

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

DATE: January 8, 2020
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Caine Camarillo, Supervising Ranger
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Authorization to Draft Letter of Support for Resource Conservation District of Monterey County's Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project Grant Proposal

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to draft a Letter of Support for the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County's Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project Grant Proposal for fuelbreak enhancement projects along Vasquez Ridge at Garland Ranch Regional Park.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$0

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

FUND BALANCE: N/A

DISCUSSION:

The Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Monterey County, in cooperation with Supervisor Mary Adams' office and the Monterey County Regional Fire District, is submitting a proposal to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grants Program (**ATTACHMENT 1**). RCD has proposed including improvements to the existing fuelbreak along Vasquez Ridge in Garland Ranch Regional Park as part of this grant application (**ATTACHMENT 2**). This existing fuelbreak was constructed during the Soberanes Fire by CAL FIRE bulldozers and hand crews. The Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project is a targeted Hazardous Fuel Reduction project that aims to reduce hazardous fuels in a strategic area of Carmel Valley, through fuels treatment around roads, homes and structures in the wildland-urban interface areas of Carmel Valley Village and Robles del Rio. There are an estimated 9,922 housing units with 21,245 residents living in or adjacent to the project area. Fuels treatments will cover 734 acres through roadside fuels treatments, enhanced defensible space treatments around Robles del Rio, and maintenance of a fuelbreak in Garland Park/Vasquez Knob area. In addition to the fuel reduction component is an outreach campaign to educate Valley residents about homeowner defensible space, home gardening and non-native vegetation management. This campaign aims to target approximately 5,500 residents across a larger swath of the Valley from Carmel-by-the-Sea to Carmel Valley Village.

Staff is asking the Board to authorize the General Manager to send a Letter of Support for this project that would allow RCD to include the proposed Vasquez Ridge fuelbreak

improvements as part of the grant application. RCD will be conducting all necessary environmental analysis to ensure that areas identified as habitat for threatened and endangered species are not impacted. This project would come at no cost to the District.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Grant application / Scope of work](#)
2. [Project map](#)