



March 24, 2009

Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
Marin County Civic Center
San Rafael, California 94903

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO APPROVE MASTER PLAN FOR CREEKSIDE PARK,
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17, KENTFIELD**

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the Master Plan for Creekside Park.

SUMMARY: In May 2008, the Department of Parks and Open Space began a process to create a new master plan for Creekside Park and the Corte Madera Creek Multi-Use Pathway in County Service Area (CSA) 17, Kentfield. The new master plan is intended to:

- Create a new children's play area meeting current standards for accessibility and playground safety, and reflecting the parks rich environmental orientation;
- Enhance the relationship between the park, the creek, the multi-use pathway and the marsh;
- Provide opportunities for education to the five schools within walking distance of the park;
- Provide opportunities for reflection and meditation; and
- Create a park that is more accessible to all members of the public.

The planning process provided multiple opportunities for public input and comment during the master plan development process through

- Focus groups
- A "Family Discovery Day" at the park
- A design charette
- A public workshop
- A meeting of the Parks and Open Space Commission.

The consensus achieved through these events was for a master plan that did not deviate substantially from the park layout, facilities and activities currently offered at Creekside Park. Proposed improvements include the following park elements:

- Relocated children's play areas with separated play for toddlers and elementary school-aged children
- Renovated restroom to be accessible

- Renovated amphitheater
- Health and meditation grove parallel to Bon Air Road
- Mt. Tamalpais overlook
- Expanded picnic areas and opportunities
- Environmental interpretive opportunities and
- Upland habitat restoration and interpretation
- Creekside Multi-Use Pathway improvements
- Mini park at Ross Valley Sanitary District pump station
- Miscellaneous access and pathway improvements.

The Master Plan also encompasses the Corte Madera Creek Multi-Use Pathway from South Eliseo Drive to the bridge crossing at Stadium Avenue to Kent Middle School. Proposed pathway improvements include minor modifications to signage and benches. Staff is currently in the process of securing prices for design development and construction drawings. If approved, construction documents would be completed in Fall/Winter 2009 at a cost of approximately \$196,000. Construction, estimated between \$1.1 million and \$1.5 million, is scheduled to begin no later than the summer of 2010.

Because the proposed changes to the park do not involve any significant new use of the park, or a significant increase in the level of use, this project is Categorically Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act.

The Parks and Open Space Commission recommends that the Board approve the Creekside Park Master Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT: Approval of the Master Plan has no fiscal impact to the County General Fund. Costs for preparation of construction documents and for construction will be funded entirely by CSA 17, which was formed expressly for the purpose for acquiring, constructing and maintaining Creekside Park. Contracts for these items will be considered by the Board at a later date.

REVIEWED BY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Auditor Controller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Principal Park Planner Stephen Petterle is the principal author of this report

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Miska
Deputy Director

RM:SP/kbl
attachment

c: Matt Bronson
Parks and Open Space Commission
Press