Task Force Considers Possible Uses

At the July 10th meeting, the Task Force began the important task of Project Programming. This step is to decide possible uses to be considered in the Master Plan. This brainstorming session and the next one in August, will lead to the development of an extensive list of both passive and active recreational activities for the park. Each proposal was given careful consideration. In the interest of keeping the ideas flowing, the Task Force was encouraged not to dwell on the details of implementation at this time. The public will have further opportunity to contribute to this discussion at our next Community Meeting to be held this autumn. Then, each proposed use will be evaluated for suitability when weighed against the project goals, existing site conditions, site suitability, and County resources. (See our Master Plan Process Outline for more information on the steps involved in developing a Parks Master Plan at www.parkhere.org.)

County Parks Committed to Master Plan Process

During our last meeting, some members raised the idea of opening the former Harvey Bear and Mendoza Ranches to the public prior to the completion of the master plan. While that may be desirable in the short term, such a possibility is not feasible for many reasons. When land is converted from one major use to another, State law requires that a full assessment of the impacts of the new use is conducted. This assessment usually results in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which is publicly reviewed before any final decisions are made. Public facilities cannot be developed without first identifying and mitigating their impacts to the community and the environment. The conversion of large tracts of land like Bear and Mendoza Ranches from agricultural use to public parkland is subject to this assessment.

Another reason why these areas of the park cannot be opened prior to completion of the Master Plan is that County Parks made a firm commitment to the community at our first meeting to conduct an orderly and open process. We are committed to a process whereby time is allowed for many different visions for the park to be considered and their potential impacts to be identified before any decisions are made. A complete Master Plan balances the needs of today with the needs of tomorrow. When approved, it is envisioned that this Master Plan will be a blueprint for parkland development for the next 20 years.

Next steps:
The next Task Force meeting will be on August 14th at 6:30 pm in Gilroy. At that time the Task Force will complete their discussion of possible uses and review ways to fast track implementation of basic park facilities and public access after Plan approval. At a separate meeting this month, Parks staff will meet with agencies such as the Santa Clara Valley Water District and State Fish & Game, to share information and gather input on proposed uses of concern to the agencies with oversight on public land.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT
Task Force Meeting No. 4
Date: Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2001
Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Location: Gilroy Senior Center
7371 Hanna Street, Gilroy
(see map below)

For more information, contact:
Elish Ryan, Park Planner
Santa Clara County Parks
(408) 358-3741, ext. 147
or visit our website at www.parkhere.org

Meeting Agenda Highlights
* Programming of possible uses
* Identifying Program elements for immediate implementation upon Plan completion.
Note: The Agenda is available on our website August 10th

Meeting Location Map

All Task Force meetings are open to the public and all are invited to attend.

New Website for the Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch Master Planning
At our new website for the Master Plan, you will find information on the history of the park, past meeting notes, an outline of the master plan process, and much more. We hope all our readers will visit it at www.parkhere.org.
Click on "Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch Master Plan" on the Parks Department's home page to enter the site. If you don't have internet access, please contact the project manager, Elish Ryan, to request transcripts.
Master Plan Task Force Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Force Members</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mr. Fadi Saba</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Fasaba@yahoo.com">Fasaba@yahoo.com</a> (408) 279-3879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Mr. Brent Bear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ca5bears@ix.netcom.com">Ca5bears@ix.netcom.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mr. Bill Konle</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Bkonle@aol.com">Bkonle@aol.com</a> (408)779-4053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ms. Jan Webb</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Janettawebb@hotmail.com">Janettawebb@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Ms. Mary Lou Fitzpatrick</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlf@croatoan.org">mlf@croatoan.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Mr. Richard Von Bargen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Wcengr@pacbell.net">Wcengr@pacbell.net</a> (408) 683-0991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ms. Alicia Borowski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ptdobos@dsldesigns.net">Ptdobos@dsldesigns.net</a> (408) 847-6243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ms. Carla Ruigh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Swngdnrc@garlic.com">Swngdnrc@garlic.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Mr. Frank Croft</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Frank@geospatial.com">Frank@geospatial.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Ms. Kathy Rairden</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tdenning@garlic.com">tdenning@garlic.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Mr. Doug Reynaud</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Dret4321@aol.com">Dret4321@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Mr. Brian Seifert</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bnan@denebinc.com">bnan@denebinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Mr. Michael Patterson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ournero@ix.netcom.com">ournero@ix.netcom.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our Task Force members would like to hear from you and get your input. Please use the contact info provided. Messages for any member can also be left on the project's voice mailbox at (408)358-3741 ext.172

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch County Park Master Plan

Task Force Meeting
Tuesday, August 14, 2001
6:30 pm
Gilroy Senior Center, 7371 Hanna Street, Gilroy

If you need more information, or would like to add a name to our mailing list, please contact:
Elish Ryan, Park Planner
Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032
(408)358-3741, ext. 147
email: elish.ryan@mail.prk.co.santa-clara.ca.us
or visit our Parks Website at www.parkhere.org

SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS
WWW.PARKHERE.ORG
County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Dept.
298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032