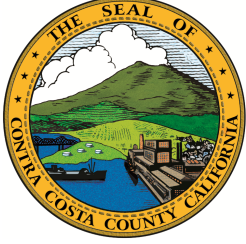


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TRANSPORTATION, WATER & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR
December 12, 2022

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair
Supervisor Candace Andersen, Vice Chair

Present: Diane Burgis, Chair
Candace Andersen, Vice Chair

Attendees: Supervisor Candace Andersen, Dist. 2; Supervisor Diane Burgis, Dist. 3; Rochelle Johnson, PWD; Wade Finlinson, IPM, CCHS; Steve Kowalewski, PWD; Kari McNickle, Fehr & Peers; Maureen Toms, DCD; Jeff Valeros, PWD; Jamar Stamps, DCD; John Kopchik, DCD; Robert Sarmiento, DCD; John Cunningham, DCD - TWIC Staff; Jody London, DCD; Abby Fateman, DCD; Alicia Nuchols, BOS; Bruce Ole Ohlson, Bike East Bay; Cheryl Allegro; David Sondergeld, County Resident; George Arata; Nanette Bosworth, County Resident; Jerry Fahy, PWD; Margaret Henderson; Margaret Langley Kruse, County Resident; Matt Slattengren, Dept of Ag; Pat Alger; Pete Dailey; Vince Moita, Attorney; Will Nelson, DCD; Monica Nino, CAO; Ave Brown, CC County; Gwen Dailey, County Resident; 9252606208 (Unidentified Call-In Attendee)

1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

No Public Comment

3. Staff recommends approval of the attached Record of Action for the October 10, 2022, Committee Meeting with any necessary corrections.

The Committee unanimously APPROVED the meeting record.

4. RECEIVE and COMMENT on the status report on the street light service coordination effort between PG&E and the County Public Works Department, Towns and Cities for street light maintenance.

Staff provided an update on the status of street light maintenance coordination efforts: there is broad satisfaction with the process and staffing changes at PG&E continue to be a problem.

Staff proposed including the following in a revised LOU, encourage more engagement w/locals re: projects, establishment of a direct reporting mechanism for local jurisdictions, GIS mapping, improved response times, consistent handling of maintenance tickets,

transparency on rate changes, and to address staffing changes. The Committee supported these issues and also mentioned that PG&E has had problems with timely processing of encroachment permits.

The Committee also emphasized the need for improved reporting/tracking and customer service for ratepayers.

Staff also indicated that they are working on inventory reconciliation to ensure jurisdictions aren't paying for nonexistent or nonfunctional equipment.?

5. RECEIVE the 2022 Integrated Pest Management Program update and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

The Committee DIRECTED that the report be brought to the Board of Supervisors on consent. Staff discussed the new, simplified IPM plan format developed by the IPM Advisory Committee (IPMAC) for all County departments who manage pests.

The Committee had questions relative to why pesticide use is increasing, and if other agencies track usage and if so, how the County compares. Staff replied that the increase in pesticide usage was attributed to several factors including staffing levels, the elimination of the Vegetation Management Supervisor position, and the need to get many properties under control after suspending herbicide applications along roadsides and Flood Control properties for two years. Staff continue to monitor other agencies methods of tracking pesticide use and IPMAC encourages site-specific reporting where feasible. Staff noted that our pesticide use reporting is one of the more transparent systems in the region, but there is plenty of room for refinement. The Committee expressed support for staff looking at alternatives, remote systems and steam, etc.

There was discussion re: the cost of goats which staff indicated has risen but the County's longstanding relationship with a local goat herder keeps those costs relatively lower.

There were questions regarding whether or not the Sustainability Committee should also receive this report but concerns were expressed re: increasing workload and duplicative effort, IPM and Sustainability staff will discuss.

6. RECEIVE update on the Marsh Creek Corridor Trail Feasibility Study, CONSIDER the report, provide COMMENT and DIRECT staff as appropriate including 1) bringing the Marsh Creek Corridor Trail Feasibility Study to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration, and 2) coordinate with corridor stakeholders to pursue funding opportunities for implementation, as directed by the Committee.

The Committee unanimously APPROVED the staff recommendations including bringing the Feasibility Study to the Board of Supervisors on consent. Staff was directed to update Supervisor-elect Carlson on the study. Additional discussion included the clarification that all comments will be addressed including those submitted subsequent to revisions to the Study, as a feasibility study this effort does not result in a "constructable project", and that no property acquisition is included in the costs.

Verbal public comment from the following individuals was provided:

Vince Moita - Indicated that he represented some property owners, and that the current project is infeasible due to costs and negative impacts including fire safety, security, homeless issues, and agricultural conflicts.

Gwen Dailey - Discussed issues with the project, potential for homeless encampments (which have been a problem on existing trails), effects on wildlife, need for expensive retaining walls which may impact movement and migration of endangered species), the need for a buffer area along the creek, any private properties crossings would need gates which is impractical.

Nanette Bosworth - written transcript of comments were provided (attached)
David Sondergeld - written transcript of comments were provided (attached)

Written comments were provided by
Bruce "Ole" Ohlson (attached)
Margaret Kruse (attached)

7. RECEIVE update on the Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail Gap Closure Study, provide COMMENT, and DIRECT staff as appropriate, including forwarding the Study to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance or other action.

The Committee unanimously APPROVED the staff recommendations.

8. CONSIDER report on Local, Regional, State, and Federal Transportation Related Legislative Issues and take ACTION as appropriate.

No action or discussion.

9. RECEIVE information and DIRECT staff as appropriate.

The Committee RECEIVED the news and communication.

10. The next Committee meeting is TBD.

11. Adjourn

For Additional Information Contact:

John Cunningham, Committee Staff
Phone (925) 655-2915
john.cunningham@dcd.cccounty.us

John Cunningham

From: Nanette Bosworth
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 12:16 PM
To: John Cunningham
Cc: Vincent Moita; peter Dailey
Subject: Fw: Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail 18400 Marsh Creek Road
Attachments: ### Marsh Creek Rd - Property Owner Comment Letter.pdf; Lot Line Adjustment - LLA[1].pdf

Dear John,

I participated in the committee call yesterday regarding the Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail. I am forwarding to you my comments that were provided to Jamar and Kari. I request that you incorporate these comments in the materials that you provide to the full Board of Supervisors meeting.

In addition, I feel that the interested parties that will carry the burden for policing and fire control have not been directly and properly contacted (i.e. Contra Costa Sherriff, Cal Fire, Contra Costa Fire District, Brentwood Police, Eastbay Regional Park Police, etc.) to provide their concerns regarding such a trail. This should be a proactive reach out activity to these organizations by the study coordinators. As I mentioned on the call, there was no knowledge in these organizations of this study when I reached out them the last time public comment was requested.

Thank you,

Regards, Nanette

Nanette Bosworth ###-###-#### Cell ##### Marsh Creek Rd Brentwood, CA 94513

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Nanette Bosworth
To: transportation@dcd.cccounty.us <transportation@dcd.cccounty.us>
Cc: Margaret Kruse ; peter Dailey
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 at 02:59:48 PM PST
Subject: Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail ##### Marsh Creek Road

Dear Jarmar and Kari,

I am enclosing a copy of my previous letter to you with comments on the Marsh Creek Corridor. While I appreciate that you have changed the proposed path from the last draft which had the trail directly through our property, I still have the same concerns with the new proposal with the trail way up behind our property in a very secluded area of Margaret Cruz's property. Homeless camps, fire risk, privacy infringement and security risks are still my major concerns with the proposal.

In addition, you now have a dual path on the road in front of our home, which still brings concerns regarding privacy as well as some the concerns mentioned above, particularly having a dual path on

both sides of our property. Also, you will see from the attached survey, that there are 2 operating wells right on the edge of Marsh Creek Road that service our property. I would expect that any path construction on the south side of Marsh Creek Road would require a relocation of those wells.

Based on the conversations on the call on the 10th, it does not appear that you have provided any comfort to the property owners regarding the concerns in the attached letter, particularly fire risk, illegal homeless encampment control, livestock control and personal and property safety from those who do not respect the property and person of others. Plans and programs to address these areas must be a part of this plan if there is any chance that the property owners along the proposed trail will support it.

I would also suggest that your team take the time to travel the proposed trail (walk, horseback, etc) to actually see the path you are proposing. It does frustrate property owners when the path as proposed goes through their homes, (i.e. Lisa Rossi Marsh Creek Road and the Sunshine House Fire Station) or in my case would affect our water producing wells.

As of this time, we will not support the proposal and feel there are better areas in our county to provide the recreation opportunities that those that support this proposed trail are looking for, particularly as the original east/west "commuter path" purpose has been abandon as you indicated on the call.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, or if you would like to discuss.

Regards, Nanette

Nanette Bosworth ###-###-#### Cell ##### Marsh Creek Rd Brentwood, CA 94513

Hello Chair Supervisor Diane Burgis and committee.

My name is David Sondergeld, my wife Kit and I live on Aspara Drive off Marsh Creek Road. I am a very passionate outdoors person an avid cyclist, hiker and Trail runner though slower at the age of 62 😊 . Since moving to this beautiful corridor, I fell in love with the views of mt Diablo and the rambling Creek of Marsh creek, I have become active coordinating cleanups in the upper Watershed of marsh creek and am now helping to form the Marsh Creek Watershed Council which I plan to continue to be a passionate leader and volunteer with. As a hiker/Cyclist I have navigated approx. 90% of the trails in Contra Costa County. I would love to see more trails and access created for public use. With this said, Supervisor Burgis understands my concerns for the Marsh Creek Corridor as I have met with her and her staff in the past over the many issues with Marsh Creek road, The commuter traffic using the country road, the lack of turn outs, lack of shoulders, increase fire danger, break ins, trespassing, Mud slides and more. Note we lost 80% of our property in the 2018 Marsh Fire, it took us 3 years to rebuild with 0 County assistance. I have brought more than a handful of concerns to the county in the past few years with no action or support for those of us out in the unincorporated area. After the Mud slide, Diane did visit our house which we appreciated and that was the last we saw or heard from the county. I offer my support to the county in any way I can to help to improve communication as well as action. Before we even consider a bike trail (Which I oppose for this corridor as it stands), I would suggest focusing on the needed improvements to make this corridor safer as well as continue to preserve the country environment. I am aligned with the property owners in this area that this corridor is not fitting to consider such a trail. Thank you.

Best Regards,

David Sondergeld

To: Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subject: Comments Re: Marsh Creek Trail Study

Bicyclists in East County and in Central County fully favor the construction of this trail. Bike East Bay, the advocacy organization for Contra Costa County, fully supports moving forward with the planning for and the construction of bicycle infrastructure parallel to Marsh Creek Road.

This route, Marsh Creek Road, is one of only four routes between East County and Central County. Here is a list of these routes with a comment on each:

- Marsh Creek Road: As currently constituted, this narrow road is filled with high-speed traffic and is a death trap for bicyclists
- Kirker Pass Road: This is tallest hill between the two portions of the County. There are not continuous shoulders on each side of the road and when the bicyclist gets to Concord, there is a dearth of continuous bicycle infrastructure leading anywhere.
- Bailey Road: This narrow road with short-sight-distance curves is filled with high-speed traffic and is currently a death trap for bicyclists.
- The Delta de Anza Regional Trail over Willow Pass (the hill) ends at the Willow Pass Road interchange with Highway 4. Following Willow Pass Road into Concord is a death trap for the bicyclist because of the narrow, short-sight-distance, World War Two era bridge that is filled with high-speed traffic. Caltrans allows the bicyclist to use a one-mile segment of 8-lane Highway 4 to avoid this bridge. Riding a bicycle on the shoulder of a freeway is not for the faint of heart, but is currently the SAFEST route for a bicyclist between East County and Central County.

Where we can't construct the proposed extension of the Marsh Creek Trail as an off-road, Class 1 trail, please build it parallel to the existing Marsh Creek Road as a Class 4 trail, separated from motor-vehicle traffic with a concrete barrier.

At every point where the trail crosses the road, please install a standard crosswalk and a standard traffic signal so that trail users of all ages and abilities can safely cross the road.

To be useful for transportation, this trail would have to be fairly direct. Until it is completed, the trail will definitely be oriented more toward recreation than toward transportation, however, anything would be better than nothing, and bicyclists accept the construction of this trail in phases.

Bicyclists have asked that a trail be constructed on the maintenance road for the pipeline that will connect the Los Vaqueros Reservoir to the Central Valley Water Project when the Los Vaqueros Reservoir dam is enlarged/rebuilt. This proposed trail will provide an opportunity to connect the Marsh Creek Trail (and the entirety of the EBRPD trail system) to the maintenance roads of the Central Valley Water Project that currently permit bicyclists and pedestrians. (A continuous off-road bike path to Bakersfield from Oakland is a definite possibility!)

It appears that the land-owners in the vicinity of the proposed trail are presenting a united front in opposition to the this multi-use trail. Please accept this note as evidence that members of the public who walk, bicycle, roll on scooters, or ride horses are interested in infrastructure that permits all modes of transportation to move freely about our County.

Thank you for your concern.
Happy Holidays.

All best wishes,

~0le

Bruce "0le" Ohlson
Bike East Bay
Delta Pedalers Bicycle Club
Contra Costa Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee
CCTA Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Caltrans District 4 Bicycle Advisory Committee
TRANSPLAN appointee to Highway 4 Integrated Corridor Management Study
Healthy and Livable Pittsburg Collaborative

John Cunningham

From: margaret kruse Monday, December 12,
Sent: 2022 2:07 PM John Cunningham
To: bonnie Malloy
Cc: Feasibility Study
Subject:

Hello John,

Thank you for taking additional comments following today's TWIC meeting and agenda item on the Marsh Creek Corridor Trail Feasibility Study. I have previously submitted written comments about this proposed trail and am appreciative to see those comments included in materials on the study. I'll try not to repeat myself.

I live at ##### Marsh Creek Road and my family owns the property on either side of Marsh Creek Road. The north side consists of 19 acres and a residence. The south side is a 580 acre parcel used for cattle grazing. This property has been in my family since 1898. A close look at the possible trail alignments show one option following along Marsh Creek Road and a second option shows the trail cutting directly thru the 580 acre piece.

While I understand that this is 'only a feasibility study', and that no eminent domain will be used, the reality is that the study documents a concept and potential trail alignments to be pursued in the future. I guess besides all of the concerns I have already expressed, and those echoed by many residents of the corridor, there are a few remaining points I'd like to make:

First, it is hard to understand how the Board of Supervisors will be able to determine if the potential trail is 'feasible' when there are so many questions not addressed or unanswered. Among those questions is the cost and operation of the trail, and the expense of land acquisitions. In addition, no serious attention is paid to the environmental engineering that will be required to protect the creek habitat, the watershed, and to preserve wildlife corridors. Every person involved in this study needs to physically be out here to actually see the hillsides, the creek, and the roadways where the trail is presented as possible. Anyone can use a computer to draw lines. The realities are much different, and very costly to address. Leadership actually visiting the areas impacted will also see the realities of some of the alignments, as well as visualize impacts to the animal grazing or husbandry operations in which so many of us are engaged.

Secondly, it is totally absurd to consider this a commute alternative for cyclists given the distances to work centers or transportation hubs as well as weather conditions. The reality is that this is a recreational trail proposal that has the potential to be desirable for cyclists. That level of usage and recreational purpose must be balanced against the extreme costs and impact of implementation. I suspect that some funding possibilities will come from labeling this trail as a 'commute alternative' but that is really not a realistic aspect and should be noted.

Again, thank you for accepting continued comments. I welcome you, or any other county officials involved, to visit our area and see what the residents are seeing.