

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

**DATE:** March 1, 2023  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jake Smith, Planning & Conservation Program Manager  
**REVIEWED BY:** Rafael Payan, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Review and Approval of Agreement with the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County to Implement Portions of the Carmel Valley Strategic Fuel Break Project

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**SUMMARY:**

Staff are requesting Board authorization to enter into an Access and Work Agreement with the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County to implement for fire and fuel management activities in Garland Ranch Regional Park and San Clemente-Blue Rock Open Space Preserve.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Up to \$28,000 in matching MPRPD staff labor and equipment costs.

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**FUNDING BALANCE:**

N/A

**DISCUSSION:**

In fall 2022, the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC) was awarded \$3.26 million dollars by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) Fire Prevention Grant Program to implement the Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project (Project) which seeks to re-establish and strengthen strategic fuelbreaks, reduce fuel loads, and improve emergency egress in the Carmel Valley Region. The Project scope includes creation and enhancement of the Vasquez Ridge and Rock Ridge Fuel breaks on Garland Ranch Regional Park and San Clemente-Blue Rock Open Space Preserve and includes approximately \$300,000 in funding for additional fuel reduction related work at Garland Ranch Regional Park. The RCDMC will oversee all work and expenditures associated with the grant in coordination with the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) staff in exchange for up to \$28,000 in matching MPRPD staff labor and equipment costs.

The Project is consistent with fire and fuel suppression activities and recommendations that are being contemplated in the forthcoming Fire and Fuel Management Plan for Garland Ranch Regional Park that is expected to be finalized in late spring 2023. This funding is in addition to the \$591,700 in grant funding that MPRPD was awarded from the California State Coastal Conservancy in January 2023 for fuel reduction work at Garland

Ranch Regional Park and will support environmental review and permitting activities that may also support projects and activities proposed under that grant agreement.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff respectfully recommend that the Board authorize and direct the General Manager to execute the Access and Work Agreement with the Monterey County Resource Conservation District (**ATTACHMENT 1**), substantially as to form, for fire and fuel management activities funded under the Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Access and Work Agreement with the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County for the Carmel Valley Fuelbreak Project](#)