

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

DATE: December 11, 2019
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: PRESENTATION: Fort Ord Rec Trail and Greenway (FORTAG)
Environmental Review Update (Debbie Hale and Rich Deal,
Transportation Agency for Monterey County)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends the Board receive the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) presentation and provide direction to Staff on how to proceed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not Applicable

FUNDING SOURCE:

Not Applicable

FUNDING BALANCE:

Not Applicable

DISCUSSION:

TAMC has completed a Draft Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for the proposed Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway (FORTAG) project. The Draft EIR can be viewed on the TAMC website at <https://www.tamcmonterey.org/measure-x/programs-projects/fort-ord-regional-trail-greenway/>. Copies of the document are also available at the cities of Seaside's and Marina's public libraries.

The FORTAG project will result in mitigatable impacts for the following CEQA resource topics: aesthetics, agricultural and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, land use and planning, noise, public safety and services, tribal cultural resources, and wildfire. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant and unavoidable project impacts.

In summary, the FORTAG project will include the phased construction of a multi-use trail in northwestern Monterey County, enhancing multi-modal transportation and recreation opportunities for the cities of Monterey, Del Rey Oaks, Seaside, and Marina, as well as unincorporated Monterey County in proximity to these cities, and on the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus.

The proposed FORTAG project alignment includes approximately 28-miles of new paved trail, primarily on the inland side of State Route 1. The trail network will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists of all abilities. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 to 3,000 trail users will frequent the trail network daily. The highest usage will likely occur on the CSUMB campus and near the existing Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail.

Most of the trail network will be a 12-foot-wide paved path, with a two-foot-wide unpaved shoulder on both sides, for a total width of 16 feet. Within suitable portions of some segments, the proposed alignment will include an adjacent four- to eight-foot soft-surfaced (gravel or earthen) path adjacent to the paved (asphalt or concrete) main path to accommodate equestrian use. Dogs will be allowed on-leash throughout the system.

One of the proposed multi-modal trail routes includes MPRPD's Frog Pond Wetland Preserve. Several potential routing options through this park have been identified and are being vetted for feasibility and desirability. A concept design will be presented to MPRPD's Board for review and action at a future meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

Not Applicable