

## PRESS RELEASE



### For Immediate Release

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### Celebrating 50 Years

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District invites you to celebrate 50 years of conservation, restoration, education and recreation on Saturday, December 3, 2022.

Carmel, CA, Wednesday, November 30, 2022 – On Saturday, December 3, 2022, the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) invites the public to celebrate 50 years of conservation, restoration, education, and recreation from 10am to 2pm at Palo Corona Regional Park (4860 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel). This in-person event will include live presentations, local organizations, environmental groups, children’s activities, walks, and more. Local Indigenous community members from the Esselen, Ohlone, and Rumsen tribes will offer opening and closing ceremonial activities as well as songs and stories. Food and other items will be available for purchase. This free event will take place mostly indoors and will occur rain or shine.

“We’re 50 years in the making; we can’t wait to celebrate with our community,” stated Dr. Rafael Payan, MPRPD General Manager. “Our commitment to the MPRPD mission, ‘to acquire and maintain open space in the District for preservation and use, working with partners and the community, for public benefit, enjoyment, and environmental protection’ is stronger than ever because of our wonderfully engaged community and this incredible place.”

In November 1972, Monterey Peninsula voters took to the polls and officially established MPRPD as a special district for parks, preserves, and open space. From the start, MPRPD has been entrusted to acquire lands for the express purposes of preserving and restoring natural and cultural resources and open space, and providing recreational and educational opportunities. In the 50 years since its formation, the District has successfully protected approximately 14,000 acres of open space while maintaining balanced budgets and minimal overhead. MPRPD has acquired or helped to acquire a total of 24 parks for the seven incorporated cities on the Monterey Peninsula, and unincorporated communities like Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach, and others along the Big Sur Coast.

Participants can find out more and register by visiting the [www.mprpd.org](http://www.mprpd.org) website. For more information, call (831) 372-3196 ext. 102.

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### ***About the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District***

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) has been preserving and protecting parks and open space since 1972. MPRPD is committed to being an inspirational, inclusive, respected, sustainable, and valued open space district that collaborates with and serves the community and its conservation needs through interconnected open spaces, public parks, education, and advocacy for the entire community. For more information on the MPRPD and its mission, vision, and open spaces, please call 831.372-3196 or visit [www.mprpd.org](http://www.mprpd.org).