

Governance and Funding  
for  
Midcoast Community Parks and Recreation

Background and potential opportunities for local agency collaboration to achieve long-term Midcoast goals including a Community Center.

Midcoast Community Council  
April 26, 2017

## **Montara – Moss Beach – El Granada Community Plan, 1978**

### II.D -- Parks and Recreation:

In order to acquire and maintain community-oriented facilities, residents must participate in local financing arrangements. Such methods include a recreation district or special service district with taxing powers, joint powers agreements, or cooperative agreements with public schools.

### III. Policies

6.2d – Establish a community center for the area.

6.4 – Establish a recreation district or a special service district to create and maintain local parks.

## Midcoast Recreational Needs Assessment, 2002

Midcoast Park and Recreation Task Force voiced strong conviction that there should be a locally controlled and funded park and recreation district (agency, group or other type organization) that would plan, maintain and fund the park and recreation system for the entire unincorporated Midcoast.

75% of the Midcoast area supported the implementation of a special benefits assessment district or some form of parcel tax.

Lack of facilities is limiting factor in park/rec programs in HMB and Midcoast. Transportation (trails and safe crossings) is most critical constraint.

Policy 2.1.1 -- Construct a new community center building in the Midcoast to include, at a minimum, gymnasium, classes and recreation programs, teen activities, senior activities, daycare, and meetings. Locate new community center in the community park.

A community center (recreation building) would house most of the identified programs and community events --

- similar to Ted Adcock Community Center in HMB (6,500 s/f)

- plus gym, storage, support space for additional 7,200 s/f, totaling 14,200 s/f.

## **Midcoast Action Plan for Parks & Recreation, 2007**

Series of community meetings confirmed earlier needs assessments:

- Multi-use playfields, playgrounds/neighborhood parks, restrooms, water fountains, Community Center, ball courts, skate park, roller hockey, dog park, swimming pool.
- Active sports management (baseball, soccer, etc) –  
35% of HMB Parks & Rec participants are from the Midcoast.
- Coastal and Hwy 1 Parallel Trail, connections and highway crossings
- Community Center and outdoor recreation complex.

Table of potential sites and analysis of funding needed are included in the report.

Establishing a governance structure for providing the needed facilities and services is critical.

## **Midcoast Park/Rec Development Fees (Ch 2.64)**

"appropriate method of obtaining funding to pay the proportionate share of the cost of acquisition and development of park and recreation facilities to serve the anticipated growth in population resulting from such new residential development."

Can this fund be used for a Community Center? (checking with County Counsel)

Community Center as defined in County zoning regulations:

"Facilities used by local citizens for civic activities, performances, presentations or other purposes."

Historical inventory of fund income/expenditures of County-maintained Midcoast Parks Development Fund will be provided shortly, and annually going forward.

## **GSD reorganization as Community Services District, 2014**

Formation of GCSD addresses the thoroughly documented need

- for community park and recreation facilities and programs,
- with ongoing funding with existing property tax,
- but for only half of the Midcoast.

This first step presents an opportunity for the

- elected boards of GCSD and MWSD and the communities they serve
- to openly explore and evaluate alternatives of structure and process that would
- provide community park and recreation for the entire unincorporated Midcoast,
- with local Midcoast control.

## **County Mini-Parks Policy, 2015**

County took ownership of non-profit-owned Moss Beach Park in 2013 to save it from being sold to developers due to unpaid taxes.

After the fact, the County developed a mini-parks policy, for which Moss Beach Park is a pilot project.

Does the community prefer this approach, of depending on the County Supervisor to “save the day”, or would Montara/ Moss Beach residents prefer a more pro-active, locally controlled vision and implementation for community parks, for which GCSD has provided the example?

Is the unincorporated Midcoast a “community of interest”?

## Collaboration with County and special districts

County Parks Dept.

Granada Community Services District (GCSD)

Montara Water & Sanitary District (MWSD)

Cabrillo Unified School District (joint use agreements – fields & buildings)

SMC Harbor District

HMB and Pacifica -- Park & Recreation programming partnerships

Boys and Girls Club

others?