



AG + OPEN SPACE
SONOMA COUNTY

SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

747 Mendocino Avenue – Suite 100, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
September 26, 2019 | 4:00 pm

MEMBERS PLEASE CALL IF UNABLE TO ATTEND

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Comment**
Comments on items not listed on the agenda. Time is limited to 3 minutes per person/item.
3. **Approval of Minutes from July 25, 2019 Attachment A | ACTION ITEM**
4. **General Manager's Report**
5. **Subcommittee Report Out**
Matching Grant Program
6. **Projects in Negotiation Attachment B**
7. **Announcements from Advisory Committee Members**
8. **Adjournment**
Next Meeting: October 24, 2019

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

October 24, 2019

Community Relations Strategy
Vital Lands
MGP Guidelines
Report out on Field Trip

November 28, 2019

Cancelled for Thanksgiving

December 12, 2019

MGP 2020 Kickoff
Vital Lands Implementation Plans/Interactive Map

January 23, 2020

Stewardship Update to Board
Legislation on Stewardship Reserve
Staff Spotlights

February 27, 2020

Update on Process Mapping and Refinement of Functions
Staff Spotlights

March 26, 2010

Update on Our Work with Agriculture

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability which requires the agenda materials to be in an alternative format or requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact Mariah Robson at (707) 565-7363, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Any member of the audience desiring to address the Committee on a matter on the agenda will have an opportunity to speak. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the subject under discussion. Each person is usually granted 3 minutes to speak; time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair.





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UNAPPROVED MINUTES

747 Mendocino Avenue – Suite 100, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
July 25, 2019 | 5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Smith	Curt Nichols	Steve Barbose	Paul Martin
Jan McFarland	Cary Fargo	Leah Gold	Doug Lipton
John Dell’Osso	Taj Hittenberger	Jennielynn Holmes	Steve Rabinowitsh
Don McEnhill			

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tawny Tesconi	Evan Wiig
Neysa Hinton	John Nagle

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Keene, General Manager; Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager; Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist; Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator; Alex Roa, Special Projects Planner; Allison Schichtel, Conservation GIS Planner; Sara Ortiz, Administrative Aide; Lauren Alpert, Community Relations Assistant; Aldo Mercado, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Dell’Osso called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Public Comment

Duane DeWitt handed out a Roseland Creek Neighborhood Preserve Master Plan Proposal that was created by the neighbors of Roseland to show their community vision for a master plan. Mr. DeWitt stated he would prefer to save the Roseland riparian corridors and oak woodland rather than create cement and concrete structures, which he is concerned is the City of Santa Rosa’s interest. Mr. DeWitt also handed out a For All Nature in the “Neighbor Wood” petition to the staff of Ag + Open Space.

Approval of Minutes

Leah Gold motioned to approve the minutes as is, and Bill Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, with abstentions from Jan McFarland, Steve Rabinowitsh and Doug Lipton who were not in attendance at the May meeting.

Chair Dell'Osso had a goodbye card for our youth member, Halei Trowbridge, whose term ended in June. The card was given to Advisory Committee members to sign and will be sent once received back with signatures.

General Manager's Report Out

- An amendment to the Howlett Forest easement will go the Board on August 6, 2019. Howlett Forest is close to Buckeye Forest and has old growth redwoods and Douglas fir. The amendment concerns language requested by the landowner so that he can receive the IRS deduction.
- The Saddle Mountain management plan is going to the Board on September 20, 2019 for adoption. Saddle Mountain is above Rincon Valley off of Calistoga Road. The management plan includes resource protection and management, limited public access due to roadway and traffic safety, and added sections for fuels management, via shaded fuel breaks and prescribed burns.
- Taylor Mountain's Cooper Creek addition is going to the Board on October 22, 2019.
- The Matching Grant Program will go to the Board on November 5, 2019.
- The Stewardship Workshop update will go to the Board on December 10, 2019.
- Lauren Alpert, our new Community Relations Assistant, started on June 18, 2019. She comes to us from the California Academy of Sciences and has over eight years of volunteer management, community engagement, and government relations experience, mostly in nonprofits. She will be working with Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager and Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist, on social media education and outings program, volunteer engagement, and helping Ag + Open Space develop better tools for community reporting and engagement.
- The Advisory Committee is still recruiting for two new youth members to join the committee for this coming school year. Please direct any potential candidates to Ms. Ricard or reach out to her directly if you have questions or need more information.
- The Duckworth Family Farms – our Nahmens Conservation Easement – has experienced a recent surge in popularity with their U-Pick Blueberry Days. The final U-Pick weekend is this weekend, Friday through Sunday from 7am – 2pm. Search Duckworth Family Farms on Facebook for more information.
- Reminder to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter on our website to learn more about these types of insider stories.



Subcommittee Report Out

The Advisory Committee currently has one active subcommittee, the Matching Grant Program. The subcommittee has not met since the last Advisory Committee meeting and has no update.

Vital Lands Initiative Update

Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager, gave an overview and update on the Vital Lands Initiative. Small group meetings have been set up with Advisory Committee members and Ag + Open Space staff to discuss the draft and to receive further input from members. Members who have not contacted Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk, for an appointment are encouraged to do so. Ms. Gaffney presented a PowerPoint that went over the history, graphic layout, maps, table of contents, chapters and appendices, goals, objectives, measures of success, and next steps. A discussion ensued with comments and input from Advisory Committee members and members of the public.

For more information on the Vital Lands Initiative, the PowerPoint presentation is available upon request, or contact Ms. Gaffney at Ag + Open Space.

Agriculture Position

Mr. Keene, General Manager, spoke about a new position being added at Ag + Open Space as directed by the Board of Directors. This position will be focused on the agricultural work of Ag + Open Space and will be a partner with the agricultural community. An ideal candidate document has been drafted and the position will be taken to the Board to be approved in either August or September. The position will be filled by the beginning of next year. The draft will be shared with the Advisory Committee at next month's meeting.

For more information, contact Mr. Keene or Ms. Robson at Ag + Open Space.

Projects in Negotiation

Jacobsen Ranches will be brought to the Fiscal Oversight Commission in August or September. Ag + Open Space would like to close later this year.

Senators Mike McGuire, Bill Dodd, and Assembly member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry have made an agreement on the Sonoma Developmental Center that will empower the County of Sonoma to preserve the open spaces of the undeveloped land.

The matching grant project on Taylor Mountain, the Cooper Creek addition, is going to the Board in October.

Announcements from Advisory Committee Members and Members of the Public

Steve Rabinowitsh | On July 9, 2019, the Santa Rosa City Council voted to certify the Environmental Impact Report and approve the rezoning for the Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway. This approval will



allow for the appraisal of the property followed by negotiations for its purchase from Caltrans this fall and early winter.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.

Next Meeting: August 22, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson
Advisory Committee Secretary



Total Acres: 13,256

Matching Grant Projects	Acres (approximate)	Supervisory District	Location	Begin Grant Process	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
AmeriCorps Trail	12	5	Sebastopol					Initiating project
Andy's Unity Park	4	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x				Tracking match
Badger Park	20	4	Healdsburg					Initiating project
Bayer Farm Development	6**	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	x	x	x	Reimbursement ongoing, Grant term extended
Colgan Creek Phase 3 MG*	7	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x	x	Extension granted to 10/14/21
Crane Creek Regional Trail*	6	1	East of Rohnert Park	x	n/a			Drafting documents. Grant term extended to 12/6/
Denman Reach	2	2	North Petaluma	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Falletti Ranch	4	2	Cotati	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
Forever Forestville*	4	5	Downtown Forestville	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
Graton Green	1	5	Downtown Graton	x	x	x		Escrow closed April 5, 2019. Tracking match.
Guerneville River Park Phase 2*	5	5	Central Guerneville	x	x	x		Initiating project
Helen Putnam Regional Park Extension	56	2	Petaluma					Initiating project
Maxwell Farms	79	1	Northwest of Sonoma	x	n/a			Drafting Documents
McNear Peninsula Addition	21	2	Petaluma					Drafting documents
Paula Lane Open Space Preserve	11	2	West Petaluma	x	x	x	x	Tracking match
River Lane	1	5	West of Guerneville	x	x	x	x	Finalizing documents
Riverfront Regional Park Recreation Improv	300**	4	West of Windsor	x	n/a			Initiating project
Roseland Creek Community Park - Phase 1	3	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x				Drafting documents
Roseland Village Public Space	1	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Southeast Santa Rosa Greenway	61	1	Southeast Santa Rosa	x		x		Initiating project
SMART Pathway – Hearn to Bellevue*	6	5	Southwest Santa Rosa	x	n/a	x		Finalizing documents
SMART Pathway - Payran to S. Point	14	2	Petaluma	x	n/a			Drafting documents
Steamer Landing Park Development (McNe	27**	2	Downtown Petaluma	x	n/a			Initiating project
Taylor Mtn ROSP - Cooper Creek Addition	54	3	Southeast Santa Rosa					Drafting documents

Total Acres: 236

PROJECT	Acreage (approximate) Supervisorial District		Acquisition Plan Category	Project Design	Appraisal Process	Approvals/Baseline	Escrow	Comments
Arrowhead Ranch (Maas)	245	2	Farms & Ranches	x				On hold at request of owner
El Recreo	289	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside					CE under negotiation
Gloeckner-Turner Ranch	3,364	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas	x	x			Appraisal process
Jacobsen Ranches	127	2	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside	x	x			
Joseph Camozzi Dairy	403	2	Farms & Ranches	x				CE under negotiation
LaFranchi (Oak Ridge Angus)	1,189	4	Farms & Ranches	x				CE under negotiation
Mattos Dairy	866	2	Farms & Ranches	x	x			Offer made
McClelland Dairy	337	2	Farms & Ranches	x	x			On hold at request of owner
Preston Farm	133	4	Farms & Ranches					Initiating project
Silva	4,441	5	Water, Wildlife & Natural Areas					CE under negotiation
Sonoma Developmental Center 5 (Transfor	945	1	Greenbelts & Scenic Hillside					Land protection proposal underway
Torr	522	5	Recreation & Education					Appraisal process
Witt Home Ranch	395	2	Farms & Ranches					Initiating project

Project Status Chart

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District

9/20/2019

* District approved a 2-year extension

** Restoration/Development Project on previous acquisition.