

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT
NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

A notice, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code 21,000, et seq.), that the following project: Fitzgerald Marine Preserve Improvement Project, when adopted and implemented, will not have a significant impact on the environment.

FILE NO.: PLN 2010-00093

OWNER/APPLICANT: County of San Mateo/San Mateo County Parks and Recreation
Department

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NOS.: 037-103-110, 037-111-060, 037-200-130, and 037-101-250

PROJECT LOCATION: Fitzgerald Marine Preserve, Moss Beach

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to make public access improvements to the Preserve. This improvement plan is comprised of two components:

1. A beach access improvement project starting at the intersection of Nevada and North Lake Streets and ending at an existing bluff overlook at the northwest edge of Fitzgerald Marine Preserve. For this component, the following actions are proposed (see attached project plans):

Removal of:

- Existing signage along the existing dirt path.
- Bollards at the entrance to the dirt path.
- Wooden split rail fencing along the dirt path and an unofficial footpath spur.
- A trash receptacle, wood platform, bike rack, and bench.
- Roto-till both the footpath and unofficial spur.
- Existing log stairs on south side of beach overlook and adjacent large boulder riprap.

Construction of:

- A 0.25-mile long, 10.5-foot wide, ADA compliant asphalt path, with 3-foot wide aggregate shoulders on either side.
- ADA compliant fence with handrail on either side of new trail.
- A retaining wall, 1-6 feet tall as needed, along northwest side of the trail.
- A main overlook, 35 ft. long by 40 ft. wide, with reinforced concrete grade beam surrounding it and a rock slope protection system composed of three layers of rocks at a 1.5 to 1 slope.

- A staircase on the south side of the overlook leading to the beach and a seasonal bridge at the base of the staircase which will cross San Vicente Creek.
 - A 30-ft. by 20-ft. auxiliary overlook, approximately half way down the trail, on the creek side.
 - Removable bollards, trash receptacle, benches, telescopes, and drainage improvements.
2. Improvements to an existing un-named trail for inclusion as part of the California Coastal Trail system. This area of work will extend from the Preserve boundary at Cypress Avenue to a point directly across from the Preserve parking lot on North Lake Street.

Removal of:

- An existing pedestrian bridge across San Vicente Creek.

Construction of:

- An ADA compliant trail (the Coastal Trail) in the approximate location of an existing trail. The proposed trail will have a 10-foot wide asphalt surface with 2-foot wide aggregate shoulders on either side of the trail.
- A 60-ft. long by 12-ft. wide prefabricated fiberglass clear span bridge approximately 30 feet upstream of the removed bridge. The bridge is sized to allow the 100-year flood to flow under it, and the 100-year flood occurs at 33.6 feet above mean sea level.
- Bridge abutments, which are 12 feet wide, spanning the width of the bridge. The abutments have wing walls, which extend approximately 10 feet. The wing walls on the north side of the bridge are at 45-degree angles from either side of the abutment base and the wing walls on the south side of the bridge are at 90-degree angles extending behind the bridge. The abutments are 9.5 feet in height and are mostly buried underground. A 3.5-inch diameter foundation pipe pile extends from the bottom of the abutments to a minimum of 37 feet in depth and will be embedded 10 feet into bedrock.
- Two curb-cut ramps along the sidewalk off of North Lake Street near the trail entrance to allow wheelchair access to the trail.
- Removable bollards at either end of the trail, and fixed bollards and a signpost will also be installed at the south entrance of the trail near Cypress Avenue.

FINDINGS AND BASIS FOR A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Planning and Building Department has reviewed the initial study for the project and, based upon substantial evidence in the record, finds that:

1. The project will not adversely affect water or air quality or increase noise levels substantially.
2. The project will not have adverse impacts on the flora or fauna of the area.
3. The project will not degrade the aesthetic quality of the area.

4. The project will not have adverse impacts on traffic or land use.
5. In addition, the project will not:
 - a. Create impacts which have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment.
 - b. Create impacts which achieve short-term to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
 - c. Create impacts for a project which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
 - d. Create environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The County of San Mateo has, therefore, determined that the environmental impact of the project is insignificant.

MITIGATION MEASURES included in the project to avoid potentially significant effects:

Mitigation Measures are included in the Project Narrative and Answers to Questions Section.

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY CONSULTATION

INITIAL STUDY

The San Mateo County Planning and Building Department has reviewed the Environmental Evaluation of this project and has found that the probable environmental impacts are insignificant. A copy of the initial study is attached.

REVIEW PERIOD: _____ to _____

All comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of this Negative Declaration must be received by the County Planning and Building Department, 455 County Center, Second Floor, Redwood City, no later than **5:00 p.m.**, _____, **2010**.

CONTACT PERSON

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