned about impacts. Both designs, along with projected fiscal and environmental information will be presented at the July workshop for comment.

Next Steps

Following the Workshop, the Task Force will meet on July 15th to review information presented at the workshop for the Western Flat area and make a final recommendation to the Parks Commission. The Parks Commission will take action on the Draft Preferred Alternative at their regular meeting on August 7th. The Commission's recommendation will be forwarded to the Housing, Land Use, and Environmental (HLUET) Subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors for their review in either August or September.
Special Parks Commission Workshop for Master Plan
The County Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding a special workshop on
Thursday, July 11th, at 7:00 pm
County Government Center
Lower Level Conference Room
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose
This Commission Workshop will focus solely on the Coyote Lake Bear Ranch Master Plan. Commissioners will review the Draft Preferred Plan in depth and consider recommendations made by the Task Force and the public. Interested members of the public are invited to attend.

Task Force Meeting
Monday, July 15, 2002 - 6:30 pm
Christmas Hill Park - Environmental Education Building
7049 Miller Avenue
Gilroy

If you need more information or would like to add a name to our mailing list, please contact:
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Los Gatos, CA 95032
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or visit our Parks Website at www.parkhere.org