

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 24, 2020

From: MITCH WEISS, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c. (2), Action

Prepared By: Jose Oseguera
Assistant Deputy Director

Published Date: June 12, 2020

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Kawana Springs Trail Construction Project, Resolution E-20-56

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Kawana Springs Trail Construction Project (Project) in Sonoma County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

Issue:

The Sonoma County Regional Parks is the California Environmental Quality Act lead agency for the Project. The Project will construct a 0.57-mile multi-use trail to serve as a critical link to the growing network of trails. The project is located in the vicinity of Taylor Mountain, which is approximately two miles southeast of downtown Santa Rosa, and is adjacent to the Kawana Springs neighborhood off of Petaluma Hill Road, Sonoma County.

For all projects that are anticipated to be funded through a program under the purview of the Commission, full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is required. The Commission will not allocate funds to projects for design, right-of-way or construction until the environmental document is complete, and the Commission has approved the environmentally cleared project for future funding consideration.

Background:

On October 9, 2012, the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, jointly adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project and found that the Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to biological and cultural resources. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, conduct

a pre-construction survey to determine the impacts to the Red-Legged Frog, contract with a qualified biologist to canvass trees for potential roosting areas, and cease construction activities, if artifacts are discovered.

On March 12, 2020, the Sonoma County Regional Parks confirmed that the Mitigated Negative Declaration remains valid and that there are no new identified impacts requiring mitigation. The Sonoma County Regional Parks also confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The Project is estimated to cost \$172,930 and is fully funded through construction with Active Transportation Program Funds (\$158,730) and Local Funds (\$14,200).

Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2020-21.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-20-56
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C. Project Location Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding**

**4 – Sonoma County
Resolution E-20-56**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Regional Parks completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Kawana Springs Trail Construction Project (Project) in Los Angeles County; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Regional Parks certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Project is located in the vicinity of Taylor Mountain, which is approximately two miles southeast of downtown Santa Rosa, and is adjacent to the Kawana Springs neighborhood off of Petaluma Hill Road, Sonoma County; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Project will construct a 0.57-mile multi-use trail to serve as a critical link to the growing network of trails; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, on October 9, 2012, the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, jointly found that the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation and adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Sonoma County Regional Parks confirmed that the Mitigated Negative Declaration remains valid and that there are no new identified impacts requiring mitigation; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Sonoma County Regional Parks also confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the California Transportation Commission (Commission); and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approves the above-referenced Project for future consideration of funding.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Transportation Commission
Attn: Jose Oseguera
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-2094

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Kawana Springs Trail Construction Project

2012062048	Mark Cleveland	(707) 565-2042
State Clearinghouse Number	Lead Agency Contact Person	Area Code/Telephone

Project Location (include county): The project is located in the vicinity of Taylor Mountain, which is approximately two miles southeast of downtown Santa Rosa, and is adjacent to the Kawana Springs neighborhood off of Petaluma Hill Road, Sonoma County.

Project Description: The project will construct a 0.57-mile multi-use trail to serve as a critical link to the growing network of trails.

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above described project on

(Lead Agency/ Responsible Agency)

June 24, 2020, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project (will/ will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (were/ were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan (was / was not) adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations (was / was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings (were/ were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: 2300 County Center Drive, Suite A120, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

MITCH WEISS

Signature (Public Agency)

Date

Executive Director

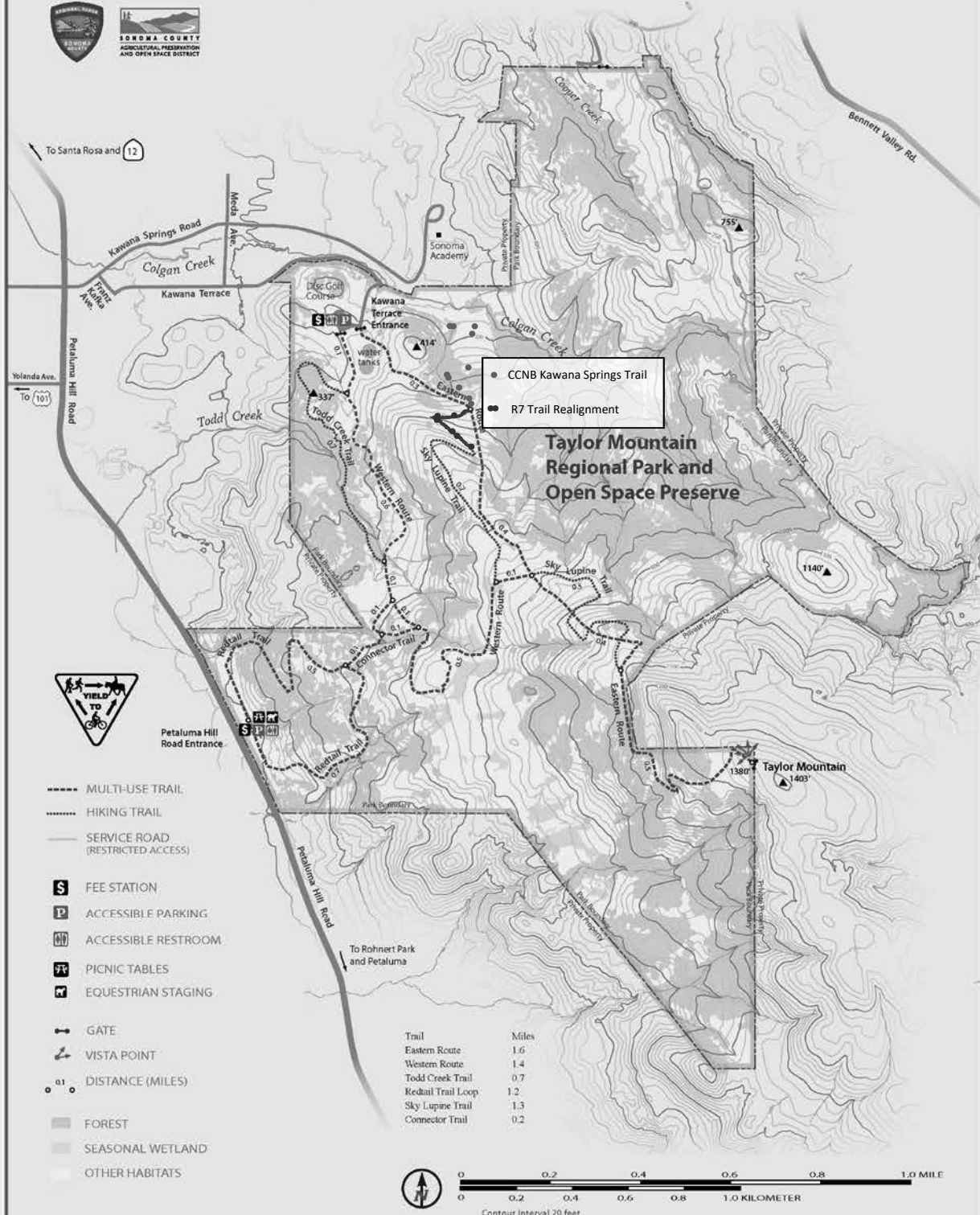
California Transportation Commission

Title

Date received for filing at OPR:

Kawana Springs Trail Construction - Vicinity Map

Taylor Mountain Regional Park and Open Space Preserve



Taylor Mountain Regional Park & Open Space Preserve is a prominent Santa Rosa landmark offering panoramic views of the city and beyond. The park's 1,100 acres include sweeping grasslands, oak woodlands, and several creeks, and provide habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Recreational features include 6.4 miles of unpaved trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding and an 18-hole disc golf course. From the park's 1380-foot summit, visitors can see central Sonoma County, the Laguna de Santa Rosa, the Coast Range, the Mayacamas Range and other North Bay landmarks.

The park property was acquired by the voter-funded Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District and decided to Sonoma County Regional Parks in 2013. The park currently has two entrances and trailheads on Kawana Terrace and Petaluma Hill Road. Taylor Mountain's master plan calls for the eventual development of 17 miles of trails, a children's play area, hike-in campsites, a visitor center, and other amenities as funding becomes available. The parkland was used for ranching for many years, and cattle grazing continues in the park.

This map is provided as a guide within the park. Reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the map and this provided. The positional accuracy of the data is approximate and not intended to represent map accuracy from a published second survey. THE MAP AND ASSOCIATED DATA ARE PROVIDED WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. For detailed and updated information about accessibility of recreational opportunities or any other park information contact Sonoma County Regional Parks at (707) 585-2041.