



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

Harold Kelly  
*Director Ward One*

Tony Norris  
*Director Ward Two*

Guy Kay  
*Director Ward Three*

Dave Finigan  
*Director Ward Four*

Myrna Abramowicz  
*Director Ward Five*

## AGENDA

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

**Monday September 13, 2010 2:00 P.M.**  
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA 94559

#### 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 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 you 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.

All materials relating to an agenda item for an open session of a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors which are provided to a majority or all of the members of the Board by Board members, staff or the public within 72 hours of but prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection, on and after at the time of such distribution, in the Conservation, Development and Planning Department Office at 1195 Third Street, Suite 210, Napa, California 94559, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except for County holidays. Materials distributed to a majority or all of the members of the Board at the meeting will be available for public inspection at the public meeting if prepared by the members of the Board or County staff and after the public meeting if prepared by some other person. Availability of materials related to agenda items for public inspection does not include materials which are exempt from public disclosure under Government Code sections 6253.5, 6254, 6254.3, 6254.7, 6254.15, 6254.16, or 6254.22.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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 August 9, 2010.
- B. Consideration of and potential approval of policies related to district volunteers including insurance, supplies and commemorative items and use of District facilities.
- C. Project update for the Napa River Ecological Reserve (oral report)
- D. Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances, donations and grants approved by the General Manager.
- E. Review of the District 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, unless specifically noted otherwise.

7. Closed Session

- A. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code Section 54956.8)  
Property: APN Nos 015-070-011, -012; 015-080-003, -007; 016-100-015, -016;  
016-120-003, -004, -014, -016, -017, -020, -021, -023, -024, -025, -026;  
016-140-004, -010, -011, -012, -014  
Agency Negotiator: John Woodbury, NCRPOSD General Manager  
Negotiating Parties: NCRPOSD and Bournemouth LLC  
Under Negotiation: Instructions to Negotiator will concern terms and conditions

7. Adjournment



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## AGENDA

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Monday August 9, 2010 2:00 P.M.  
1195 Third Street, Third Floor, Napa, CA 94559

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

**Meeting was called to order by President Abramowicz.  
Directors Finigan, Kay, Norris, Kelly and Abramowicz were present.**

2. Public Comment

**None**

3. Set Matters

**None**

4. Administrative Items

A. Consideration of and potential approval of Minutes of Board of Directors meeting of July 14, 2010.

**Minutes were approved as corrected.  
TN-HK-DF-GK-MA**

B. Consideration of and potential approval of amendments to the District Conflict of Interest Code.

**Directors approved the proposed amendments to the District Conflict of Interest Code.  
DF-TN-GK-HK-MA**

C. Consideration of preliminary (unaudited) annual financial report for FY 2009/2010.

**Directors received the report from the District Auditor. No action taken.**

D. Consideration and potential approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of Reclamation and a professional services agreement with an environmental consulting firm, to conduct CEQA and NEPA review for the proposed Camp Berryessa facility, and to amend the FY 2010-2011 District budget to pay for the environmental review.

**Directors voted to:**

**(1) Authorize the Board President or General Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Bureau of Reclamation describing how the two agencies will share responsibility for completing environmental review for the proposed Camp Berryessa facility.**

**DF-GK-TN-HK-MA**

**(2) Amend the District FY 2010-11 Budget as necessary to pay for completing environmental review for the proposed Camp Berryessa facility, with the recommended amendment to be presented by the General Manager at the meeting.**

**HK-TN-DF-GK-MA**

**(3) Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Tetra Tech to prepare combined CEQA/NEPA environmental review as recommended by the General Manager.**

**TN-DF-HK-GK-MA**

- E. Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances, donations and grants approved by the General Manager.  
**John Woodbury gave the report.**
- F. Receipt of the final response to the 2009-2010 County Grand Jury report.  
**Directors received the final response. No action taken.**
- G. Review of the District Projects Status Report.  
**John Woodbury gave the report with discussions on Napa River Bay Trail, Camp Berryessa, Moore Creek, Napa River Ecological Reserve, Skyline Park, and the Vine Trail.**

5. Announcements by Board and Staff

- **John Woodbury announced the Department of Fish and Game will be hosting a Napa- Sonoma Marsh Restoration project levee breach ceremony.**
- **John Woodbury reminded directors about the Ethics Training Certificates due.**
- **John Woodbury announced the Friends of the Napa River's 18th Annual River Festival will be held Sunday, September 5, 2010.**
- **Director Tony Norris announced that he attended the Vine Trail Volunteer Coordination Meeting.**
- **Director Myrna Abramowicz announced that she and Director Harold Kelly have been re elected to the Park District Board for another term.**
- **Director Myrna Abramowicz announced that she added the board members contact information to the Resource Conservation District Database.**

6. Agenda Planning

7. Adjournment

**Meeting was adjourned to the regular Park and Open Space District meeting of September 13, 2010.**





Napa County Regional Park  
and Open Space District

## STAFF REPORT

Date: September 13, 2010  
 Agenda Item: 4.B  
 Subject: Consideration of and potential approval of policies related to district volunteers including insurance, supplies and commemorative items and use of District facilities

### Recommendation

Authorize General Manager to:

1. Purchase supplemental insurance policy covering District volunteers.
2. Provide District volunteers with small value personal items necessary for the volunteer activity or to express appreciation to volunteers.
3. Enter into agreements of up to eight months with volunteer caretakers.

### Background

Volunteers are a critical and increasingly important part of the District's success. In less than three years, volunteers have donated more than 6,400 hours of service, which is conservatively estimated to have provided \$128,000 in value to the District. Because volunteers are such a key part of the District's operations, the General Manager is recommending that the Board authorize the purchase of special supplemental insurance for volunteers, and set parameters for how District resources may be provided to volunteers.

**Insurance.** The District currently requires volunteers to sign liability release forms. This is a standard practice that most public agencies use with volunteers, because even though such releases have minimal legal value, it is generally believed that a volunteer who signs a release form is less likely to file a lawsuit in the event of an accident. In the event a lawsuit against the District were to be filed, the District's existing insurance policy should normally protect the District's Directors and Officers from liability.

However, the District's insurance policy does not provide any benefits to injured volunteers. This is less than ideal. The majority of the District's volunteers are involved in physical labor, generally with hand tools but sometimes also with small power equipment. While the District has been fortunate to not have had any accidents involving volunteers, the physical nature of their activities suggests that accidents should be anticipated. Unfortunately, although the District has not done a formal survey, at least some and potentially many of the volunteers are known to be unemployed and/or have no medical insurance. Even if no legal obligation exists for the District to pay any medical or other costs should a volunteer be injured, good public policy says the District should do its best to take care of its volunteers.

Insurance companies are generally willing to add coverage for a few volunteers as part of an overall workmen's compensation policy. However, since the District itself has no employees, it does not

carry workmen's compensation insurance, and the District has not been able to find any insurance carriers who will offer workmen's compensation insurance solely for volunteers.

Recently, however, the company through which the District obtains its liability insurance has begun offering a special Volunteer Insurance Program (VIP) that provides a modest level of medical and other benefits for volunteers who are injured while engaged in a volunteer activities. The benefits offered by the program are summarized below:

Accidental Death Maximum	\$50,000
Accidental Dismemberment	\$50,000
Accident Medical Expense (Excess)	\$100,000
Deductible	\$0
Coma Benefit Maximum	\$50,000
Accident Weekly Indemnity (AWI)	\$200 per week

The policy is not equivalent to workmen's compensation, in that it is only supplemental insurance, and thus only covers costs not covered by other forms of insurance. However, this type of insurance would fill the District's most serious need (those volunteers who do not have other means for covering the costs of an injury). Further, since it is only a supplemental insurance policy, it is relatively affordable; the annual premium for this type of insurance is estimated to be \$838. The District's Risk Manager believes that the VIP is a worthwhile investment for the District, and that it would be difficult to find a comparable program for this price.

**Provision of Personal Supplies and Commemorative Materials to Volunteers.** At each of the District's past two large annual volunteer events, the District thanked the volunteers by providing them with a commemorative cap. The District has also on a few other occasions given particularly dedicated volunteers other small commemorative items (a District canteen, District calendar, etc). Such items typically cost less than \$10 each. The costs for these items have been included in the budget for the project on which the volunteers were serving.

While the District has not yet done so, the General Manager also believes it would be useful for the District to provide volunteers who regularly patrol specific trails or parks to have a specially-designed shirt or hat that clearly indicates their role as a District-designated volunteer. Such items of clothing would probably cost in the range of \$15 to \$30 each.

The Board is requested to approve a general policy authorizing the General Manager to provide volunteers such items. Even though the costs are already within the expenditure authority of the General Manager, Board adoption of a general policy will help make it clear that there is a public benefit involved and thus such actions do not constitute a gift of public funds.

**Volunteer Caretakers.** In addition to one-time, short-term volunteers, many park agencies utilize volunteer caretakers who reside for some period of time on public property. The best example is the Camp Host, who is a volunteer (individual or couple) that stays in a campground, typically in an RV, for three to eight months, while providing 15 to 20 hours of volunteer services each week. Because they must live in the campground in order to be able to perform their volunteer service, despite their longer-term residency they are still considered volunteers, and not employees or tenants.

The District currently has one property (Moore Creek) where resident caretaker services are desirable, and expects to have more in the future (Camp Berryessa is likely to be the next). To address its current as well as to prepare for upcoming needs, the Board is requested to approve

parameters for volunteer caretakers, and authorize the General Manager to enter into volunteer caretaker agreements consistent with these parameters.

In cases where houses owned by public agencies are located within parks, most agencies typically have an agency employee or a tenant rent the house, provide some level of caretaker services, and either pay no or reduced rent depending on the level of services provided. However, this is not a practical for the District at this time. While the law is confusing, any tenant who is providing general services (other than those directly related to taking care of the house itself) in exchange for reduced or no rent is most likely going to be considered by the IRS to be an employee, which raises issues related to income tax withholding and workmen's compensation insurance which the District is not set up to handle, since it has no employees. It is also worth noting that with both a resident employee and with a non-employee renter, the person(s) living in the house has rights of tenancy (exclusive rights of entry, protections against eviction, etc.) which would limit the District's flexibility in how District property is used.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into Volunteer Caretaker Agreements as needed, subject to the following general parameters:

Residency. Volunteer caretakers will only be permitted in cases where the volunteer duties require physical residency on the property.

Duties. Volunteer agrees to perform specific volunteer duties equivalent to at least 15-20 hours of work per week.

Term. Volunteer caretakers may only reside on District property for a maximum of six consecutive months.

Termination. District may require volunteer to leave property immediately at any time, for failure to satisfactorily perform volunteer duties, or any other reason.

Not employee. Volunteer caretakers will not have any employee rights or benefits.

Not leaseholder. Volunteer caretakers will not have any leaseholder rights. Their residency will be based solely on their need to be on District property in order to provide a volunteer service, and volunteer caretakers will be expected to share the use of District property with other District-authorized volunteers and staff, as determined by the District.

Insurance. No property, medical or other insurance will be provided to volunteer caretakers, unless specifically authorized by the District Board of Directors.

Living expenses. Volunteer caretakers will not pay any rent, but volunteer caretakers will be responsible for all personal expenses and supplies, including their share of utility costs.

Priority for selection. In the event more people wish to be volunteer caretakers than positions exist, priority for selection will be based on their skills and their record of volunteering with the District or elsewhere.

The above parameters are consistent with the terms which California State Parks uses for its volunteer camp hosts, and have a proven track record of success.





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## STAFF REPORT

Date: September 13, 2010  
 Agenda Item: 4.D.  
 Subject: Receipt of report on expenditures, encumbrances, donations and grants approved by the General Manager

### Recommendation

Receive the report.

### 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. Section III.A(8) of the By-Laws authorizes the General Manager to apply for grants and receive donations, subject to reporting such actions to the Board of Directors. Pursuant to this authorization, the following information is provided to the Board.

Date                      Purpose                                      Source / Recipient                                      Amount

8/5/2010	Misc transportation reimbursement	JOHN WOODBURY	\$10.50
8/5/2010	Moore Creek supplies reimbursement	JOHN WOODBURY	\$109.60
8/30/2010	Moore Creek supplies reimbursement	CJ YIP & ASSOCIATES	\$165.17
8/5/2010	Moore Creek supplies reimbursement	JOHN WOODBURY	\$388.42
8/30/2010	Moore Creek supplies reimbursement	CJ YIP & ASSOCIATES	\$433.35
8/5/2010	Moore Creek – transportation reimbursement	JOHN WOODBURY	\$42.00
8/8/2010	Napa River Festival booth fee	FRIENDS OF THE NAPA RIVER	\$35.00
8/9/2010	NRER Sign	NAPA SIGN SHOP	\$52.20
8/30/2010	NRER Weed Spray	CJ YIP & ASSOCIATES	\$52.22

Plan of Projects

Status Report for September 13, 2010

Name of Project	Description	Status
Bay Area Ridge Trail Realignment	Amendment to the proposed alignment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail extend north to the Oat Hill Mine Trail	Ridge Trail Board has approved evaluating the amended alignment. District staff is working with the Ridge Trail and other partners to prepare the evaluation. Sonoma County agency staff have prepared an initial analysis of trail alignments on the Sonoma side of the Napa-Sonoma border. <u>District staff is working with two volunteers to prepare the analysis for the Napa County side.</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.	Phase One--Euclptus Drive to Green Island Road Feasibility study completed. Phase one (American Canyon to Green Island Rd) CEQA review and Use Permit done. The contract for a \$1,032,300 California River Parkway Grant has been signed. Agreements between the Waste Management Authority, City of American Canyon and the District for the landfill loop have been signed. The District-DFG Agreement has been signed. The Authority has approved the necessary amendment to the landfill closure permit. DFG expects to complete levee repair work by early September. <u>District staff has begun preparation of RFP to obtain the services of a civil engineering firm to prepare plans and specifications.</u>  Phase Two--Green Island Road to Soscol Ferry Road Questa has completed the draft PUC permit application for a public crossing of the SMART tracks. <u>SMART, NRCA and the PUC have verbally agreed to allow the railroad crossing; formal concurrence is now being sought.</u> DFG has agreed, subject to further environmental review, to allow the trail to run along the eastern edge of Fagan Marsh. LSA Associates expects to complete biological survey work for this segment and have an administrative draft report to staff by the second week of September. <u>DFG, the Bay Trail Project and the Coastal Conservancy have tentatively agreed on funding to prepare the supplemental environmental analysis for the section of the trail next to DFG's ponds 9 and 10</u>  Phase Three--Soscol Ferry Road to Napa Pipe All permits and permissions have been obtained, and construction bid documents are done. The project is ready to go to construction as soon as funding can be obtained. NCTPA has included this project in its request to MTC for funding in the regional 2011 Transportation Improvement Plan.
Berryessa Estates	Acquire 480 acres next to Berryessa Estates from BLM at no fee through their Recreation and Public Purpose Act procedure. Would serve as a wilderness park for local residents eventually be the northern trailhead for a trail between Berryess Estates and Pope Canyon.	<u>The District is waiting on BLM to complete their process for the no-fee transfer of this property.</u> CDF and the Pope Valley Volunteer Fire Department have added a proposal to construct a fire substation on a corner of the property. A community meeting with about two dozen attendees was held March 10, 2009 at the Pope Valley Farm Center to get input from and determine level of support in the community. The District has completed the donation to the District of a small, 0.2 acre property that provides critical access to the northeast corner of the property. The District has allowed excess soil from a nearby public project to be disposed of on this property, which saves them money and facilitates the eventual construction of the fire substation; staff is working on a drainage easement to the County to assure the County takes care of the extension of the storm drain under this new fill. CDF crews did extensive fire break work in 2009 to protect the residences next to the BLM land. It appears CDF crews will be available again in 2010 and will clear brush along the main ridgeline where the future trail alignment is proposed.
Berryessa Vista	Planning and stewardship of this 224 acre wilderness park.	Volunteers working with the District have completed detailed GIS mapping showing all existing roads, creek crossings, vista points and potential campsites. Continuing damage by off-road vehicles trespassing on the property was noted. No further work is anticipated until Lake Berryessa Trail planning is completed by Berryessa Trails and Conservation.
Blue Ridge/Berryess Peak Trail	Obtain right of way and construct trail to provide public access to extensive federal lands on Blue Ridge and to Berryessa Peak	Obtained donated trail easement from the Ahmann family to close gaps between existing public lands on Blue Ridge. Undertook a reconnaissance of the trail route in December 2008. Based on this reconnaissance, a revised easement description was drafted, approved by the landowner and recorded. Botanical surveys field work needed for CEQA review is complete. At Negative Declaration and Use Permit hearing was approved December 16, 2009 by the County Planning Commission. An Operations and Management Plan has been approved by the property owner and the District. District staff and volunteers have flagged the route of the trail through the Ahmann property. <u>A volunteer trail building work party is tentatively scheduled for the end of October 2010.</u>
Camp Berryessa	Redevelopment of former Boy Scout Camp into a group/environmental education camp.	MOU with Bureau of Reclamation gave the District an 18 month period to develop a feasibility study for the camp. BOR has completed its cultural survey of the site. The District has completed the feasibility report, and BOR has reviewed and supports the conclusions. The District has prepared a draft land use agreement, which is undergoing review by BOR. The Coastal Conservancy has expressed preliminary support for funding most of the cost of construction for Option A. <u>A combined NEPA/CEQA document is in preparation, and scheduled to be completed before the end of 2010. A grant request for \$50,000 to help with construction has been submitted to the Mead Foundation.</u>
District Non-profit Foundation	Organize a non-profit foundation to raise funds for District projects	The District Board has approved the goals, objectives and basic structure for a non-profit foundation to assist the District with fundraising. Board members are contacting potential future members of the foundation governing board.

<p>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, and connecting to the planned Moore Creek Open Space Park trail system.</p>	<p>This project is being combined with the Milliken Ridge Trail project for purposes of seeking City of Napa approvals to construct and operate trails on their property. The Napa City Council in November, 2009 directed city staff to work with the District to finalize an agreement for the proposed Hennessey trails. A plant survey of the new section of trail was completed on April 3, 2010. <u>Staff is coordinating with City of Napa staff on the preparation of a draft operating and management agreement and environmental review.</u></p>
<p>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</p>	<p>The feasibility study has been completed, and accepted by the Board of Directors. The Napa City Council in November, 2009 approved city staff recommendation to hold off on the Milliken Reservoir trails project until the Hennessey trail project is up and running.</p>
<p>Moore Creek Open Space Park Development Development of open space park on 673 acres acquired by the District adjacent to City of Napa watershed lands at Lake Hennessey to protect habitat, provide recreational trails, and overnight camping facilities.</p>	<p>Wells at the gate house and ranch house dug, pumps installed and water quality tested. The ranch house well is probably too salty to use <u>the gatehouse well has been hooked up</u>. An agreement for surveying the boundary between the District property and adjacent private property to the east has been signed, but the survey is going slowly; District Counsel has corresponded with the owner's attorney regarding completing the work. Volunteers have demolished a large old shed, constructed a new boundary/pool fence at the ranch house, planted and irrigated 250 willows, oaks and buckeyes to stabilize a section of creek bank; demolished 3 additional decrepid structures, removed thousands of invasive French broom plants, and done a lot of tree pruning and weed removal to reduce fire risk, and hauled off more than 50 yards of trash. Work on a Proposed Negative Declaration, Use Permit application and operating agreement with the City of Napa continues. Contracts for engineering and architectural services were approved in June 2010. <u>The County road crew did extensive drainage improvements to the dirt access road in August 2010.</u></p>
<p>Napa River Ecological Reserve Restoration Remove invasive plants and restore native vegetation in the entryway meadow, replace damaged signage and information panels, restorate the interior trail and interpretive elements, and if feasible install a seasonal bridge, using a \$100,000 grant from the State Coastal Conservancy.</p>	<p>The California Conservation Corps completed a first round of mechanical weed removal and installed an all-weather surface on the trail from the parking area to the river levee, in May 2010. In June the CCC did follow up chemical spraying and completed construction of the interpretive path. <u>Staff is continuing to work with local teachers to development curriculum and set up educational field trips for the next school year.</u></p>
<p>Oat Hill Mine Trail Improvements to first 1/2 mile of trail next to Calistoga</p>	<p>The project is on hold pending resolution of litigation. The judge hearing the legal challenge to the trail in December 2008 denied the substance of the issues raised by the plaintiff. The plaintiff in late April 2009 selected new legal counsel to represent him; this was the third legal counsel he has used on this case. The court case was scheduled to be heard on December 16, 2009, was postponed until February due to the judge's illness, was postponed until March due to plaintiff's illness, and on March 1st in the courtroom the plaintiff fired his attorney and obtained a continuance until June. At the June court hearing the judge threw out the lawsuit for failure of the plaintiff to have an attorney and to pursue the litigation in a timely way. Still remaining to be heard is a cross-complaint by the County which is intended to get judicial approval for a specific surveyed right-of-way. County staff is preparing the necessary survey documents.</p>
<p>Oat Hill Mine Trail Transfer of 40 acre parcel from BLM</p>	<p>The District in 2008 applied to BLM for a non-fee transfer to the District of a 40 acre parcel at Maple Springs on the Oat Hill Mine Trail; this application is pending.</p>
<p>Rector Ridge/Stags Leap Ridge Trail Construction of staging area and 6+ miles of Ridge Trail climbing east from Silverado Trail near Rector Creek.</p>	<p>CEQA on this project was completed several years ago--staff is preparing an update to the Negative Declaration due to the passage of time since the original approval. The project concept has been approved by the District Board, and is being positively viewed by the Veterans Home administration. District and Veterans Home staff met on June 30, 2009 to develop a strategy to allow the project to go forward. In late February 2010 the Veterans Home staff indicated they may have a revised strategy for moving forward; but after discussion this did not appear like the way to go, <u>so new discussions are starting</u></p>
<p>River to Ridge Trail Lot line adjustment to legalize River to Ridge Trail as constructed (it curenly encroaches on private property in two locations)</p>	<p>Deeds accomplishing the adjustment in property boundaries between Syar and the State have been recorded. If the County ends up not being able to purchase Skyline Park, including the area with the River to Ridge Trail, then the County and the state will need to record a new trail alignment easement description.</p>
<p>River to Ridge Trail Correct drainage problems to trail can be used year-round.</p>	<p>Two volunteer work weekends in March and April and two more in May of 2010 were organized by the District to clear brush, improve drainage, and surface about 300 feet of the trail with quarry fines to control problems with mud. About 50 feet of the trail still needs to be surfaced with quarry fines.</p>

<p>Skyline Park Trail Improvements</p> <p>Major volunteer event to reroute and repair trails</p>	<p>Staff is working with SPCA and V-O-CAL to sponsor a weekend work party on October 15-17, 2010 with approximately 100 volunteers to reroute and repair trails experiencing serious erosion problems. SPCA will donate \$1,000 toward expenses.</p>
<p>Skyline Park Facility Improvements</p> <p>Partner-sponsored improvement include a second greenhouse and a covered equestrian arena.</p>	<p>The proposals for a second greenhouse and a covered arena were approved by the Department of General Services and by the County Board of Supervisors. The sponsors of these projects are now raising funds for implementation.</p>
<p>Skyline Park Protection</p> <p>Purchase of Skyline Park from the State</p>	<p>Three past legislative efforts to authorize sale to the County failed due to unrelated disagreements between the state legislature and administration. Separately, the County in September 2009 approved a new park overlay zone and an updated Master Plan for Skyline Park. <u>A fourth legislative effort by Assemblymember Evans in 2010, sponsored by Napa County and supported by the District, has passed the legislature, and is now before the Governor, who must sign or veto the bill by September 30th.</u></p>
<p>South Napa Wetlands Habitat Area</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Transfer approved in concept by the flood control district. Park District staff has prepared the first draft of a transfer agreement. The Flood District and staff are continuing to research details related to completing the transaction. Attorney's for the flood district have concluded it would be better from their perspective for the flood district to retain ownership of the property, but to grant an access and habitat restoration easement to the district.</p>
<p>Vallejo Lakes</p> <p>Possible purchase of 1100 acres of surplus Vallejo Water District lands, of which 200 acres are located in Napa County</p>	<p>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 City Council of the City of Vallejo has officially authorized staff to pursue surplusing of the property. District staff and our partners are continuing to research issues related to the property, including potential public access locations, potential trail alignments, and easements and other encumbrances which affect the property. The State Coastal Conservancy has indicated an interest in assisting with the funding necessary to purchase the property. We are now waiting for the City to complete title research for the property so that an appraisal can be prepared. The surplusing process has slowed down due to new discussions between the City and residents of Green Valley over overall water supply arrangements. The District is working with the American Land Conservancy to find funding for the acquisition.</p>
<p>Vine Trail</p> <p>A Class I bicycle/pedestrian path extending from Calistoga to the Vallejo Ferry Terminal</p>	<p>The District has entered into an MOU with the Vine Trail Coalition to provide assistance as requested by the Coalition in receiving funds, preparing plans and environmental documents, constructing and operating the trail. The District, the Bay Area Ridge Trail, the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Vine Trail Coalition have prepared a joint Case Statement for the combined trail network for fundraising purposes. The District on February 5, 2010 submitted an appropriations request for FY 2011 to Senator Feinstein, and a similar request to Congressman Thompson on February 26, 2010 on behalf of the Vine Trail Coalition.</p>
<p>Wild Lake Ranch</p> <p>Possible joint management of trails, camping and picnic areas through agreement between the Land Trust, which acquired the property.</p>	<p>The District is participating in the development of a strategic plan for the property, together with other public lands in the area, that is being led by the Land Trust of Napa County. The advisory committee has met once, and completed a field trip to inspect the property. The planning process was put on hold due to the freeze in the state bond-funded grant; however, the freeze was mostly lifted in August and the planning process has restarted. A community input meeting was held on March 24, 2010. <u>The Wildlife Conservation Board approved purchasing a \$6 million easement from the Land Trust at its August meeting, this purchase will enable the Land Trust to repay its outstanding loans and start an endowment for managing the property.</u></p>

**Completed Projects****Berryessa Vista Acquisition**

Purchase of 224 acres from the Land Trust of Napa County for use as a public park completed in early 2008 using State Prop 12 funds.

**Connolly Ranch**

Construction of patio, restrooms and cooking facilities completed in 2008 using State Prop 12 funds.

**Oat Hill Mine Trail**

The Oat Hill Mine Trail was formally opened in May Of 2008, after a major volunteer work party doing signage installation, brush removal and erosion control.

**Linda Falls**

Conservation easement accepted in spring 2008 from Land Trust of Napa County to provide additional protection for this 39 acre property, which is owned by the land trust

**Master Plan Development**

The Master Plan for 2008-2013 was approved in January 2009

**Moore Creek Open Space Park**

Acquisition of 673 acres in the Moore Creek Watershed completed in December 2008. Trail reroute to remove two stream crossings mostly completed in May 2009. New heater installed in gatehouse in

**Napa River Ecological Reserve Improvements**

Parking area paved, and rock barrier installed to control vehicular access in 2007. Trash enclosure constructed and entry signs restored by volunteers in 2008. Deteriorated kiosk removed in 2008. The District in July 2008 assumed the County's role in managing the preserve under the joint management agreement with DFG. A new maintenance contract with the non-profit organization Options 3 was started in January 2009. The old deteriorated information kiosk, which had become a serious eyesore, was removed in November 2008.

**Napa River Flood Control Easement**

Conservation easement accepted by District in 2007 to facilitate Flood District project and grant funding

**Newell Preserve Improvements**

As part of the arrangement with the land trust on the District's purchase of Berryessa Vista, the land trust was 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 has dropped plans for digging any more test wells.

**River to Ridge Trail Enhancements**

Installation of animal silhouettes along the entryway fence illustrating the types of birds and mammals that can be found in the area completed by Eagle Scout candidate in 2008. In November 2008 five Valley Oak trees were planted at the Highway 221 entrance to the trail with the assistance of a volunteer from CNPS.

**River to Ridge Trail Entrance Enhancements**

A new information kiosk was installed at the entrance in December 2008 as part of a Boy Scout project. Several Live Oak seedlings were donated by CNPS and have been planted at the entrance to improve its appearance.

**Skyline Park Improvements Phase I**

Erosion control work on Lake Marie Road, and paving of campground loop road, completed in 2007 using State Prop 12 funds.

**Skyline Park Concessionaire Agreement Renewal**

District staff negotiated renewal of concessionaire agreement on behalf of the County. The renewal involved changes to the fee schedule and amendments to and approval of subagreements with three non-profit partner organizations.