

Brigitte Shearer

From: Greg Trumpler [mailto:greg@grman.com]
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 6:32 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog lake park

Dear Park and rec commissioners and City Council, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for multi-use hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The 'Love Waterdog' campaign is wonderful.

Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont park and rec workers. Our beloved trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for all people that live in Belmont Parks are great for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationists, and environmentalists ideals, fostering community pride, and improved quality of life. Our community has a desperate need for recreational open space. Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Please keep trails open for all users

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

Greg Trumpler.

Sent from my iPad

Brigitte Shearer

From: Joe Rogers
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 6:20 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan - Critical to Keep Multi-Use Access to Waterdog Open Space

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Best regards,
Joseph Rogers

Brigitte Shearer

From: Astrid Block
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:04 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: letter in support of keeping Waterdog trails open for multi-use

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, Belmont Parks a Recreation Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan is under review this year.

As a resident of Belmont and mother of three active children, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. We enjoy hiking, biking and exploring in this open space regularly. In fact, we find ourselves there several times a week. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for residents of Belmont and visitors. Waterdog has served the public well for decades, and especially during the pandemic, as other opportunities for recreation have been off limits.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Warmly,

Astrid Block
2525 Carmlita Ave
Bemont CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Peter Bai on behalf of Peter Bai
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:52 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Maintaining Waterdog Access for All

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with the Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier each year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in the area - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Kind regards,

- Peter

Brigitte Shearer

From: Laura Deck ·
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:17 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Preserve and protect Waterdog Open Space before it gets trashed

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,
I have been a Belmont/San Carlos resident for 33 years and frequently hike Belmont Canyon and Waterdog trails. Due to overuse by mountain bikers, many trails have deep ruts, switchback cuts, and signs of erosion. On numerous occasions, I have been forced off the single-track trail by bikers riding very fast around blind corners. For these reasons, I support designating Waterdog Open Space as a Nature Preserve. In the new Master Plan, all Open Space policy decisions should prioritize conservation and habitat protection, including:

- Designate narrow natural surface trails for hiking only, consistent with best practices of other open spaces
 - Close illegal Open Space trails, and restore damaged ecosystems and fragmented wildlife habitat
 - Enforce the closure of all open spaces from sunset to sunrise to protect wildlife and ensure safety; cite violators
 - Prohibit e-bikes and motorized vehicles on all trails; cite violators
 - Allocate park spending to equitably fund desperately needed Open Space maintenance
 - Implement ecosystem management Best Practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance
- Please incorporate these policies into the new Open Space Master Plan!

Thank you, Laura

Laura Deck

C: (

Brigitte Shearer

From: Laurent Gharda
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 12:14 PM
To: P&R Comm
Cc: City Council; Brigitte Shearer
Subject: 2021 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Master Plan - input from a Belmont resident on the Belmont Open Space (Waterdog, Hidden Canyon, etc.)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello P&R Commissioners and Council Members,

My name is Laurent Gharda, I live at 14 Somerset Ct.

As a frequent user (hiker) of the open space, for your consideration, I hope the following will be made a high priority as you formulate the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Master Plan:

- Trail usage: I wish as many trails as possible be designated for hikers only. Jumping out of the path to let bikes through is dangerous, tiresome and requires too much attention. It diminishes my enjoyment of the open space. I have no problem with bikers using mixed use trails which are wider and safer for all involved, but on many very narrow trails with poor visibility, I feel this is dangerous to hikers.
- Erosion: I'm concerned that many trails show signs of erosion. To my untrained eye, it seems as if much of that is caused by bikes.
- E-bikes: I hope there is a prohibition against these motorized vehicles, as it will only make worse my 2 concerns above.

Thank you for your consideration!

Laurent and Dana Gharda

Laurent Gharda

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Barbara Fetterly
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:57 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Bike inclusive Trail Support
Attachments: Waterdog Bike Inclusive Trail Support.docx; Belmont Pump Track Support Letter 1_11.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Park and Rec Department and City Council Members,
Thank you for taking your valuable time to review my letters which support bikes to remain a part of the Waterdog area. If you have any questions or wish to speak with me personally please do not hesitate to contact me at [redacted]. I apologize for not being able to attend meetings in person but please do not mistake my absence as a lack of support and gratitude for your commitment to make the right decision to benefit our entire community.
Warm regards,
Barbara Fetterly

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris March
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:54 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Evidence-Based Impact Review of Trail Usage

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont Parks & Rec. Committee,

As a homeowner in Belmont, I feel greatly privileged to bike and hike in the open spaces here with my wife and children, and I am motivated to contribute how I can. In addition to attending P&R meetings and regularly communicating with mountain biker groups about responsible trail usage, I am writing this letter to provide evidence-based support from the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz Science Committee, who cite over 54 sources, for continued access by bikers to multiuse trails.

I would like to submit for your review the *Mountain Biking Impact Review Frequently Asked Questions*, provided by the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz Science Committee in 2019. It can be downloaded from <https://mbosc.org/mtb-impact-faq/> by scrolling down to the button labelled "Download a PDF of All MTB Impact Review FAQs" and clicking on that button. Alternatively, you can request hard copies, or submit additional questions from the website.

For your convenience, I would like to quote a few of the points from this review, which seem most relevant to Waterdog and Belmont Open Spaces. My only changes to the content are [explanations of terminology in brackets]:

Hydrology & Geology

1) Does mountain biking generate more erosion and other trail damage than other types of recreational trail use? How do physical trail impacts differ based on user group?

- In general, studies have shown that there is no statistically significant difference in induced soil erosion, excavation, incision (ruts), and trail widening between biking and hiking, and both are far less impactful than horse riding.^{[1][2][3][4]} Erosion on trails depends more on trail design, water drainage, levels of use, and soil properties.^[5]
- The degree of physical impact related to trails is mostly dependent on trail maintenance regime rather than type of use.^[4]
- There are a handful of studies that have been conducted over the past couple of decades looking into the comparative physical impacts (e.g. trail compaction/incision, trail widening, soil displacement and erosion) on trails by different user groups.^{[1][2][3][4]} The general conclusions of these studies are that:
 - On properly-built and well-maintained trails there is little to no measurable difference between the relative impacts caused by mountain bikes vs. hikers.
 - Although there are few quantitative studies on the topic, it is generally accepted that informal/user-built trails tend to experience dramatically elevated rates of degradation due to poor design, management, and construction practices.

- Additional research is needed to more accurately measure the variation of mountain bike impacts based on riding style (e.g. XC [normal trail riding, as in Waterdog], downhill [downhill only riding, as at chairlift access bicycle parks], dirt-jumps, etc.).

3) I frequently notice ruts in local trails. What causes these? Do they lead to more erosion? How can they be alleviated?

- Ruts, soil displacement, and compaction are unavoidable outcomes of trail use over time. Whether by foot, tire, or hoof, soil is being excavated and forms ruts over time. If left unattended, the path will continue to erode from precipitation events.^{[6][7][8]}
 - Rut creation is accelerated when trails are wet, which is why riding trails during and following rain events is highly discouraged.
 - Proper trail construction and regular maintenance under the guidance of trail stewardship organizations (such as MBOSC) greatly alleviate the effects of regular use.^{[6][7][8]}
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Plants & Wildlife

1) Generally speaking, what is the impact of mountain biking on wildlife?

- The short answer is that it's complicated. It largely depends on the species encountered, the characteristics of the trail, and the conduct of the trail user.
- The creation and presence of human created trails may lead to the fragmentation of a landscape that was once intact.^{[1][2]} The effects of fragmentation on wildlife vary depending on the species and the scale of analyses and impact.^[3] Fragmentation has been found to be more severe in areas where unsanctioned trails are common.^[4]
 - For instance, Red-legged Frogs can be adversely impacted if a trail traverses within 100 meters of its habitat.^[5]
 - Research has found that some bird species have decreased nest survival, increased predation, or lower nest density in areas fragmented by trails.^{[6][7]}
 - Other species, however, have been shown to use trails to their advantage for travel or foraging, demonstrating that the presence of trails can affect the local composition of species.^[7]
- The trail user and that user's behavior also will dictate their impact on wildlife. Studies have shown that nesting birds may not be disturbed (e.g. the bird being startled from its nest/perch) by hikers or bikers quietly moving along a trail, but when trail users were noisy (e.g. talking) or when they stopped and/or approached the nest (e.g. birdwatchers), the likelihood of disturbance was significantly higher.^{[8][9][10]} Most birds and mammals will react more strongly (i.e., flee) to off-trail recreationists than to on-trail users.^{[8][9][10][11][12]}
- Research shows that noise can affect wildlife. Noise, however, is subjective and is perceived by different species in different ways.^{[13][14]} Studies have show that bicyclists passing quickly may cause less noise disturbance than other recreationalist on the trail.^{[11][16][32]}
- A number of papers have attempted to synthesize the existing research of recreational impacts on wildlife worldwide. Findings show that a majority (>60%) of the studies reviewed demonstrated some form of negative impact on wildlife from all types of trail use (mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding).^{[16][17][18]}
 - However, these same studies suggest that while recreational trail use may impact individual or groups of animals, population-level impacts to a species are less well-studied and poorly known.

2) How do mountain bikes impact wildlife as compared to other trail users?

- Many studies examined the impacts of recreation on wildlife by user type(s). The majority of these studies however didn't specifically address mountain biking, nor do they distinguish between the

wide variety of mountain bike riding types (e.g. cross-country [normal trail riding, as at Waterdog] vs. downhill [lift accessed resort riding]). The few studies that specifically addressed mountain biking have suggested the following:

- Across a number of studies, researchers found that ungulates (such as deer and elk) are equally or less likely to be disturbed by mountain bikers than by hikers, joggers, or horseback riders.^{[11][12]}
- The negative effects of trail use on birds is equal across trail use types when users are quiet and continuously moving.^[17] Birds tend to be more adversely affected when users stop along the trail, or when they make more noise.^{[8] [9] [10][19]}
- A study in a network of wildland reserves in Southern CA of disturbance to medium and large mammals found that all user types had negative effects, and that some types of human disturbance were more negative than others (from most to least impactful: pedestrian, bicycles, vehicles, dogs, equestrians).^[20]
 - This study's researchers refer to these impacts as a form of "mortality-free predation" due to the fact that these animals preferentially avoid habitat that humans are a part of.

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Sincerely,
Chris March

Brigitte Shearer

From: Josh Engberg
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 2:49 PM
To: P&R Comm; x-Parks/Recreation Office
Subject: I Support Mountain biking at Hidden Canyon and Waterdog parks

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Commissioners,

I am a long time science teacher at Carlmont high school for 20 plus years, and a San Carlos resident. Throughout this time I have very much enjoyed biking and hiking at Waterdog and Hidden Canyon parks.

I have seen vast improvement of the trails driven by the mountain bike community over the past few years, and in my opinion the trails and conditions have improved dramatically since the early 2000s.

I know many students of Carlmont high school that ride several times a week in these parks as well. This is a great local outlet for them that they can access without getting a ride from parents or driving themselves. Though the Peninsula has many areas with trails, the number of bike accessible trails east of hwy 280 is extremely limited, most other mountain bike areas are a 30 minute drive away from Belmont. Waterdog/Hidden Canyon is one of the very few quality mountain bike areas that local adults and teens can access by bike, with no need for a car.

Very often I will bike to work in the morning at Carlmont high school and then finish my day with a ride on the trails of Waterdog/Hidden canyon in the afternoon.

I know that some community members have been lobbying to restrict bikes to only the fireroad portion of these parks. This would be a tragic reduction of available recreation space for our youth and adult residents. Additionally, I'm not sure how this could be enforced in any kind of practical way by the city of Belmont.

Here are some ideas for positive changes that I would like to share as well:

1. Bell use by mountain bikers. I currently use a \$3 "bear bell" and hikers appreciate it. There could even be "borrow a bell stations" at the popular trail heads.
2. Better signage indicating trail difficulty-easy, moderate, difficult.
3. Continued trail improvements done by knowledgeable trail builders. Many of the erosion poor trails have existed for over 20 years and are due to poor trail creation. The Elevator trail is a prime example of this.
4. Some one way traffic for bikes on some of the trails to promote safety and more established routes.
5. Explore how many US cities are promoting mountain biking as a way to improve the economic and overall appeal of the community.

Thank you and I will virtually attend the upcoming meeting.

Best Wishes,
Josh Engberg

Brigitte Shearer

From: Evan Bissell
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:51 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Support for multi-use trails and mountain bike access at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am a regular mountain bike user at Waterdog Lake Open space, which is a fantastic, well managed, not over-used, gem of a park. Parking is easy, access points from surrounding neighborhoods are abundant, and 99% of trail users are really friendly and respectful.

A group called "PreserveWaterdog" is attempting to take action and raise awareness to false issues related to mountain bike use of this space. This same type of fight has taken place elsewhere in the bay (Marin is a good example) and resulted in wasted resources and contentious interactions that don't improve things for anyone's interests. I love the peninsula and San Mateo county because the trail users, city employees, rangers up in the Midpen Parks and everyone is generally respectful of each other and the trail infrastructure and environment. Please don't feed into this hate and false information when considering the new Master Plan and Open Space policy.

Mountain bikes DO NOT make eroded double track like the picture they have of Rambler trail...that is caused by groups of hikers, the same types of paths can be found on Sugarloaf mountain on the northeast side where no mountain bikers climb or descend. Mountain bikes might cause multiple "lines" through a given section, but they will not cause a widespread eroded open section like shown in that picture. False information.

Riding mountain bikes on the beautiful single track available to us in the parks and open space of the peninsula has been a major boost for mine and other's mental health during this pandemic. Having access to these space so close to home has been a huge factor in my decision to continue to call this area my home.

The one exception that many mountain bikers will agree with...E Bikes. I fully support limiting access to these and all off road single track trails to human powered sports only. I am an avid off-road motorcycle rider but I only go to designated OHV areas for that. E-bikes allow unskilled riders to travel far too fast on blind sections of trail near others.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions!

Regards,
Evan Bissell

Brigitte Shearer

From: Robert Low
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 12:26 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Please do not restrict trail acres at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council,

People have been taking up outdoor recreation in droves due to the pandemic, and now that they have fallen back in love with exercise and fresh air again they are here to stay. This is a huge boon to the health of the populace! There are a record number of hikers and cyclists, and we need MORE places and trails to use, not fewer! Waterdog is positioned to make for an excellent resource for recreation and a very poor nature preserve. Nature is vital too, of course! This just isn't the place to try to create a preserve.

Best wishes,
Robert

Brigitte Shearer

From: Rajiv Eluthesen
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:37 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Multi-Use Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with the Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier each year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in the area - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Rajiv Eluthesen

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ben Ziegler
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:03 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I strongly support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining trails as they are for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting to nature, etc. Consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education for trail users and groups to ensure sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservations of the trails. They are already doing such a fantastic job. The trailers are IMPROVING over time!

On a personal note, Waterdog Open Space has been a monumental resource both before and during the pandemic. It's wonderful to have such an amazing space to get outside and enjoy the outdoors. We are lucky, as mountain bikers, to have such a challenging and well kept trail right here in our backyard. All of my interactions with hikers and others at Waterdog have been friendly, cordial, and positive. It would truly be a shame to not keep Waterdog open for mixed use. I, myself, use the space for hiking, dog walking, as well as mountain biking. It's a true treasure to have.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

--
Ben Ziegler

Brigitte Shearer

From: Donald Toy <
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:36 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space Multi-use

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

As a San Mateo resident and frequent park user, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for all users for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog” campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and surrounding communities - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Regards,
Don Toy

Brigitte Shearer

From: Michael Chin
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:01 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Multi-use trail access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I hope this message finds you well. I would like to voice my support for continued multi use trail designation at Waterdog Park (Hiking and Biking). As a resident of san Mateo County, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Regards,
Michael Chin

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kevin Sinarle
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:11 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Belmont Open spaces and multi-use trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont for the last 15 years, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails for all.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont parks and recreation workers. My family and friends all enjoy biking, hiking and exploring the trailsystem often.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont. When we take visiting friends and family on the trails they are envious of the access to a trailsystem like waterdog to enjoy nature on bike or foot. I am proud of our community for prioritizing the use of multi-use trails in the water dog open space, and feel it improves quality of life in Belmont. Our community has a need for recreational open space, and Water dog has served those needs for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan

Kevin Sinarle

Brigitte Shearer

From: Derek Loh
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:54 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: In support of multi-use access to Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

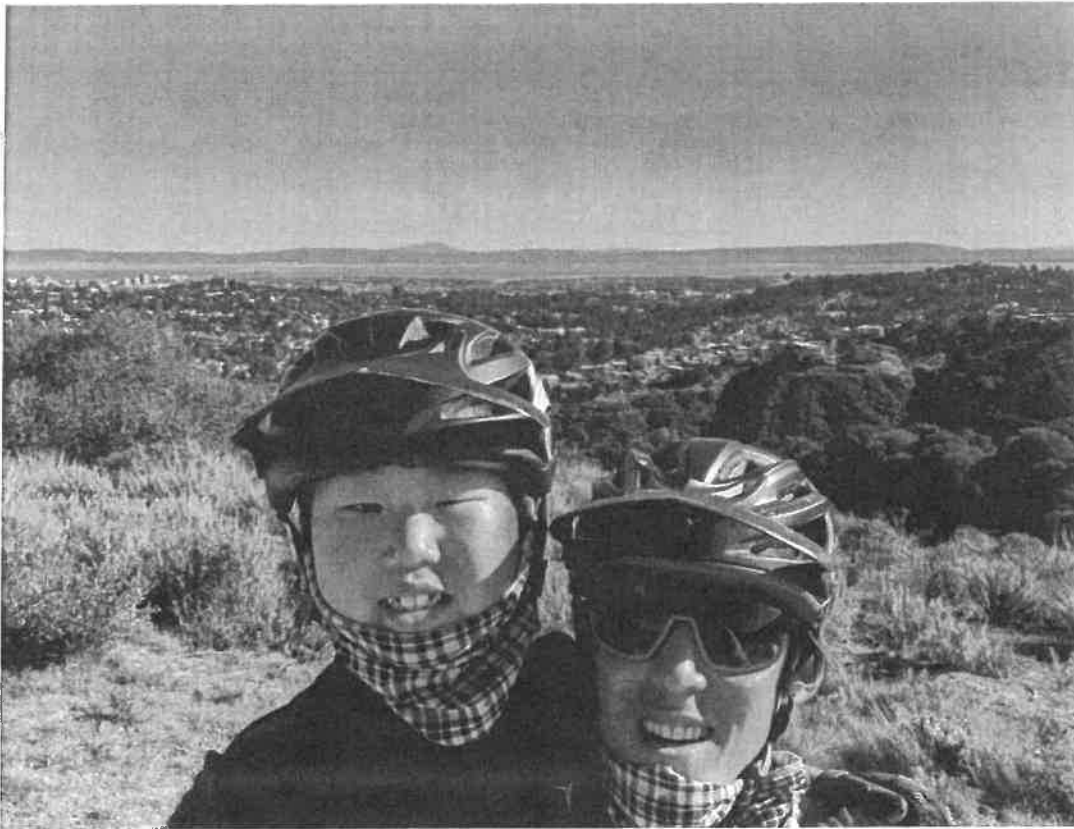
Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I love Waterdog Open Space! My wife and I moved to San Carlos in 2009 as a newly married couple. The proximity to Waterdog was a major factor when determining the location for our house to start a family. Fast forward 12 years and we've thoroughly enjoyed living here and enjoyed the park as our family has grown from 2 to 4. We hike together as a family and practice fishing in the lake. I enjoy mountain biking and the ability to ride from my house to a trail network is invaluable. Our latest family ritual is a Sunday morning bike ride around Waterdog and then breakfast in Carlmont plaza. I sincerely hope that Waterdog Open Space can remain open and enjoyed by all users. The love of outdoors can be fostered in many ways and biking should not be discriminated against due to a few outspoken individuals. With a little care and respect, this valuable trail network can be enjoyed by all.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.



Father and son (6 years old) enjoying the beautiful trails and weather on 2/28/2021.

Sincerely,
Derek Loh

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jonathan Lamb
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:22 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. MTB Environmental Impact Study , OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION,
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of SVMTB , MBOSC.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Jonathan Lamb
6520 Kona Ct
San Jose, CA 95119

Brigitte Shearer

From: Lindsay Helmuth
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:16 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
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- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Lindsay

Brigitte Shearer

From: Christian D. Galindo
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 2:15 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keeping Waterdog trails accessible to all!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
Christian Galindo
Avid trail user and supporter
2032 Mezes Ave
Belmont, CA
94002

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jordan Macdonald
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:56 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Preserving access to Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council,

I'm writing to express my support of keeping Waterdog Open Space preserve access open to all users. I am a resident of Menlo Park and a frequent visitor to Waterdog, as well as the local businesses for before & after needs. Multiuse access to Waterdog is a significant positive for Belmont and the surrounding communities, which many people enjoy-- as you can tell by the amount of users on any given day. Closing it to most is ignoring the needs of many for the benefit of only a few. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. The trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that lives there has long since adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Sincerely,

Jordan Macdonald

Brigitte Shearer

From: Derek Blogin -
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:58 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
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- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Derek Blogin

Brigitte Shearer

From: Shelby Gol
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:45 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
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Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Shelby Golan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andrew Schram
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:29 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
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Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Your name here

Brigitte Shearer

From: Elliot Danforth
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:26 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Redwood City, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Thank you,

Elliot Danforth

Brigitte Shearer

From: Drew Atkinson
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:26 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),
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- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Drew Atkinson

Brigitte Shearer

From: Greg Trumpler
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 6:32 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog lake park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Park and rec commissioners and City Council, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for multi-use hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The 'Love Waterdog' campaign is wonderful.

Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont park and rec workers. Our beloved trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for all people that live in Belmont Parks are great for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationists, and environmentalists ideals, fostering community pride, and improved quality of life. Our community has a desperate need for recreational open space. Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Please keep trails open for all users

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

Greg Trumpler.

Sent from my iPad

Brigitte Shearer

From: Sidart Deb
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 6:10 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Perspective on Multi-Use Trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of the county for 11 years and the bay area for over 40 years, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sidart Deb

(

Brigitte Shearer

From: erik ewing ·
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:17 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
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Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jennifer Merrill ·
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:14 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
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Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Merrill

Brigitte Shearer

From: John Paradine
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:00 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: WaterDog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern -

It has come to my attention that there is consideration in making significant changes to the masterplan and potential to trail access at Waterdog limiting the use by some groups.

I am a resident of San Mateo, but frequent Waterdog on a regular basis and would hate to see the access limited.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Warm Regards,
John Paradine

Brigitte Shearer

From: Abigail Sinarle
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:14 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces*
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.*
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.*

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

*Best,
Abigail Sinarle*

Brigitte Shearer

From: Michael Wang
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:15 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. MTB Environmental Impact Study , OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION,
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of SVMTB , MBOSC.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Michael Wang / Bay Area Resident / Hiker / Road Cyclist / Multi-use Trail Cyclist

Brigitte Shearer

From: Gene Karshenboym
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:48 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont Mayor, Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

///Personal message///

I am a Belmont resident, father and homeowner who loves our town and moved here expressly for the incredible access to our stunning outdoor spaces. Our family has settled here in large part because we "can live outdoors" (as well as the amazing schools and fantastic weather). We are walkers, hikers, road and mountain cyclists.

I know that personally, the mountain bike access to the Waterdog Open Space is a fundamental part of our families happiness and also our ability to have survived the Covid pandemic in good spirits. It is also worth noting that many people get a large amount of joy from saying hello to folks whom we meet on the trails both on foot and on bike - we have formed lifelong bonds on these trails. The neighborly attitude and kindness I have seen on the trails is another key part to our love of Belmont.

///statement of support and position///

I strongly support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining trails as they are for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting to nature, etc. Consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education for trail users and groups to ensure sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservations of the trails. They are already doing such a fantastic job. The trailers are IMPROVING over time!
- It is worth noting the new(BelMont Bikes) and established (Starbucks, Village pizza, bagel/sandwich shops) businesses which rely on cyclists for their livelihood.
- We should encourage a wide range of outdoor activities for residents of all ages in this era of too many screens and unhealthy sedentary lifestyles

///Call to action///

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me - I would be thrilled to be involved in any planning, discussions or community events.

Thanks,

Gene Karshenboym
Mobile

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Crume
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:29 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Park and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a Bay Area resident for 50 years, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible place for recreation and connecting with nature. In the Master plan, I request you to consider:

Maintaining the trails for multi use, including biking, hiking and dog walking.

Continuing outreach and education for all trail users to ensure safe and sustainable trails.

Continued collaboration with community groups and volunteers to support and maintain the trails. There are a lot of trails and the volunteers are doing a great job assisting the City by clearing and keeping the trails safe.

I have also heard there is a small group of people vocalizing an anti bike campaign at Waterdog. Please consider there are very few areas on the peninsula to mountain bike but there are many areas to walk and hike. I have been riding Waterdog for 20 years, afterwork and weekends, and i love it. The trails are fantastic and need to remain open for all to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration

Brian

Brigitte Shearer

From: Richard Sim ·
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 12:00 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open Space open to all

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

On a biweekly basis, I hop on my mountain bike and ride over to Waterdog to enjoy the miles of incredible shared open space trails. Recently, I've gone with my 10 year old son and 12 year old daughter and they both, especially the former, love it. It's one of the few activities they enjoy involving the outdoors besides organized sports (which are severely limited at the moment due to Covid). And as you can imagine, any hour spent away from their devices is an hour towards good mental health and fitness.

When I ride, I always carry a bell and "ding" it when I come around corners or hear people in the distance. That said, I ALWAYS yield to pedestrians and exchange pleasant greetings when we meet each other on the trails. Waterdog is one of the few places in public these days where I am reminded of the vibrant community we have here in Belmont. I have of course noticed that during the pandemic, the trails have become more congested than before, but almost everyone I see is cordial and friendly. I'm sure there are aggressive bike riders who may give a bad impression to a vocal minority. That said, I've personally run into more issues with off-leash dogs and bags of poop than I have seen involving riders.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
 - Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails.
- Encourage riders to use bells. Put up signs on riding/hiking etiquette

Please do not takeaway this passion of mine and my kids. We love to hike, fish and bike at Waterdog. It would be a shame to lose the ability to enjoy the trails on our bikes.

Thank you.

Richard Sim



Brigitte Shearer

From: Grant Sidey
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 4:54 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Open Space Master Plan Waterdog Lake and Hidden Canyon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission,

As we embark upon the Master Open Space Planning processes, and as a Belmont resident, I write to encourage the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission to reaffirm Waterdog Lake Park and Hidden Canyon's ongoing success as recreational open space.

Myself, wife, and two children (7 and 9) are Belmont residents, and we all use the Waterdog trail system. Our family from SF and San Mateo come to enjoy the park and all that Carlmont village has to offer. We hike and bike in the park weekly for exercise. My kids are learning to MTB on this awesome trail network. Waterdog/Hidden Canyon park has played a major role in why we live in Belmont. Such a special space with inclusion for so many outdoor activities, and a wonderful sense of community.

Many of us refer to Waterdog as a "gem" of nature and recreation. It is a place to walk, jog, run, cycle, and exercise in a beautiful natural environment of trees, flowers, and wildlife. Recreational open space reduces stress, provides relaxation and revitalization, builds community, increases awareness of the natural environment, fosters environmentalism, and serves the public good.

From a land use point of view, Waterdog's best use is continued recreational open space. It is small – 200-300 acres depending on how you measure – and ringed with suburban development. Although some have proposed re-designation as a nature preserve, the truth is that Waterdog is far too small, and has far too many humans around, to seriously be considered for this purpose. Even if we removed every trail and tried to keep humans out, the animals in the park would still be impacted by the dogs, cats, and humans who live around the perimeter of the park. Humans have a need for open space, too. When you consider that we have already protected the SFPUC Peninsula Watershed's 23,000 acres of oak woodlands, coniferous forests, and serpentine grasslands as a preserve, it is reasonable for the public to allocate 300 acres, just 1% of what has been preserved already, for open space recreational use.

With current recreational use, the park abounds with finch, towhees, quail, deer, bobcats, wild turkeys, rabbits, lizards, woodrats, snakes, and, yes, waterdogs! I personally have seen each of these in the past 12 months alone. These animals have adapted to human uses of Waterdog for over 100 years. There is no crisis here; the ecosystem of the park has been in a steady state for decades. Don't fall for the false narrative of others

looking to weaponize environmentalism as a means to kick cyclists, runners, and other active users out of the park. These narratives serve only destroy community and pit neighbor against neighbor.

When I visit Waterdog, I see a community of hikers, dog-walkers, joggers, and cyclists enjoying the open space, respectful of one another and the wildlife that abounds. It is a place of joy. Waterdog is a testament to successful multi use open space serving the public good. Please support the continued open space recreational use of Waterdog Lake Park.

Respectfully,

Grant Sidey

Karen Sidey

Greta Sidey

Jack Sidey

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris Miller
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 5:47 PM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council,

I am a long time resident of Belmont living and owning a home here for the past 35 years. My family and I have greatly enjoyed living in Belmont and have had much joy in being able to access Waterdog Open Space for recreational purposes including hiking and biking. It has served as a wonderful area for us as a community and spending time with family and friends of all ages connecting with nature. Our community has a need for this type of space, which Waterdog has served well for many years improving the quality of life in Belmont! I am reaching out to you as I understand that you are in process of developing a new Master Plan for this area.

As you develop the new Master Plan, I ask that you please consider to maintain the existing trails which are used for multiple purposes including exercising such as hiking, biking and dog walking, as well as community building and connecting with nature. These types of activities align with those of other Open Spaces in the area. I believe that the current volunteers and community groups who maintain the trails are doing an awesome job and the trails are in great shape.

I understand that there has been some discussion to change the park designation to be preserved as a wildlife preserve. I believe this would have negative impact on the overall Belmont community. Waterdog park is surrounded on all sides by residential development and the existing wildlife has adapted to the presence of people in this area. We are fortunate to already have a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve nearby on the other side of 280 (the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed). Keeping the Waterdog Open Space as the recreational park it is today is one of the highlights that leads my family to desire to stay in this area.

One of the activities that I personally enjoy in Waterdog is being able to ride my mountain bike in a safe and natural environment which is easily accessible from my home. The alternative to this would be to ride in the city streets with much traffic where even an experienced biker such as myself does not feel safe; unfortunately there are few bike lanes in Belmont and the roads are not wide enough to be bike friendly. The only other option involves loading my bike and driving a distance to find another place to ride, which is not convenient nor good for the environment.

Just five years ago another Belmont institution, Belmont Iceland, closed operations suddenly and ended its long history of community recreation. Personally, I was involved with the hockey community there from 1978 until it closed in 2016. Needless to say, I was quite disappointed losing such an important part of our community. I had hoped that the city of Belmont could have kept the rink from closing permanently. Looking ahead to today's agenda and the possibility of not allowing mountain biking at Waterdog in Belmont, I stand strong in my convictions that this should not be allowed to happen for all the reasons stated above. For this 35 year resident of Belmont, I would very much like to see the Waterdog Open Space area remain the wonderful area it is serving the recreational needs of our community.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards,

Chris Miller

Brigitte Shearer

From: Melissa Viotti
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:16 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Master Planning for Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council and Parks and Rec Commissioners,

I have previously provided comments regarding Waterdog Open Space and have a few additional points in light of the current Master Planning process.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. I support maintaining the trails, as they have been for years, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces. Waterdog is a particularly great place to learn to ride with plenty of challenges. My confidence soared after finally clearing the uphill "Witches" of the John Books Trail for the first time. There are plenty of young women in the community who also would benefit from that same boost.

Waterdog is an amazing neighborhood gem. I have been hiking and mountain biking at Waterdog for nearly a decade and have been pleased with the improvements made in recent years. While soil erosion from the rain is still a problem due to the construction of the trails, some of the drainage efforts in recent years appear to be successful. It's wonderful that we have a community of volunteers to help with improvement efforts. Please continue to involve the community for this volunteer work to maintain the trails for years to come.

I would support continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is a great start. I would encourage even more education for trail etiquette for both hikers and riders to improve the experience for all. Perhaps we could enlist a team of volunteer docents to guide such efforts? Some of the poor etiquette I have observed is usually with new riders who might not have had the luxury to ride with more experienced riders who could educate them. Supporting community rides, similar to the days of Passion Trail Bikes, is a good way to teach the less experienced. Perhaps we could encourage community hikes and rides with the local bike shop?

In addition to the stress relief from enjoying nature in our backyards, there is also the economic benefit of encouraging mountain biking in the community. Mountain bikes and repairs and maintenance are not inexpensive, and the riders are usually hungry and thirsty. It's a social sport, and part of the fun is hanging out with the community after the ride to enjoy a meal or a snack nearby.

Thanks for your consideration, and I look forward to many more years of enjoying the neighborhood open space.

Best regards,
Melissa Viotti

Brigitte Shearer

From: Josef Zagorski
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 11:09 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Burlingame, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. I have been riding my bike regularly at Waterdog for my entire life, and would be devastated if it is closed to cycling use. I have formed friendships with the many other hikers and bikers at Waterdog, and have witnessed the joy that it brings to the community as a shared space.

I am aware that with the growing popularity of mountain biking and competitive training apps such as Strava comes a concern for the safety of hikers. I recommend requiring cyclists to strap bells to their handlebars, making enough noise to alert hikers of their presence with ample time to yield. I have used these bells in other trail systems and know that they are effective at keeping hikers safe.

Please do not close the Waterdog Park to cyclists.

Josef Zagorski

Brigitte Shearer

From: Thomas Switzer
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:59 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan support

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission:

As we embark upon the Master Open Space Planning processes, we write to encourage the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission to reaffirm Waterdog Lake Park and Hidden Canyon's ongoing success as a multi-use recreational open space.

We're a family of 6 and have enjoyed a lifetime of the outdoors - open nature is our happy place. When we moved back to the area 10 years ago, we chose to live near Waterdog because of Waterdog and frequently cycle to, and through, the park for exercise. The children learned to ride mountain bikes safely in the park - first, up and down Lake Road and around the Lake Loop. As they've become better riders, we've expanded our routes to include all trails. They now frequently ride by themselves or with friends, and pre-Covid, we often picked them up in Carlmont Shopping center eating pizza or ice cream following a ride. We've taught them to be considerate cyclists the only way possible - by interacting with other trail users. We've encouraged volunteerism and community stewardship via trailwork days coordinated by the Waterdog Trailkeepers, a volunteer group that donates about 500 hours a year to the park for trail maintenance. We do all this out of a genuine love for the park and have instilled the same love and respect from my kids.

Personally, I enjoy Waterdog mostly by mountain bike because it is allowed there. I am an experienced cyclist having ridden thousands of miles in my 35+ years of riding. I choose mountain bikes almost exclusively these days, as I've had friends recently injured or killed by cars while riding on the road; I'll continue to take my chances with trees and rocks and hope my 50 year old frame stays intact. I enjoy the same qualities of all users in the park - the abundant wildlife, the "green time" amongst the oaks on the upper section of Rambler, and the columbine that blooms in the spring on Finch and Lake Loop. We're happy to share the space with the hikers, families, dog walkers, and trail runners and believe we can continue to share in such a wonderful environment.

In short, we support the continued multi-use aspect of the park. Its incredibly valuable for my and my family's sanity and happiness, and sense of community pride. We look forward to engaging with Parks and Recreation and the City Council on providing constructive feedback on the Open Space Master Plan and wish to enjoy Waterdog as is for another 10 years at least, hopefully longer.

With warmest regards,

The Switzer Family (Tom, Elizabeth, Alexander, Milo, Violet, and Ivy)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jon Rein
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:43 PM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog multi-use access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a homeowner and resident of Belmont I am extremely saddened to hear the possibility of reducing or eliminating recreational access to the trails at Waterdog park.

I regularly hike and bike the trails, often two or three times a week. Waterdog's recreational trails are a defining feature of our city and their loss would be deeply felt.

I urge the city to keep this space open to all. It is an amazing space that sets our city apart.

Thank you,

Jon Rein
1808 Bayview Ave.

Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ryan Hollowell
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:35 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Park, Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Council, & Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Belmont's Waterdog Park is a wonderful resource for the community.

The summer before COVID I was cycling in the park when I came across a recent high school graduate instructing two rising 3rd graders on mountain biking skills. They had been riding weekly together for weeks. Fabulous!

I want to voice my support to keep Waterdog Open Space open to both hikers and cyclists. To maintain the existing trail network. To work with the current group of eager volunteers and to build relationships with new volunteers to maintain the park.

I understand the pressure from the COVID quarantine has many more trail users outside enjoying our parks. Please don't restrict access to parks at exactly the time that we should be expanding our open spaces.

With the Open Space Master Plan currently under consideration, please help maintain access to our parks.

Sincerely,

- Ryan Hollowell

Brigitte Shearer

From: Guy Cavet
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:03 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please preserve multi-use trails at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Commissioners,

I live on the Peninsula (albeit not in Belmont) and very much appreciate the parks and open spaces you make possible. I particularly enjoy Waterdog Lake Park, both for hiking and biking. This park packs an amazing variety of trails and views. My experiences with other park users have been incredibly positive, with all types of users being thoughtful and respectful to each other. I see family groups and people of all ages walking and biking there. During the pandemic almost everyone wears a mask and maintains safe distances.

I have heard there are calls to curtail mountain biking at Waterdog, and possibly all recreational use of the park. I am writing to urge you to maintain the availability of Waterdog for multi-use recreation, much as it is today. Based on my experience, a huge number of people are getting exercise, fresh air and a dose of outdoor beauty there. This is more important than ever now. For mountain bikers in particular, there are very few parks on the Peninsula where biking is allowed.

Thank you for your work and for considering my comment.

-Guy

--

Guy Cavet

Brigitte Shearer

From: Daryl Yee
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:16 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Cc: Daryl Yee
Subject: Please Keep Waterdog park open for all multi-use activities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Sirs,

My wife and family have used Waterdog and Laurelwood parks for over 25 years for hiking, biking and dog walking. These parks are a wonderful resource to us all - pandemic or not. Please keep the trails open to all users. As a hiker, I have never had a problem with rude or dangerous mountain bikers - people are always courteous and yield the right of way. As a mountain biker, I am always courteous and cautious around hikers. I believe that we all can continue to coexist peacefully in Belmont and San Mateo's outdoor spaces and should be allowed to keep doing so going forward.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

Best,
Daryl Yee

Brigitte Shearer

From: Thang Bui
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:14 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space recreation access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, as a current user of Waterdog, I have heard that there are possibly plans to designate the park as a wildlife preserve and cut off access to trail users. I personally mountain bike at Waterdog often and love the neighborhood feel and location of the park. Removing access to the park would be like losing a local treasure. Please do not close Waterdog, outdoor activities are only becoming more popular and removing access to such a popular park does not make any sense. Save Waterdog! Thank you for listening.

Thang Bui

Brigitte Shearer

From: Donovan Lee
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:34 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Cycling is a major part of SF culture and MTB provides a cultural outlet for those who enjoy the outdoors and cycling
- Mountain biking promotes stewardship of the land and preservation of the natural environment
- Local shops that cater to MTB'ers rely on folks having access to trails

Thank you,
Donovan Lee

Brigitte Shearer

From: Warren Nishikawa
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Letter for Waterdog Park
Attachments: Waterdog park letter - March 1 2021 - Nishikawa residence.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Board Members,

Please find my letter in support for the accessibility of Waterdog park to mountain bikers, especially those in the Hallmark Drive/Belmont Heights area. I have lived in the neighborhood for the past 14 years and would be disappointed if the access was restricted to bikers young and old.

Please find my letter enclosed.

Thank you.

Warren Nishikawa
2540 Hallmark Dr, Belmont, CA 94002

Warren Nishikawa
2540 Hallmark Drive
Belmont, CA 94002
Warren.solar@gmail.com
650-477-8672

Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission
30 Twin Pines Lane
Belmont, CA
(650)595-7441
ParksRec@belmont.gov

RE: Water Dog Parks Accessibility for Mountain Biking

Dear Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission,

I'm writing in endorsement to keep the Water Dog Park accessible for Belmont, and more specifically, Hallmark residences to Mountain Biking. I've lived in Hallmark neighborhood since 2008 for the quality of the school district, but also the accessibility for the parks, including Hallmark Park and Water Dog park.

I've heard that there have been some complaints with movement to dis-allow the Water Dog park usage for Mountain Bikers last year and now again this year. Again this year, I would strongly vote against this restriction. The access of this part to family outings such as walking and hiking also includes mountain biking since there are families like my own who enjoy these trails for their kids as a family outing.

The Water Dog park is really the only mountain bike trail that is compatible with elementary and middle school bikers. These bikers don't degrade the environmental habitat since they rarely go off trail. These bikers have also formed Facebook groups who have donated time and money to keep trails well-groomed and safe. Many neighbors in Hallmark coordinate bike rides on a frequent basis at Waterdog and this involves both parents and children.

If you need further support for keeping Waterdog park accessible to the residence and public, please let me know.

Thank you,

Warren Nishikawa

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small arrowhead.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Eric Sullivan
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 12:52 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a current resident of Belmont (and a former Parks and Recreation Commissioner), I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Belmont Open Spaces, and our community government that maintains those spaces for their constituents, should always endeavor to benefit ALL of Belmont's citizens, not just some. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Best Regards,

Eric Sullivan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Justin Bricker
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:31 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog” campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Justin Bricker

Brigitte Shearer

From: Alex Janin
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:13 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please KEEP Waterdog Bike Trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Thank you,
Alex Janin
2122 Coronet Blvd

Brigitte Shearer

From: Nate Williams
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:01 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog MTB Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, **biking**, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Please have a great week and thanks!

Regards,
Nate

--

Nate Williams

T:

P:

E: nate@angel.co

L: [linkedin.com/in/nathandwilliams](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nathandwilliams)

AL: angel.co/naywilliams

Brigitte Shearer

From: Corey Higham
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:53 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: WATERDOG OPEN SPACE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a Bay Area resident, hiker, biker, and general outdoor enthusiast, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

--

Corey Higham Sent from a mobile device. Please excuse brevity and spelling.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Joel Wilson
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:36 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES:A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog” campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
Joel Wilson

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris Bartolo
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:16 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont/Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces*
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.*
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.*

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sincerely,

*Chris J. Bartolo
1805 Bayview Ave
Belmont, CA 94002*

Brigitte Shearer

From: Steven Serkanic
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:41 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space -- mountain biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Greetings,

As someone who grew up spending many years exploring and recreating at Waterdog, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Many thanks,

Steven Serkanic

Brigitte Shearer

From: Diego Najera
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 9:46 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont and San Mateo County, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

* Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices if other open spaces

* Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.

* Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmental ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water Dog has served this public well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Plan.

Brigitte Shearer

From: rama roberts
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:56 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: waterdog mountain bike access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I'm an avid hiker and bike rider, and frequently use Water Dog for both purposes. While I'm not a dog owner, I appreciate that the park is open for dogs as well. There are fewer and fewer places that are mixed use, and I think Water Dog excels at it. People in the park are generally very courteous, be it hikers putting on masks as you pass, dog walkers heeling their dogs, or mountain bikers yielding to others. The park is a gem, and I hope future plans are to further develop it as a mixed use park.

regards,
Rama

Brigitte Shearer

From: Zane Rogers
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:22 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Water Dog Lake Park Multi-use trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

I am a neighbor of Water Dog Lake Park and use the park all the time. I mountain bike here frequently, and take out of town guests hiking there, as well as bring my young son to explore nature.

I understand that there is an effort to restrict or ban mountain biking at the park. I am strongly opposed to this. Water Dog should remain multi-use, including by mountain bikers. Banning mountain biking would also put more cars on the roads, as local bikers would then have to drive to further multi-use trails.

Please keep water dog mountain-biking friendly and multi-use.

Thanks
Zane Rogers

Brigitte Shearer

From: comsciucla
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:52 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog multi-use!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Commissioners and Councilmembers,

Please keep Waterdog Open Space open to bikers. Cycling is a great hobby and form of transportation, and the more places where it can be done safely, the more people will be drawn to it, which will decrease emissions and result in a healthier population. The last thing we should be doing right now is limiting spaces people can bike.

Please follow the lead of countries like Norway; if anything, adding new routes that are bike-only would alleviate congestion on the shared trails while also encouraging more people to exercise.

Thanks,
Dustin

Brigitte Shearer

From: Christopher May
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:16 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Lake Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I'm hearing about a new planning process for Water Dog Lake Park that will define its use and access for the next 20 years. I'm also hearing that a small group of vocal people are pushing to restrict bicycle access on singletrack trails at Water Dog Lake Park and want to put in my two cents. Water Dog Lake Park has long been a loved mountain biking location and a number of its trails were built and/or maintained by the local mountain biking community. Restricting access to mountain bikers risks alienating a large and integral part of the Belmont community as well as the larger Bay Area community that utilizes and supports the park. Please keep this in mind. Perhaps collaborating with local mountain biking club groups and their leaders will help to find better solutions like trail etiquette education campaigns, signage, unidirectional trail traffic on certain days, etc.

Collaboration to bring concerned groups to the table can put together some great solutions. A couple of groups I know of and can suggest are Mere Mortals Mountain Biking (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/90033746815>), South Bay Mountain Biking Group (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthBayMountainBikeGroup>), and West Coast Mountain Bikers (<https://www.facebook.com/westcoastmtb>). Another great local stakeholder to speak to would be local cycling shops in Belmont and surrounding areas as well.

Sincerely,
Chris May

Brigitte Shearer

From: Michael J. Noone
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:02 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep WaterDog open space open for all users

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi folks - I understand you are looking at the future for the Waterdog open space. I have been really concerned recently by some extremists looking to severely limit use of the WaterDog open space. Please ensure access is left available for all users - not just the vocal few. I know in particular mountain bikers have been targeted which is unfortunate as I understand that that same group is responsible for much of the maintenance done currently. I am not a mountain biker but appreciate the trails being kept up to shape!

Please ignore the vocal few trying to limit access to the open space.

Thank you,

-Michael Noone
1672 6th Ave, Belmont, CA 94002

Brigitte Shearer

From: Joel Klein
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:06 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Master Open Space Planning process input

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission,

I've just learned that the City of Belmont is embarking upon a Master Open Space Planning process, and I wanted to give my input in support of keeping Waterdog Lake Park and Hidden Canyon designated as recreational open spaces.

This is a very personal issue for me: I'm 58 years old, and my wife and I have been Belmont homeowners for the last 14 years. We both hike, and I also mountain bike at Waterdog/Hidden Canyon. Access to this wonderful local park has helped to keep me sane through my wife's multiple cancer treatments, as well as during the current pandemic. Mountain biking on single track trails requires total concentration, and is my 'moving meditation.'

Bicycling on the road around here can be very scary. I remember reading about an accident when a cyclist was killed on Ralston Avenue by a driver who made an illegal left turn right in front of him, and then reading this: "Cars come first," Belmont City Council Member Coralin Feierbach declared in 2013. Feierbach acknowledged that "when you ride your bike on Ralston you take your life into your own hands." It made me very glad to have Waterdog as a place I could ride and be away from traffic. It's also when I started driving to Waterdog from my house near El Camino Real and Ralston, instead of riding. (I now periodically will ride over, time-of-day/traffic-depending, but it took me a long time to feel comfortable again after that.)

I attended a city council meeting on Zoom a couple of months back, and listened to a couple of people advocating to make Waterdog a nature preserve, claiming that mountain bikers are leading to its destruction and should be banned from the single track trails there.

One woman kept citing an environmental impact report prepared for the Crystal Springs Watershed and implied that it's considerations should apply to Waterdog. Afterwards, I called my father, Lawrence Klein, retired former General Manager of Hetch Hetchy Water and Power, which oversees the Crystal Springs Reservoir and Watershed and asked him about that. His response is that it is like comparing apples and oranges: The Crystal Springs Watershed has been protected for 100 years up to this point, whereas Waterdog has been a recreational open space for many years. The Crystal Springs watershed is protected both for water purity reasons, but also for endangered species found nowhere else, not issues

associated with Waterdog. He had other points as well, and would be happy to share them if any of you wish to contact him, please let me know and I'll put you in touch.

Another gentleman was claiming that riding bikes on single-track trails causes "channelizing" which leads to trail tread damage. I've taken trail design and maintenance classes, and my understanding is that, depending upon soil type and trail design and construction—especially gradient and drainage considerations—that it's primarily water flow that causes what he referred to as channelizing. He gave examples of local parks that don't allow bikes and do not have this issue. My wife and I then went for hikes at two local parks, Edgewood and Pulgas Ridge. I took extensive photos to illustrate trail design decisions, soil types and levels of compaction, drainage features, gradient variations, etc., and I can show you trails that have erosion channels created by water in parks where no bikes are allowed. It comes down to good design, correct construction, and regular maintenance. I'm happy to either share photos or go on hike(s) to look and discuss.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Arastradero Open Space and others are examples of open spaces that allow mountain biking on single track trails. They don't find it incompatible with other trail users or the fauna of the parks. They've found that with good trail design and maintenance, as well as signage and education about trail etiquette, that single track trails can be shared by all.

I was a part of the volunteer group that worked with the City of Belmont to build the Lake Loop. At that time I was just a volunteer laborer working to give back to the local park I love, but that experience made me curious about all the elements I detailed above, so when I learned that Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBOSC) had volunteer trail days as well, I started driving down to Santa Cruz to do volunteer trail maintenance down there. When MBOSC announced that they were putting together a Trail Crew Leader program I signed up immediately. It is a series of classes, both in the classroom and out in the field (or forest) that detail all the steps and considerations in trail design, construction, and maintenance.

Our 'final exam' was working on a hiking-only trail in Santa Cruz County (they work with the local land and park managers there) that needed to be rerouted to make it a sustainable trail: It was originally a 'fall line' trail. A fall line trail basically goes straight down a slope. It was channeled and rutted as water rushing down during wet weather eroded it every winter. The MBOSC trail design team rerouted it into a trail with switchbacks, so it crossed back and forth down the face of the slope, and we built drainage features into it: grade reversals, swales, etc. We then 're-naturalized' the old trail, covering it with old branches and leaves and duff, so that it was hardly visible. It was a tremendous experience, and gave me a good appreciation for all of the elements involved. (For more info on that program, see: <https://mbosc.org/crewleader/>)

Please support the continued open space recreational use of Waterdog Lake Park. I'm happy to discuss more if you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joel Klein

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jonathan Gervais
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:48 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Master Planning for Belmont's Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

This note is sent in support for keeping Belmont's open space areas open to all users. During my time as Parks and Recreation Director, I gave a yearly updates on the state of the trail system and open space. We are very lucky to have this open space and it enhances our quality of life in Belmont. It is one of the defining features of the town and a reason that some choose to move here.

The trails should remain open to all users. There is no data or reasonable basis for eliminating mountain bikes. Talking to the Belmont Police Department, there were no reported incidents of conflicts between mountain bikers and other users. As Judy King would say "this is a solution looking for a problem."

Here is what I think the master planning for the open space should focus on:

- Fire prevention- we need to double our efforts to reduce the potential for a catastrophic wildfire from devastating the canyon and nearby neighborhoods. Funds should be set aside to target areas for thinning and fire breaks.
- Invasive species- Waterdog lake contains some quality habitat that should be preserved and protected from the invasive scotch broom and start thistle that are pervasive. This also helps reduce the fire potential.
- Restoring Belmont Creek- The creek daylights below the dam and needs attention. This section could be restored to improve wildlife habitat and a thoughtful trail could be built along the creek to provide a natural experience.

Once again, do not get caught in the trail use issue and miss the important stuff. The trails do need some erosion control and regrading that can be accomplished by volunteer trail crews supplemented with paid for nonprofits and park staff. We built the Lake Loop Trail completely with volunteer labor which was a three year effort.

Thanks for your time and service to the community. I am pleased to see all the parks and recreation planning that is occurring. Parks management is doing a great job.
Sincerely, Jonathan Gervais

Brigitte Shearer

From: Frank Spiteri
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:37 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Bicycle access at Water Dog Lake Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission,

I am writing to advocate for continued bicycle access at Water Dog Lake Open Space.

I have been enjoying riding bicycles on the trails at Water Dog Lake Open Space for the last 30 years. It has been a great source of stress relief, socialization, exercise, and enjoyment. I've been able to introduce my 4 year old to the joys of mountain biking at Water Dog in the last year.

Many other Open Spaces in the Bay Area and nation-wide that have demonstrated the ability to manage multi-use trails. I believe Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission can also manage this with community support and by referencing the methods used by other Open Spaces in managing multi-use trails.

A few suggestions for how we can improve Waterdog Lake Open Space:

- Public trail work days
- Review and rework trail design to improve erosion control and increase line of sight
- Close, deconstruct, or incorporate off-map trails and features
- Educate trail users on regulations and trail etiquette via signage and volunteer trail stewards. (E-bike usage, speed limits, right-of-way, hours, etc)

I hope that Water Dog Lake Open Space can continue to be a part of my life and a place I can continue to share with my child, friends, family, and neighbors.

Regards,
Frank Spiteri

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ian Goodfellow
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:23 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Comment on Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to comment on the Belmont Open Space Master Plan. I'm not a resident of Belmont, I live in Mountain View, but I wanted to comment in support of keeping Waterdog Open Space open to mountain bikes.

- I'm a reasonably well respected scientist and business leader (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ian_Goodfellow).

Mountain bikers are not hooligans.

- Mountain biking is a great kind of exercise, and the main thing that has kept me sane during the pandemic.

- Mountain bikers visiting Belmont support Belmont businesses like restaurants and Belmont Bikes.

- I'm personally willing to commit my money or personal time to provide park upgrades or maintenance that would address any concerns about mountain biking. For example, I'm an Eagle Scout and have experience building trails, fences, cabins, etc. in outdoor recreational areas, and would be happy to help build a new responsibly designed pedestrian-only path for people who want to avoid mountain bikes.

-Ian

Brigitte Shearer

From: Robert Przykucki
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 7:08 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog trail network

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Folks,

I'm writing to voice my support for continuing the Waterdog trail network as is. It is a gem on the peninsula. Having an advanced trail network to bike on in your community is an amazing resource and it would be a shame to let it go to development or segment it to an exclusive use case (hiking only).

I can only imagine the pressure by some vocal citizens on the proper use of this trail network. At the end of the day, consider using data to make your decision.

For me personally, the waterdog trail network is what I've used since the 90s and it would be a shame to see the resource taken away.

Thanks,

Rob

--

Robert Przykucki
Motion Instruments: CEO
Cell: ✖
email:

Brigitte Shearer

From: David Clark
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:42 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: I support multi-use trails at Waterdog Lake and Hidden Canyon Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support keeping Waterdog as an open multi-use space for recreation and connecting with nature.

- When I started working in San Francisco I chose to live near Waterdog and have a longer commute so I had access to biking and hiking right from my house. The multi-use nature of the preserve is my top reason for living in Belmont. There are many places to hike on the Peninsula but very few places to mountain bike.
- Please work to keep Waterdog open to biking, dog walking, hiking, and running in the new Master Plan.

Thanks
David Clark

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris LaBonte
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:48 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Mountain Biking in Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am writing to let you know that I use waterdog park both as a hiker and a biker. Access to the singletrack should not be limited to one group or activity. Please continue to allow mountain biking in this special location.

Thanks for your attention.

--
Chris LaBonte

Brigitte Shearer

From: Gene McKenna
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:00 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Water Dog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission,

I wanted to express my thoughts for consideration in development of the Water Dog Master Plan development.

I live near Water Dog and have used the park for over 30 years. My first experience with the Park was on a date in the 1990s where we took a great hike. In the years since I bought a home nearby as the recreational attractions of Belmont and San Mateo with Water Dog, Laurelwood and the Crystal Spring Cross Country trail were all a tremendous pull.

I've been on many walks and hikes with family at Water Dog. It's beautiful. There is abundant wildlife and a place where my kids and some of those in our scouting group can learn about nature.

In more recent years, as I experienced a number of issues with my knees, I really appreciated that Water Dog was also a spot where I could bike. I hadn't biked in 25 years but with my knees off limits for running for nearly 3 years, I needed some new exercise.

Water Dog is the only mountain biking destination I can bike to from my home. All other options are miles away down Skyline road, or up in Pacifica or down in Santa Cruz. There are really very few places where one can ride a mountain bike as so much of the "open space" around us is closed as a nature preserve, or open just to hikers and joggers like Crystal Springs Cross Country Trail.

After 6 months of intense biking, I am happy to say my leg muscles are now strong enough that they hold my knees in place and I can also run again.

To show my appreciation I have been giving back to Water Dog as well. I have joined up with the Trail Keepers group and worked on 4 different projects in the last 3 months.

Water Dog is a tremendous resource. It's a place to clear my head, pound my body, and enjoy nature. I am excited to see what the next 20 years of Water Dog will bring and we can continue to use it as a scenic, natural, place for recreation and learning.

Gene McKenna

Brigitte Shearer

From: craig quan
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:05 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: water dog lake bike trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello I support keeping Water Dog trails open for mountain biking.

Open trails are best served by sharing them with everyone. Excluding cyclists would be awful.

Thank you,

Craig Quan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andy Boyko
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:33 PM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Master Plan comment, from Belmont homeowner

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Belmonters –

As a Belmont homeowner of six years, I'm writing out of concern about rumors the Belmont Master Plan might consider limiting recreational access to Waterdog Lake & Open Space, including biking activity. I'm strongly in favor of keeping the Waterdog trails broadly available as a core element of our Belmont neighborhoods, as used by the wider community for many purposes. In my experience, hikers, bikers, dog-walkers, and families co-exist wonderfully there, and I'm proud that Belmont is known around the Bay Area for the quality of the biking trails there, as a "hidden jewel" in suburbia. Let's continue to highlight and support its success as a community resource, as an element of the Master Plan and a long-term benefit to the community.

Thanks & regards,
Andrew Boyko
1538 Winding Way

Brigitte Shearer

From: David M
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:55 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello! I am writing this e-mail to inform the city of Belmont that as a resident of San Mateo County, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space a place open for various recreational use such as hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, community building, and anything else it currently provides. This is such a great gem of a spot in the middle of a residential area, it would be a shame to have any one of these groups restricted from use of it.

I myself, frequent this open space for both mountain biking quite regularly. I have witnessed a really friendly community of bikers during my time here and would really be disappointed to have this group restricted from riding here in the future. Everyone is so friendly, courtesy, and willing to give out a helping hand when needed. These people do not litter the trails, if anything, they do a lot to help these trails. I have seen many of them using their own free time to help maintain the trails, cleaning them up, and doing whatever they can to provide a safe environment for everyone. I know they set a lot of limitations on additions they add, such as small jumps requiring a safe landing area and line of sight before and after it to know it's safe far before getting to this feature. Many of the riders use timber bell on their bikes as well. This is a fairly reasonably priced bell that is easy to turn on and off. The idea being any time you start a descend, you turn it on so anyone that may be along the trail knows far ahead of time that you are coming down that trail. This does not give the rider a excuse to travel at excessive speeds or to pass anyone they encounter. This is more about giving advance notice of them coming in that direction. Many riders focus on giving the pedestrian or dog the right away, but if they happen to hear the bell and decide to pull off to the side before we get there, they are always thanked. Many of the hikers and dog walkers I encounter thank me and my friends for using these bells to help keep everyone safe. Mountain biking and biking in general has really grown over the last year since the pandemic. It offers people a way to get outside, have a great workout, while also being fun. If nothing else, isn't this what we want right now more than anything? Ways for people to get outside and be healthy considering that we are going through a pandemic and the people who are most affected by it, are the ones who aren't in the best physical shape. I know I would be worried for my life right now if I didn't manage to lose the weight I did prior to Covid-19 being rampant. At one point I was just shy of 400 lbs. It took me over 2 years to lose that wait and biking helped me get to my goal weight of 185. It gave me something fun to do while getting myself healthy.

On top of all that, Waterdog is a destination spot for mountain bikers. People travel all over the bay area to ride here. These people are spending money at local businesses getting gas, buying food, going to bike shops, and shopping in general. There is many places to hike or take your dog in the bay area, but not nearly as many as there is to mountain bike. Losing this privilege would be a huge loss to the community. The people riding there make up a good majority of this community and feel like they have a right to it as much as anyone else. We don't want to be excluded from its use, nor do we want any other group to lose the use of it. I know many of our first responders, myself included, love having this outlet after a long day or week. Please I beg of you, please consider keeping this open space open to all groups as it currently is.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Zupancic, Debra
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:05 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Cc: 'debra_zupancic@yahoo.com'
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use - including hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby. Our community has a need for recreational open space that supports biking - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Debra A. Zupancic

Dell | Global Operations Engineering
Mobile:

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ian Madsen
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:58 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Water Dog Openspace

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello there,

As a former resident of San Mateo county and continued avid user of San Mateo opens pace, I would like to continue to keep Waterdog Open Space accessible for recreational use.

The trail system is a great way to build community, bringing different groups of people together that would not normally mix, but share a common passion for the outdoors. During this COVID era, it provides a way for people to work together while socially distancing and after the covid era it will provide economic stimulus to the community, with the nearby restaurants and shops that they so desperately need.

Throughout my time on those trails, I have not had one negative experience interacting with those on bikes, off bikes, with dogs, or without. Everyone has always been polite, given space and most importantly have been friendly. Those short but impactful interactions go a long way.

Kind Regards,
Ian Madsen

Brigitte Shearer

From: cavitand9
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:02 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open Space accessible for ALL Recreational Use

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To Whom It May Concern,

I recently learned that the Belmont Open Space Master Plan intends to ban mountain biking in Waterdog. As a frequent user of the trail system, I can imagine this will bring huge negative impacts to our community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider keeping Waterdog accessible to all the recreational activities such as hiking, mountain biking, trail running and so on.

Best regards,
Di Xu

Brigitte Shearer

From: . . .
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:13 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog open for bikes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council,

My name is Kai and I'm a homeowner in San Mateo City and a resident in SMC for 6 years. I was shocked by the movement that is going to ban mountain biking in Waterdog so I'm writing to you to voice our concerns.

1. **Forward, not backward:** It's vital for people to stay healthy mentally and physically, especially during Covid times. With the population increase, what we need isn't limiting the activities in the park but to build better trails and be forward looking. Waterdog should remain multi-use trails for everyone.
2. **Protecting wildlife** is important to everyone including the mountain bikers. But there are vast amount of open space preserves and the SF watershed on the westside of 280. Waterdog has been surrounded by homes and schools already. Protection can be done more effectively elsewhere.
3. Personally I bike and hike in Waterdog every week. A mountain bike ban would take away this local gem from my family and me for very questionable reasons.
4. As a mountain biker and homeowner, I've contributed tax and donations to the maintenance of the local parks. I would not hesitate if the county/city invest **more funds in the trail building**.
5. **As for the trail etiquette**, I've been doing my part, including riding with a cow bell, yielding to hikers, and simply saying "hello", "how many behind us" when passing by. I do feel the need to educate new and old bikers to avoid any incidents or awkward moments. But banning bikes altogether is too extreme.

Please consider the voices from both side and let's find ways to move forward instead of shutting things down.

Regards,
Kailun Wu

Resident on Edison St, San Mateo, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Nicholas deCesare
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:21 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Parks and Recreation - Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have been riding my bike, hiking, and walking my dog in the beautiful Waterdog park for many years and I support keeping the Open Space accessible to the countless bay area residents that use the park to relax and exercise. Having a haven of nature amidst the bustle of the peninsula offers a respite for the body and mind of so many residents. The attention to, and effects of, mental health in the population is becoming more widely recognized, and the Bay Area Open Spaces are what so many of us residents rely on to unwind, exercise, and live happy and healthy lives in our cities.

The more open spaces that exist in our cities, the happier and healthier the population, and the more opportunities to nurture environmental appreciation and the kind of habits that are constructive to society.

My father also grew up in the Bay Area and has told me many stories of his teenage years, biking up and down Waterdog's trails. I would very much like to continue making my own memories in these open spaces to pass down to my children.

Thank You,

Nicholas deCesare
AutoCAD Engineer

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andrea Chang
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:29 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Allow Mountain Biking in Waterdog OSP!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Belmont City Council,

Thanks for reading through and considering my concerns. As a frequent user of Waterdog Open Space Preserve (OSP) trails, it would be immensely valuable to keep the trails open to mountain biking. This resource has been life changing for my mental health and well being, and I am sure many other users of the trails can say the same.

My quality of life has skyrocketed after using the trails at Waterdog Open Space Preserve regularly to mountain bike. Old and young, locals and tourists, can all enjoy the trails equitably and the beauty the Bay Area has to offer. I've made many friends through the outdoor activities at the preserve, gotten involved with environmentalist ideals/practices, and learned a great sense of community pride through the trail system as it is.

Please keep Waterdog OSP, as well as other surrounding OSPs, as-is, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Thank you,
Andrea Chang

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ethan chen
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:53 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: About Waterdog mountain biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council,
My name is Lei and I'm a resident in Santa Clara County for 4 years. I was shocked by the movement that is going to ban mountain biking in Waterdog so I'm writing to you to voice our concerns.

1. **Forward, not backward:** It's vital for people to stay healthy mentally and physically, especially during Covid times. With the population increase, what we need isn't limiting the activities in the park but to build better trails and be forward looking. Waterdog should remain multi-use trails for everyone.
2. **Protecting wildlife** is important to everyone including the mountain bikers. But there are vast amount of open space preserves and the SF watershed on the westside of 280. Waterdog has been surrounded by homes and schools already. Protection can be done more effectively elsewhere.
3. Personally I bike and hike in Waterdog every week. A mountain bike ban would take away this local gem from my family and me for very questionable reasons.
4. As a mountain biker and homeowner, I've contributed tax and donations to the maintenance of the local parks. I would not hesitate if the county/city invest **more funds in the trail building**.
5. **As for the trail etiquette**, I've been doing my part, including riding with a cow bell, yielding to hikers, and simply saying "hello", "how many behind us" when passing by. I do feel the need to educate new and old bikers to avoid any incidents or awkward moments. But banning bikes altogether is too extreme.

Please consider the voices from both side and let's find ways to move forward instead of shutting things down.
Regards,

Resident on Palo Alto, Santa Clara,

--
Best regards,

Lei Chen

Brigitte Shearer

From: Austin Appel
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:59 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,
I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, inclusive of cyclists.

- Waterdog Open Space is one of the most accessible destinations for mountain bikers. Removing access would disproportionately affect kids and those who lack a vehicle to access more remote open space destinations.
- Waterdog also has a unique set of shorter trails which allows parents to introduce their children to riding and ride with them. People of different skill sets can be part of one community here.
- Many mountain bikers are a big part of the volunteer trail maintenance community. They help support the creation and maintenance of many trail networks.
- The Bay Area is home to the sport of mountain biking and many bicycle manufacturers and distributors. Their success depends on people having accessible places to ride.

Please consider maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Sincerely,

Austin Appel

Brigitte Shearer

From: Wei Wong
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:28 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please Continue to Allow Bikes on Trail in Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council,
I have been a resident of San Mateo for over 10 years. My home is within walking/biking distance to Waterdog. I was deeply concerned when I learned about the potential changes in the Master Plan. Please allow me to share my thoughts.

I have been mountain biking at Waterdog for many years. Bikers get along well with hikers and the environment. I bike at Waterdog almost every other day if the ground is dry. From my conversations with other bikers. Many are from the local areas.

Biking at Waterdog is part of my life. Mountain biking has been a very important distraction for me, from work and other stresses in life. I enjoy coasting on the trails and keep my mind relaxed. In fact, I started mountain biking at Waterdog and I plan to start my son on mountain biking when he is ready.

I support preserving Waterdog and the wild life inhabitants. However, banning mountain biking from the multi-use single trails is NOT the way to do it. There are a few reasons:

- 1) Maintenance is the key:** Either hiking or biking will have an impact on the trails. Proper maintenance keeps the trails in great form and prevents damage in other parts of the park. I have seen great maintenance work in the park over the years and the trails stayed the same year after years. If help is needed to maintain the trails, I would be more than happy to chip in. Either monetarily or physically.
- 2) Management can help:** People's behaviors matter a lot more than the specific type of activities they do. I have seen bad behaviors of people hiking off trail, picking on wild flowers, bullying wild animals etc. Mountain bikers on the other hand, most of them are very focused on riding and well behaved.
- 3) Co-existence:** Waterdog is completely surrounded by paved roads, houses and apartments. Preventing people from biking on the trails does not solve any problems. There is no evidence that mountain biking is more harmful to wild lives than hiking. I personally think the recreational value of allowing mountain biking on trails far outweigh the negatives.
- 4) Successful examples in other areas:** There are other parks that allow mountain biking on the trails. The world famous [Flow Trail](#) is a good example. There are [unbiased reviews](#) there that are worth studying.

Finally, I would like to say that biking on the trails in Waterdog is extremely important for me, for my well being. Yes, there are other biking trails in other areas. Those are not convenient for a quick after-work relaxation ride. Waterdog, being local is too important. Please don't ban mountain biking from the Waterdog trails. Please let's work together to find a solution that works. I will dial into the meeting in case you need more inputs from me.

Sincerely,
Resident of San Mateo Highlands
Wei Wong
97 Lakewood Cir, San Mateo.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Don Alderrou
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:40 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Love Waterdog Campaign

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation. Specifically, the new master plan should continue maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use including hiking, biking, and dog walking. It should be consistent with the best practices of other nearby open spaces.

Cheers,
Don

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kai Arnold
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:56 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space park access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I wanted to voice my support for multi-use access at Waterdog. The park is completely unique, in that it provides a large natural setting with excellent trails, in the middle of a residential neighborhood that's easy to access. The quality of life it provides is one of the reasons I choose to live in this area, and it's one of the reasons I hold high for staying in this part of the Bay when so many people are talking about moving away. I can't speak for everyone, but during Covid lockdowns, the park has been a huge part of maintaining my physical and mental health, and feeling of community while at a distance.

I support maintaining the trails as they are, for exercise and recreational use for hikers, bikers, and on-lease dog walkers. Hope to see you out there ;)

Kai Arnold

Brigitte Shearer

From: Hugh Hynes
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:32 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: in support of multi-use access at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Members of Belmont Park & Rec Commission:

I'm writing in enthusiastic support of Waterdog Park's continuing status as a multi-use open space, which I've enjoyed for mountain biking over the last decade-plus. As a resident of San Francisco, I realize there's zero reason why you should take what I have to say seriously, but felt compelled to write just because of what an amazing resource Waterdog is, and how much I truly love it. Over the years I've ridden there, the interactions I've had with other trail users have been overwhelmingly positive. As you're no doubt aware, this makes it virtually unique in the Bay Area: where other communities have failed to cultivate a sustainable and friendly multi-user open space network, Belmont has succeeded, massively so. Not sure how this was accomplished exactly -- I'm guessing a combination of some hard work by community advocates and an overall positive attitude of acceptance in the town in general -- but this is a real achievement and a success story that should be celebrated, not shut down.

I first started riding at Waterdog after a work colleague happened to mention it. In all honesty, previously I had no idea where Belmont actually was or how to get there. But I quickly fell in love with the park and the city overall, bringing my family back to eat downtown and frequent the businesses there. Once my daughter grew old enough to ride herself, I brought her to Waterdog on some of her first outings. It's accessibility and compactness makes it ideal for beginners, but there's also a sense of remoteness once you get into that tangle of trails that really has instilled in her a love of the outdoors. It's remarkable that such a place exists in such a densely-populated area, and can serve as a gateway for enjoying the wider natural resources that the Bay Area has to offer in spades.

While as a lover of the outdoors I'm certainly sympathetic to the desire to preserve habitats and tread lightly on the earth, we also need spaces that can introduce people to these environments in an accessible way, and cultivate this passion in as wide an audience as possible. Waterdog is a prime example of one of these spaces, and I hope that you can find a way to keep it open to users of all sorts for many years to come.

Many thanks for listening,

Hugh

--

Hugh Hynes
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.12

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Instagram: [proto-architecture](https://www.instagram.com/proto-architecture)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Eric Selvin
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:10 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep water dog open to:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mtn bikers. When we go on Tuesday night there is no conflict w hikers. Thanks,
Eric

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Dustin Gibbs
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:06 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Use Future Planning

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

--
Dustin Gibbs
4116 Marsten Ave
Belmont, CA 94002

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ben Siranosian
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 7:13 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog MTB access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a Bay Area resident who comes to Waterdog park to mountain bike and hike often, I support keeping the park open to as many users as possible. This park is a palace of refuge for people from all over, and one of the few nearby outlets for residents. Especially in our current situation, the conversation should be about EXPANDING access to as many people as possible, rather than restricting it.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Regards,

Benjamin Siranosian

Brigitte Shearer

From: Rob Robins
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:22 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Mtn biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Damian Hii
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:18 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a South Bay resident that frequently makes trips to Waterdog, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community - it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Especially in the era of COVID, the community has a need for and outdoor outlet where people can go to destress, exercise, or just get a breath of fresh air. Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you.

--

Damian Hii

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jonathan Ramos
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:16 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep waterdog open for everyone

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thanks,
Jonathan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Julian Bill
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:37 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog, a Peninsula gem

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I'm always so excited to take visitors to Waterdog, it's such a precious and hidden gem.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,

Julian

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris Waugh
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:26 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Thank you for Waterdog!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a busy parent and healthcare worker I just want to thank you for Waterdog and Laurelwood park bike access. I can leave my door by mountain bike and be back in just over an hour. Access to trails is key and if we did not have these parks it would be multiple hours of driving, in packing, returning. This would make it undoable and contribute to traffic and emissions just to "get out in nature".

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jonnel Deleon
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:23 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please continue to allow multi-use access to Waterdog!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of Belmont and active visitor of Waterdog, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Again, please put these into your consideration as you make your decisions.

Thank you,
Jonnel Deleon

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kathy Haase
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:46 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support Recreational Access at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community requires recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300-acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000-acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Sincerely,
Andy and Kathy Haase

Brigitte Shearer

From: Shawn Harper
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:41 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog for opens space, hikers, and mountain bike enthusiasts!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council -

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community, in all manners and forms.

In the new Master Plan under development, I request you to consider doing the following:

- **Maintaining the trails, as they are,** for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- **Continuing outreach and education** to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- **Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails.** They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thanks,

Shawn Harper, Resident

Brigitte Shearer

From: Michael Feary
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:49 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please preserve biking at water dog park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

For those that are new to the sport, Waterdog has been one of the great gems in the bay area. Many of the trails being built and maintained through the efforts of local riding groups and bike shops, such as the now-closed Passion Trail Bikes in Belmont.

Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: no name no name
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:12 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open Space Accessible

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Thanks for listening.
Delores Sanchez

Brigitte Shearer

From: Tuan D ·
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:40 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please Keep Waterdog Accessible to all user groups.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. I fell in love with mountain biking 20+ years ago and it all started at Waterdog. It has enriched my life in so many ways and I hope Waterdog stays open to ensure people discover their love and passion for the outdoors.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed."

--

Tuan Diep

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Jay Maloney
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:40 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm; info@belmontprosplan.com
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open Space available for all recreation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Personally, mountain biking at Waterdog has been my number one source of physical and mental health for over ten years. More recently I now also ride with my kids there. It is a critical part of my health, happiness and well being. It is one of my favorite places on earth and I hope you keep it accessible for all.

Thank you,

Jay Maloney

Brigitte Shearer

From: Victor Bogomolov
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:46 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Multi-use access to Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks who live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improving quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Best regards,
Victor Bogomolov

Brigitte Shearer

From: Craig Krstolic
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 7:04 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

As a resident of the Bay Area, I want to be able to explore and experience all of the various locals, vistas, and adventures in my own backyard. Learning to work together, to come together is essential and trail use is one of the ways that is a great teacher for this.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Craig Krstolic

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jon Gubman
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 7:25 PM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog lake access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a San Mateo resident, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Karl Kaiser <----->
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:08 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Allow multi-use for Waterdog Open Space trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thanks for your consideration,

Karl Kaiser

Brigitte Shearer

From: Neil R
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:44 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Multi-use

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I strongly support keeping the Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, please consider the following:

- **Retain** the existing trails for multi-use - hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise and connecting with nature
- **Train** and educate the trail users to ensure safe and sustainable use
- **Maintain** and preserve the trails in continued collaboration with community groups and volunteers to ensure our trails get healthier every year

Open space recreation is so beneficial to Belmont locals - an oasis within silicon valley for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, community pride, and quality of life improvement.

Waterdog has served this public need for many years and can continue for many more with the support from me and many others like me.

Please keep Waterdog multi-use and sustainable.

Neil

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kristian Poscic -
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:40 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog open for bikers

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, **biking**, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Regards,

Kris Poscic
Mt View, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ed Dee
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:01 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please Keep Waterdog Open to Bikes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Ed Dee

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Marc Campell
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 5:14 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Future Plans

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Thank you for your consideration,

Marc Campell

Brigitte Shearer

From: Heather Bromfield
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:06 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

My husband Jason and I moved to Belmont (Cipriani area) in 2017 primarily because of its amazing open space - particularly Waterdog Open Space. We are both hikers (with our dog) and mountainbikers, and the multi-use character of our local open spaces was #1 on our reason for choosing Belmont for our home.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope Waterdog can continue to be an outlet for all Belmonsters for decades to come.

Best,

Heather Bromfield

--

Brigitte Shearer

From: Olli Blackburn
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:29 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council members,

I have been a weekly rider in Waterdog Open Space for over ten years. During this time I have never encountered any conflict between any park users. Nor have I seen any adverse impact to flora or fauna; the space is full of wildlife and healthy vegetation.

After riding in Waterdog I would go to a local restaurant to eat with friends. If Waterdog was no longer available for riding we'd go elsewhere, taking our dining dollars to another city.

During the past year we've all learnt to appreciate the vital need open space plays in maintaining our mental and physical health. I support keeping Waterdog Open Space as an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Thank you.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Robert Janosky
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:31 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keeping Waterdog Open Space Open to All

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I wanted to express my support for keeping Waterdog Open Space accessible for all existing user groups as you plan for its future. My family has been utilizing the park for many years for hiking, dog walking, mountain biking and trail running. I have been taking my two son's there on their bikes since they were very young and just learning to ride on trails. There are very few locations throughout the Bay Area which allow such a variety of activities. It seems the only permissible activity in most other areas is just hiking without your dog. This just does not reflect the needs of the community. Waterdog has been an island in a sea of limitations. Please do not let one user group prioritize their perspective over others.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, or just enjoying the outdoors.
- Ongoing Outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails.
- Continued help from community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails.

The city of Belmont has done a wonderful job in managing Waterdog and my family hopes that it continues to look toward the needs of the surrounding residents as it plans for the future.

Sincerely,

Rob Janosky & family
Burlingame, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kip Turner
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:40 AM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space for Recreation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am a resident of Belmont living on Pullman Avenue near Waterdog Lake. I am writing to support keeping the Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

Over the last year I have been working from home in Belmont and unable to exercise or go to my local gym due closures from COVID. I have used this recreation open space to stay healthy and promote a healthy mindset for myself throughout the pandemic. I often go to Waterdog Open Space to hike, walk my dog, and mountain bike. Without this Open Space I will have to travel outside of my community to enjoy tranquility and stay healthy; this is one of Belmonts most valuable assets. Let's keep it accessible for the people of Belmont!

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Thank you,
Kip Turner

Brigitte Shearer

From: Paul Lattik
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:08 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Continued multi-use access to Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a Belmont resident and long-time biker/hiker of Waterdog Lake Park and Open Space, I urge the Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan to continue to serve the community's recreational needs by continuing multi-use access to Waterdog Lake Park.

Bikers, hikers, wildlife and other park users have co-existed at Waterdog for decades. I know that there is a continued effort by a group of activists to ban mountain biking from the park, which I personally think is ill-advised and would do a disservice to the Belmont community. The mountain biking community has long supported the park by keeping the trails maintained and safe, as well as by promoting good trail etiquette (trail etiquette and wildlife education are my personal favourite contributions when participating in group rides.) With the proximity of Carlmont Plaza to the park, Waterdog Lake park users, including mountain bikers, bring economic benefits to the community. Removing Waterdog access from mountain bikers would service only a small vocal minority of the community whose objectives and questionable methods appear to be more personal than community-based. I have had some personal experience interacting with these individuals, and their confrontational methods were anything but educational and neighborly.

A small observation on wildlife and mountain biking: Banning mountain biking in Waterdog Lake Park to protect wildlife is a moot point. We Belmont residents are fortunate to live in a community where wildlife have integrated into our neighborhoods, and the wildlife in Waterdog lake park no doubt perceive humans as less of a threat than their natural predators. Conscientious wildlife-loving mountain bikers, like myself, are more likely to stop to appreciate critters, and safely coax them off the trails, than to harm them.

With that said, I echo the sentiments of the majority of our Belmont community:

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist

ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
your neighbor, Paul

Paul Lattik
1815 Ralston Ave.,
Belmont, CA, 94002

Brigitte Shearer

From: Cameron Fisk >
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:40 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Continued Waterdog Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

As a San Mateo County resident, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

I am a nature lover in many ways (hiking, trail running, mountain biking) and hope that I can continue to get active in Waterdog with all of the above.

Thank you for considering to continue to allow multi-use access.
Cameron Fisk

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jim Tay
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:41 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Access to Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have recently heard that there are hearings on potentially reducing access to Waterdog Open Space. I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for healthy recreation and for connecting with nature and building community. I only discovered Waterdog during the COVID shelter-at-home orders last year, and I am so thankful that this place exists. I have taken my family there for biking many times and it has helped to keep my family both physically and mentally healthy during this pandemic. In addition, when we visit Waterdog we also stop at the nearby Carlmont Village shopping area for lunch and coffee and I have started shopping at Belmont Bikes. Keeping Waterdog accessible to bikers and hikers helps Belmont's economy.

I have been cycling at Waterdog for 6 months now, and have only seen one bad interaction between hikers and bikers, where a biker who had stopped to rest did not move to the side of the trail and thus blocked a hiker from easily getting through. There was no malicious intent, merely ignorance, and the biker was quick to realize what they should have done. I have seen many, many great interactions with pleasantries exchanged, advice and suggestions about various trails on the park, directions given, etc. My overwhelming experience has been that both hikers and bikers coexist very well on the trails. With the pandemic, there are many new folks to both activities and they need to be educated on proper trail etiquette, posted signs and outreach will help to keep it enjoyable for both experienced users of Waterdog as well newcomers to the benefits of Waterdog.

In the new Master Plan, could you please consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for everyone - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you kindly for your time and attention to this email. I hope you all have a great day!

Sincerely,
Jim Tay

Brigitte Shearer

From: Trent Poltronetti <
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:56 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Water Dog open for Mountain Biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

During COVID the only thing that has kept me healthy and sane is mountain biking as it is one of the few aerobic exercises allowed. Living and working nearby, quite often those rides were at Belmont's gem of a city park Water Dog, so I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Thanks!
Trent

--
Trent Poltronetti
Ardent Impressions® Inc.
Build Traffic Loyalty and Brand

Brigitte Shearer

From: Robert Beckman
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:39 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,
I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,
Robert Beckman

Brigitte Shearer

From: Carissa Yao ·
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:51 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: In Response to The Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council,

My name is Carissa and as a resident of Berkeley but a long-time patron of Waterdog Open Space. I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
 - Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new “Love Waterdog” campaign.
 - Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
 - Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, especially during a pandemic like now, It's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improving quality of life.
 - Protecting wildlife is important to everyone including the mountain bikers. But there are vast amount of open space preserves and the SF watershed on the westside of 280. Waterdog has been surrounded by homes and schools already. Protection can be done more effectively elsewhere.

Please consider the voices from both sides and let's find ways to move forward instead of shutting things down.

Regards,
Carissa Yao

--
Carissa Yao (she/her/hers), UX designer and researcher
[Work](#) | [Connect](#) | [Coffee](#)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Shawn Boye
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:52 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, **biking**, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog” campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
Shawn Boye, B.Sc., Ph.D.

999 Cedar St.
Montara, CA
94037, U.S.A.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Mitch Barrie ·
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:53 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

--

Mitch Barrie

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jason Gould
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:26 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Mtn biking in Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Folks,

I am a Belmont resident and have been for the past 12 years. I want to add my support for retaining mountain biking in waterdog lake park. I spend time both hiking and biking in the park

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Thank you

Brigitte Shearer

From: rix liu
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:04 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Leave Waterdog alone

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Brigitte Shearer

From:
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:57 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog planning - community feedback

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am writing to you today to express my support for keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

In the new Master Plan, I would like to request that you consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use to include:
 - Hiking
 - Bicycling
 - Dog walking
 - Exercise
 - Connecting with nature, etc.,
 - All of these uses are consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is terrific!
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and the greater Bay Area. This local park is used for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for the good work.
Mitch Baum

Brigitte Shearer

From: Darren Don
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:57 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
 - Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
 - Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

I am a mountain biker and hiker and have personally worked on several of the trails over the years including the extension around the lake. Please keep these trails open for everyone to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Darren Don

Sent from my iPad

Brigitte Shearer

From: Sel C
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:48 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: About Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Laura Brigham
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:54 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog in Belmont

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont. It is a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space and Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you.

Laura

Brigitte Shearer

From: Hinders, Todd
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:11 PM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Multiuse

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am writing to lend my support to the continued multi-use for the waterdog park, and to implore you not to limit the mountain biking access that has become such a special part of your community. As someone who has used these trails for the better part of 20 years I can say that it is very possible for hikers and bikers to co-exists with respect.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces

Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is something that has been introduced to me, and is something I would be more than happy to recruit new users into .

Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Please keep me on any email distributions that might be topical and if there are public hearings as well.

With Respect-

Todd Hinders

Brigitte Shearer

From: Eduardo Bruno Martins, MD, DPhil
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

--
Eduardo Bruno Martins, M.D., D.Phil.
979 Marquette Ln.
Foster City
CA 94404
USA

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning." (Albert Einstein)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Theresa Chow Liu
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:23 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Lake & Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Theresa Chow Liu

Brigitte Shearer

From: Weiqi Zhang
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:29 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog as Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,
As a resident of Santa Clara County who usually visits Waterdog Open Space, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Thanks,
Weiqi Zhang

Brigitte Shearer

From: EJ Cabuhat
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 2:07 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: WATERDOG OPEN SPACE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of the San Mateo County, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure sage and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "LOVE WATERDOG" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. Our trails are the best in our area!

Waterdog Open Space has been a true blessing for me. It allowed me to discover the amazing gift of cycling. I am now healthier than I have ever been and truly enjoy being outside and appreciate nature. Every encounter, in my experience between hikers, dog walkers or cyclists at Waterdog have been very respectful to each. As with any trail in the bay area, we are concerned for the safety of everyone, we respect and maintain our trails, and not take for granted this privilege that is given.

Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by residential development. The wildlife that are there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wild preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of the i-280. Waterdog Open Space is a place where family and friends in the area are allowed to take a break from their busy lives and enjoy time with each other and nature. Taking away this gift would be very disappointing to the community.

Thank you for your time,
Ervin Cabuhat
San Mateo County

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andrew Arabejo
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:44 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a local resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Best,

Andrew Arabejo

Brigitte Shearer

From: AJ Losbanes
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Maintaining Multi-use access at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a long time resident of San Mateo county, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed."

- Abe

Brigitte Shearer

From:
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:06 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

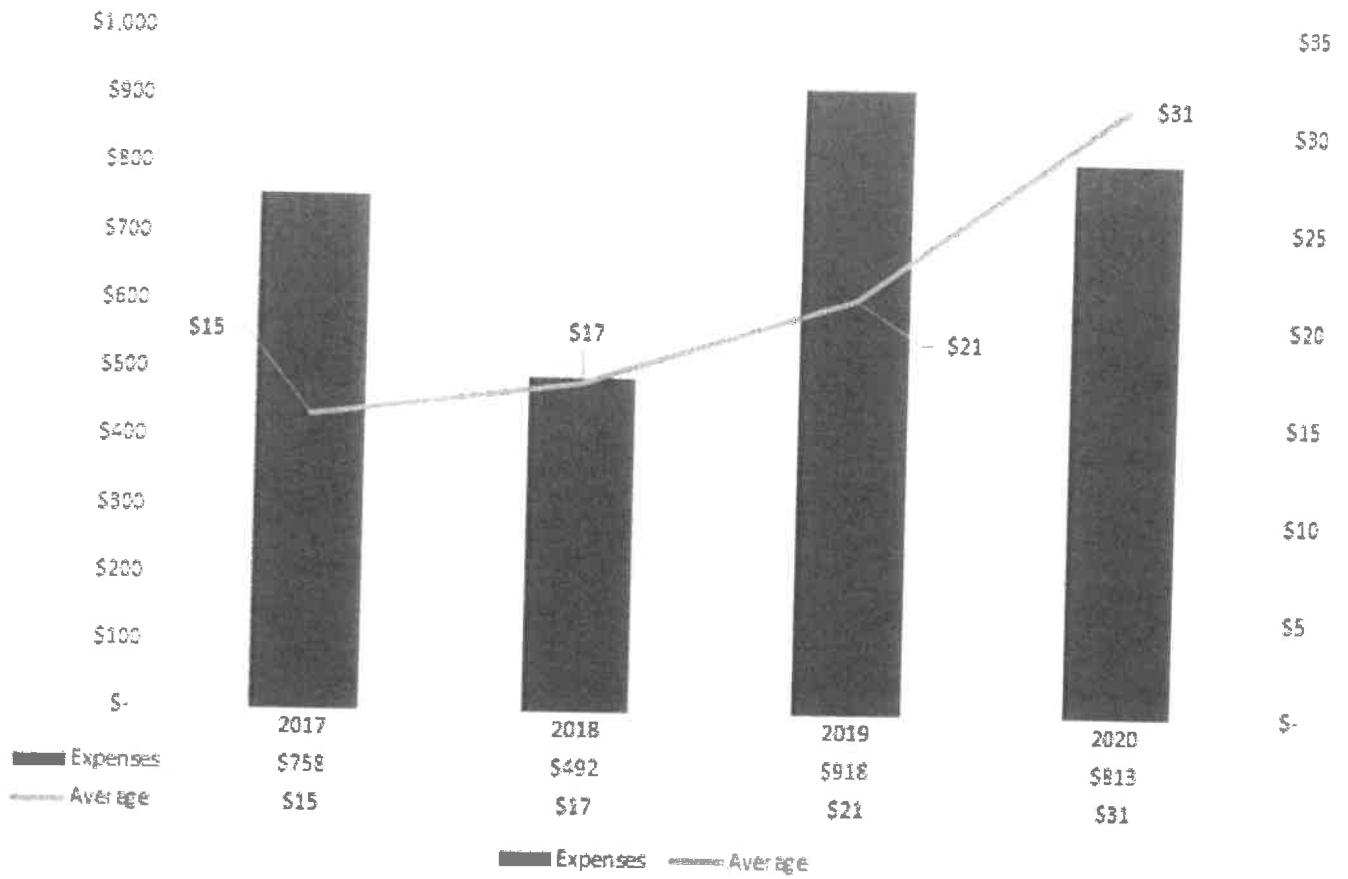
Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year. I have done trail work at Waterdog and will continue to do so.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

I know there is sensitivity of having non-residence access Waterdog, but we do contribute to the community through our trail work and the money we spend in the community. Below is an analysis over four years of my spending when I visited Waterdog.



Thank you,

Roger

Roger de Lusignan

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rogerdelusignan/>

Board Member ShrimplyBlue | *Better treats. Better Tahoe.*

<https://shrimplyblue.org/>

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Long
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:17 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation (including Biking), connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Carve our biking-specific trails to ease multi-use frustration
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in and around Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades. Lastly I would add that Mountain Bikers are tax paying citizens who only want to enjoy the same privileges as everyone else.

Brian C. Long

www.linkedin.com/in/bclong

Brigitte Shearer

From: J-C P.
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:36 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog trail access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a cyclist (who does not live in Belmont), I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed.

I've ridden my bike many times at Waterdog, which is a gem of a park. I've never had any trail conflict with other users and always had a great time. I hope that the current multi use access will continue for many generations.

Regards,

J-C Poussin

Brigitte Shearer

From: Sally Pham
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:34 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Keep WaterDog Accessible to Cyclist!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Sally Pham, DPM

Brigitte Shearer

From: Mike Reinschmidt
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:32 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

I'd also like to add please consider that a few bad apples don't spoil the bunch. I see a lot of finger-pointing and blame but each group has some bad apples and just because they do shouldn't dramatically impact enjoyment for all.

Thank you, Mike

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jeffrey Norton
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:23 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Thank You,

Jeffrey Norton

Brigitte Shearer

From: Darth510
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:39 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog in Belmont open for everyone

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

For those that are new to the sport, Waterdog has been one of the great gems in the bay area. Many of the trails being built and maintained through the efforts of local riding groups and bike shops, such as the now-closed Passion Trail Bikes in Belmont. Losing access would be tragic, so please take a moment to let your voice be heard.

Johnny Peng
West Coast Mountain Bikers

--
JP

Brigitte Shearer

From: Sky Eurich
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:38 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open to Mountain Bikers

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont City Council,

As someone who lives on the peninsula, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Best,
Sky Eurich

Brigitte Shearer

From: J T
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:49 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog access to all.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Add to letter below: please keep waterdog open for bikers. To play it safe, how about odd calendar day for bikers and even days for hikers and walkers. Other states have learned to make park accessible to all in a safe manner. Thank you.

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Brigitte Shearer

From: Paul Hogan
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:48 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Paul Hogan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Nelson Wong
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:37 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog for Multi-Use, Including mountain biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Sincerely,

Nelson Wong

Brigitte Shearer

From: Rich Laczko
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:36 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: WaterDog Trail Usage

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, ebiking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog”

campaign is great.

- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Rich Laczko

Brigitte Shearer

From: Peter Nyberg
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:09 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
Peter Nyberg
Avid Mountain Biker and Waterdog Lover

Brigitte Shearer

From: Cyrille Shkolnik
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:00 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces*
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.*
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.*

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chris Fox
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:09 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Bike Access at Water Dog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Rec Commissioners and City Council,

I'm a San Mateo (Laurelwood) resident who uses Water Dog a ton as a biking area. I typically ride from Laurelwood to the park, and it's been a tremendous resource for me and my fellow mountain bikers. I understand there is an effort under way to limit or eliminate mountain bikes from the park, and I'd certainly voice my strenuous objection. It's a unique park on the Peninsula, and one which allows me to exercise outside in the longer days we get in the spring, summer, and fall.

Water Dog is certainly not the first park where hikers have tried to ban mountain bikers, and won't be the last, but solutions have worked in a great many other places. One solution is dividing traffic—Water Dog seems in good shape to do this, where there are some singletrack trails that are great for mountain biking and not really that useful for hiking. It's not perfect and never will be, but seems to make more sense than banning bikes. Would we consider banning hikers? I don't think anyone would, as it's the least common denominator for trail use, but other than that, but banning one type of trail use would seem like a last resort after other measures had been tried.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

I volunteer for trail building and maintenance with MBOSC (Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz) and would be happy to join similar efforts at Water Dog if it helps. Thanks!

--

Chris

Brigitte Shearer

From: Anna LIN
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:04 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Keeping water dog open to multi-use space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Regards

Resident of sunnyslope Ave, belmont.

Brigitte Shearer

From: albert Saenz
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:02 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Water Dog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Sincerely,

Albert Saenz
Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Cody
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:59 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: MTB access at Waterdog open space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

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Thank you,

Cody Stutzman

Cody

Brigitte Shearer

From: Arash Izadi
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:54 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Cc: Arash Izadi
Subject: Waterdog Open Space planning

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Ensure Class-1 ebikes can safely and sustainably access the trails without harassment from uninformed and biased hikers/bikers.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,
Arash

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Carlos
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 11:53 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Water dog trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

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-Carlos Cervantes
Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Buck Crockett
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:16 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: The Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan to continue to serve our recreational needs by continuing multi-use access to Waterdog.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

--

Thanks,

Buck Crockett

Brigitte Shearer

From: Dhananjay Beri
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:11 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please do not close the Waterdog Open space to Mountain bikers

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
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For those that are new to the sport, Waterdog has been one of the great gems in the bay area. Many of the trails being built and maintained through the efforts of local riding groups and bike shops, such as the now-closed Passion Trail Bikes in Belmont. Losing access would be tragic, so please take a moment to let your voice be heard.

Regards,
Dhananjay Beri

Brigitte Shearer

From: Menko Johnson
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:17 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog Park open to bikes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have benefitted and enjoyed Waterdog Park on my mountain bike for over 10 years and it is a mainstay of the cycling community. I am a member of Peninsula Velo, a local cycling team of over 280 members based in Belmont and San Mateo, and many of our members use Waterdog on a daily basis. I am also a coach for the local high school mountain bike team Woodside Beasts (<https://woodsidebeasts.org/>) where we promote healthy cycling for girls and boys in grades 6-12 through mountain biking. Waterdog is by far the best mountain biking park on the Peninsula because of the easy access.

We teach all of our student athletes how to ride respectfully on trails, control their speed, and announce their presence and thank other trail users. Instead of closing down this amazing resource to cyclists, I would hope the City of Belmont and Parks Department could instead work with local cycling and hiking groups to promote positive park use and keep this open to everyone. During COVID Waterdog has been a salvation to families everywhere looking to spend time outdoors without having to travel to the coast, so thank you for all of your efforts!

I personally would be happy to work with your team through Woodside Beasts and Pen Velo to promote responsible use and help maintain the park to ensure everyone can continue to enjoy and love Waterdog Park.

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Menko Johnson

Menko Johnson

Brigitte Shearer

From: Christina Lee
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:08 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear council members,

As a resident of Redwood City, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for hiking, biking, dog walking, and exercise
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. I utilize these trails weekly and continue to notice and appreciate the work done to maintain the trails.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed. Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration,
Christina Lee

Brigitte Shearer

From: Karim Najjar
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:07 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a Redwood City, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Brigitte Shearer

From: alex chappuis ·
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:31 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a user of Waterdog open space, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francscico Public Utilites Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Brigitte Shearer

From: Lanier Benkard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:20 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In particular, it is one of the only places I can take my kids to ride their bikes, within biking distance from my home.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for ALL CURRENT USERS, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,

Charles Benkard

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ryan Uhlig <
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:37 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Water Dog as multi use for all uses.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of Foster City, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

Brigitte Shearer

From: Tom Luong
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:55 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Multi-use access to WaterDog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration,
Tom Luong

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andrew Hsu
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:50 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Water Dog accessible for everyone!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am a long-time resident of Belmont and San Carlos. I am the proud father of three and a long-time bicyclist both for commuting and for recreation. I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,

--> Andrew Hsu
Advocacy Director, Peninsula Velo cycling club
Board of Directors, Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
Advisor, San Carlos Bikes!

Brigitte Shearer

From: Bethany White < >
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:50 AM
To: City Council
Cc: P&R Comm
Subject: Mountain Bike access at Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habituate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

This is one of the few places in the area we can mountain bike near home without having to drive a distance to be able to bike.

Thank you for your time,
Bethany

Brigitte Shearer

From: Zac Terrones
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:47 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a resident of San Carlos, and someone who rides the trails at Waterdog almost daily, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to live there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

One additional note: There are few places in the area that support cycling that aren't in direct contact with road traffic. I have noticed a number of small children riding their bikes at Waterdog as well and I believe it is a valuable resource for the children in the community to be able to learn to ride away from traffic.

Thank you for your time.
Zac Terrones

Brigitte Shearer

From: Lucas Klein
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:41 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan Regarding Water Dog Lake

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Council Members

As a local mountain bike rider, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- I understand, some mountain bike practices such as riding at night, or riding when it has rained that are harmful to the trails; however, education is the key to stemming those practices. It is a minority of riders riding at night or right after it has rained. It would be just as easy to enforce no riding at night, or no riding for 24-48 hours after it rains, as to enforce no riding at all.

I appreciate your consideration,
Lucas Klein

Brigitte Shearer

From: James Hiemstra
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:57 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Multi-use Access to Waterdog Park (Master Plan)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning,

As a local mountain bike rider who relies on having a place to be in the outdoors doing what I love nearby, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that has developed a habitat there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve lies just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

I urge you to consider what mountain biking at Waterdog means to both the massive group of local riders, and what it means to the city of Belmont. Mountain biking at Waterdog has brought riders from around the Bay Area, which have in turn helped the Belmont economy greatly. Especially during a pandemic, riders need local spots to get outside, stay active, and stay healthy, both physically and mentally. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James Hiemstra

Local Mountain Biker

Brigitte Shearer

From: Lee Gorny
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1:03 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for Waterdog Mountain Bike Trails Remaining Open

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am writing to express my family's support keeping the mountain bike single track trails open in the Waterdog Open Space. Opportunities for mountain biking in the Bay are limited and closure of these trails would further challenge riders to find accommodating places for riding including our family.

Our 4 year old son who is becoming a better rider every day needs places where he can safely and legally ride without a long commute and mixed use areas such as Waterdog encourage him to become a responsible cyclist who looks out for and cares about the safety of others who share the wonderful outdoor areas we have and treasure.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration,
Lee Gorny

Brigitte Shearer

From: Chuck Spiteri
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 4:26 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: OF aCESS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Commissioners,

I have been a property and business owner (Spiteri's Auto Service) in Belmont for nearly 40 years. During this time, I have been able to enjoy riding bikes at Water Dog park with my son and now our grandson (three generations). We appreciate having Water Dog in our community; it has been an excellent place for our family to bond; we have made many memories.

Please let me know how I can help or can be used as a sounding board for the committee.

Regards,
Chuck Spiteri

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel": Maya Angelou.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Nancy Whyte
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:29 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Considering Waterdog Park and Hidden canyon Users

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I wanted to appeal to your committee as you consider user groups and their impact on our city parks. I am a 59 year old homeowner, who visits Waterdog and Hidden canyon at least twice a month. I can ride from my house on Hiller Street to access the park, or drive and walk in. I have done 4 hours of trailwork with a mountain biking group years ago, clearing the brush.

I hike in Waterdog, I mountain bike in waterdog. You may see me, I am the one yieding the trail, saying hello, letting you go by if you are a hiker or runner. I am the one who picks up wrappers dropped by others. I don't ride on trails that aren't trails, I don't skid, or ride too fast.

Mountain bikers are a diverse group, and I am one. A female, professional, kind, nature loving Belmont resident. I would be willing to do yearly trail work as a member, or be part of a citizen group to address issues created by other users.

Please continue to allow mountain bikers in our Belmont parks. We can foster appropriate behavior by being present and leading by example, educating other users in how to share our local open spaces.

Sincerely,

Nancy E. Whyte

Brigitte Shearer

From: Edith T. Cassel
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 12:31 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Save Waterdog Preserve

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Belmont Community Members,

As a senior and avid hiker from San Mateo, I have on occasion (weekdays) very much enjoyed Hidden Canyon and the trails around Waterdog Reservoir. I was amazed that I met few fellow hikers but many bikers, sometimes the same bikers several times in a row! Clearly, per mile biking use by far outweighs pedestrian use in this area. On the trail, especially narrow single lane trails, you need to watch out for this fast traffic.

Limiting biking use and repair of trails damaged by biking could greatly benefit the beautiful and sensitive Waterdog Open Space!

Thank you for your attention,

Edith Cassel
35 9th Ave, Apt 10
San Mateo CA 94401

Brigitte Shearer

From:
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 6:33 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: 3/3 P&R meeting - Item 6d

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Park and Recreation commissioners:

I am a resident of Belmont and I think we can all agree that we have a beautiful Open Space gem in Waterdog with scenic, lovely trails, incredible rare and endangered wildlife species, beautiful creeks and marsh ecosystems that allow plants and animals to interact and survive. We can also all agree that we love connecting with nature, love the exercise and revitalization that this natural environment gives us that improves our quality of life. We can also all agree that both hikers and bikers should be able to safely enjoy Waterdog.

When past City officials created the current Master Plan in 1992, they understood these concepts and put forth an action plan stressing Preservation of our Open Space as a most important City goal. They specified **multi-use trails**, 10-12 feet wide for bikers, hikers, dog walkers AND designated narrow, earthen **single-use** paths 2-4 feet wide for hikers only to provide "a more secluded natural hiking experience than multi-use trails". This distinction allows bikers to enjoy their exercise on more suitable multi-use trails while allowing single-use family friendly trails for children, teens, parents and seniors to enjoy peaceful, tranquil walks without fear of colliding with bikers.

But, somehow, over the years, these trail designations disappeared and were ignored to such a point now that many of my neighbors and friends are totally afraid to hike Waterdog for fear of their safety. I think we can also agree that this is NOT what we want for our Open Space!

As you embark on this most important Open Space Master plan for the next 20 years, I hope you will "Honor The Past" that not only focused on preservation and conservation of our beautiful Open Space but also prioritized Safety for all participants so that future generations can enjoy this jewel of Belmont.

Jennifer Lien

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jacob Jin
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1:53 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Public Comment for 3/3/21 P&R Mtg Agenda item 6.d, Open Space Master Plan Update
Attachments: Caleb Jin Public Comment.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission,

Thank you for taking public comments on the Open Space Master Plan (agenda item 6.d for tonight's mtg).

Belmont is our hometown, and we wanted our children to grow with a deep connection to the community and place that raised them. Waterdog Open Space has been a big part of that, and I've attached a letter from my son as well.

We're still amazed that we can have mountain biking adventures in our own backyard! They're full of shining moments, indelibly etched into our boys' hearts.

And the wonderful community of volunteers and caretakers that love Waterdog have filled it with the kinds of lessons in character and create opportunities for service that will help them grow into the kinds of men that truly know how to be a part of a place and care for it.

We ask that you continue to make all Waterdog Open Space trails accessible to mountain bikers to enjoy and serve.

Best regards,

Jacob and Jessica Jin
Belmont, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: William Paoli
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 2:10 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog, Bikes, Hikes and Dogs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello!

I am a resident of San Mateo but I frequent Belmont regularly and have my entire life. (My mom went to Norte Dame high school and my first job was in IT at the college)

As I know you are aware, there is a new energy around access in Waterdog especially from the mountain bike community and people that are concerned about mountain bikes in the park.

I am a hiker, a dog owner, AND a mountain biker. I love the existence of this park and think it's a precious resource for our community. As a hiker, I understand how Mtn Bikes can be annoying at times, and as a mountain biker I try my best to be respectful and careful of all hikers in the park. I know we can figure out ways to work together and co-exist.

I want to advocate for us all as a community to be open minded about how we approach the multi-use issues and not deny access to anyone. Without being able to ride in this park, I won't be able to get my post-ride Doc's Bagels!!! I love Doc's Bagels.

Thank you for reading, and I hope that all voices are heard in the upcoming planning that is kicking off soon.

-William Paoli

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brett Robinson <
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:09 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a 15+ year resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

My kids got new bikes for Christmas and are so looking forward to using them at Waterdog when they are better riders.

Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Brett Robinson
Ponce Ave. Belmont.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jason Bromfield
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 4:00 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Mountain Biking at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I wanted to reach out and voice my opinion regarding mountain biking at Waterdog park.

I'd like to say that I've been a regular rider and hiker of Waterdog and Hidden Canyon since moving to the Bay Area over a decade ago. I will typically ride there 2-3 days a week when the weather permits. The availability of trails to ride in Belmont is why my wife and I bought a home here.

As you know, a great deal of the work on the trails is taken care of by people that ride there. I myself have done a great deal of work maintaining these trails over the years. I'll often remove fallen trees in the winter, fill ruts and fix erosion as well as trim overgrowth when needed. I would argue that a majority of the erosion seen on these trails is from a lack of drainage and not from bikes. I'd also argue that hikers have rarely pitched in on city sanctioned trail days.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, I have noticed more traffic on the trails as more hikers and runners have decided to use them. I know that before the pandemic started, there were very few confrontations between mountain bikers and hikers. I think that signage posted in the park explaining trail etiquette could be useful in making sure that people understand who has the right of way. I'd like to see all trails remain multi-use as they currently are.

I believe that the ability to ride these great trails brings a fantastic value to our town. I absolutely believe that more Bay Area parks should allow mountain bikers as Belmont has.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions for me.

Thank you,

Jason Bromfield

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jaret Butler
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 4:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog MTB

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To the Leaders of Belmont;

I recently heard that the future of mountain biking in Water Dog park is in jeopardy. Consequently, I am sending this email to express my support of keeping Water Dog open to mountain biking. As an avid mountain biker, runner and hiker, Water Dog has become a tremendous part of my life and recreational pursuits. My 9 and 11 year old boys are now riding with me. The park has continued to be very safe and family friendly. Closing the park to mountain biking would be a true tragedy to hundreds of local residents. I am happy to be available for further discussion of this matter.

Respectfully,
Jaret Butler, MD

Sent from my iPad

Brigitte Shearer

From: Karl Hansen >
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 4:54 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please continue Multi-Use/Biking access to Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to please maintain the current/existing scope of trail use including biking, hiking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades, and the multi-use access greatly enhances property values.

Waterdog is one of the best local, natural trail systems in the area. I believe in being inclusive and cooperating with all users of the trail to ensure everyone benefits.

Thank you,
Karl R. Hansen

Brigitte Shearer

From: Isaac LaRock
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 6:44 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont(Waterdog) Trail System

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hey there! I'm one of the many other people who want to keep the trails open to the public and open to bikers. We do a daily run on the trails and have NO problem at all with the bikers. I occasionally ride the trails but not all the time.

Please consider keeping it open to EVERYONE!

Brigitte Shearer

From: Julianne K
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:06 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm; info@belmontprosplan.com
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

My name is Julianne Kline and I am writing to provide a public comment for the Belmont Open Space Master Plan. My fiance and I have been enjoying Waterdog Park for years, so much so that we have recently bought a home 3 miles away. Waterdog is one of the major venues where I learned to mountain and gravel bike over the past three years. Since it's so close to home (we lived nearby before the home purchase too), I can ride directly from my door to the park. It is the only place to mountain bike in the area where I do not need to load my bike into my car to get there, which makes it a convenient and environmentally friendly option. The park is also technical, and gives a newer biker like me a chance to work on difficult skills. During this tough pandemic, Waterdog had kept me and my fiance sane. I love gravel biking up Lake Road Trail, up through Sheep Camp Trail where I can come out on Canada Road. After hours on end stuck inside working from home, I enjoy taking breaks to hike the Crystal Springs Cross Country Trail. The trails are so beautiful and fun. I've recently explored San Juan Canyon which I discovered through word-of-mouth. More signage on these trails would help in making them more accessible to the community.

Thank you for maintaining the beautiful trails and open spaces. I urge you to continue maintaining the trails for all trail users in the future plans, such that the multi-use nature of the trails will be retained for those of us who enjoy hiking, biking, dog walking, exercising, walking, etc. We look forward to building a life and a family here, and look forward to many years to come of use of the Belmont Open Spaces. Thanks, Julianne

Brigitte Shearer

From: Alex Hillis
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:12 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: I support bicycle access at Water Dog Lake park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks & Recreation Commission and Belmont City Council,

I am writing in support of maintaining the current multi-use trail access at Water Dog Lake Park. As a former resident of Belmont, still living nearby, the trails at Water Dog are a highlight in my day to day life. I primarily use Water Dog for mountain biking, but also frequently hike there. I loved showing the park off to visitors (on foot and wheels) when I lived on Geraldine Way a few years ago, and maintaining access for all in the next Master Plan will ensure that anyone can experience the gem at the heart of Belmont.

Having recently visited the park to ride, I was impressed that the trails were in better condition than I'd ever seen them, thanks in large part to the work of mountain bikers who do volunteer trail maintenance.

I was disheartened to hear that some individuals want to ban bicycle access to the park. Whatever their concerns may be, perhaps continuing to spread the myth that bikes damage trails, or because they simply don't like sharing, banning bikes would be a foolish change. Having a place for all people to recreate and enjoy the outdoors is more important than ever.

Thank you for your consideration and I have confidence you will make the right decision to support trail access for all in the Master Plan.

Best,
Alex Hillis

Brigitte Shearer

From: Dan Politi
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 11:45 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog multi-use trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Rec Commissioners and City Council,

I have never sent this type of email to voice my position regarding trail access, but feel compelled given the proposed restriction to mountain bikes at Waterdog.

Open space recreation provides benefit to a wide variety of users in the Belmont and nearby area. The mountain bike community is an active group to maintain and care for the trail system at waterdog. We are one of many groups that greatly benefit from access to the open space and I feel strongly that it would be unjust to restrict access to this group.

Waterdog is a fantastic local park and trail system. It would be a shame to limit this to such a wide group of riders. Mountain bikes are already restricted on a number of trails and Waterdog has the opportunity to serve the public for years to come.

Thanks for the consideration.
Dan Politi

Brigitte Shearer

From: Scott Swenson
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:02 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Belmont Open Space Master Plan - Water Dog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of Belmont and a 20-year veteran Water Dog biker, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Thanks for your service and consideration,

Scott Swenson – Ruth Ave

Brigitte Shearer

From: Masako Nakatani
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 6:50 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: MTB access at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

The Belmont Open Space Master Plan process is making its way through the Parks & Recreation Commission and ultimately to City Council. The Master Plan is a strategic document that studies the existing park system, facilities and recreation programming, and identifies a planning blueprint for the next 15-20 years to improve, protect and expand the City's network of parks, facilities and recreational services for the future.

There is a small but aggressive group of anti-recreation activists in Belmont whose goal it is to ban mountain biking from the Waterdog open space area. They are waging a campaign to have Waterdog designated as a "nature preserve" in the Master Plan and severely limit recreational access to the trails. If they succeed, mountain bike access to Waterdog could be lost for the next 20 years. Unfortunately their viewpoints are being over-represented to the Council and Commission because they have a lot of time on their hands to show up to meetings and send emails. They are very organized and have a dedicated website that villifies mountain bikers. Please note, these people actively monitor the MTBR Norcal forum so keep that in mind if posting any responses here.

It's important that the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council don't get the wrong impression that this represents a majority view. It's vital that the community continues to have the ability to use Waterdog for recreation, and for the Master Plan to reflect this, because it will be in place for the next 15-20 years.

If you have a few moments, please send a brief email to CityCouncil@belmont.gov and PRComm@belmont.gov to let them know you would like the Master Plan to continue to serve our recreational needs by continuing multi-use access to Waterdog. You do not have to be a Belmont resident to provide feedback to the council and commission, but if you are a Belmont resident, please point that out because you are one of their direct constituents. If you can send an email, please do so before Tuesday March 2, 2021 because the next Parks & Rec Commission meeting is on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. (Also, if you're so inclined, feel free to appear by Zoom at the meeting and make public comment in favor of continued access. Here's a sample letter, feel free to use these points in your email:

As a [resident of Belmont, or other identifier], I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Bryan Moreci
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 12:46 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog MTB Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident and home owner of Belmont, I STRONGLY support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for ALL recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are currently, for multi-use: for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great. The vast majority of time both myself and my Family/friends have spent on the trails has been met with courtesy by all users (including and especially by those on bikes).
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

I know there is a very vocal, but small group opposing the use of some trails - especially by mountain bikers, and that they blame "destruction" and "erosion" of the habitat on this group. However, I believe they are using said group as an easy target for blame, rather than using actual scientific facts to back up any such claims. Please know that the silent majority would be deeply and negatively affected and outraged if any actions such as limiting access were to be considered, let alone adopted. Let's not give more weight to the whims of those vocal few than is warranted.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Bryan Moreci

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33

33

Brigitte Shearer

From: Akash A
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:53 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog mountain bike access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a Bay Area resident, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.

As a government organization, the will of the people is not the loudest few voices in the room that will impact a physical space. Most people expect their government to just work, and assume amazing parks like Waterdog are working for everyone. Just because a minority of loud voices are against mountain biking, or making up environmental claims, or bogus erosion claims, isn't the foundation to base a major decision on.

Additionally - regardless of what is done, surely solutions can be put in place that reduce animosity between users. Is it that difficult to dedicate certain trails as priority in one direction for bikers? It would give all users a heads up, reduce angst, and be safety focused. The notion that someone needs every trail is fine, but is there really harm in giving users notification that certain segments are primarily used by one group and for everyone to be aware and safe? Do we really need to use taxpayer dollars to pay a ranger to enforce the vision of a few people, rather than common sense policies?

Lets start putting in common sense controls and not accomodating a few people who are simply loud.

Thanks

Brigitte Shearer

From: John Dougery
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 11:24 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please continue Multi-Use/Biking access to Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to please consider:

- Maintaining the current/existing scope of trail use including biking, hiking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great. And I know I and all my friends slow down, greet and thank hikers for sharing the trails.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. I would be happy to contribute to maintenance as long as biking remains supported. They are doing a great job along with Belmont's P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades, and the multi-use access greatly enhances property values.

Respectfully,

John
John Dougery

Brigitte Shearer

From: David Malick
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:23 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Lake Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year. Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

David Malick

Brigitte Shearer

From: David Hunt ·
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:26 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of San Mateo County, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed."

- Dave

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jugdeep Aggarwal
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:55 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: water dog park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Many thanks

Jugdeep Aggarwal PhD

Brigitte Shearer

From: Cameron K.
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:34 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waters of Bicycle Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

I support keeping Waterdog open to mountain bikers. As a mountain biker I ride with a bell and pedestrian are always thank me for the heads-up. I firmly believe that bikers and hikers can coexist.

I support Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces

- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,
Cameron Kuo

Brigitte Shearer

From: John Morriss
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:17 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: bike access to Waterdog park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I'm a frequent visitor to Waterdog Open Space, and I support keeping it an accessible place for recreation, interacting with our community, and appreciating the natural world. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, **as they are**, for multi-use for hiking, **biking**, dog walking, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing to **collaborate** with community groups and volunteers to **support the maintenance and preservation** of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers... I saw a crew this afternoon replacing a trail sign at Upper Creek Trail & Finch Trail.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Regards,
John Morriss

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jeff King
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:06 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am not a resident of Belmont, but I do support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Your community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

As a resident of Menlo Park, I do not have an easily accessible park like Waterdog Open Space, and I have always been jealous of your residents! Accomodation of multiple user groups is certainly a challenge on the Peninsula but worth it for the community.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Jeff King
Menlo Park, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Scott Langmack
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:28 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Mountain biking at Waterdog Park!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I strongly support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great. We are always courteous and considerate of hikers along the trails! Coexistence is bliss.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

With best regards,

Scott Langmack
62 Years Old and still riding :-)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Margot Hyun
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:18 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog for mountain bikers

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. I am a home owner in Belmont and often ride from my home to the various entry points into Waterdog, it is one of the benefit of living here.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

FACEBOOK

Margot Hyun

Product Marketing Manager

Facebook Pay

Brigitte Shearer

From: Eric Lansdon
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 11:44 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog park access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have lived in Belmont for 6+ years and am an avid user of the Waterdog Open Space. I firmly believe that having access to this space is extremely beneficial to the residents of Belmont. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider

- Maintaining the trails as they are, multi-use for hiking, dog walking, biking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. I have seen more improvements to the trails in the last year, even with increased use due to COVID-19, than in previous years.

Having access to the trails around Belmont is what originally drew me to relocate our family here. I use the trails 5+ times a week. I appreciate the fact that I can educate my children on the nature around them as we live in this urban environment. I have also never had a negative experience on the trails whether I am riding a bike, hiking, or running with my dog. I would like to preserve these experiences for my family and future generations of Belmont residents.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Brigitte Shearer

From: boris Price
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 12:10 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Keep trails for all users.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Doug McIntosh-Tom >
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 12:37 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog park open to bicycles

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
 - Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
 - Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Thanks, Doug

Brigitte Shearer

From: TOMMY KUC
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:56 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: please keep water dog open for mountain bike!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Tara Moran
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:02 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Please keep Waterdog Open Space a multi-use area

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a peninsula resident (Menlo Park), please keep Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

In the new Master Plan, I request that you consider the following actions:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for both the community of Belmont and beyond. We continue to visit there with friends and family.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Best,
Tara Moran, Menlo Park resident

Brigitte Shearer

From: Daniel Foster
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:49 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Continued multi-use access to Waterdog Open Space (Belmont)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

I've enjoyed riding my bike on Waterdog trails for the past 20 years, and it's been an invaluable stress-relief for me during this pandemic.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails **as they are** for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Many thanks,

Dan Foster

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ken Rheaume
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:50 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space - continue multi-use access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
 - Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
 - Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Ken Rheaume
Mountain Biker over 23 years in Bay Area

Brigitte Shearer

From: Frank McGorman
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 10:59 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog MTB Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

In addition, I think mountain bikers are the primary users of most of the trails. People tend to walk up the fire road and walk to Waterdog lake, but the majority of the trails, other than the two just listed, appear to me to be primarily used by mountain bikers. Some people do hike them, but they are not the majority of the users. I live in Crestview Estates, which is next to the park. I cycle the trails often, and my experience is I mostly see other bikers and not that many hikers. The ones who do hike them appear to be more committed to outdoor activities (they are usually pretty fit) and are more passionate. They want the trails closed so only hikers have access. I am 67 years old. I very much enjoy cycling the trails and think it is a mistake to limit mountain bikers. Especially when there are already hiking only parks already nearby such as Edgewood Park and the Crystal Springs trails.

Best Regards,

Frank McGorman

Brigitte Shearer

From: James Feichtl
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:16 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,
I support designating Waterdog Open Space as a **Nature Preserve**. In the new Master Plan, all Open Space policy decisions should prioritize conservation and habitat protection, including:

- Designate narrow natural surface trails for hiking only, consistent with Best Practices of other open spaces
- Close illegal Open Space trails, and restore damaged ecosystems and fragmented wildlife habitat
- Enforce the closure of all open spaces from sunset to sunrise to protect wildlife and ensure safety; cite violators
- Prohibit e-bikes and motorized vehicles on all trails; cite violators

Allocate park spending to equitably fund desperately needed Open Space maintenance

Implement ecosystem management Best Practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance
Please incorporate these policies into the new Open Space Master Plan!

Sincerely,

James Feichtl

2036 Lyon Ave, Belmont

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jean M Nelson
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 12:15 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog lake

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation and connecting with nature. Please maintain the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction by walking my dog, exercise, appreciation of nature, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Jean Nelson
407 Cornish Way
Belmont

Brigitte Shearer

From: Andrew Elliott ·
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 7:17 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Comment on Waterdog Multiuse Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a Belmont resident for the last 10 years I'm writing in support of continued access for mountain biking in Waterdog.

My family and friends enjoy going to Waterdog to exercise on bikes and enjoy the outdoors. My kids and I regularly use the park as a way to connect with each other and spend time enjoying the outdoors, which has been a God send during the pandemic.



While I understand that some might see shared use as an inconvenience the trails have existed as a multiuse and the discussion should focus on how to keep Waterdog an accessible part of the community.

I would like to see more commitment from the City to invest in the trail maintenance, as the volunteer nature of the park means that everyone feels they are contributing in the 'right way' including home owners clearing brush to protect their views, to people blocking or modifying existing trails.

With the right balance I believe perceived conflicts can be resolved and the park can still be enjoyed by all.

Thanks,
Andrew Elliott

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Dong
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:35 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a resident living less than a mile away from Waterdog, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for all forms of recreation, including hiking, bicycling, dog walking etc. The past 12 months have shown all of us how important it is to have access to areas like Waterdog for enjoying the outdoors. I have taken my family on a number of biking excursions, hikes / walks there. I hope to continue to do so.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and surrounding areas like San Mateo and San Carlos. Waterdog is a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Brian Dong

Brigitte Shearer

From: VAN Truong ·
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:00 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Multi-use access for Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council:

My family and I whole-heartedly support keeping Waterdog Open Space as an accessible place for multi-use: hiking, biking, dog walking, and connection with nature.

We've been San Mateo residents since 2002 and Waterdog has always been a wonderful place for us to visit and enjoy...more so during this pandemic. My favorite is a family hike around the lake. Waterdog is where I introduced my son to mountain biking when he was 9.

There are 2 things I often talk to the kids about: The first is the rules around sharing the trails with others. A couple of examples are when going downhill, we yield for hikers going up. And while biking, always slow down in typically busy sections regardless of whether we see others or not. The second thing is to respect nature and the trails we get to enjoy. An example is although we don't see a lot of trash out there, we pick it up when we do.

Here is a couple of pictures of us enjoying Waterdog.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,
Van



Brigitte Shearer

From: Frederic Alfaro
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:34 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog mixed usage (plan)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello my name is Fred and I have been a loyal patron of Waterdog park for my entire life . I grew up in the area and learned to ride my bike in those very hills. It has come to my attention That there is a lobbying party that wants to make it illegal to ride on those trails.

I find it very hard to actually entertain that idea but I am aware how politics (internal city affairs/ pressure from certain parties) affect the judgement on decisions like this.

This park has been a homage for many generations for both riding, and hiking. Taking it away would thoroughly affect our mental and physical health!

WE NEED A PLACE TO RECREATE AND RIDE!

Not everyone has the luxury of working from home and taking off to skeggs, or Santa Cruz to ride their bicycle on a workday. Many of us need a place we can recreate after a regular work day.

With (COVID- restrictions)

We have lost the ability to work out in gyms , play sanctioned sports, travel, and pretty much the everything else.

Biking and the ability to be in nature a few steps from my home has givin me a sense freedom from the rat race. It has helped with my mental and physical health. Also, I've met life long friends , and business associates riding here.

We all have businesses and homes here! Taking this away from us is a slap in the face. WE should be able to *ride or bicycle -(With the amount of property tax, business tax, booster money to schools, and actual labor of cleaning and maintaining the trails)

Please don't take this away from us,

We care for the park, as of it is an extension our back yard. I grew up riding it, and plan on teaching my kids on the same trails!

Thank you,

Frederic

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Kurin Tu
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 2:00 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

Hello, my name is Kurin Tu and I am a resident of San Mateo. For 18 years, I have really enjoyed the outdoor nature and the lake that Waterdog Park has to offer. My family and I have had many outings there and really find the quality of the park to be one of the nicest places to spend time with family and friends.

I am informed by my colleagues that you are starting the planning process for the Waterdog Park. In your planning, I would like for you to consider keeping the trails open for hiking, trail running, biking, bird watching and exercising activities. I would also like to request that we should continue to educate park visitors to understand the safe use of the trails. And last, continue to reach out to local communities seeking volunteers to help maintain the preservation of the trails and park.

I understand this is still early in the planning process but I would like to give my input. Please do consider keeping Waterdog park an open space recreation where many people can enjoy the great benefits that park has to offer.

Thank you so much for your time.

Best,
Kurin

Brigitte Shearer

From: CRAIG BALL ~
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:49 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog Open Space open to all forms of recreation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Council,

As a mountain biker that uses Waterdog Open Space 3+ times per week and local resident, I strongly support keeping the space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, a location for connecting with nature, and means of building community. I am a regular POST donor and am an advocate for both human-accessible and -inaccessible open space on the mid-peninsula. In addition, I have worked to build and maintain trails the trails within the open space for the benefit of all users, as have may of my cyclist colleagues.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails as they are for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building. This maintenance should be consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Especially apparent in these difficult times, open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community. It's a local destination for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to inhabit the area has adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed, that is inaccessible to human use.

I hope this provides compelling reasons for keeping the space accessible for all users. Please contact me if I can expound on any of the items above.

Sincerely,
Craig Ball

Brigitte Shearer

From: J. P.
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:02 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Let's keep Waterdog Open Space accessible to bikers!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank-you for your consideration,

Jonas Papaurelis

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Chuck
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 11:05 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces. The trails should be open for the enjoyment of ALL, not just a select few.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Sincerely,
Brian Chuck

Brigitte Shearer

From: Merrin Morse
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 12:03 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: San Mateo County family supports multi-use trails (mountain bike friendly) at Water Dog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

My family of four uses Water Dog as hikers, bikers, and nature explorers. We love the multi-use trails and the friendly and welcoming users. Please maintain an inclusive rather than exclusive trail system. Water Dog Park mirrors the success of Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland. Both parks demonstrated that hikers, dog-walkers, runners, bikes, and nature lovers can co-exist on the same trail, at the same time. Educating every user group how to share the trail through easy to read signs at trailheads will benefit the community as a whole and ensure the park remains a welcoming place for the community.

Best regards,

The Morse Family
San Mateo County Residents since 2012

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

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Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Jensen ✓
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:06 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Water Dog Open Space Master Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am a safe patient mountain biker and I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, **biking**, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration.
Brian Jensen

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jonathan Reber
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:07 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Open access and mountain biking at waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a resident of the south bay, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, and community-building, consistent with best practices of other open spaces;
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails such as the excellent new "Love Waterdog" campaign.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Open space recreation has enormous benefits for the community, it's a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water dog has served this public need well for decades.
- Designating the park as a wildlife preserve makes little sense. The park is surrounded by all sides by residential development. The wildlife that chooses to habitate there have adapted to the presence of humans. There is no need to designate this 300 acre park as a wildlife preserve when there is a 23,000 acre wildlife preserve just on the other side of 280, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed.

Many people use waterdog as a release from the crazy life and work days we deal with in the city. Please keep it open to mountain bikers and all other user groups. It helps keep us sane from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Thanks,

Jonathan Reber

Brigitte Shearer

From: Greg Harris · >
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 1:43 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: waterdog mountain biking access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I wanted to write a letter regarding access to Waterdog Park and its use in the new Master Plan for the future.

I would request for you to consider:

- * Continuing the use of the trails as they are, for all users.
- * Continuing outreach and education for all users to ensure the safe and sustainable use of the trails
- * Continuing collaboration with groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails

I would like to share something of a personal note about my thoughts on mountain biking in Waterdog. Waterdog Park is an absolute jewel of a park within the Peninsula because of the quality of mountain biking and proximity to users. I myself was brought to the sport of mountain biking because I live nearby and noticed people enjoying the park on mountain bikes. Because of its proximity, I am able to ride there multiple days a week. The ability to do this with the quality of biking has been nothing short of life changing. I would also note that while I cannot speak for all mountain bikers, my belief is that other mountain bikers care very much about the experience for all in the park. As well, some of the longer/outer trails such as Rambler and Finch are in use primarily by mountain bikers.

I hope you can take the above into consideration and understand fully what a wonderful and amazing spot this is. To remove access for mountain bikers would be a very significant and irreplaceable loss for this group. Thank you for your time.

Greg Harris
2816 Wemberly Dr, Belmont

Brigitte Shearer

From: Lonn/Lynn Fiance
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 4:13 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: In favor of Multi-Use Access for Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space. Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Waterdog, and many other Bay Area open spaces, have taken on an increasingly important role in peoples' need for healthy outdoor activity and connection with nature which has been severely curtailed in the current COVID pandemic. Waterdog and these other open spaces have shown that users interested in a broad range of recreational activities can successfully use these spaces with adversely impacting either the natural state of the open spaces or the enjoyment of other users.

I urge you to maintain multi-use access for all current users of Waterdog Open Space to take advantage of this gem in the new Master Plan.

Regards,
Lonn Fiance

Brigitte Shearer

From: Brian Copland
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 6:15 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Continued Multi use access of Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

My girlfriend has been coming here for over 20 years and introduced it to me about 4 years ago. We love hiking here with our dogs as well as riding our mountain bikes. I don't know how we would have survived shelter in place without access to these trails.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thanks for all of your hard work, it is much appreciated.

Brian Copland

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ted Ryan
Sent: Saturday, March 6, 2021 9:13 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I strongly support keeping the Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, please consider the following:

- **Retain** the existing trails for multi-use - hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise and connecting with nature
- **Train** and educate the trail users to ensure safe and sustainable use
- **Maintain** and preserve the trails in continued collaboration with community groups and volunteers to ensure our trails get healthier every year

Open space recreation is so beneficial to Belmont locals and others, like me, who live in surrounding areas and appreciate the park and all it has to offer.

Waterdog has served this public need for many years and can continue for many more with the support from me and many others like me.

Please keep Waterdog multi-use and sustainable.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Ted Ryan
Pacifica, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Joanne Adamkewicz
Sent: Saturday, March 6, 2021 12:22 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: PROS planning for Water Dog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a 14-year resident of Belmont, I am writing to express my support for keeping Waterdog Lake Park and Hidden Canyon Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, including bike riding. I'm not a rider myself, but I support those who are, including my sons and husband, and I have had overwhelmingly positive interactions with bike riders when I'm hiking or jogging in the park.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Initiate a pilot program to explore ways to separate bike riders from walkers, for example, reserving certain days or times for one use or the other, or designating certain trails as "uphill bikes only" to control speed. However, the community should be involved in designing the pilot, which should be for a limited time, with feedback collected afterwards before making any permanent new rules about usage.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for Belmont residents - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Water Dog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Regards,
Joanne Adamkewicz
411 Yorkshire Way
(Sterling Downs neighborhood)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Forbes Watt
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 7:29 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Support for multi-use trails at Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc..
- The notion that mountain bikes cause more damage is scientifically unfounded as cited in peer reviewed literature on the subject, I invite you to look at some of the following reports as a sample of material available on the subject. [MTB Environmental Impact Study](#) , [OFF-ROAD IMPACTS OF MOUNTAIN BIKES: A REVIEW AND DISCUSSION](#),
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The “Love Waterdog” campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.
- Historically speaking, mountain bikers have contributed a lot of time and effort to maintain the trails at Waterdog, please recognize the care and attention mountain bikers contribute as a community towards trail maintenance; I invite you to look at the work of some of the most active trail advocacy groups in our area that Waterdog regulars are members as well as educated trail builders of [SVMTB](#) , [MBOSC](#).

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and nearby on the peninsula - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,

Forbes Watt

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jodi Hall
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 4:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Water Dog open for ALL recreation, including mountain biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

At a time when cycling is more popular than ever, and a beautiful natural gem for the residents of Belmont and the surrounding area, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. It is important that people have access to the wonders of nature right here in town.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

It is also worth mentioning that mountain bikers who ride here often stay for food, bringing much-needed dollars into town.

Thank you,

Jodi Hall
Bay Area Resident

Brigitte Shearer

From: Ben Serio
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 4:57 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park Mountain Bike Access

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont and the surrounding areas - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration
Ben Serio

Brigitte Shearer

From: Alex Hauser
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 5:33 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a Peninsula resident, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Alex Hauser

Brigitte Shearer

From: D Pritchard <...>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 5:59 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation,

I'm a San Carlos Resident and have been mountain bike riding/hiking at WaterDog for the past 10 years. I support keeping this area open and accessible to the public for recreational purposes.

My family and I have found much relief during this pandemic spending time outdoors in nature where we can get exercise and connect with our community. Waterdog is well known throughout the local MTB community and provides a great platform for riders to build confidence, improve health and help to maintain the trails that surround this area.

Thank you

Dustin Pritchard

260 Fir st San Carlos, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From:
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 9:28 AM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: PROS Survey Comments
Attachments: ConservationGoals 2015 GPlan.pdf; OpenSpace Goals 2015 GPlan.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Commissioners,

Please submit these survey comments to the PROS Committee members and consultants:

Question #4 – does not list **Hidden Canyon Open Space** nor **John Brooks Preserve**. Hidden Canyon Open Space is the largest open space in Belmont (260 acres) and it is DIFFERENT than “Hidden Canyon undeveloped PARK”, both in zoning and in planned uses. John Brooks is the size of Waterdog but is a *designated Preserve* by legal contract, and thus must not be lumped in with Waterdog. Please list ALL four Open Space areas (John Brooks Preserve, Hidden Canyon, San Juan Canyon, and Waterdog Lake).

Question #9 – Open Space – lists only amenities and programs, and overlooks the General Plan Goals for Open Space. These are the only areas in the city residents can come to observe wildlife, find tranquility and solitude, smell the forest, hear birds and study diverse ecosystems. These diverse ecosystems are emphasized in the 2035 General Plan for Open Space and the General Plan Conservation Element (attached). Developed *parks* offer amenities; *Open Space* is intended to preserve areas to appreciate nature for nature’s sake, not engage in sporting activities. Suggestions expanding human incursion and impact are *inconsistent* with General Plan Goals and Policies.

Please include the following items in the #9 ratings:

- Protections for endangered species and their habitat
- Programs to conserve native trees and plants, remove invasive plants
- Prevent speeding bikes and fine violators
- Trails reserved for nature study, prohibiting bikes

Please Remove suggestions that increase human impacts such as lighting and, wider trails.

Questions #8 and #9 conflate issues. They are supposed to differentiate “Recreation Facilities” from “Open Space”. *Recreation facilities* do not have “trail work and restoration”; this item confuses the topic of the question. Further, Open Space is not supposed to prioritize *amenities* – this suggestion prejudices the respondent with intent that is NOT supported by General Plan Open Space policies. Please delete these words from the questions, to maintain focus on the differentiated areas, and avoid respondents conflating the topics.

#8 The following ~~programs or activities~~ would greatly enhance my experience with outdoor recreation facilities in Belmont.

#9 The following ~~amenities or uses~~ would greatly enhance my experience with opens spaces in Belmont.

Thank you,
Kristin Mercer

It actually doesn't take much to be considered a difficult woman. That's why there are so many of us. – Jane Goodall

Brigitte Shearer

From: Deniz Bolbol ·
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 10:39 AM
To: P&R Comm; info@belmontprosplan.com
Subject: survey comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As someone who has previously develop opinion polls, surveys and worked on focus groups, I found the survey difficult to follow due to the lack of organization and, in some questions, inconsistent use of categories (parks, open spaces, recreation facilities). Additionally, in some questions, conflating different categories and inconsistent use of terminology creates a lack of understanding of respondents' intentions.

Confusing questions, leading options, and conflating categories make any survey ineffective by failing to yield an accurate understanding of respondents' intentions. Inconsistencies and lack of organization may lead to confusion which would further negate capturing respondents' true intentions. Lack of clarity creates confusion and results will be left to interpretations rather than yielding clear, understandable results.

Because people likely will not spend excessive time trying to understand the intention of the question(s) -- making things as clear as possible is desirable.

While I would be happy to provide detailed feedback, I have limited my comments to a few obvious clarifications that are needed:

1. #5 "What **factors** limit your ~~ability~~ to visits our parks and open spaces"

"ability" refers to the participants' "skills" or "capability" or "talent" - rather I think you seek the factors that limit visitors' use of the parks and open spaces.

Clearly conflating parks and open spaces means you will not know which answers apply to which area -- parks or open spaces.

2. #5 relates to parks & open spaces and "facilities"

Poor condition/maintenance **of facility**

~~The facilities~~ Does not accommodate my needs

*The word "facilities" has somewhat consistently be used to address recreation **facilities** -- now you use the word "facilities" in relation to parks and open spaces which is inconsistent and confusing*

3. #7 please clarify by adding **bold text**: "parks (**not recreation facilities or open spaces**)"

for clarification

4. #8 please clarify by adding **bold text**: "~~outdoor~~-recreation/**athletic facilities (not open spaces or parks)**"

for clarification

5. #9 please clarify by adding **bold text**: "open spaces (**not recreation facilities or parks**)"

for clarification

Again, the questions that conflate categories will not yield meaningful responses because the respondents' intention will be unknown. Ambiguous survey questions force an *interpretation* of the results; *interpretation* is usually not desired if capturing the respondents' true intentions is the goal.

Deniz Bolbol

Brigitte Shearer

From: Leon Baranovsky
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 3:26 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Mountain Biking at Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have heard and read reports you are contemplating changes to the mixed use policy at Water Dog Lake Park. I support keeping Water Dog an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community.

I come to Belmont frequently to ride my mountain bike at Water Dog. And when I visit, I invariably patronize local businesses.

I appreciate that Water Dog is a multi-use park. My experience has been wholly positive. Bikers and pedestrians alike are considerate of each other and recognize in the other a kindred spirit: someone enjoying and sharing a beautiful resource.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Leon Baranovsky
Los Gatos, CA
Mar 9, 2021

Brigitte Shearer

From: Carlos R Seligo
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 3:36 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Keep Waterdog mixed use: biking and hiking together

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Carlos

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have heard and read reports you are contemplating changes to the mixed use policy at Water Dog Lake Park. I support keeping Water Dog an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community.

I come to Belmont frequently to ride my mountain bike at Water Dog. And when I visit, I invariably patronize local businesses.

I appreciate that Water Dog is a multi-use park. My experience has been wholly positive. Bikers and pedestrians alike are considerate of each other and recognize in the other a kindred spirit: someone enjoying and sharing a beautiful resource.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carlos Seligo

Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Christianne Kapelle-Curtis
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 10:55 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space for multi use

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I understand this beloved park is under review for restrictions on use. For the last decade I have used this park as my outdoor recreation area after work to release stress and enjoy nature on a mountain bike. I am saddened to hear that people are unsatisfied with the multi use system currently in place to allow hikers, dog walkers, and bikers. There are very few areas to ride a bike on trail close to the city limits.

From my experience, most people are friendly and allow each other to safely pass whether on foot or bicycle. Although, I realize there are always exceptions to the norm. For the most part Waterdog is a social and accepting place where I see familiar faces and smiles from bikers and hikers alike.

Please consider keeping the park open for multi use activities including bikes. Perhaps a system of sharing the trails could be instated. I have some ideas if you'd like to contact me.

Thank you for your time and deliberation,

Christianne Kapelle-Curtis
5th Grade School Teacher

Brigitte Shearer

From: Alvaro Waissbluth
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 2:47 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space and mountain biking

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I wholly agree with the current circulating email regarding Waterdog:

"I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use to include hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont as well as for visitors - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

In addition to the above - specific to the topic of mountain biking - this brings tremendous vitality and revenue to Belmont. I invite all my friends, acquaintances, and colleagues to ride and we always go eat and drink at one of the local restaurants or coffee shops afterwards. There is abundant data demonstrating the economic boon that mountain biking brings to small communities. It is estimated that for every 25,000 mountain bikers \$1.5-2 million is infused into the economy. I assure you people visit from all over the Bay Area to ride Waterdog. And mountain biking IS the attraction with which Waterdog draws people from all over - it is the rare person that drives here just to hike or play at the lake. With respect to the mountain bikers themselves - courteousness is always at the top of the list in terms of deferring to hikers and dog walkers and though anecdotal, I have never witnessed anything to suggest otherwise from any other rider.

Let's not shoot our own town in the foot by restricting its greatest attraction.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alvaro Waissbluth MD

Brigitte Shearer

From: Avi Edelstein
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:14 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog usage

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

--

Thanks,
Avi

Brigitte Shearer

From: Wendy Yeh
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 7:31 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I have heard and read reports you are contemplating changes to the mixed use policy at Water Dog Lake Park. I support keeping Water Dog an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature, and building community.

I come to Belmont frequently to ride my mountain bike at Water Dog. And when I visit, I invariably patronize local businesses.

I appreciate that Water Dog is a multi-use park. My experience has been wholly positive. Bikers and pedestrians alike are considerate of each other and recognize in the other a kindred spirit: someone enjoying and sharing a beautiful resource.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wendy Yeh

Brigitte Shearer

From: DELOS PUTZ
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 4:22 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I reside in Marin County, but I write to you because unconstrained mountain biking threatens our open space preserves in the same way it does yours. Managers of public lands must give priority to protecting the safety of hikers and equestrians, and the environmental integrity of the resource.

I support designating Waterdog Open Space as a Nature Preserve. In the new Master Plan, all Open Space policy decisions should prioritize conservation and habitat protection, including:

- Designate narrow natural surface trails for hiking only, consistent with Best Practices of other open spaces
- Close illegal Open Space trails, and restore damaged ecosystems and fragmented wildlife habitat
- Enforce the closure of all open spaces from sunset to sunrise to protect wildlife and ensure safety; cite violators
- Prohibit e-bikes and motorized vehicles on all trails; cite violators
- Allocate park spending to equitably fund desperately needed Open Space maintenance
- Implement ecosystem management Best Practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance

I encourage you to incorporate these policies into your new Open Space Master Plan.

C. Delos Putz
San Geronimo, CA

Brigitte Shearer

From: Teri Xirakis
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:49 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Save Waterdog Preserve

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I support designating Waterdog Open Space as a **Nature Preserve**. In the new Master Plan, all Open Space policy decisions should prioritize conservation and habitat protection, including:

- Designate narrow natural surface trails for hiking only, consistent with Best Practices of other open spaces
- Close illegal Open Space trails, and restore damaged ecosystems and fragmented wildlife habitat
- Enforce the closure of all open spaces from sunset to sunrise to protect wildlife and ensure safety; cite violators
- Prohibit e-bikes and motorized vehicles on all trails; cite violators
- Allocate park spending to equitably fund desperately needed Open Space maintenance
- Implement ecosystem management Best Practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance

Please incorporate these policies into the new Open Space Master Plan!

Thank you,
Teri Yazdi

Brigitte Shearer

From: Dave Tokic
Sent: Saturday, March 13, 2021 3:12 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Request to retain multi-use access to Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

As a San Mateo County resident, I've recently got my son into mountain biking and we've really been enjoying the beautiful trails at Waterdog Open Space. My wife also hikes there. I strongly support and request keeping Waterdog available as an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, enjoying nature, and as a great place for the broader community.

In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider and support:

- Maintaining the trails as they are for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and grounds to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great!
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with the Belmont P&R workers.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the local residents in Belmont and surrounding areas - a local space for exercise, reducing stress, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating an understanding of the need for conserving the environment, local pride, and improving quality of life. Our community has a need for recreation and open space. Waterdog has served this need for decades.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Dave Tokic

Brigitte Shearer

From: Paul McNitt ·
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 3:20 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Parks and Recreations Open Space Master Plan - Waterdog

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,
I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thank you,
Paul McNitt

Brigitte Shearer

From: laurelcmines
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:40 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I strongly support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces. It is as important as ever now to keep our community active and outdoors is a safe place in light of the ongoing pandemic abs Covid-19.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. With limited outdoor recreational areas we cannot afford to lose another one. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Kind regards,
Laurel Mines

Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kat Chui
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 9:35 AM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Save Waterdog Preserve

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I live in the Hallmark neighborhood of Belmont. We have used the Waterdog Open Space several times during the pandemic to take our three kids on walks. It has been a source of valuable fun and outdoor time. We want to ensure that it is here for generations to come and we protect the plants and animals that call it home. We support designating Waterdog Open Space as a **Nature Preserve**. In the new Master Plan, all Open Space policy decisions should prioritize conservation and habitat protection, including:

- Designate narrow natural surface trails for hiking only, consistent with Best Practices of other open spaces
- Close illegal Open Space trails, and restore damaged ecosystems and fragmented wildlife habitat
- Enforce the closure of all open spaces from sunset to sunrise to protect wildlife and ensure safety; cite violators
- Prohibit e-bikes and motorized vehicles on all trails; cite violators
- Allocate park spending to equitably fund desperately needed Open Space maintenance
- Implement ecosystem management Best Practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance

Please incorporate these policies into the new Open Space Master Plan!

Thank you,
Kathy Chui
(Wakefield Court in Belmont)

Brigitte Shearer

From: Marilee Brooks
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:02 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Save Waterdog Preserve

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

I am a 56 year old women and I have been riding my mountain bike at Waterdog for over 10 years. Mountain bikers like me are nature lovers and support many organizations like Sierra Club. We are also responsible giving people that love community and can often be found working on the trails at Waterdog to keep things up. We do live in a crowded area and Waterdog is a precious Open Space to all of us. Waterdog has a tricky topography- very steep- which makes it vulnerable to erosion. I agree that electric bikes should not be allowed but I feel hikers and bikers should have equal access. I do not bike on the weekend so I am not sure how crazy it is then but on weekdays there is plenty of room for all of us. Maybe certain times each group should have access to the park on weekends if it is too crowded. Again mountain bikers are equal to hikers in my mind.

Thank you for the work you do and your efforts to keep up Waterdog.

Regards,
Marilee Brooks

Brigitte Shearer

From: Fergus Tanaka
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:30 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Of Belmont,

Recently, a campaign has come to my attention to close Waterdog Park to cyclists, limiting its access to only foot traffic. I will say I am emphatically against this.

Limiting the use of public space is a disservice to the community in general. The times I have enjoyed a lap around the park by bike, I've been lucky enough to witness a broad array of patrons from other cyclists to the runner engaging in a trail workout, to families having a hike, to seniors walking the fire road with their pets. Waterdog Park is an open space that is enjoyable for an array of people looking to take advantage of the park.

Cycling is a great way for families to enjoy time together while getting exercise and experiencing more from the outdoors. Denying cycling in an open space limits the ability for youth to explore the outdoors while having fun and excitement.

I believe creating a dialog with the cycling community on how to share the space in a respectful manner for everyone to benefit would be a worth while step to ensuring this public space does not become private access for an elite few. I know I prefer to cut through Waterdog on my commute home rather than slog up Ralston during dangerous commute hours. Limiting access to the park would mean a much different cycling experience for me as well as those like me.

I hope you take my concern into consideration, and I am happy to elaborate in the future should you need me.

Thank you.

Fergus Liam
US Marketing Manager
(650) 722-7858

RITCHEY



#RitcheyRides
#RitcheyLogic

Brigitte Shearer

From: Wilma Hoffmann
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:47 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Save Waterdog Preserve

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Councilors and Recreation Parks and Commissioners,

I have hiked in these parks and was horrified by the damage done by mountain bikers. I understand that everyone likes to pursue their sport of choice, but given the current Climate/weather status, it is counterproductive and even foolhardy to allow the destruction of our wild spaces. Just because a machine makes it possible for man to do something, does not mean we should. Implementing ecosystem management best practices for habitat, vegetation and trail maintenance would certainly be a step in the right direction, but to survive, the area needs more than that. Prohibiting e-bikes is essential, as is closing all illegal trails.

In the new Master Plan, please designate Waterdog Open Space as a Nature Preserve, complete with the policing and policies that implies. I do put my money where my mouth is, being part of the community of 500 households who formed an assessment district to bu work from home and continue their pattern of heavy park use during the week.

Thank you for considering this plea. People will say we only have one plaet, or one Earth. It would be better to say that we need to mainrain one habitable Earth, a place which continues to be pleasant to inhabit.

Wilma Hoffmann

Brigitte Shearer

From: Katie Debski
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:21 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

My family and I wanted to provide some comments as you develop the new Master Plan. We venture onto the trails frequently for hiking, trail-running and biking with our kids. We have many friends in the community who do the same. We're so grateful to have this gem in our Belmont backyard, it has helped us so much during the coronavirus pandemic! Our elementary school-aged children will always remember their fun times in Waterdog and Hidden Canyon, and we hope to frequent these parks as a family for years to come.

We request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces. We find most of the people who use the trails to be courteous, follow the rules, and care deeply about preserving and protecting the park.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year. We're so grateful for those who put in the time and effort and make the trails better for all of us!

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades.

Thanks for your consideration.

All best,
Katie Debski

Brigitte Shearer

From: rebecca rhodes
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:25 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Please support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I Strongly support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and building community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:

- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consistent with best practices of other open spaces
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Waterdog" campaign is great.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades."

Becky Rhodes

Brigitte Shearer

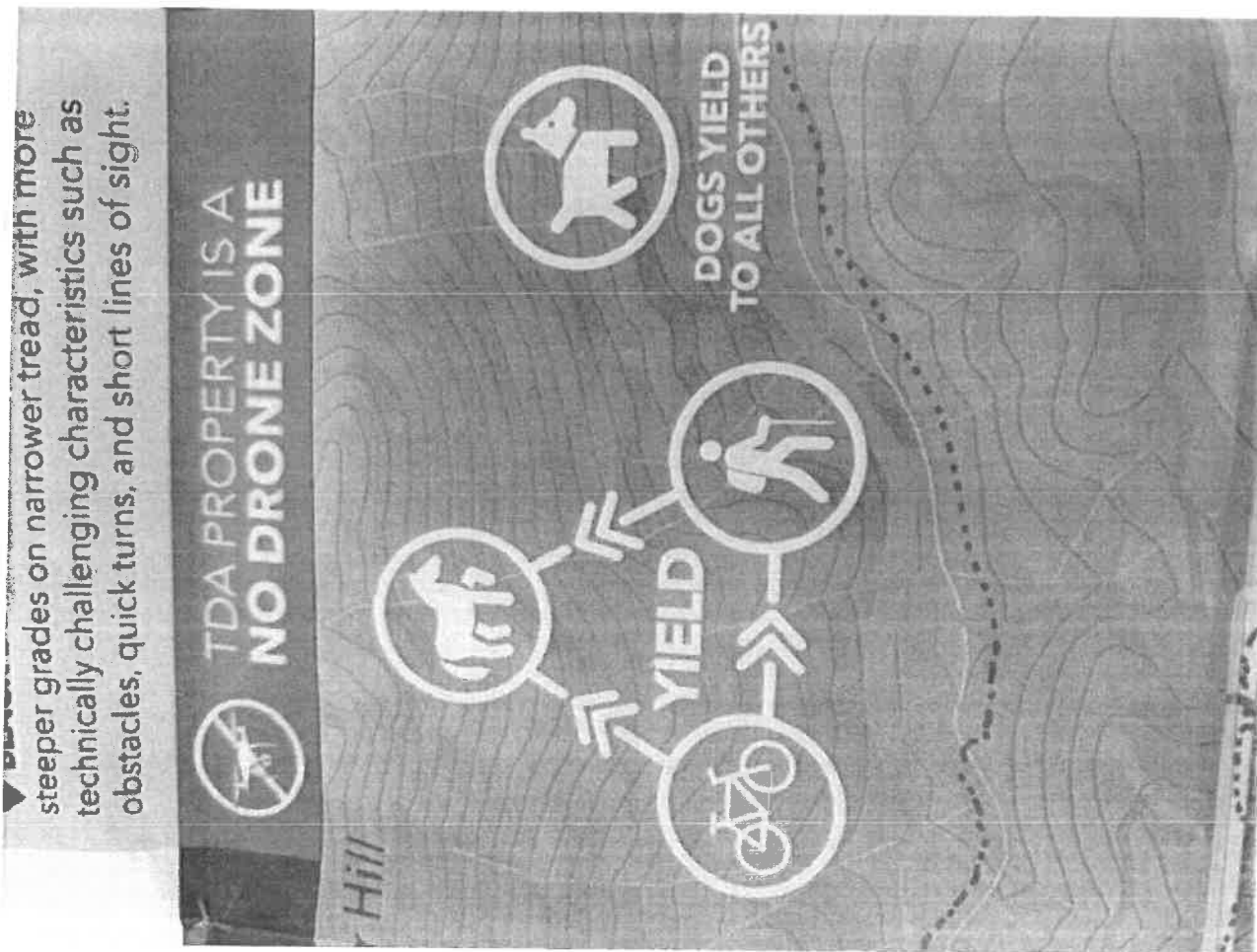
From: Bill Kurtz
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Brigitte Shearer; P&R Comm; Ulla Foehr
Subject: Additional Sign Suggestion

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I have a home in Truckee also, and spend a lot of time outdoors, at most trail heads, either federal, state or local there is this sign reminding trail users of the proper edicate, and also bike speeds. While we don't have equestrian traffic, the hiker to bike does apply. I bring this to point as it's an issue, while passing bikers yesterday, speeds were excessive with no attempt to slow down when they passed me, especially on narrow trails.

I recently tore the ligaments in my right knee and cannot just jump out of the way anymore, so I am very concerned.

Bill Kurtz



Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: rocky barilla
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 11:27 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Open Space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Members:

We have a beautiful city here in Belmont. The trails and natural habitat are great. With the Covid restrictions in place, Waterdog and the nature trails are good activities. Most people are friendly and obey the rules.

Unfortunately, over the last few months, there are more youths and teens racing and mountain biking creating dangers for hikers, especially seniors. Maybe some Waterdog and some trails could be limited to hiking and a few others to bikes.

Nobody wants more enforcement. It would nice to count on the common sense and safety consciousness of our neighbors, but that is naive. They are walkers without masks and dog owners who do not leash their dogs or clean up their poop.

We support designating Waterdog Open Space as a Nature Preserve.

Thank you.

Rocky Barilla
2429 Hastings Drive
Belmont, CA 94002

Brigitte Shearer

From: Michael Warren
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 9:14 PM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Master plan- Support for Open space!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners and City Council,

I am writing to support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for multi-use recreation, connecting with nature and building community.

In the your master Plan, please consider the following as they are so important to me and my neighbors:

- Building and opening more local multi-use trails to better distribute the increased usage seen in recent years.
- Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for biking, hiking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc, consistent with best practices of other open spaces.
- Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails.
- Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails. They are doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year.

I have been enjoying our local open space since I was a kid, and now it is my children's favorite thing to do (especially with COVID). There are huge community benefits to open space - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need well for decades. It is important for there to be rules in place and for all of us to respect the open space, which we will always support.

Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new Open Space Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Michael Warren

Brigitte Shearer

From: bill balestreri
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:23 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Waterdog open space

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Council

I am an avid biker and hiker , and appreciate being able to hike with my wife and ride my bike at Waterdog lake. I'm writing you to consider all the types of people who want Waterdog to remain open to all kinds of activities. This land should stay open for ALL of us to enjoy.

Thank you;
Bill Balestreri

Brigitte Shearer

From: Bill Kurtz
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:12 PM
To: Brigitte Shearer; P&R Comm; Ulla Foehr
Cc: Bill Kurtz
Subject: Bikers breaking more trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

This is just off the Somerset Gate, where you had blocked a cutoff with big logs, I showed you afterward that they just created a new trail around, and one told me he was going to go wherever he pleased. The new trail is now very pronounced and being used by most of the bikers rather than use the designated trail. I have tried blocking it several times as shown, but they just remove it. These guys have no respect for the open space or the environment, I thought we could come to an equal use agreement, but the bikers are going to continue to give the finger and do what they want whenever they want. They are pushing me to believe that a ban on bikes is going to be the only solution, as there is nothing you can do to stop them.

Bill Kurtz







Sent from my iPhone

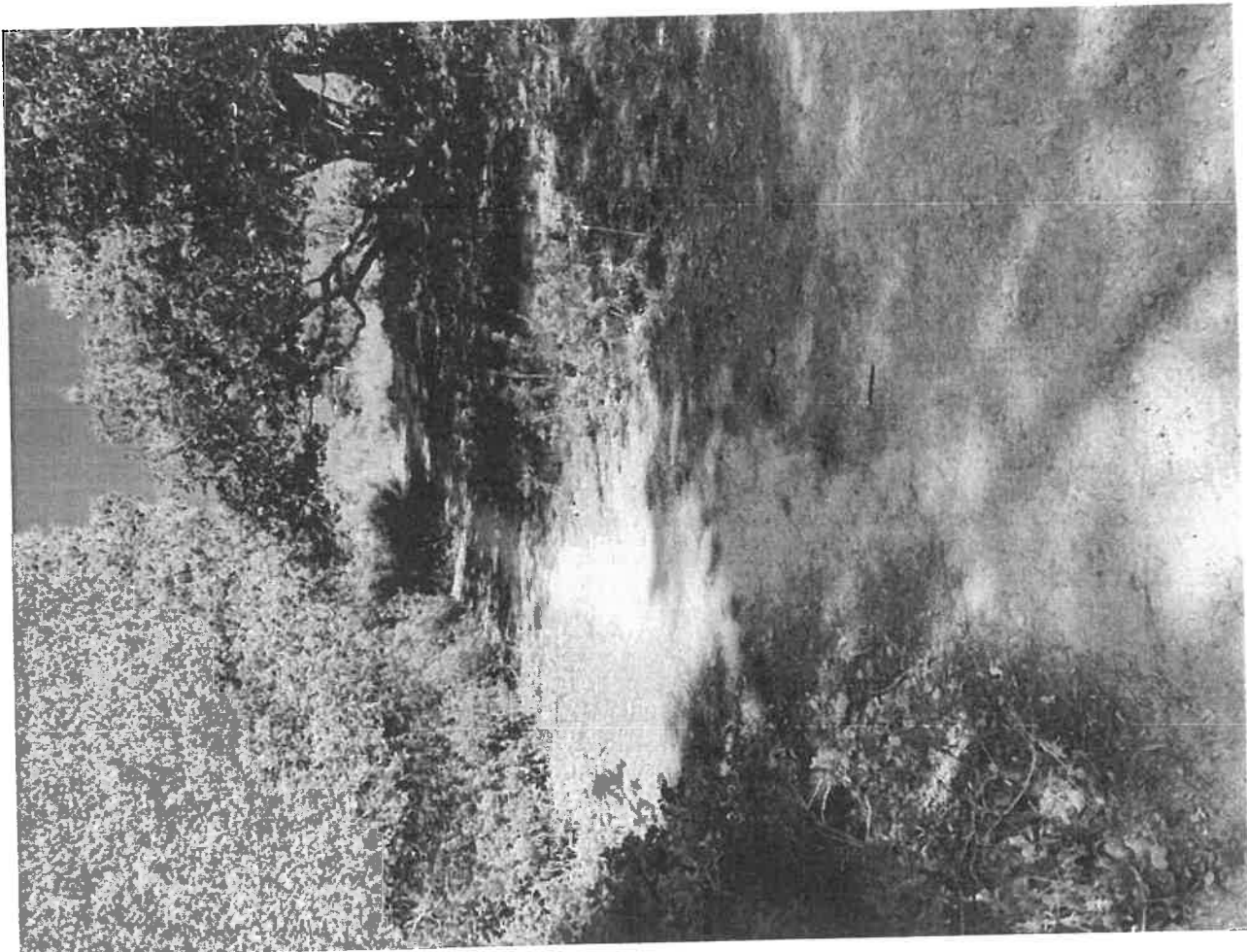
Brigitte Shearer

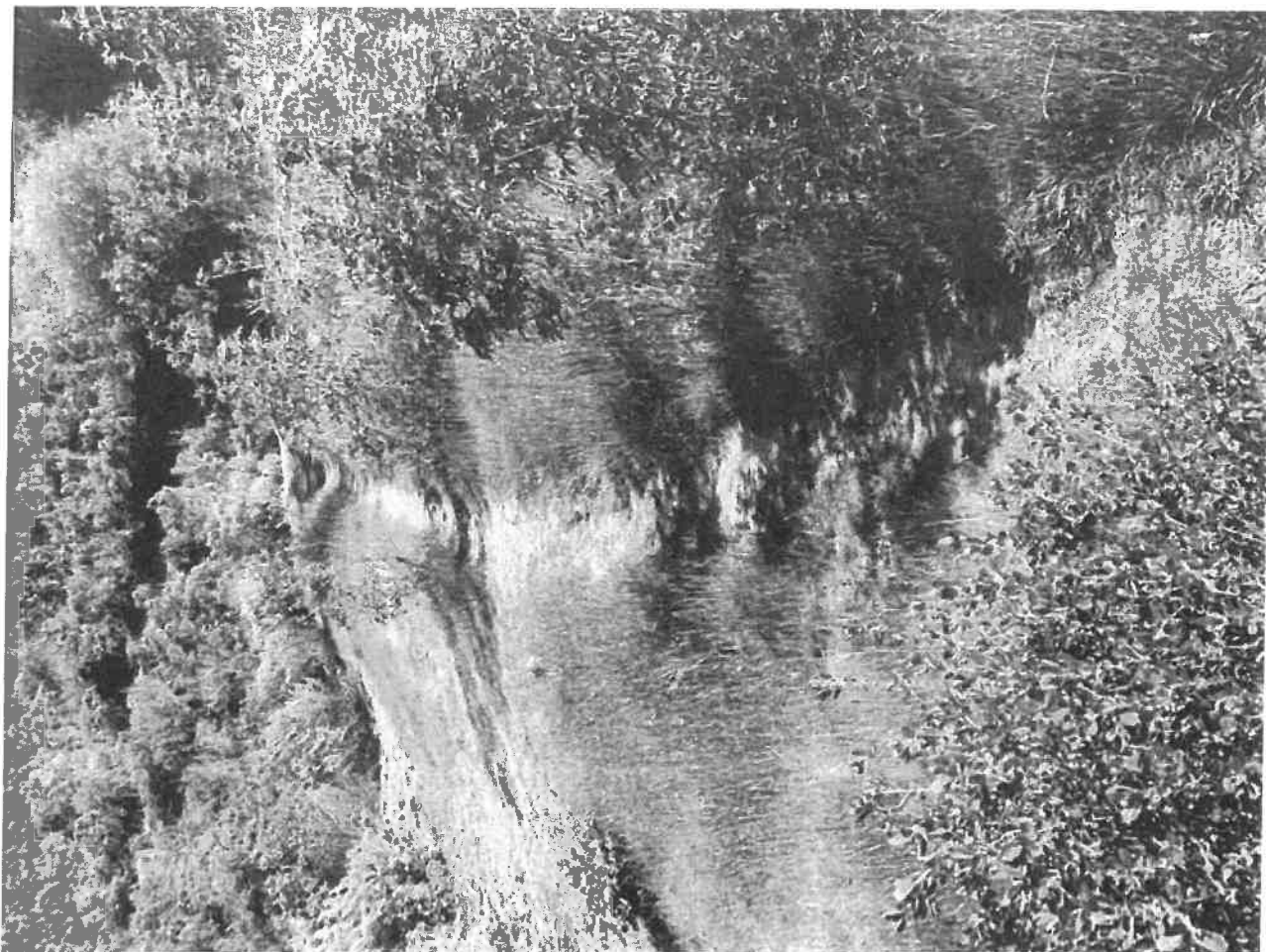
From: Bill Kurtz
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 5:13 PM
To: Brigitte Shearer; P&R Comm; Bob Stahl
Cc: Bill Kurtz
Subject: Another Rogue Trail

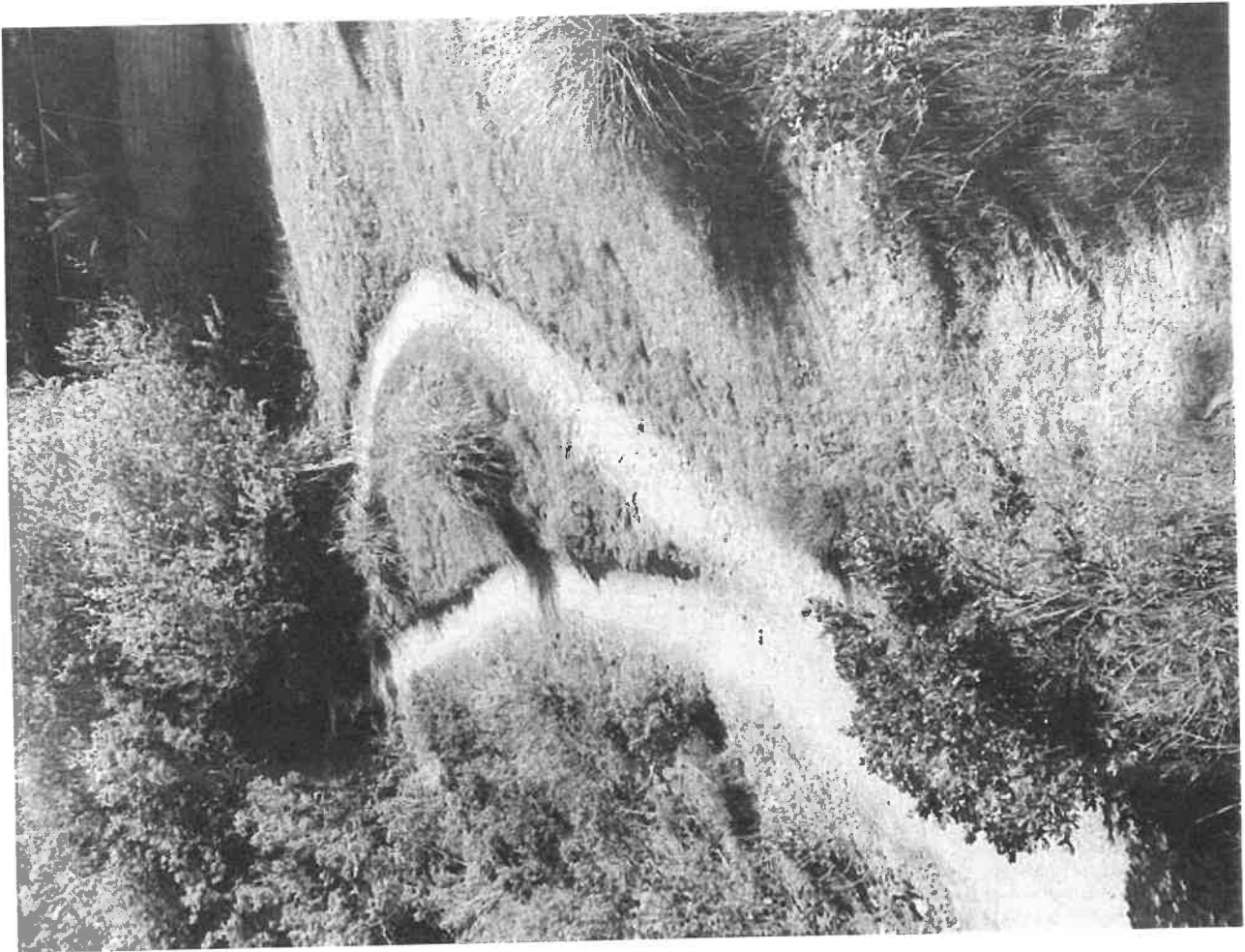
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

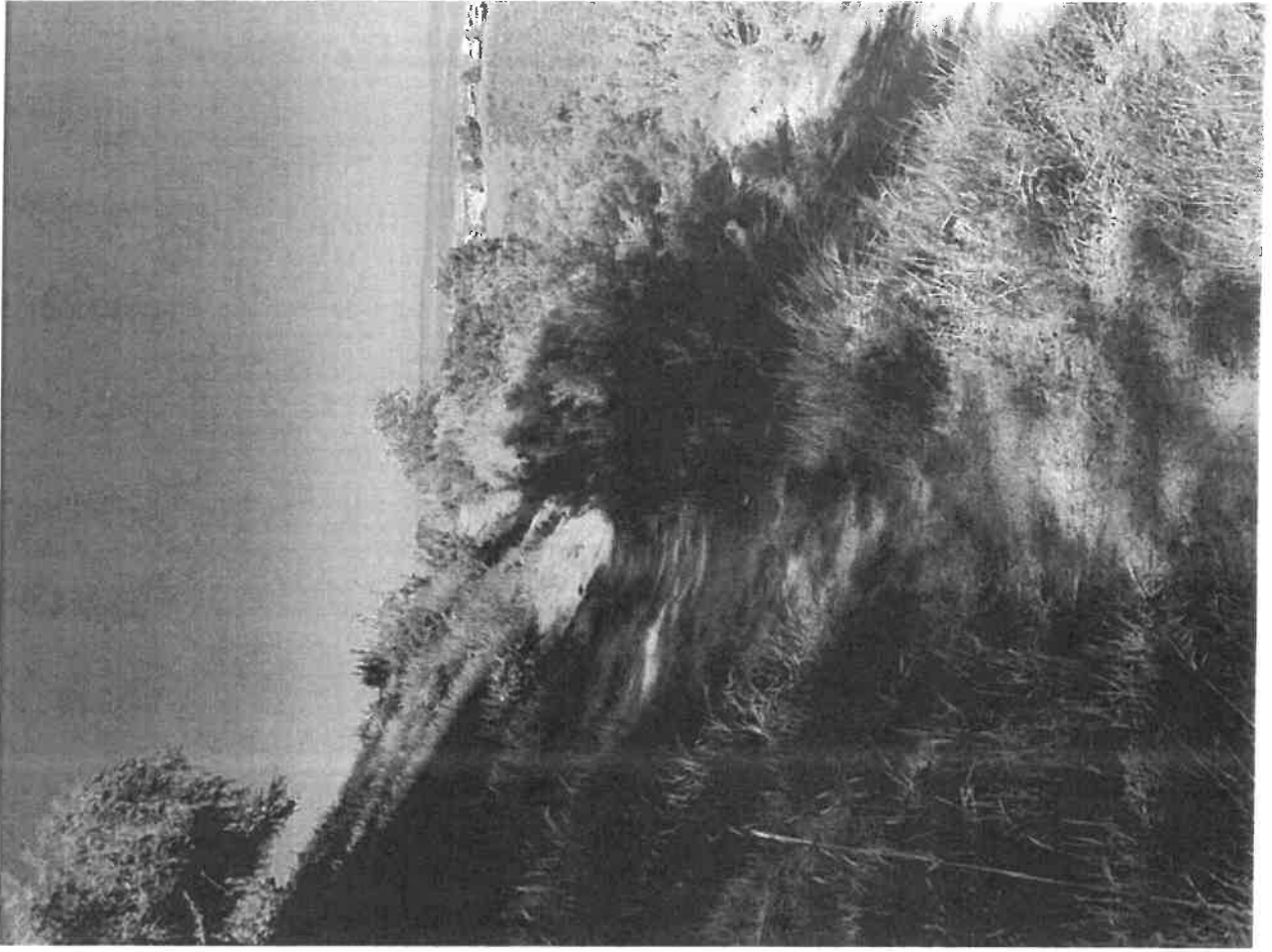
Below are photos of a trail that has been developed over the past 6 months. It runs from the end of the John Brooks to the top of Finch. I'm sorry, but I don't think there is anything P&R can do to stop this, I also am starting to believe you don't have the gumption to really do anything. The bikers know you are not going to do anything, so continue to destroy the Waterdog habitat. The last picture shows what the new trail is avoiding, it's trashed so bad the bikers don't want to continue using it.

While on my walk today, I was nearly blown off the trail by 2 separate bikers who didn't even attempt to slow down when passing me, and due to a knee injury I could not quickly get out of the way if I had to, so so dangerous. I can only continue to urge you to do something about this before someone is seriously hurt or worse, and the habitat is destroyed beyond repair.











Sent from my iPhone

Brigitte Shearer

From: Barbara Fetterly <
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 8:57 AM
To: P&R Comm; City Council
Subject: Waterdog Bike inclusive Trail Support
Attachments: Waterdog Bike Inclusive Trail Support.docx; Belmont Pump Track Support Letter 1_11.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Park and Rec Department and City Council Members,
Thank you for taking your valuable time to review my letters which support bikes to remain a part of the Waterdog area. If you have any questions or wish to speak with me personally please do not hesitate to contact me at 415-320-0155. I apologize for not being able to attend meetings in person but please do not mistake my absence as a lack of support and gratitude for your commitment to make the right decision to benefit our entire community.

Warm regards,
Barbara Fetterly

To: Belmont Park and Recreation Department
And City Council
30 Twin Pines Lane
Belmont, CA 94002

Barbara Fetterly
2240 Semeria Ave.
Belmont, CA 94002

March 1, 2021

Dear Park and Recs and City Council,

As a resident of Belmont for over 17 years, I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an inclusive accessible place of nature for our community! I wrote to you back in February and I continue to believe that Waterdog Trails should be inclusive to the whole community for biking, hiking, dog walking, exercising and most importantly a main part of our community which brings all ages and neighbors together!

Open space areas such as Waterdog honestly do carry an enormous benefit to all of us who live here in Belmont and beyond. I would greatly appreciate you hearing our voices and allowing for a space that remains open to all of our community. Personally, our family mountain bikes, hikes, explores, and join our friends on these wonderful trails. Please do not exclude biking from one of the areas our family can access especially our children. We are lucky enough to be able to access Waterdog directly from our home which makes the area even more important to our entire family! We are privileged to have Waterdog Open Space in our community and I sincerely appreciate your efforts to continue providing inclusive open spaces.

Thank you,
Barbara Fetterly

To: Belmont Park and Recreation Department
30 Twin Pines Lane
Belmont, CA 94002

Barbara Fetterly
2240 Semeria Ave.
Belmont, CA 94002

Dear Belmont Park and Recreation Department,

I have been a resident of Belmont for over 17 years, and I am writing to express my full support in your pending decision to provide the community a pump track at the Waterdog location at the end of Carlmont Drive. The master plan the city has embarked upon is wonderful to ensure additional locations for our community to experience all Belmont has to offer. I support the pump track being a focus and top priority since it has been delayed and now bundled with the master plan. I appreciate the cities dedication to a longer term plan and keeping their word to the community to see it through.

Benefits:

Community building space

Skill development

Great exercise

Accessibility for Belmont families

Respect and appreciation of the outdoors

As a user of Waterdog Trail myself, I often hike there with my dog. Bikers have never been a concern for me and are always courteous and respectful. I do NOT support Waterdog Trail being turned into hiker only area. It limits our precious resources and divides the community and even our own family with an activity walking distance from our home. Waterdog Trail should be inclusive the community. As a member of a biking family, we appreciate having designated, safe, and beautiful land so close to home that we can utilize in multiple ways just outside our doorstep. Lastly, as a parent I greatly appreciate and encourage enhancing many of our cities amenities to encourage outdoor physical education for our kids to independently build skills, friendships, and a respect for the outdoors in their communities. The pump track would enhance and strengthen the master plan set forth by the city for ourselves, our kids and our community as a whole.

Our home is directly across from Semeria Park in Belmont. The community has garnered many benefits from this park. It has provided a safe communal location for a multitude of ages and groups to connect. We were part of the planning meetings for the park and I recall how excited everyone was to have the space. It has exceeded our families expectations as the years have gone by. I believe that the pump track at Carlmont Drive will be an asset to the community just as the park has been for our family and neighborhood. One main conversation I keep in mind every time I hear of a new beginning in Belmont is when a neighbor who was not 100% excited

about the park and did not attend the National Night Out the first year I hosted it in Semeria Park. He signed the petition to allow the event and close the street but did not attend. The second year he attended and took food home (the whole community brought potluck items). The third year he brought a table and food to share. This is what we have to look forward to when Belmont creates spaces within our community. How wonderful would it be to forge relationships from a simple act of a bike pump track! I believe the pump track will be similar in accomplishing its goal of providing safe, fun, physical opportunities to our entire community. What a gift the commission would bestow on the community of Belmont.

I urge you to move forward with the decision and keep it as a top priority to build a pump track at Waterdog trail at the end of Carlmont Drive. Our family and community would benefit from this! We fully support it!

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Barbara Fetterly

Brigitte Shearer

From: Jacob Jin <g...>
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1:53 PM
To: P&R Comm
Subject: Public Comment for 3/3/21 P&R Mtg Agenda item 6.d, Open Space Master Plan Update
Attachments: Caleb Jin Public Comment.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission,

Thank you for taking public comments on the Open Space Master Plan (agenda item 6.d for tonight's mtg).

Belmont is our hometown, and we wanted our children to grow with a deep connection to the community and place that raised them. Waterdog Open Space has been a big part of that, and I've attached a letter from my son as well.

We're still amazed that we can have mountain biking adventures in our own backyard! They're full of shining moments, indelibly etched into our boys' hearts.

And the wonderful community of volunteers and caretakers that love Waterdog have filled it with the kinds of lessons in character and create opportunities for service that will help them grow into the kinds of men that truly know how to be a part of a place and care for it.

We ask that you continue to make all Waterdog Open Space trails accessible to mountain bikers to enjoy and serve.

Best regards,

Jacob and Jessica Jin
Belmont, CA



the small t e r a l e s .

- (a l e b) i n
d g e b o

4



water dog park makes

me feel happy. taking

care of water dog makes

me feel happy. please

let the bikes go on

3



waterdog park.

I like to be switchback

heralds. I like to be

jump. I like to bike

with my dad.

2



Hele my name is called

and I am 6 years old.

I love picking up

Brigitte Shearer

From: Warren Nishikawa
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 7:19 PM
To: City Council; P&R Comm
Subject: Letter for Waterdog Park
Attachments: Waterdog park letter - March 1 2021 - Nishikawa residence.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Board Members,

Please find my letter in support for the accessibility of Waterdog park to mountain bikers, especially those in the Hallmark Drive/Belmont Heights area. I have lived in the neighborhood for the past 14 years and would be disappointed if the access was restricted to bikers young and old.

Please find my letter enclosed.

Thank you.

Warren Nishikawa
2540 Hallmark Dr, Belmont, CA 94002

Warren Nishikawa
2540 Hallmark Drive
Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission
30 Twin Pines Lane
Belmont, CA
(650)595-7441
ParksRec@belmont.gov

RE: Water Dog Parks Accessibility for Mountain Biking

Dear Belmont Parks and Recreation Commission,

I'm writing in endorsement to keep the Water Dog Park accessible for Belmont, and more specifically, Hallmark residences to Mountain Biking. I've lived in Hallmark neighborhood since 2008 for the quality of the school district, but also the accessibility for the parks, including Hallmark Park and Water Dog park.

I've heard that there have been some complaints with movement to dis-allow the Water Dog park usage for Mountain Bikers last year and now again this year. Again this year, I would strongly vote against this restriction. The access of this part to family outings such as walking and hiking also includes mountain biking since there are families like my own who enjoy these trails for their kids as a family outing.

The Water Dog park is really the only mountain bike trail that is compatible with elementary and middle school bikers. These bikers don't degrade the environmental habitat since they rarely go off trail. These bikers have also formed Facebook groups who have donated time and money to keep trails well-groomed and safe. Many neighbors in Hallmark coordinate bike rides on a frequent basis at Waterdog and this involves both parents and children.

If you need further support for keeping Waterdog park accessible to the residence and public, please let me know.

Thank you,

Warren Nishikawa

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brigitte Shearer

From: Kevin Sullivan <k
Sent: Sunday, March 7, 2021 5:08 PM
To: Jonathan Carter
Cc: Brigitte Shearer; Daniel Ourtiague
Subject: Re: new bridge at bottom of Canyon Creek

Wow!

On Sun, Mar 7, 2021 at 5:03 PM Jonathan Carter <joncartermd@gmail.com> wrote:
came out just spectacular. Great job and kudos to the scouts!



--

Kevin Sullivan

6
