



**Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District**

Harold Kelly—Vice President  
*Director Ward One*

Tony Norris  
*Director Ward Two*

Guy Kay  
*Director Ward Three*

Dave Finigan—President  
*Director Ward Four*

Myrna Abramowicz  
*Director Ward Five*

## AGENDA

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Monday February 11, 2008 2:00 P.M.  
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda items will generally be considered in the order indicated below, except for Set Matters, which will be considered at the time indicated. Agenda items may from time to time be taken out of order at the discretion of the President.

The meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Assistive listening devices and interpreters are available through the District Secretary. Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations, aids, or services may be made to the Secretary's office no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting date by contacting (707) 259-8603.

Any member of the audience desiring to address the District on a matter on the Agenda, please proceed to the rostrum and, after receiving recognition from the President, give your name, address, and your comments or questions. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject under discussion. Time limitations shall be at the discretion of the President.

State law requires agency officers (Directors and Officers) to disclose, and then be disqualified from participation in, any proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, if the officer has received from any participant in the proceeding an amount exceeding \$250 within the prior 12 month period. State law also requires any participant in a proceeding to disclose on the record any such contributions to an agency officer.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

In this time period, anyone may address the Board of Directors regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction but which is not on today's posted agenda. In order to provide all interested parties an opportunity to speak, time limitations shall be at the discretion of the President. As required by Government Code, no action or discussion will be undertaken on any item raised during this Public Comment period.

3. Set Matters

None

4. Administrative Items

- A. Consideration of and potential approval of Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of January 14, 2008 and January 28, 2008.

- B. Discussion and direction to staff on design of signs, kiosks and benches for the Oat Hill Mine Trail.
- C. Discussion and approval of policy on donations and sponsorships for the Oat Hill Mine Trail.
- D. Consideration of possibly filing amicus brief in the case of St. Marie v. Riverside Regional Park District
- E. Receipt of report on expenditures and encumbrances approved by the General Manager
- F. Review of Projects Status Report

5. Announcements by Board and Staff

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will announce meetings, events and other matters of interest. No action will be taken by the Board on any announcements.

6. Agenda Planning

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will discuss matters for possible consideration at future meetings. No action will be taken by the Board other than whether and when to agendize such matters.

7. Adjournment



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# MINUTES

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Monday January 14, 2008 2:00 P.M.  
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:09 pm.  
GK,DF,MA,TN Present  
Harold Kelly not present

2. Public Comment

Cheryl Harris made comments about the Master Plan, habitat and wildlife management.  
Keith Caldwell gave an update on the Newell Open Space Preserve.

3. Set Matters

None

4. Administrative Items

A. Consideration of and potential approval of Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of December 10, 2007.

Minutes Approved.  
MA ,DF,GK,TN,HK  
X

B. Election of board officers  
Nominate Dave Finigan as President.

MA,TN,GK,DF,HK  
X

Nominate Harold Kelly as Vice President.  
DF, MA, GK, TN,HK  
X

C. Review and accept the Milliken Ridge Trail Feasibility Study, and direct staff to proceed with environmental review and public outreach.

Motion to accept the Feasibility study with provisions that dog issues be addressed in the environmental review.  
TN, GK, MA, DF,HK  
X

- D. Discussion and potential action on additional comments on the draft Napa County General Plan  
 Board moved to make comments to the Planning Commission at the upcoming joint hearing with the Board of Supervisors on February 26, 2008, recommending that Skyline Park be protected by a park.  
 GK,TN,DF,MA ,HK  
 X
  
- E. Discussion and possible recommendation on potential purposes and projects appropriate for future transportation-related funding  
 Board moved to send a letter to the Napa County Transportation Planning Agency informing them of potential projects and programs will could be appropriately included in future Transportation funding.  
 GK,TN,DF,MA,HK  
 X
  
- F. Discussion and possible action on the District’s first year celebration, including calling a special meeting for Jan 28<sup>th</sup> (no memo attached)  
 Board moved to designate January 28, 2008 as a special meeting to celebrate the District’s first year.  
 MA,GK,DF,TN,HK  
 X
  
- G. Consideration of support for the Land Trust of Napa County’s grant proposals to the State Coastal Conservancy to develop an interim management plan for Wild Lake Ranch, the Duff properties, and Robert Louis Stevenson State Park, and to assist with the acquisition of the Duff properties  
 Board moved the staff recommendations.  
 MA,TN,DF,GK ,HK  
 X
  
- H. Acceptance of and authorization for the Board President to enter into a contract with the County of Napa to receive \$359,000 in grant funding over a three year period to support District capital projects.  
 Board accepted contract authorization with Napa County.  
 MA,DF,GK,TN,HK  
 X
  
- I. Receipt of report on expenditures and encumbrances approved by the General Manager  
 Motion to approve and receive encumbrances and expenditures report.  
 GK,MA,DF,TN,HK  
 X
  
- J. Review of Projects Status Report.  
 John Woodbury gave the report.

5. Announcements by Board and Staff

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will announce meetings, events and other matters of interest. No action will be taken by the Board on any announcements.

Extra copies of Annual Celebration available.  
LAFCO has scheduled a review for the district in 2008.

#### 6. Agenda Planning

In this time period, members of the Board of Directors and staff will discuss matters for possible consideration at future meetings. No action will be taken by the Board other than whether and when to agendaize such matters.

Governor's cuts possible impact to the district.  
Flyway Conference to be held first week in February at Mare Island.  
Consideration of membership in the Napa Weed Management Area.  
Proposed National Conservation Area Blue Ridge Berryessa.

#### 7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned in memory of Ed Webber at 4:15 pm.

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DAVE FINIGAN, Board President

ATTEST:

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MELISSA VON LOESCH  
Acting District Secretary

#### Key

Vote: HK = Harold Kelly; TN = Tony Norris; GK = Guy Kay; DF = David Finigan; MA = Myrna Abramowicz

The maker of the motion and second are reflected respectively in the order of the recorded vote.

Notations under vote: N = No; A = Abstain; X = Excused



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## AGENDA

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday January 28, 2008 5:30 P.M.  
Napa River Inn, 500 Main Street, Napa, CA

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Finigan. GK,DF,MA,TN and HK Present.

2. Introductory Remarks by Dave Finigan, President of the Board of Directors

Dave Finigan made welcoming remarks.

3. Comments By Brad Wagenknecht, Chair of the Napa County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht made welcoming remarks. He also presented a special commendation to Director Kelly for his long years of service to the community.

4. Presentation by Brad Onorato, Staff to Congressman Mike Thompson

A member of Congressman Thompson's staff presented commendations to each of the Directors.

5. Overview of District Accomplishments, by General Manager John Woodbury

John Woodbury gave a powerpoint presentation highlighting some of the projects the District has been involved with during the past year.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjournment

President Finigan adjourned the meeting.

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DAVE FINIGAN, Board President

ATTEST:

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MELISSA VON LOESCH  
Acting District Secretary



Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

## STAFF REPORT

Date: February 11, 2008  
 Agenda Item: 4.B  
 Subject: Discussion and direction to staff on design of signs, kiosks and benches for the Oat Hill Mine Trail.

### Recommendation

Approve design specifications for trail signs, and design concepts for kiosks and benches for installation on the Oat Hill Mine Trail.

### Background

The District is sponsoring a major volunteer work party for May 16-18<sup>th</sup> to install signs, information kiosks, and benches on the Oat Hill Mine Trail. Staff has developed design concepts for signage (see attached) which the Board is asked to review and approve. Staff would also like direction on the type of information kiosks to utilize at the trailheads, as well as bench designs. Various options for kiosks and benches will be presented at the meeting.

The rationale for the proposed signage system includes the following:

- Signs should be easy and inexpensive to maintain and repair. Vandalism is highly likely.
- It must be possible to install signs in either soft dirt soils or hard, rocky soils
- Signs must be installable and repairable using hand labor.
- Signs should be aesthetic and as inobtrusive as possible while still conveying necessary information.
- Signs should convey messages in as positive a manner as possible.

The proposed signage system has two components. First, at each trailhead there will an information kiosk that includes the trail name, a trail map poster, information about regulations, other news, and distribution boxes for brochures (trail maps, trail history, geology of the area, botany of the area, etc). Second, at various points along the trail there will be trail signs that include a trail name identifier, the District name, directional arrows, and where appropriate information about boundary lines and private property.

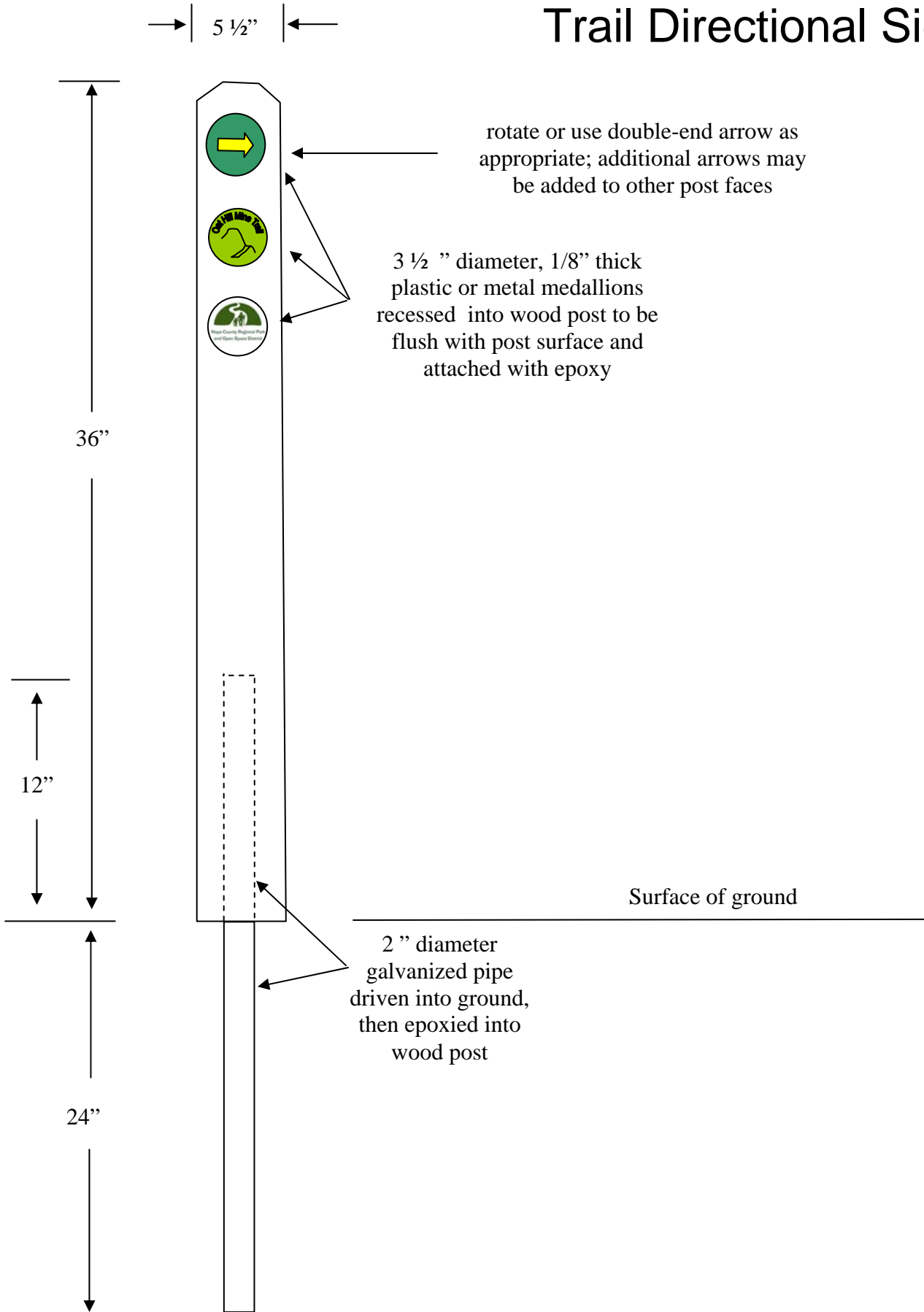
Because of the variety of approaches possible for entry kiosks, before preparing detailed design specifications, staff will at the meeting show photos of various styles of kiosks to get feedback on the preferred style.

Attached are proposed designs for the second category of signs, for placement along the trail. They are designed with a metal pipe base to facilitate placement in hard, rocky soil. A wood 6" x 6" wood post slips over the metal base and is secured with a special adhesive. The five variations, and their proposed uses, are as follows:

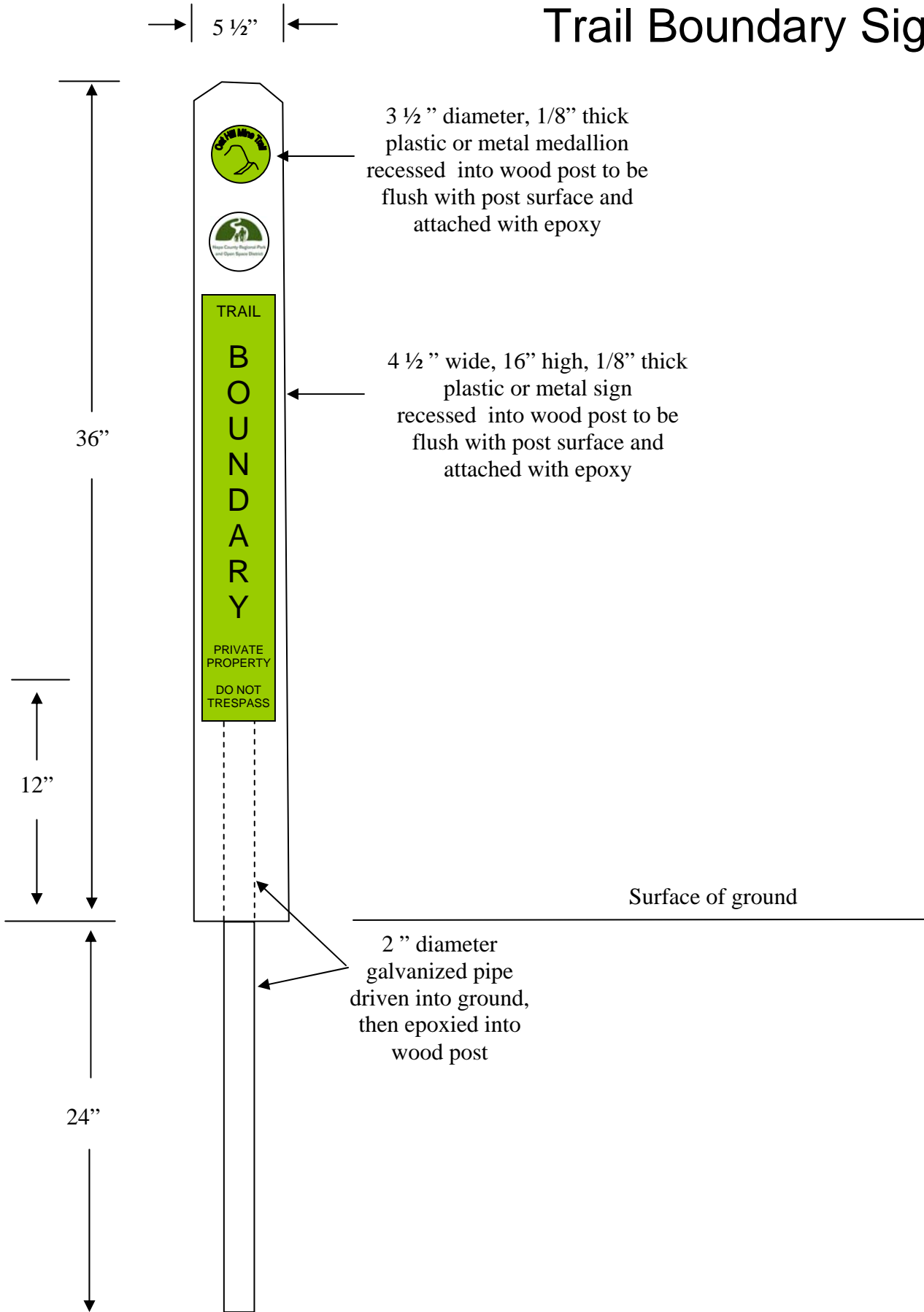
- Trail Directional Sign. This type of sign is intended to be placed at locations along the trail where the official trail direction may not be clear (such as where other trails branch off of the main trail).
- Trail Boundary Sign. This type of sign would be used in areas where the trail crosses private property, and would be placed at the edge of the 60 foot wide Oat Hill Mine Trail ROW. The sign would demark the start of private property and is intended to discourage trespass onto private property. It would be used in locations where unofficial trails or roads branch off of the Oat Hill Mine Trail, or where there are particular natural features on private property that the public might be drawn toward.
- State Park Boundary Sign. This type of sign would be placed at the boundaries of where the trail crosses in to and out of the State Park.
- Public Lands Boundary Sign. This type of sign would be placed at the boundaries of where the trail crosses in to and out of public lands other than State Park lands.
- Trail Junction Sign. This sign would be placed at the junction of the Oat Hill Mine Trail and Palisades Trail. Because of the amount of information which needs to be conveyed, it cannot fit onto only a post; therefore, a cross-beam style is proposed.

Finally, on the last page is a photo of the style of bench staff recommends for placement at strategic overlooks (except that wood posts would be used for the legs rather than the metal posts shown in the photo, to avoid the need for hauling and mixing cement at remote locations) . Wood rather than recycled plastic is recommended for the bench platform both to provide a rustic aesthetic, and because graffiti and carving can be easily removed with a hand plane. If a bench sponsor's name is desired (see the next agenda item), it would be routed into the vertical face of the front plank. More elaborate benches with back rests are more attractive targets for graffiti and so are not recommended.

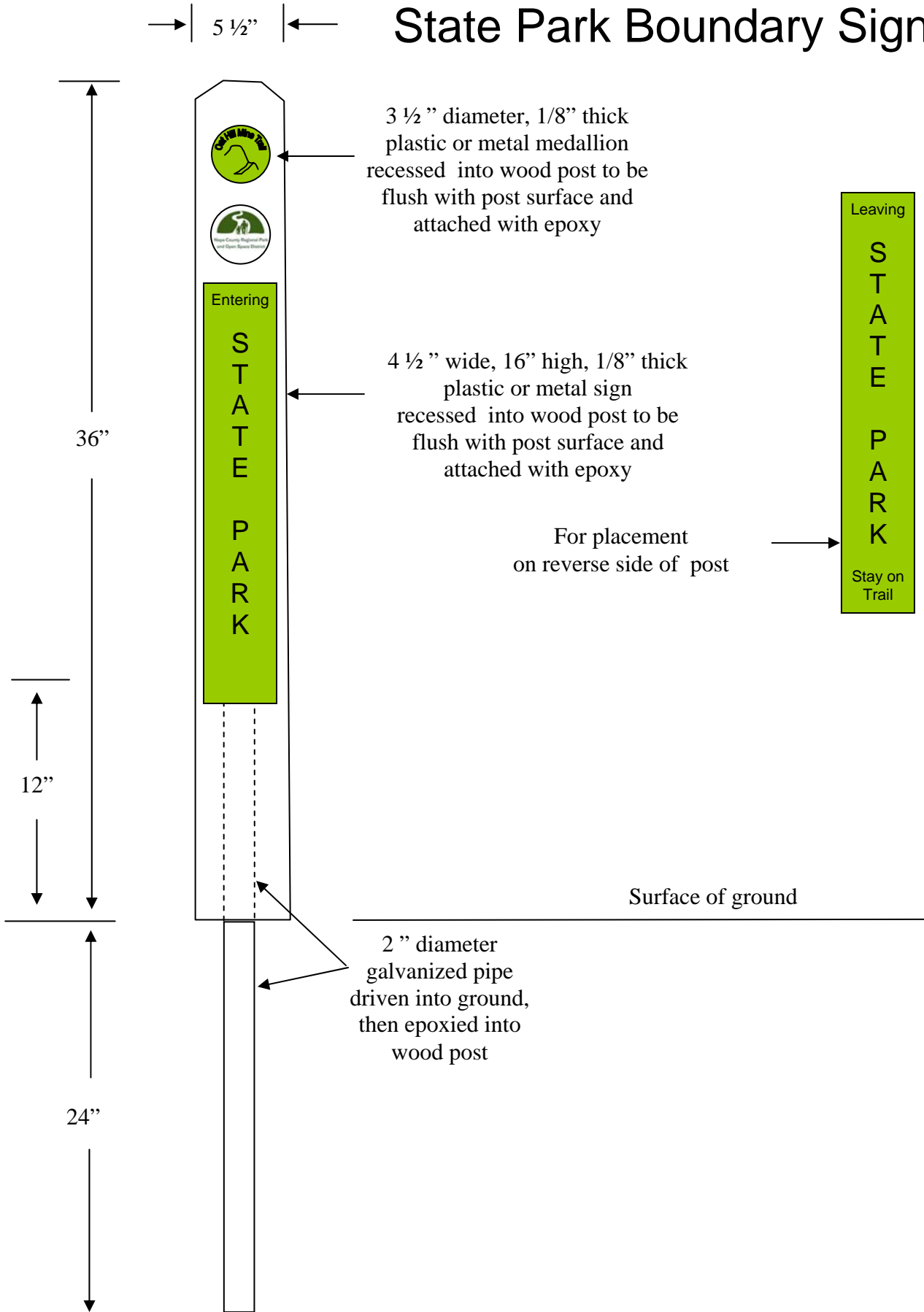
# Trail Directional Sign



# Trail Boundary Sign

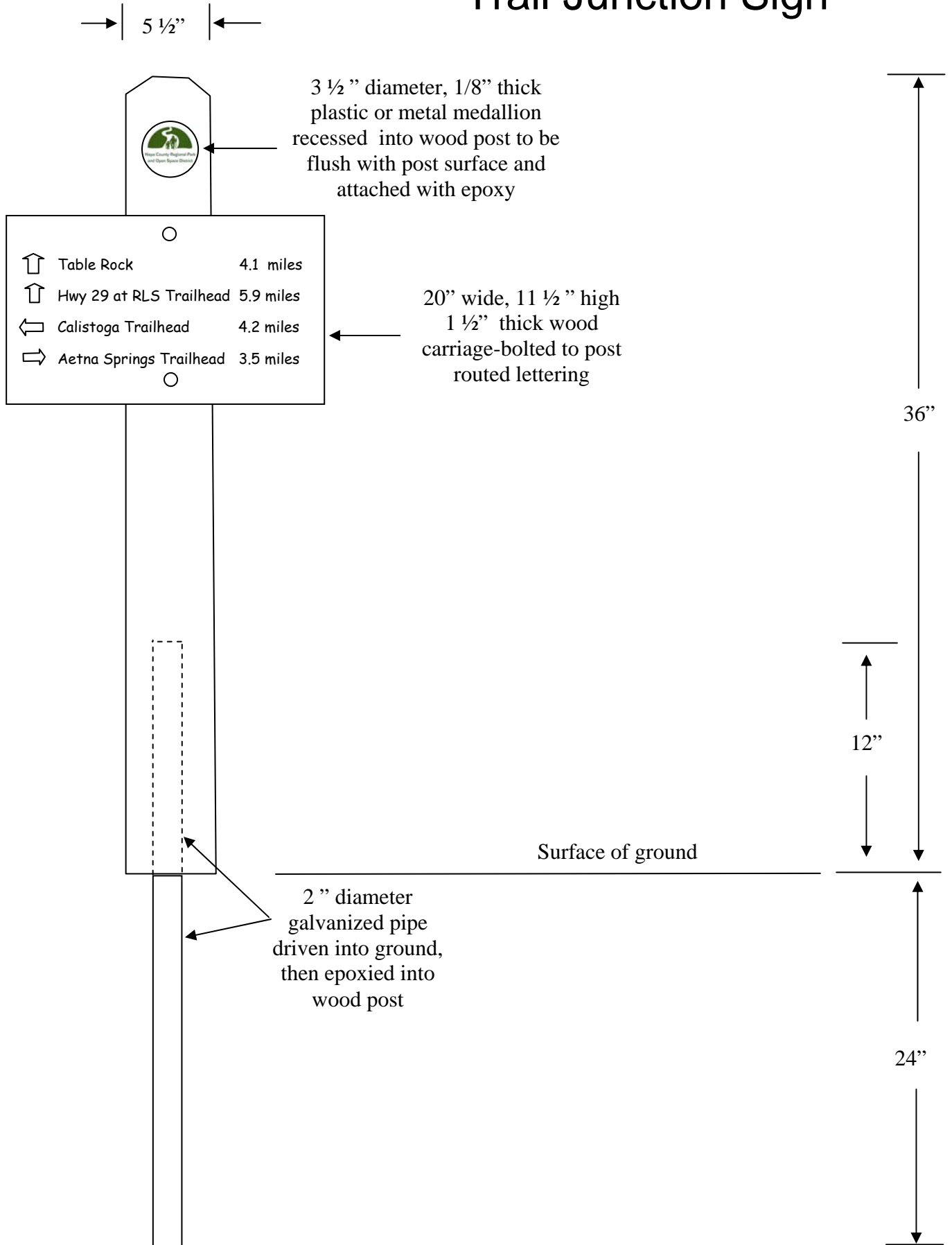


# State Park Boundary Sign





# Trail Junction Sign <sup>13</sup>



136-2508

6'L Redwood Stationary Black Enamel Frame Trailside Bench.



The end frames shall be one-piece welded construction with 2-1/2"x2-1/2" square steel post, seat brackets shall be constructed of 3/8"x4" A-36 flat steel bar to mount four 3"x4" timrbars, 3/8" galvanized carriage bolts and nuts shall be provided for timber connections optional in lie of carriage bolts zinc plated lag screw shall be provided for timber connections, standard- redwood 3"x4" nominal sized ,all redwood shall be surface planed on all four sides, precision drilled for fast easy assembly and shall have all exposed edges removal to 3/8" radius.

**Weight:** 86 LB

**Dimensions:** 6'L

~ \$375



Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

## **STAFF REPORT**

Date: February 11, 2008

Agenda Item: 4.C

Subject: Discussion and action on policy regarding donations and sponsorships for the Oat Hill Mine Trail.

### Recommendation

Approve the proposed policy regarding donations and sponsorships for the Oat Hill Mine Trail

### Background

Donations and sponsorships are important to the District for two reasons. First, they are a way of building links between the District and the communities we serve. Second, they are an essential part of the strategy for maximizing the very limited public funds available to the District.

The proposed policy addresses both one-time donations as well as on-going support for maintenance and operations. The proposed policy reflects what staff has learned about how other public agencies handle these matters, modified to reflect what staff knows about local needs and costs. The costs for brochure and bench sponsorships are estimated to cover District costs only, not to generate a profit. The Trail Sponsorship cost will only cover a portion of the District's cost to maintain the trail; the proposed amount is a guess on what we might be able to obtain. Since this is the first time the District will be seeking donations and sponsorships, this will be a learning experience. We will want to evaluate the policy later this year, and make adjustments based on what we have learned.

## Oat Hill Mine Trail

### Donation and Sponsor Policy

Draft for February 11, 2008

#### **(1) Trail Volunteer Support Donations**

Volunteers will be working to install and repair signs and benches, fix erosion problems, clear brush growing into the trail, and monitor ongoing trail use. Donations are needed to support our volunteers. These include one-time donations of food and beverages and commemorative hats for our major May 16-18 volunteer work party (150-200 volunteers), as well as ongoing donations of identifying hats and T-shirts for our volunteer trail patrol.

#### **(2) Bench Sponsors**

We will be installing benches at strategic overlooks where weary travelers can rest their feet and take in the magnificent views. The donor's name (organization, business, individual) can be included (routed lettering). Benches will be installed by volunteers. Cost for the bench and maintenance for 5 years is \$1,000.

#### **(3) Trail Map and Informational Brochure Sponsors**

Easy to carry trail maps and flyers covering the history of the Oat Hill Mine Trail, the geology as seen from the trail, and the natural ecology of the area will be provided at the Calistoga trailhead and also available for distribution by local businesses and organizations. Each map and flyer will be printed on 8 ½ by 11 inch paper, printed on two sides, and tri-folded. Sponsors of these maps and informational flyers may include a business-card sized message on each map or flyer. Up to 2 sponsor messages will be included on each map or flyer. Cost of sponsorships for color printing on heavy paper is \$35 for 200 copies, or \$150 for 1,000. Cost of sponsorships for black and white printing on 20# paper is \$60 per 1,000 copies.

#### **(4) Trail Sponsorship**

We are seeking a sponsor to support the on-going maintenance and improvement of the Oat Hill Mine Trail. Sponsors will be acknowledged on the information kiosks located at the Calistoga and Aetna Springs trailheads. The acknowledgement will be in the form of text and/or graphics (maximum size 50 square inches) to be worked out between the District and the sponsor. The Oat Hill Mine Trail sponsorship is \$5,000 per year.



Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

## STAFF REPORT

Date: February 11, 2008  
 Agenda Item: 4.D  
 Subject: *St. Marie v. Riverside County Park and Open Space District*, (2007) 156 Cal. App. 4th 1148.  
 From: Chris R.Y. Apallas, District Counsel

### Recommendation

This is an informational item at this point. Should the California Supreme Court accept review of *St. Marie v. Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District*, the Board will be asked to consider whether to join with other park districts as amicus curiae.

### Background

The Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District (“District”) was sued for transferring a piece of property it owned without seeking voter approval for the sale. The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (“Napa District”) has been invited to join with other park districts as amicus curiae (friend of the court) should the California Supreme Court accept review of *St. Marie v. Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District*. The District has petitioned the Supreme Court to review this case which the District has lost at both the trial and appellate levels. The District expects a decision from the Court as to whether it will grant review of the case sometime in February.

The Napa District should consider whether to support the District should the California Supreme Court accept District’s petition for review. If it chooses to provide support, staff should be directed to participate as amicus curiae.

### DISCUSSION

In this case, a registered voter of Riverside County filed a petition for a writ of mandate to prohibit the District from conveying certain property that had been acquired for recreational purposes to a community college for construction of a college campus. The Riverside County Superior Court granted the voter's motion for summary judgment. The District appealed and the appellate court upheld the trial court’s ruling.

The crux of this case is one of statutory interpretation. The conflict stems from the precise meaning of the language “actually dedicated” as it appears in Public Resources Code section 5540.<sup>1</sup> The District purchased the property in 1995 for \$950,000. A grant deed was recorded on July 20, 1995 which contained the District’s Certificate of Acceptance. The property was then used for open space and as a wildlife habitat conservation area.

Then, in 2003, District entered into an option agreement with a community college for the sale of about one-half the property for the purpose of constructing a college campus. In August

<sup>1</sup> All statutory references are to the California Public Resources Code unless otherwise noted.

2004, Gerard Ste. Marie filed a writ of mandate and alleged that the District didn't comply with the "voter approval" clause of section 5540 when it entered into the option agreement.

Section 5540 states in part:

A district may not validly convey any interest in any real property actually dedicated and used for park or open-space, or both, purposes without the consent of a majority of the voters of the district voting at a special election called by the board and held for that purpose. Consent need not first be obtained for a lease of any real property for a period not exceeding 25 years; and consent need not first be obtained for a conveyance of any real property if the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, authorizes a conveyance after a resolution of intention has been adopted by at least a two-thirds vote of the board of directors of the district, specifically describing the property to be conveyed.

The District argued that section 5540 did not apply to the transaction because the District never "actually dedicated" the land. The District claimed that the board needed to pass a resolution to actually dedicate land for public purposes and that the District never passed such a resolution, therefore the land was never "actually dedicated" and it was free to sell the land without going to the voters. The District believed there were two ways for it to hold land. Land acquired by the District could be dedicated upon purchase according to the language of section 5565, but a district also could further restrict the transferability of the land by "actually dedicating" the land, subjecting any future transfer to approval by the voters.

The court of appeal disagreed with the District and found that the property was dedicated for park and open space purposes at the time it was acquired. The court looked to section 5565, which states that property acquired by the District is dedicated and set apart for the uses defined in the Article, and found that this language created the dedication at the time of the property's acquisition by the District in 1995. The court stated "it would make no sense that the Legislature's use of "actually" was intended to have the effect which District ascribes to it." It found that if it were to accept District's interpretation, it would render meaningless the language and import of section 5565.

## **CONCLUSION**

This was a case of first impression for the court of appeal and its holding is the law of the land unless the Supreme Court disagrees, or in the alternative, grants District's request for de-publication of the case. This holding poses many hurdles to all districts acquiring land.

The upshot is that districts are now required to seek voter approval before transferring any lands which have been dedicated for park and open space purposes. This may have a chilling effect on districts which may have to act on short notice to acquire a piece of property put on the market, without a full understanding of how the property might be operated. If the district then needed to sell portions of the property not appropriate for park purposes, a vote would be required, greatly adding to the expense of the transaction. The Supreme Court should be making a decision as to whether they will review the case sometime in February.

## California Public Resources Code Sections

### **§ 5540. Acquisition, use, and disposal of property**

A district may take by grant, appropriation, purchase, gift, devise, condemnation, or lease, and may hold, use, enjoy, and lease or dispose of real and personal property of every kind, and rights in real and personal property, within or without the district, necessary to the full exercise of its powers.

Lands subject to the grant of an open-space easement executed and accepted by the district in accordance with this article are enforceably restricted within the meaning of Section 8 of Article XIII of the California Constitution. An easement or other interest in real property may be dedicated for park or open-space purposes, or both, by the adoption of a resolution by the board of directors, and any interest so dedicated may be conveyed only as provided in this section.

A district may not validly convey any interest in any real property actually dedicated<sup>2</sup> and used for park or open-space, or both, purposes without the consent of a majority of the voters of the district voting at a special election called by the board and held for that purpose. Consent need not first be obtained for a lease of any real property for a period not exceeding 25 years; and consent need not first be obtained for a conveyance of any real property if the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, authorizes a conveyance after a resolution of intention has been adopted by at least a two-thirds vote of the board of directors of the district, specifically describing the property to be conveyed.

### **§ 5565. Title to property; Taking of conveyances; Actions by and against district**

The legal title to all property acquired by the district under the provisions of this article shall immediately and by operation of law vest in the district, and shall be held by the district in trust for, and is dedicated and set apart for<sup>3</sup>, the uses and purposes set forth in this article. The board may hold, use, acquire, manage, occupy, and possess such property, as provided in this article.

The board may take conveyances or other assurances for all property acquired by it under the provisions of this article in the name of the district, to and for the uses and purposes expressed in this article, and it may institute and maintain all actions and proceedings, or suits at law or in equity, necessary or proper in order to carry out the provisions of this article, or to enforce, maintain, protect, or preserve all rights, privileges, and immunities created by or acquired in pursuance of this article. In all courts, actions, suits, or proceedings, the board may sue, appear, and defend, in person or by attorneys and in the name of the district.

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<sup>2</sup> Emphasis added

<sup>3</sup> Emphasis added



Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

## STAFF REPORT

Date: February 11, 2008  
 Agenda Item: 4.E  
 Subject: Report on expenditures and encumbrances approved by the General Manager

### Recommendation

Receive this report on expenditures and encumbrances approved by the General Manager

### Background

Section III.A (7) authorizes the General Manager to bind the district for supplies, materials, labor and other valuable consideration, in accordance with board policy and the adopted District budget, up to \$10,000 for non-construction purposes and up to \$25,000 for construction purposes, provided that all such expenditures are subsequently reported to the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to this authorization, the following information is provided to the Board:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Action</u>
2/5/08	\$184.85	Napa River Inn Year One Celebration expenses for supplies

Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

Plan of Projects

Status Report for February 11, 2008

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>
Bay/River Trail -- American Canyon to Napa	An 8+ mile recreational trail between the cities of American Canyon and Napa generally following the Napa River and interior levees of associated wetlands.	Feasibility study completed. The District has submitted a Grant application to River Parkway program for Phase I (between American Canyon and Green Island Road) in partnership with City of American Canyon, <b>and has provided supplemental information to the grant program administrators.</b> The comment period on the Proposed Negative Declaration for Phase I between American Canyon and Green Island Road has ended, and no comments were received. The Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority has authorized its General Manager to provide a letter indicating the Authority's willingness to allow the District to use a public access easement in the vicinity of the American Canyon landfill. The District is now seeking concurrence from the State Land Commission (who also holds the same public access easement). The County Planning Commission has approved a Use Permit for Phase I of the trail (between American Canyon and Green Island Road. The County Board of Supervisors has approved funding for the District to complete CEQA for the remainder of the trail.
Berryessa Estates	Bureau of Land Management has declared 160 acres next to Berryessa Estates as surplus, and BLM has expressed willingness to transfer to District under their Recreation and Public Purpose Act procedure. Would serve as a wilderness park for residents of Berryessa Estates, and could eventually be the northern trailhead for a trail between Berryess Estates and Pope Canyon.	Draft trail plan prepared. CDF has indicated its crews will be available to clear brush for a combined firebreak and trail; crews cost \$200/day. Next step is to hold another community meeting in Berryessa Estates to get input from and determine level of support in the community, then submit RPP application to BLM
Berryessa Vista	Purchase of 224 acres from the Land Trust of Napa County for use as a public park.	The County Board of Supervisors has approved use of Prop 12 funds for the purchase. The District Board has approved going forward with the purchase. The land trust Board of Directors has approved sale to the District. The District has completed an appraisal of the property. The Bureau of Reclamation has approved use of Lake Berryessa for the public to access the property. Environmental review has been completed, and the County has approved a Use Permit for using the property as a wilderness park. The State has approved the terms of a land tenure agreement required by Proposition 12, <b>which will also be approved by Board of Supervisors. A Preliminary Title Report has been obtained, escrow has been opened, and escrow is scheduled to close on February 29, 2008. District and land trust staff are preparing a baseline report of property conditions, and District volunteer has begun preparing a GPS survey of existing road/trail alignments and significant features.</b>

Camp Berryessa	Redevelopment of former Boy Scout Camp into a group/environmental education camp.	Draft MOU with Bureau of Reclamation has been approved by BOR and by District counsel. The signed copy of the MOU has been received by the District. The next step is for staff to prepare a scope of work for the feasibility/planning/engineering study.
Connolly Ranch	Construction of patio, restrooms and cooking facilities	<b>Staff has submitted all of the remaining paperwork for the County to obtain reimbursement from Proposition 12.</b>
Lake Hennessey North Shore Trails	Would open up several miles of existing dirt access road, and construct approximately 1 mile of new single track trail, into a loop trail system on the north side of Lake Hennessey	Next step is to complete draft trail plan, management plan and CEQA review.
Master Plan Development		Board Master Plan subcommittee is meeting regularly with staff. A plan outline has been developed, and drafting is underway. <b>A draft plan is scheduled for Board review in June.</b>
Milliken Reservoir Trails and Picnic Area	Would construct approximately 3 miles of Bay Area Ridge Trail plus additional feeder and loop trails, along with a staging and picnic area	<b>The feasibility study has been completed, including a draft Operations and Management Plan. The Board of Directors has accepted the feasibility study. Staff is working with City staff as they complete their review of the study.</b>
Napa River Ecological Reserve	Improvements to the reserve including paving parking area, controlling vehicle access through placement of rock barriers, replacement of old signage and information panels.	Paving and rock installation complete. Staff is working to complete the paperwork to get reimbursement for costs through Proposition 12. The State Coastal Conservancy has approved a \$100,000 grant for habitat restoration, environmental education and improved signage. A Notice of Exemption under CEQA has been filed on this project. <b>The District is waiting for the Conservancy to provide a draft grant contract for District Board approval.</b>
Newell Preserve	Provide on-site water supply for group campground and so cattle can be restricted from access to riparian areas.	As part of the arrangement with the land trust on the District's purchase of Berryessa Vista, the land trust is willing to use some of the proceeds from the transaction to fund a well pump and distribution system at the Preserve. However, the first well drilled by the City of American Canyon came up dry. The City is planning to try drilling in a second location.
Oat Hill Mine Trail	Grand opening to the Oat Hill Mine Trail with weekend of signage installation, brush removal and erosion control	<b>The volunteer work party weekend is scheduled for May 16-18, 2008. A volunteer project team is being assembled, and outreach to volunteers and donors has begun.</b>

Rector Ridge/Stags Leap Ridge Trail	Construction of staging area and 6+ miles of Ridge Trail climbing east from Silverado Trail near Rector Creek.	CEQA on this project was completed several years ago--may require minor updating. The project concept has been approved by the District Board. Staff has met with the Pathway Home Project leadership at the Veterans Home, who are supportive of the trail as an amenity which will benefit their program. The Pathway Home Project is planning on issuing a white paper seeking proposals for outdoor recreational opportunities that can benefit the program; when this is issued, staff will submit a formal proposal to the Department of Veteran's Affairs.
River to Ridge Trail	Lot line adjustment to legalize River to Ridge Trail as constructed (it currently encroaches on private property in two locations)	Lot line adjustment approved by Syar Properties. <b>Staff is continuing to work with DGS on the proposed lot line adjustment. Metal cutout silhouettes of animals found in the area have been installed as part of an Eagle Scout candidate project.</b>
Skyline Park Protection	Acquisition of Skyline Park	Legislation by Senator Wiggins to authorize sale to the County was vetoed by the Governor. The County is considering alternatives for assuring the property continues to be available for park use. <b>At the recommendation of the District Board, the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission are exploring General Plan and Zoning options for providing increased protection for the park.</b>
Skyline Park Improvements	Erosion control work on Lake Marie Road, and paving of campground loop road.	All work is complete. Final paperwork is in preparation to obtain reimbursement from the County.
South Wetlands Opportunity Area	Transfer to the District those wetlands owned by the Napa County flood control district between the Napa River, Highway 29 and Newport Drive for use as habitat and nature-based recreation.	Transfer approved in concept by the flood control district advisory committee and Board of Directors. District staff is researching flood district documents related to the site, and has begun outreach to neighbors, the City of Napa and other interested parties. <b>Meetings have been held with Friends of the Napa River and with homeowners in the immediate vicinity.</b>
Vallejo Lakes	Possible purchase of 1100 acres of surplus Vallejo Water District lands, of which 200 acres are located in Napa County	Staff-level discussions between the District, the Land Trust of Napa County, the County of Solano and the Solano Land Trust indicate a common desire to work together to purchase this property adjacent to Skyline Park. The Vallejo Water District Board has approved surplus of the property.
Wild Lake Ranch	Possible joint management of trails, camping and picnic areas through agreement between the Land Trust, the District and State Parks	Continuing discussions with the Land Trust of Napa County and California State Parks regarding development of master plan and long-term ownership and management arrangements. <b>The District has provided a support letter regarding a land trust grant request to fund development of the master plan.</b>