

Notice of Preparation

TO: State Clearinghouse, San Mateo County FROM: County of San Mateo
Clerk, and All Interested Parties Parks Department
455 County Center – Fourth Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

The County of San Mateo is the Lead Agency requesting input for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Flood County Park Landscape Plan, a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of this notice of preparation is to solicit input on the scope and content of the draft EIR for the proposed project, pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082.

Project Title: Flood County Park Landscape Plan

Project Applicant: County of San Mateo Parks Department

Project Location: The project site consists of the 24.5-acre Flood County Park, located at 215 Bay Road in the City of Menlo Park in San Mateo County. This neighborhood park includes two County-owned parcels totaling 21.3 acres and two linear parcels owned by the City & County of San Francisco as part of its right-of-way for the Hetch Hetchy regional water distribution system. These linear parcels cut through the center of Flood County Park, on an east-west axis. The Town of Atherton is located adjacent to and southwest of the park, across Bay Road, and San Francisco is about 20 miles to the northwest.

Project Description: The proposed project consists of a Landscape Plan for the long-term redevelopment of San Mateo County's Flood County Park. On April 7, 2016, the County Parks and Recreation Commission voted to approve this plan as the Draft Preferred Alternative for improving Flood County Park. The Landscape Plan evolved through a series of community outreach efforts designed to identify community values, preferred uses, and site layout preferences.

It is anticipated that implementation of the Landscape Plan would occur in three phases: Phase I, Phase II), and Phase III. The Phase I improvements are expected to be completed in approximately the first two years. Table 1 lists the proposed recreational facilities in the Landscape Plan and their anticipated phasing:

**Table 1
Proposed Recreational Facilities and Phasing**

Phase	Improvements
Phase I	Baseball field replacement and bathroom
	Soccer/lacrosse field
	Two tennis courts
	Sand volleyball court replacement
	Basketball court
	Pump track
	Asphalt paths
	Adobe bathroom renovation
	Tree-lined promenade
	Drop off at playground area
	New utilities: water, electric, gas, greywater piping ¹
Phase II	Restrooms
	Demonstration gardens
	Playground replacement
	Individual picnic area renovations
	Gathering meadow (performance space)
Phase III	Conversion of adobe administrative building to open-air shade/market structure ²
	Group picnic area renovations with shade shelters
	Completion of all pathways with exercise stations
	Gathering plazas
	Focal element (may incorporate existing water pump feature)

1. Purple piping may be installed for the future use of greywater.

2. The adobe administrative building is seismically unsafe as an enclosed, inhabited building, but would be partially preserved as an open-air market structure.

The largest recreational facilities would be sited in the northern portion of the park, where the existing ballfield would be reconstructed and the soccer/lacrosse field would be installed at the northeast corner, replacing the existing pétanque court and a portion of the existing tennis courts. The proposed athletic field improvements (i.e., a reconstructed ballfield and new soccer/lacrosse field) would increase use of the park relative to existing conditions. It is anticipated that organized activities at the athletic fields would occur no earlier than 9 a.m. and no later than 8 p.m. No additional lighting that would enable nighttime use of athletic facilities is proposed as part of the Landscape Plan, although path lights that could be manually turned on and off for special events may be installed.

Probable Environmental Effects: The County has determined that an EIR will be prepared for the proposed project. Based on a preliminary assessment of the project, the probable environmental impacts that will be analyzed as part of the EIR are in the issue areas of aesthetics, air quality, biological

resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, and transportation/traffic.

Pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082(b), your comments regarding the scope and content of the environmental analysis must be submitted no later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. The public review period is from November 17, 2016, until December 16, 2016. Please send your comments no later than December 16 directly to:

Sam Herzberg, AICP, Senior Planner
County of San Mateo Parks Department
455 County Center – Fourth Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Fax: (650) 599-1721
Email: sherzberg@smcgov.org

The County will also hold a public scoping meeting at 7 p.m. on December 6th, 2016, in the Cypress Room of the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025. The meeting will provide an opportunity to disseminate information, identify issues, and discuss the scope of environmental review and alternatives to be included in the EIR. For more project information, contact Sam Herzberg, AICP, Senior Planner, at (650) 363-1823 or sherzberg@smcgov.org

Date 11/8/16

Signature 

Title Senior Planner, AICP, Parks Department

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