

Item 8.3 Cover sheet – Creating Exercise Trails with a significant up or down gradient

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) Acquisition and Development Committee October, 2016; Board of Director's meeting October, 2016

The Issue

Shall the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) consider creating exercise trails or pathways with a significant up or down gradient? Director Ainsleigh has requested that this item be considered.

Background

Director Ainsleigh requested that the following item be considered:

We need an exercise trail or pathway with significant up or down gradient throughout. The three paved exercise pathways we have are nearly flat, and don't allow a person to attain a decent level of fitness while walking at a comfortable pace. Many people I talk to are afraid to go into the canyon because of the bears and cougars and rattlesnakes. An in-town trail would serve those people well.

Three possible locations for such a trail or pathway would be the Shockley Property, the newly acquired property in Christian Valley or in and around Overlook Park. These areas have natural grade changes that would require little grading to create such a pathway.

Possible improvements to the Shockley Property are being considered in a separate A&D/Board agenda item.

The new property at Christian Valley could be considered, however the actual gradient changes will have to be looked at to determine if there is enough.

The conceptual plan for Overlook Park called for a few shorter trails that would stay near the parking lot.

Other, flatter areas in the ARD system could be used to create such trails, however quite a bit of grading would need to be done to create the hills. This could possibly happen on future developments/improvements on the 24 acres.

Recommendation for the Board of Directors

The Acquisition and Development Committee sent this item to the Board recommending that nothing be done with this proposal immediately, and that any such proposals be added to out years on the 10 year project list should the Board desire to add them.

Fiscal Impact

Unknown at this point

Attachments

None

Item 8.4 Cover sheet – Renaming Regional Park

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Acquisition and Development Committee meeting October, 2016; Board of Directors meeting October, 2016

The Issue

Shall the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) consider changing the name of Regional Park to “North Auburn Regional Park”, after a 30-day period for public and staff comment? Director Lynch has requested that this item be considered.

Background

Director Lynch has requested that the ARD Board consider renaming Regional Park “North Auburn Regional Park”.

Recreation Park and Regional Park are often confused by users and the public. Designating the park as “North Auburn Regional Park” may give public and park users a geographical reference when looking for a particular park. This is consistent with the names of other ARD parks like Christian Valley Park and Meadow Vista Park.

ARD policy regarding the naming (note: not renaming) of public facilities is as follows:

XVII. Naming Public Facilities

During the master-planning phase and/or prior to Board approving final plans and specifications on any park or public building, an open period of approximately two weeks will be announced giving individuals, staff and the Board an opportunity to suggest names for the facility.

A press release will be sent out notifying the public, and interested individuals could submit the appropriate form giving staff some information regarding the suggested name. Names should be submitted to the District Administrator.

Staff, along with an established committee or selection committee, will review all names and prioritize and recommend a name for finalization by the Board of Directors. The Board would receive all names submitted along with the staff/committee evaluation.

Land or gifts with deed restrictions may not follow these guidelines.

Names must be in accordance to District policy as noted.

A. Parks:

1. Name to reflect geographical location, historical references or feature of park, or significant or unusual natural features.
2. Named after a significant individual(s).

B. Buildings:

1. Name to reflect the services provided in facility.

2. Name to reflect geographical location.
3. Named after significant individual(s).

C. Criteria for naming a facility after an individual:

1. Individual must have made a significant contribution to the facility by:
 - a. Donation of land or large financial contribution to the facility.
 - b. Contributed substantially and improved the quality of life in the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (Area 5). This could relate to involvement with parks and recreation or other public agency.
2. Each public facility or place within parks, such as ball fields, groves, walkways, trails and buildings could be named after selected individuals in their honor as desired and appropriate.

Recommendation for the Board of Directors

Staff recommends that the public be notified of this proposed renaming and be provided 30 days to comment on the proposed new name. Any comments received will be reviewed and considered at the December, 2016 A&D Committee and ARD Board of Directors meeting.

The A&D Committee recommends the same.

Fiscal Impact

Unknown at this time. Should a park be renamed, there will be costs to change park signs, however these costs should be relatively minimal.

Attachments

None

Item 8.5 Cover sheet – Proposed New Policy: Use of Gravel vs. Pavement

**Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Policy Committee meeting October, 2016;
Board of Directors meeting October, 2016**

The Issue

Shall the Auburn Recreation District (ARD) adopt a policy that it considers the use of gravel or pervious (permeable) pavement in future projects? Director Ainsleigh has requested that this item be considered.

Background

Director Ainsleigh has requested that a new policy be considered that, wherever possible, ARD use gravel or pervious pavement in the parks instead of impervious pavement. Director Ainsleigh has suggested that this would assist with flood control and is better for the local biome.

Placer County provided information regarding the use of gravel vs. pavement in parking lots. The following came from an email from Nikki Streegan, Associate Planner with Placer County:

The text below is from Section 17.54.070 of the Zoning Ordinance and outlines the surfacing requirements for parking. Depending on whether the use is related to Open Space or Recreational, and the intensity of the use (25 or fewer cars at a time vs. more than 25 cars), it looks like there is a difference in the surfacing requirements.

C. Surfacing of Parking Areas. Required parking and circulation areas shall be surfaced as follows:

1. Single-family Dwellings. Surfacing shall be all-weather surfacing (e.g., aggregate base, chip seal, asphalt, concrete) and capable of supporting a forty thousand (40,000) pound vehicle load. Within the Tahoe Basin, any more restrictive standards established by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency shall apply. (Advisory comment: the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) may impose special driveway construction requirements. Applicants should contact TRPA directly to determine if such requirements apply.)

2. Agriculture and Open Space. Agricultural and open space uses that require twenty-five (25) or fewer parking spaces shall provide all weather surfacing (e.g., aggregate base, chip seal, asphalt, concrete) and capable of supporting a forty thousand (40,000) pound vehicle load. Within the Tahoe Basin, any more restrictive standards established by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency shall apply. (Advisory comment: the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) may impose special driveway construction requirements. Applicants should contact TRPA directly to determine if such requirements apply.)

3. Other Commercial, Industrial, Recreational, Institutional, Multifamily Residential and Other Uses. For all uses other than those specified in subsections (1) and (2) above, surfacing shall be a minimum of asphaltic concrete or Portland cement concrete, as approved by the applicable county department.

The new policy, should it be approved, is proposed as follows in the District Policy Manual:

XXXVII. Use of Gravel and Pervious Pavement

The District will consider the use of gravel or pervious (permeable) pavement in its park whenever possible. The purpose of this policy is to assist with flood control and to help the local biome.

Recommendation for the Board of Directors

The Policy Committee sent this item to the Board to adopt this new proposal.

Staff is already considering options such as pervious pavement for new facilities such as the proposed improvements at Bell Rd. That said, a policy requiring the use of this material, wherever possible, may lead to some unintended consequences.

Fiscal Impact

Undetermined at this time

Attachments

None

Item 8.6 Cover sheet – Letter in Opposition to the Martis Valley West project

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Policy Committee October, 2016; Board of Directors meeting October, 2016

The Issue

Shall the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) send a letter in opposition to the Martis Valley West project? Director Holbrook has requested this item be considered.

Background

The Martis Valley West project is proposed off of Hwy. 267, between Northstar and the north shore of Lake Tahoe.

The Environment Impact Report (EIR) was approved in a “final” vote by the Placer County Supervisors on October 11 (see attached article from the Auburn Journal). Opponents of the project now have a 30 day window to file a lawsuit challenging the environmental approvals given by the supervisors.

A DRAFT of a proposed letter to Sierra Watch is attached.

Recommendation for the Board of Directors

Review and provide a recommendation for the ARD Board of Directors. Review the attached DRAFT letter to Sierra Watch and provide edits and additional content.

The Policy Committee forwarded this item to the Board with a negative recommendation.

Fiscal Impact

None known (to ARD)

Attachments

DRAFT letter to Sierra Watch
Area map showing the Martis Valley West project
Articles from local papers

October 27, 2016

Sierra Watch

Attn: Tom Mooers, Executive Director

ADDRESS

Subject: Support for your opposition to the Martis Valley West project

Dear Mr. Mooers:

The Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) provides parks and recreation services for the Auburn area. As the local leader in recreation for this area, we are writing to support any challenges that may be forthcoming in regards to the environmental approvals given to the Martis Valley West project at the October 11, 2016 Placer County Board of Supervisors meeting.

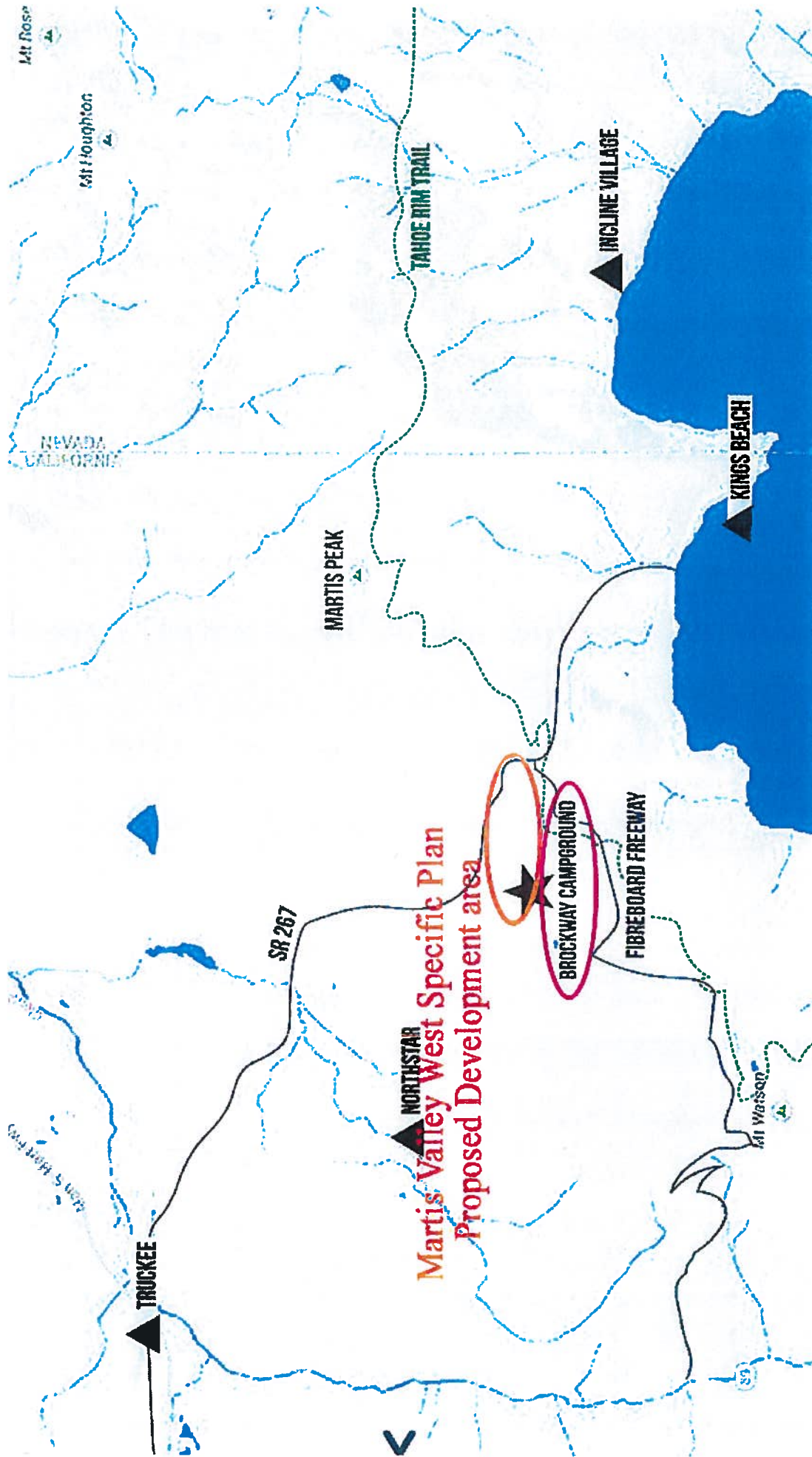
ARD feels that this project will have a negative impact on many aspects in the north Tahoe area, and have a negative impact on the recreation opportunities provided to all users, including visitors from the Auburn area.

Please feel free to contact the ARD offices with any questions or comments. Please direct these questions to District Administrator Kahl Muscott at (530) 537-2186 or at kmuscott@auburnrec.com

Sincerely,

Jim Ferris, Chairman

Auburn Area Recreation District



Placer supes OK 760-home North Tahoe plan

BY GUS THOMSON
OF THE AUBURN JOURNAL

A final 4-1 vote Tuesday by the Placer County Board of Supervisors in favor of a 760-home North Tahoe development also signals a new round of debate, this time likely in court.

"Today's approval was a vote against everything we love about Martis Valley and North Lake Tahoe," Sierra Watch executive director Tom Mooers said after the vote. "It was also illegal and we're committed to take action to defend Tahoe's incredible scenery and the clarity of the lake itself."

Tuesday's vote was the same as a meeting in Tahoe Sept. 13, with District 5 Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery the lone 'no' vote.

The Martis Valley West project by Mountainside Partners allows for the permanent conservation of 6,200 acres and reduction in the number of residential units that can be developed by 600 units.

"We are pleased that the Placer County Board of Supervisors voted to approve the Martis Valley West Project," Mountainside Partners Managing Partner Blake Riva said. "The Board recognized the Martis Valley West Project provides substantial benefits to the community."

Tuesday's meeting was held in Auburn. While the public hearing testimony on the proposal was ended after five hours in Tahoe City, speakers were allowed to make comments Tuesday on any new information that could affect a decision.

With four supervisors already voting in favor of

"Either way, there is conservation. But the quality is better if there is land-trust ownership."

Supervisor Robert Weygandt

the project, Mooers asked for an extension to allow negotiations to continue on a possible takeover of the 6,200 acres by non-profit land trust interests. He added that traffic, fire safety and Tahoe water quality issues had yet to be resolved and the proposal should be slowed down.

Supervisor Robert Weygandt said he would like the Truckee Donner Land Trust and the Trust for Public Lands to continue those discussions but it wouldn't have an impact on his vote Tuesday. If a land trust can't purchase the property, it would go into a conservation easement.

"Either way, there is conservation," Weygandt said. "But the quality is better if there is land-trust ownership."

Montgomery pointed to the position of the land trusts to explain her vote. District 5 takes in the North Tahoe area.

"This is not meaningful conservation," Montgomery said.

Opponents now have a 30-day window to file a lawsuit challenging environmental approvals given by supervisors as part of a package of votes taken favoring the project on Tuesday.

The project is located off Highway 267 between Tahoe City and Kings Beach, 81 miles east of Auburn.

STUDY: Luebke presents his plans,

continued from A1

Hanley said he wished the study would be released anyway, so people could judge for themselves, but Montgomery said the report had fatal flaws.

Auburn crime stats

Mayor Dr. Bill Kirby summarized a Public Safety presentation Monday at city council, where Director John Ruffcorn told council members that crime stats were generally down as more homeless people are being observed.

In nearly every category, crime was down in Auburn from 2011-2015 and between 2014 and 2015. There was a slight rise in assaults and a slight uptick for being drunk in public, but overall, crime has lessened.

"We know there's an increased presence, but it doesn't do any good to complain if you're sitting in coffee shops complaining and not reporting if you see something suspicious," Kirby said.

The statistics showed there didn't seem to be an increase in homeless crime, however, council



Roger Luebke shared his vision for a new Safety department and priorities, such as re-

members stressed they were seeing more people on the street and the public safety department should present a plan about it.

Kirby pointed out that Auburn has a relatively strong panhandling ordinance. Cards are available at the police depart-

ment indicating homeless people for help. The cards can be given out in cash.

Roger Luebke
City council chairman and planning commissioner Roger Luebke shared his goals a

Out of the Darkness: Council affirms s

BY MICHAEL MOTT
OF THE AUBURN JOURNAL

Auburn council members attested to the need for suicide prevention last month, ahead of last Saturday's Out of the Darkness Community Walk, an event to fight suicide.

Spencer Agins (pictured) and others of the

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention said the stigma of getting help needed to be dismantled. Over 300 people attended the event Saturday.

At the council meeting, Oct. 8, 2016 was named Auburn's Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Day. Mayor Dr. Bill Kirby noted suicide is the 10th

leading cause of death in the U.S.

"Suicide is an epidemic of despair, and all need to be aware of our friends, partners, people in our neighborhood going through tough time," Kirby said. "If they are, you need to approach them. We need to make a difference

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TILTING THE BASIN

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News

Martis Valley West Approved

Placer County Board of Supervisors at odds with community, attorney general, and even its own planning commission

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 By: [Melissa Silg](#), Moonshine Ink

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After a long and bumpy road for the Martis Valley West Specific Plan, the Placer County Board of Supervisors yesterday voted 4 to 1 to approve the project at the end of a seven-hour hearing. Despite the Placer County Planning Commission's rejection of the project, strong community opposition to the development, and even the California Attorney General's office voicing concerns about the plan, in the end the supervisors were swayed by the high public benefit of the project's conservation aspect and the reduction in number of homes.

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"The opportunity to put into conservation 6,500 acres [sic] and to broaden that with other conservation lands to amount to 50,000 acres, you don't see that anywhere, especially in the Tahoe Basin," said Supervisor Jack Duran.

The Martis Valley West project, although officially submitted to the county in 2013, has been in discussions for 10 years. The project includes 760 homes on the west side of Highway 267 in a forested area, 22,000 square feet of homeowner amenities, and 6.6 acres of commercial space in exchange for the preservation of 6,376 acres on the east side of 267, which will create 50,000 acres of contiguous open space from Martis Valley to Mt. Rose Wilderness.

A conservation organization must purchase the east parcel within a set time or it will go into a conservation easement. The developer — Mountainside Partners in conjunction with landowner Sierra Pacific Industries — told the supervisors that they sweetened the deal by allowing a conservation group to raise 50 percent of the appraised value with the remainder to be paid by transfer fees generated by the project. Mountainside also extended the three-year fundraising period to four years to give the conservation group more time to raise the necessary funds.

"For folks to say that there is no public benefit associated with 6,000-plus acres going into conservation ... I've been doing this a few years and I've never seen a project with this kind of open space component," said Supervisor Kirk Uhler.

The supervisors were also influenced by the project's reduced density. (Supporters at the hearing wore olive green T-shirts that said, "Conservation. Density Reduction. Balanced Planning.") The 1975 Martis Valley General Plan originally allowed for up to 12,000 residential units to be built, which was then reduced to 8,600 with the 2003 Martis Valley Community Plan. With some areas like the 1,462-acre Waddle Ranch set aside for conservation, that left 4,742 parcels to be developed. Martis Valley West, which was zoned for up to 1,360 homes, will permanently retire 600 units, leaving 760 units for development. This is a 44 percent reduction of what was allowed in the community plan.

"How is 760 a bad thing instead of 1,360 the same parties that were party to legislation are now objecting to half the level of intensity," Uhler said, referring to the 2013 Martis Valley Operating Agreement signed by the developer and environmental groups like Sierra Watch and Mountain Area Preservation. "I am having a tough time wrapping my brain around that."

Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery, who represents the Tahoe area, was the lone vote against the project.

"This is just not consistent with our own policies at Placer County about development," she said. "It's not consistent with the area plans we are engaging now in the Basin which say that new development should be in redevelopment areas or immediately adjacent to existing development."

The majority of people at the meeting spoke out against the project.

"We are at a tipping point," said Dana Spencer, a North Lake Tahoe resident. "I don't want to see this beautiful place destroyed and turned from a rural to urban environment."

On Sept. 6, California Deputy Attorney General Nicole Rinke issued a 19-page letter to Placer County citing concerns about the adequacy of the Martis Valley West environmental impact report and impacts to the Tahoe Basin.

"While we applaud the project's open space preservation, because of the proximity of the proposed development to Lake Tahoe, we are concerned about the impacts the development will have within the Tahoe Basin," Rinke wrote. "We are particularly concerned with the project's resulting increases in vehicular use and traffic within the Basin. These impacts are especially a concern when viewed in combination with the similar impacts anticipated from the proposed 25-year plan for the redevelopment of nearby Squaw Valley. The EIR has not adequately analyzed or mitigated these impacts."

However, neither the Attorney General's letter nor the planning commission's 5-2 vote on July 7 to deny the project appeared to weigh much in the supervisors' decision.

"I am a little bit concerned about the 18-page [sic] document from the attorney general," Duran said. "But litigation is never something that drives what we do."

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Also by Author

In a statement on Facebook yesterday, Sierra Watch executive director Tom Mooers wrote: "We learned today that Placer County can't be counted on to protect Lake Tahoe. Today's vote was grossly irresponsible and clearly illegal under state law."

League to Save Lake Tahoe Executive Director Darcie Goodman Collins said in a statement: "This is bad news for Lake Tahoe. By approving Martis Valley West, Placer County is consenting to threats to Tahoe for which no solution has been proposed. In their decision, the majority of supervisors ignored the environmental laws California has set up to protect important places like Tahoe. This sets a terrible precedent."

The hearing was officially continued to the Oct. 11 board of supervisors meeting, when staff will provide updated findings, ordinances, and resolutions for the board's final approval.

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[martis project approval](#)

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Just another example of how developer's money can affect those entrusted in protecting the environment and public good. Unfortunately, it's something Placer and TRPA officials regularly do! No surprise the out of town sups were swayed, at least our own Jenifer Montgomery knew what was right.

Wed, 09/14/2016 - 3:37pm

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[Board of Supervisor elections](#)

EAM56 | Ashburn

Three of the Supervisors voting on this were up for reelection this past June. Two of those three voted for the project. I wonder how many of citizens objecting to the project participated in the Supervisor elections held last June? Interesting that so many are focused on the Presidential race, and of course it is important, but it is the down ballot elections that affect our lives so closely. Case in point is the passage of this project.

Thu, 09/15/2016 - 10:27am

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[When you look at the map of](#)

TahoeGranny | TahoeVista

When you look at the map of the Supervisors' Districts, the 4 yes votes are all from more built up areas of the county. More development means more fees & tax dollars for the county – thus their approval. The Tahoe area is NOT suburbia -- perhaps it's time for the Tahoe & mountain areas to secede from Placer County!

Sun, 09/18/2016 - 8:32pm

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September 9, 2016

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Moonshine Ink added 2 new photos.

October 10 at 2:03pm

The Nevada Department of Wildlife captured a black bear at Incline Village on Sunday morning and released it this morning at 10:00 am.

The bear, a three to four year old male, was released this morning at Tahoe Meadows (near the Mt. Rose

Latest Tweets @moonshineink

- For the Flocchini family @SierraMeat is about much more than distribution. <https://t.co/z2zBwt99bl> #sustainability #keoptahoesmart — 9 months 2 weeks ago
- In 1944 Ramón León spent \$6 on a Puerto Rican lottery ticket, the rest is history. <https://t.co/TeNgjoaaN7> — 9 months 2 weeks ago
- New year, new gear! Demo sweet gear at the 10th Annual Alpenglow Backcountry Day, Jan. 2 <https://t.co/b1svkKBrzd>

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September 9, 2016

Thursday Jul 07 2016 | 0 comments

3

Another View: Martis Valley West a disaster for lake clarity, traffic, fire evacuations

By: Tom Mooers / Guest Columnist



Placer County Planning Commission is meeting today in North Tahoe to make a recommendation on proposed development. If they need a reminder of what's at stake, all they'll have to do is look out the window at the lake itself.

The commission is re-opening its hearing on the proposed "Martis Valley West Parcel Specific Plan." The project is part of a two-step plan to develop the ridge dividing the Tahoe Basin and North Lake Tahoe, west of Brockway Summit.

The Martis Valley West project proposes a gated development of 760 new dwelling units on the Martis Valley side of the ridge. The Brockway Campground resort development would include 550 sites and commercial facilities on the Tahoe Basin side of the ridge.

For Thursday's meeting, the Planning Commission is focusing on how the Martis West

project would impact three extremely important issues:

1. Traffic and Highway 267;
2. Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuation; and
3. Lake Tahoe.

Anyone who has travelled to Tahoe this summer already knows: traffic is a mess. The proposed project, according to Placer County's environmental review, would make it much worse — guaranteeing gridlock and threatening public safety.

New development would add 4,000 cars to North Tahoe roads every day. And it would require a dangerous new intersection just below Brockway Summit; Caltrans opposes a new traffic signal, so drivers would be forced to exit and enter Highway 267 at full speed.

In terms of fire safety, the project's location, the nature of proposed development and the lack of transportation infrastructure create a recipe for wildfire and disaster. The project is proposed for a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, the kind of environment where wildfire is not a question of if but of when.

If this project were built, what would happen when there is a fire? The lack of transportation infrastructure would exacerbate the tragedy. Limited and narrow roadways would mean it take over an hour just to leave the property. Then what?

Evacuation would be a matter of out of the frying pan and into the fire as residents find themselves trying to escape on Highway 267, which is at gridlock under normal conditions.

This is not planning for disaster; it's planning a disaster.

Because the project would be so big, and its effects so far-reaching, it is difficult to summarize what the project would mean to the lake.

The most obvious impacts would come from traffic in the Tahoe Basin.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) calculates that the new development would add 1,395 cars into the Basin daily. That traffic leads to an increase in Vehicle Miles Travelled, which, in turn, leads to further loss in the lake's famous clarity — arguable the region's most fundamental asset.

For the Tahoe Basin, the project is the worst of both worlds: North Shore communities don't get the economic development they need — but get the traffic Tahoe roads can't handle. And the lake suffers another blow to its clarity.

There are many reasons why the Planning Commission should recommend denial of the proposed Martis Valley West Parcel Specific Plan on Thursday. Even when an assessment of the project's impacts are reduced to only three topics — traffic, fire danger and Tahoe, the evidence is overwhelming. The project would guarantee gridlock, encourage disaster, and threaten the integrity of Lake Tahoe. Martis Valley, North Tahoe, and Placer County deserve better.

Tom Mooers is executive director of Sierra Watch. Contact him at

tmoors@sierrawatch.org

Sierra Watch is at 408 Broad Street, No.12, Nevada City, CA 95959; (530) 265-2849

Keywords:

tom moors sierra watch placer county planning commission Martis Valley West parcel

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Item 8.7 Cover sheet – Request for a new Needs Survey

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) Policy Committee meeting October, 2016; Board of Directors meeting October, 2016

The Issue

Shall the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District commission a new needs survey? Director Ainsleigh has requested this item.

Background

The last ARD needs survey was part of the Strategic Plan adopted in 2007. In May of 2006, this survey was mailed to an estimated 23,000 address's, with approximately 2,800 surveys returned (12.5%). The cost to do this was approximately \$8,600 (the costs were split with the Strategic Plan consultant).

A “man in the park” survey was conducted by staff in June and July of 2011. In total, 174 survey responses were received.

In December, 2010, staff contacted SCI Consulting Group regarding a quote to put together a statistically valid survey. SCI Consulting provided a proposal/quote of \$24,500 - \$35,000 for such a survey (proposal attached).

Options for survey include, but is not limited to:

- 1) A mail survey
- 2) A phone survey
- 3) Electronic survey (i.e. “Survey Monkey”)
- 4) “Man in the park” surveys
- 5) Any combination of the above items

ARD’s policy on surveys (from the District Policy Manual) is as follows:

XXI. Surveys

All surveys sent to the public should be made available to the Board of Directors, with a five day response time, for review and input before the survey is sent. The survey will be sent to the full Board for review and approval should a Director make such a request.

For the purpose of this policy, a survey is any document mailed, **sent electronically, (added October, 2016)** or included in the District Activity Guide wherein the recipient is asked to respond to questions regarding an issue pertaining to the District or its activities. The following documents are not considered a survey for the purposes of this policy:

- A. A survey of specific program participants (example: A survey sent to all ARD/YDL youth basketball coaches asking them to provide feedback on the success of the program).

- B. Informal surveys of users asking for objective information such as meeting start times or locations.
- C. Informal “straw surveys” taken at a public meeting.

Recommendation for Board of Directors.

The Policy Committee sent this item to the Board without a recommendation.

Staff recommends that if a needs survey is approved, that the Board establish a minimum number of responses wanted from the survey. From there, a plan can be crafted to get to that number, most likely through using an on-line survey that is promoted through mailings, the Activity Guide, newspaper articles and ads, and social media.

It is suggested that ARD offer a raffle to all survey responders (i.e. a raffle for a new bike). This will help to get survey replies.

Fiscal Impact

A combination approach to a survey would cost approximately \$7,000 - \$10,000. This is based on the estimated cost to mail out 23,000 postcards, pay for several months of a service such as Survey Monkey, the costs for ads and the cost for a raffle prize.

Attachments

2010 Survey proposal from SCI Consulting Group
Survey Monkey pricing
Info from various websites re: how many responses are needed for a valid survey



PROPOSAL

FOR THE

**AUBURN AREA RECREATION AND PARK
DISTRICT**

TO PROVIDE

**RESIDENT PRIORITY SURVEY AND OPINION
RESEARCH SERVICES**



DECEMBER 2010

SUBMITTED BY:

SCIConsultingGroup

4745 MANGELS BLVD

FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA 94534

PH: 707.430.4300

FAX: 707.430.4319

www.sci-cg.com



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December 1, 2010

Kahl Muscott, District Administrator
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District
471 Maidu Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Kahl:

SCI Consulting Group (SCI) is pleased to submit the enclosed proposal for assisting the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District with **accurately** evaluating the priorities, desires and preferences of residents, property owners and voters in the District. We understand that the overriding objectives of this project are to produce an unbiased, statistically accurate measure of such priorities, desires, and preferences which can be used to assist the District with future planning, services and capital allocations.

SCI Consulting Group is a California Corporation formed in 1985 uniquely focused on opinion research services, planning and revenue enhancement services for public agencies. With over a quarter century of experience in this specialized field, we are proud of our record of accomplishment assisting public agencies in California.

This proposal is segmented into two proposed tasks. **Task I** includes developing an overall understanding of the District and its goals, conducting a comprehensive analysis of the District's residents, program users, property owners and voters. **Task II** includes creating, implementing and analyzing an opinion research project to accurately measure priorities, desires and preferences from District residents. At the conclusion of this task, SCI shall provide important strategic advice regarding the priorities and how these priorities relate to the District's future service, planning and capital projects.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us. We thank you for the opportunity to provide this proposal and look forward to assisting the District with successfully completing this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerard van Steyn", written over a light-colored background.

Gerard van Steyn
President



4745 Mangels Boulevard · Fairfield, California 94534 · Tel: 707.430.4300 · Fax: 707.430.4310

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PROJECT UNDERSTANDING AND OVERVIEW

SCI understands that the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (District) is a public agency responsible for maintaining and improving parks and recreation facilities and providing recreational and educational programs for residents in the greater Auburn area. We also understand that the District is interested in accurately measuring the priorities, desires, preferences and park/recreation usage patterns of residents, property owners and voters.

Our proposed scope of services will commence with a detailed and comprehensive analysis of residents, parcels, voters and park/program users in the District. After this analysis is completed, we will meet with the District to review our findings and to develop a clear understanding of the information the District desires to receive from the opinion research project. After we have a clear understanding of the District and its goals and objectives for the project, we will develop draft survey instruments. The draft instruments will be reviewed with the District and will be modified as appropriate to reflect comments. When the survey instruments are finalized, we will print the survey forms, outgoing and postage paid return envelopes and will mail the surveys.

After the surveys are returned, we will analyze the findings and will prepare a report detailing all of the findings. In addition, building upon the opinion research findings, we will develop strategic recommendations to assist the District with integrating the survey findings into its planning and operations. In addition, the survey findings and recommendations will be presented and reviewed with the District.

QUALIFICATIONS, CAPABILITIES AND EXPERTISE

ABOUT SCI CONSULTING GROUP

SCI Consulting Group is a public finance and urban economic consulting firm with **over a quarter century** of expertise in assisting public agencies in California with planning, justifying and successfully establishing new revenues for their service and capital improvement needs and objectives – and managing special levies.

SCI possesses extensive benefit assessment engineering and formation expertise, particularly for agency-wide assessments that are much more difficult to gain property owner approval than development project or neighborhood assessments. Since Proposition 218 was approved in 1996, we have successfully formed 101 agency-wide new benefit assessments, **which represent the majority of all post-218 new agency-wide assessments in the State**. These successful agency-wide assessments include **all** of the largest successful assessments in the State as well. Moreover, we have successfully formed **30 new agency-wide assessments** and parcel taxes after Proposition 218 for parks and recreation, and over **300 neighborhood area assessments** for parks and other public improvements and services.

SCI provides year-round special tax and assessment administration services and planning services for clients throughout California. Our firm currently administers over 400 assessment and special tax districts, comprising over 10,000,000 parcels. SCI's planning projects have included hundreds of development impact studies, facility and financing plans, demographic studies, cost of service and fee justification studies, and other planning and real estate studies.

SCI also offers extensive expertise with the important legal and procedural issues involving benefit assessments, special taxes and fees. The principals at SCI are acknowledged experts on these public financing mechanisms and were involved with the cleanup legislation for Proposition 218. In addition, our firm is a frequent presenter and columnist on assessment ballot proceedings for the American Public Works Association, Association of California Water Agencies, League of California Cities, California Special Districts Association, California Fire Chiefs Association, California Stormwater Quality Association, California Parks and Recreation Society, Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California, Institute for Local Self Government, California Association of Public Information Officers, Floodplain Management Association, Bay Area Open Space Coalition, California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health, Associations of Government and other organizations.

EXPERIENCE WITH SURVEYS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

Following is a partial listing of public agencies SCI assisted with opinion research projects to measure priorities for services and/or support for a local funding measure for parks:

- Arbutle Recreation and Park District
- City of Colusa
- City of Folsom
- City of Lompoc
- City of Moorpark
- City of Palmdale
- City of Vacaville (30+ Measures)
- Conejo Recreation & Park District
- Cordova Recreation and Park District
- Cosumnes Community Services District
- County of Placer
- County of San Joaquin
- County of Ventura
- El Dorado Hills Community Services District
- Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District
- Feather River Recreation and Park District
- Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District
- Hayward Unified School District
- Jefferson Union High School District
- Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District
- Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District
- Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority
- Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District
- Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District
- Sequoia Union High School District
- Sunrise Recreation & Park District
- Twain Harte Community Services District

REVENUE MEASURE FEASIBILITY AND SURVEY EXPERTISE

As noted, SCI has developed a unique and unmatched approach for the initial feasibility analysis and opinion research phase that has consistently proven to be more accurate than the research methods used by other firms. For example, SCI has developed a sophisticated research methodology for identifying the specific priorities for residents, property owners and voters. Our research methodology has been proven on over 100 surveys for public agencies in California over the last 10 years.

SERVICES

Following is a summary of SCI's services:

- **Ballot Measures**
 - Assessment District Formation
 - Property Related Fees Formation
 - Mello-Roos Community Facilities District Formation
 - Special Levy Administration Services
- **Opinion Research and Revenue Measure Feasibility Analysis**
- **Public Finance Programs and Alternatives**
 - LAFCo Annexations and New District Formations
 - Compliance with Proposition 218
 - Continuing Disclosure & Dissemination Services
 - Administrative Systems and Custom Software Solutions
 - Parcel Audits and Tax Base Certification
- **Planning Services**
 - Facilities Master Plans
 - Developer Fee Studies
 - School Fee Facility Plans
 - School Facility Needs Analysis
 - Developer Negotiations and Full Mitigation Fees
 - Attendance Boundary Studies
 - Demographic Studies
 - Quimby and Impact Fees
 - Cost of Service Analysis and Fee Justification

For more information, please visit www.sci-cg.com

RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE AND REFERENCES

Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District

3344 Mission Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
(916) 488-7276 Ext:3011

Contact: Debby Walker, General Manager

Email: dwalker@morpd.com

In 1998, SCI conducted a survey to measure resident priorities and support for a local funding measure. The survey findings were used to develop a long term capital improvement plan and project priorities. Also, based on the optimistic finding from the survey, SCI subsequently conducted a successful benefit assessment ballot proceeding to fund park maintenance and improvements. This assessment was approved at the rate of \$27 per home for a term of 10 years.

In 2005, SCI conducted a survey to measure the feasibility of increasing the rate of assessment and eliminating the sunset provision. This survey found support for both features. In the spring of 2006, SCI concluded a successful assessment ballot preceding that increased the rate of assessment to \$39 per home, added an annual CPI increase and eliminated the sunset date. In addition, SCI has recently assisting the District with the successful establishment of new Park Development Impact Fees, over and above Quimby Fees.

Cosumnes Community Services District

8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite #1
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 405-7166

Contact: Jeff Ramos, General Manager

Email: jefframos@yourcsd.com

SCI has assisted the District with several surveys to measure resident priorities and support for park improvement funding measures. These surveys have been used to make important planning and operational decisions, including the closure of some parks due to lack of funding and other park sites remaining undeveloped.

SCI is also currently assisting the District with several new assessment districts in developed areas to raise additional revenues for parks and landscaping improvements and services. Three new assessment districts for developed areas have already been successfully approved and formed and another is currently underway.

City of Folsom

50 Natoma St.

Folsom, CA 95630

(916) 355-7207 Ext:220-3017

Contact: Lorraine Poggione, Landscaping and Lighting District Manager

Email: lpoggione@folsom.ca.us

SCI first conducted a survey and opinion research project to measure resident and property owner desires and preferences for local parks, recreation areas, and neighborhood public landscaping/walkways. After the survey was completed, SCI worked with the City to develop long term capital improvement plans for different neighborhoods and areas of the City. These plans, which were based on the survey findings, have proven to be very helpful for the City's allocation of resources and provision of services by area.

PROJECT TEAM AND KEY PERSONNEL

SCI will use a team approach for this project and will work closely and collaboratively with the District and other key stakeholders. Such a collaborative, team based approach helps to assure that all parties and stakeholders will work additively together to develop and implement an effective and winning game plan.

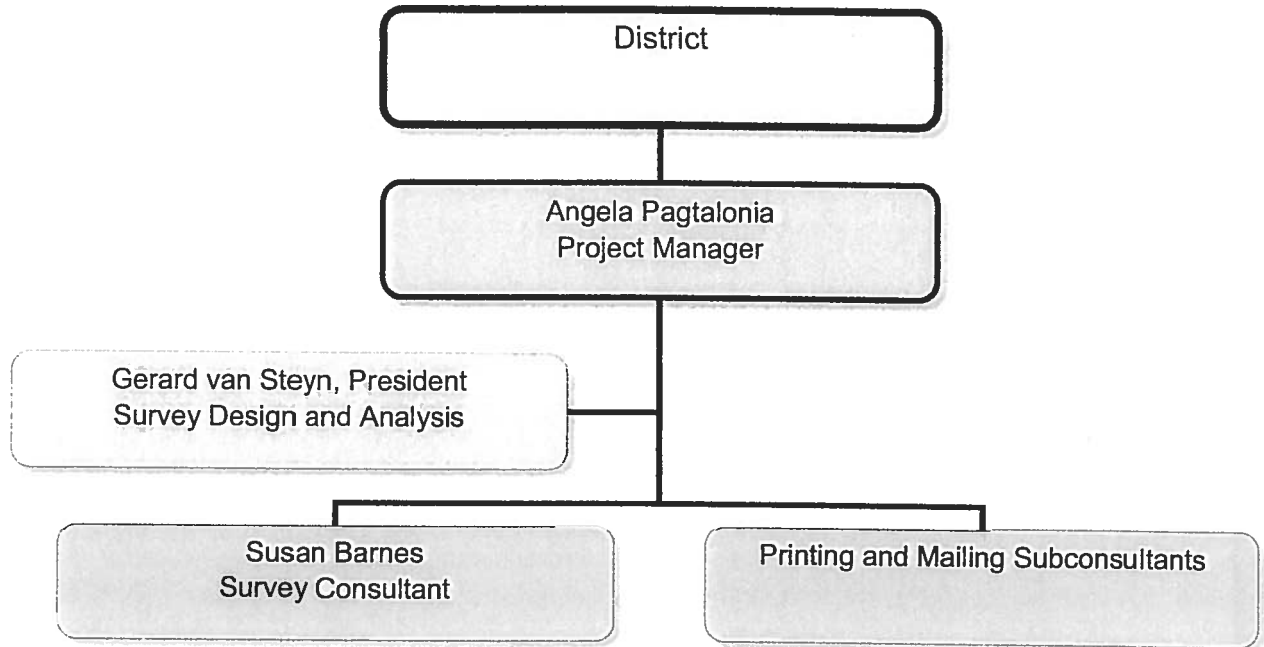
Important components of our approach that have been the foundation of our proven success record with other, similar ballot measures are as follows:

- 1. To use extremely qualified and experienced personnel.**
- 2. To establish and maintain a collaborative team based approach and optimal working relationships with the District, legal counsel, other project team outreach consultants and stakeholders.**
- 3. To develop a complete and accurate understanding of the District, the District's objectives and needs with regard to its park and recreational needs and the profile and demographics of property owners, voters and the region.**
- 4. To obtain accurate research that is truly reflective of the desires and priorities of property owners and voters.**
- 5. To develop recommendations for a ballot measure that best meets the needs and objectives of the District and the desires and priorities of property owners and voters.**
- 6. Most importantly, to deliver successful outcomes, and satisfied clients.**

It takes extremely qualified people to accomplish these high standards and objectives. SCI is proud of our personnel and invites the District to contact any of our clients to verify the level of service we provide, the capabilities of our staff and the results we deliver.

If selected for this project, Angela Pagtalonia would serve as the project manager. Gerard van Steyn, President of our firm would lead the survey design and analysis. Susan Barnes, an assessment balloting and opinion research consultant with significant opinion research experience will manage the survey production, delivery and response compilation.

ORGANIZATION CHART



INTERACTION, INVOLVEMENT, AND COMMITMENTS

The team members will interact in a collaborative and iterative manner, with Ms. Pagtalonia overseeing the entire process from start to finish. Moreover, if this proposal is accepted, SCI will not assign other projects to them which would interfere with our ability to successfully perform the Work Plan and related tasks for this project. Perhaps most importantly, the identified project team will perform the work for the District and will not be revised. The project team leaders will also be materially and directly involved in this project.

We can make this commitment because we are a relatively small firm highly focused on new revenues for public agencies. (The department heads at larger firms tend to have so many other responsibilities that their ability to participate on project work scopes is very limited.) Moreover, none of the proposed team members have any work commitments that would interfere with their ability to successfully complete this project. We sincerely invite you to contact any of our clients who can attest that the project team members identified in our proposal are the same individuals who actually perform the work scope.

TECHNICAL APPROACH

PROPOSED SERVICES AND APPROACH

Our proposed approach to the project is segmented into unique tasks outlined as follows. **We have designed this generally phased and sequenced work plan to provide the District with critical information during the project – information that can be used by the District to provide important project guidance and oversight.**

PHASE IA – KICKOFF MEETING, INITIAL ANALYSIS AND PLANNING

Our approach for Phase IA services will begin with a kickoff meeting. At this meeting, a project timeline and overall approach will be developed. The project scope and research objectives will be discussed and incorporated as well.

After the initial meeting and project understanding is developed, SCI will perform a comprehensive analysis of the District's current and desired park, recreation and other funding and improvements. We will review historical surveys, master plans and other information. In addition, we will collect, compile and analyze residents, property ownership, voter statistics, tax base, demographic and political profiles in the District. SCI will also analyze District recreation and educational program users and park/recreation facility users.

After this extensive data has been compiled, we will analyze it in context with the survey research objectives. This detailed research and analysis will provide SCI with a solid understanding of the factors that will be used as the foundation for designing and evaluating the opinion research project.

Deliverables:

- **Initial kickoff meeting**
- **Analysis of property and ownership base**
- **Analysis of residents**
- **Analysis of program and facility users**
- **Project timeline and research objectives**

PHASE IB – SURVEY AND OPINION RESEARCH

This survey and opinion research phase would provide the District with highly accurate resident priorities and opinions.

SCI has developed a sophisticated research methodology for identifying the priorities of residents, voters and property owners. One of the primary strengths of the recommended approach is its proven ability to most accurately identify priorities not only on an overall basis, but also from different types of residents and property owners, such as tenants and the owners of single family residential, business, industrial, apartment, vacation and investment properties. Moreover, the recommended approach and methodology have proven to provide accurate and reliable research findings in a wide range of socio and economic environments such as rural areas, urban communities, ranges of income, and a variety of ethnic backgrounds.

Due to the demonstrated higher level of accuracy and improved ability to reach all types of residents, property owners and voters, SCI recommends a mailed survey format. This recommended approach will provide sufficient responses from all types of residents and property owners.

In summary, a unique informational item and survey will be developed. The mailed surveys will also be designed in a manner that promotes a high percentage of response.

Two survey options are presented:

1. As Option 1, SCI recommends surveying 12,000 residents and property owners, using one survey per household. This sample represents over 50% of all residents and property owners and will provide statistically accurate measures of resident and property owner priorities with a more cost effective budget.
2. As Option 2, SCI could survey all residents and property owners in the District. We estimate that this would be 22,000 to 23,000 surveys. This option would provide additional survey responses, but would provide only minimal additional survey accuracy.

After the period allowed for the mailing and postage-paid return of the surveys, SCI will conduct a complex analysis and modeling of the survey results for the District. After completing this detailed modeling and analysis, SCI will prepare a comprehensive report that summarizes the opinion research findings and makes recommendations regarding residents' and owners' parks and recreation priorities.

After the report is complete, SCI will present the findings to the District Board and will assist the District with developing strategic plans based on the survey findings.

Deliverables:

- **A mailed survey instrument, accompanying informational item, outgoing and postage-prepaid return envelope**
- **Surveys mailed to a randomized, stratified sample of either 12,000 or 22,000 residents and property owners**
- **A report of survey findings and recommendations**
- **Analysis of relative priorities for different types of residents and owners**
- **Identification of households responding to survey**

SCHEDULE OF FEES

In consideration for the work accomplished, as outlined in this proposal, SCI shall be compensated as detailed below. Each Phase is proposed as a fixed fee amount.

PHASE IA

In consideration for the work accomplished on this Project related to the Initial Analysis and Planning, SCI shall be compensated in the amount of \$6,500, payable 45 days after acceptance of an agreement for services.

PHASE IB

Option 1

Compensation for work accomplished on this Project related to the preparation and administration of a survey and opinion research project to a randomized and stratified sample of up to 12,000 residents, property owners and voters is \$18,000 as a fixed fee amount, payable 50% upon finalization of the survey instruments and 50% upon finalization of the Survey Report.

Option 2

Compensation for work accomplished on this Project related to the preparation and administration of a survey and opinion research project to a randomized and stratified sample of up to 23,000 residents, property owners and voters is \$28,500 as a fixed fee amount, payable 50% upon finalization of the survey instruments and 50% upon finalization of the Survey Report.

OTHER PROVISIONS:

Incidental costs incurred by SCI for the purchase of property data, maps, travel and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in performing the scope of work shall be reimbursed at actual cost by the District, with total cost not to exceed \$500 without prior authorization from the District.

The scope of work includes two in-person meetings with the District. Any additional meetings will be billed at the rate of \$400 per person per meeting.

Survey Monkey Pricing

	BASIC Free	SELECT \$26 / month Billed month-to-month SAVE with an annual plan	BEST VALUE GOLD \$25 / month / user Billed \$300 annually	PLATINUM \$85 / month / user Billed \$1,020 annually
	Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up
	-	Available on annual plan	Team Collaboration available ?	✓
10 questions		✓	Unlimited questions	✓
100 responses		1000 responses *	Unlimited responses	✓
Standard email support		✓	Priority 24/7 email support	✓
		✓	Custom themes, colors & more ?	✓
		✓	Skip logic ?	✓
		✓	Data exports & reports ?	✓
			Statistical significance ?	✓
			Text analysis ?	✓
			Question & answer piping ?	✓
			Question & page randomization ?	✓
			Advanced survey logic ?	✓
			Onboarding and phone support ?	✓
			White label surveys ?	✓
			HIPAA-compliant features ?	✓

[See all features](#)

* 1000 responses per month \$0.15 per additional response. SurveyMonkey Audience responses sold separately.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you offer special pricing for students or educators?

Yes! We offer discounted pricing for students and educators. [See Pricing](#).

What are the benefits of creating a team?

Creating a team in SurveyMonkey lets you work smarter and faster with others. You can let your team view and edit your surveys directly, and get access to a library of shared templates, themes, images, and more.

How do you create a team?



How Many People Do I Need to Take My Survey?

By [Kalpana C](#) | [Survey Tips](#) | On: 09/15/11

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Great question! If you don't have a [sample size calculator](#) at the ready, we've got a handy-dandy table with the answers. To use the table, just ask yourself two questions:

1. **How many people are in your population?**
2. **How representative do your survey results need to be?**

Answering the first question is pretty simple. The second can be a bit trickier. Think of it this way—the closer your sample is in size to your population, the more representative your results are likely to be. And that's why you'll notice that the recommended sample size in the table below gets smaller as your tolerance for inaccuracy—or error—gets larger.

Respondents Needed at Error of ±3%, ±5%, & ±10%

Population	±3%	±5%	±10%
500	345	220	80
1,000	525	285	90
3,000	810	350	100
5,000	910	370	100
10,000	1,000	385	100
100,000	1,100	400	100
1,000,000	1,100	400	100
10,000,000	1,110	400	100

ARD =
43,000



Let's work through an example

Perhaps you're interested in finding out how many people in your region of 10,000 people favor a longer school day for children and you're willing to accept an error of plus or minus 5%. You sample 385 people, as the table recommends, and find that 70% of those surveyed are in favor of a longer school day. Given your 5% acceptable error rate, you can assume that if you'd asked every person in your region to take your survey, the actual proportion in favor of the longer school day would range from 65% to 75%.

But what if that range is too big? What if you need to be more precise? Well, then you're going to need to sample more people. Using the table above and assuming a population size of 10,000 you can see that you would need 1000 survey respondents for a 3% error.

How many people should you invite to take your survey?

The table recommends the *sample size* you'll need, not how many people you should invite to take your survey. So if you need 100 respondents and you expect that 25% of the people invited to take your survey will actually respond, then you need to invite 400 people (100 respondents ÷ .25 response rate = 400 invitations).

If you don't know how many people are likely to respond to your survey invitation, it's best to assume a fairly high response rate, like 25%, because it's usually better to invite too few people than too many at first. You can usually invite more.

More to Come

We just covered a lot of information very quickly. If you're interested in a better understanding of the terms we just referenced, watch for upcoming posts.

As always, we welcome your feedback, so let us know what you think in the comment section below.

P.S. If you are in need of people to take your survey, please [click here](#) to learn more about SurveyMonkey Audience—a new service that enables you to send your survey to respondents who match specific criteria you have in mind.

Do a Better Job with SurveyMonkey Enterprise

Give yourself—and the rest of your team—the answers you need to make smarter decisions. Access our most powerful tools with SurveyMonkey Enterprise.

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Tags: [best practices](#), [target respondents](#)

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Sample Size Calculator

This Sample Size Calculator is presented as a public service of Creative Research Systems [survey software](#). You can use it to determine how many people you need to interview in order to get results that reflect the target population as precisely as needed. You can also find the level of precision you have in an existing sample.

Before using the sample size calculator, there are two terms that you need to know. These are: **confidence interval** and **confidence level**. If you are not familiar with these terms, [click here](#). To learn more about the factors that affect the size of confidence intervals, [click here](#).

Enter your choices in a calculator below to find the sample size you need or the confidence interval you have. Leave the Population box blank, if the population is very large or unknown.

Determine Sample Size

Confidence Level: 95% 99%

Confidence Interval: 5

Population:

Sample size needed:

Find Confidence Interval

Confidence Level: 95% 99%

Sample Size:	381
Population:	43000
Percentage:	50
<input type="button" value="Calculate"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/>	
Confidence Interval:	5

Sample Size Calculator Terms: Confidence Interval & Confidence Level

The **confidence interval** (also called margin of error) is the plus-or-minus figure usually reported in newspaper or television opinion poll results. For example, if you use a confidence interval of 4 and 47% percent of your sample picks an answer you can be "sure" that if you had asked the question of the entire relevant population between 43% (47-4) and 51% (47+4) would have picked that answer.

The **confidence level** tells you how sure you can be. It is expressed as a percentage and represents how often the true percentage of the population who would pick an answer lies within the confidence interval. The 95% confidence level means you can be 95% certain; the 99% confidence level means you can be 99% certain. Most researchers use the 95% confidence level.

When you put the confidence level and the confidence interval together, you can say that you are 95% sure that the true percentage of the population is between 43% and 51%. The wider the confidence interval you are willing to accept, the more certain you can be that the whole population answers would be within that range.

For example, if you asked a sample of 1000 people in a city which brand of cola they preferred, and 60% said Brand A, you can be very certain that between 40 and 80% of all the people in the city actually do prefer that brand, but you cannot be so sure that between 59 and 61% of the people in the city prefer the brand.

Factors that Affect Confidence Intervals

There are three factors that determine the size of the confidence interval for a given confidence level:

- Sample size
- Percentage
- Population size

Sample Size

The larger your sample size, the more sure you can be that their answers truly reflect the population. This indicates that for a given confidence level, the larger your sample size, the smaller your confidence interval. However, the relationship is not linear (i.e., doubling the sample size does not halve the confidence interval).

Percentage

Your accuracy also depends on the percentage of your sample that picks a particular answer. If 99% of your sample said "Yes" and 1% said "No," the chances of error are remote, irrespective of sample size. However, if the percentages are 51% and 49% the chances of error are much greater. It is easier to be sure of extreme answers than of middle-of-the-road ones.

When determining the sample size needed for a given level of accuracy you must use the worst case percentage (50%). You should also use this percentage if you want to determine a general level of accuracy for a sample you already have. To determine the confidence interval for a specific answer your sample has given, you can use the percentage picking that answer and get a smaller interval.

Population Size

How many people are there in the group your sample represents? This may be the number of people in a city you are studying, the number of people who buy new cars, etc. Often you may not know the exact population size. This is not a problem. The mathematics of probability proves the size of the population is irrelevant unless the size of the sample exceeds a few percent of the total population you are examining. This means that a sample of 500 people is equally useful in examining the opinions of a state of 15,000,000 as it would a city of 100,000. For this reason, The Survey System ignores the population size when it is "large" or unknown. Population size is only likely to be a factor when you work with a relatively small and known group of people (e.g., the members of an association).

The confidence interval calculations assume you have a genuine random sample of the relevant population. If your sample is not truly random, you cannot rely on the intervals. Non-random samples usually result from some flaw in the sampling procedure. An example of such a flaw is to only call people during the day and miss almost everyone who works. For most purposes, the non-working population cannot be assumed to accurately represent the entire (working and non-working) population.

Research Aids

[Research Aids](#)

- [Sample Size Calculator](#)
- [Sample Size Formula](#)
- [Significance](#)
- [Survey Design](#)
- [Correlation](#)

**"Best Survey
Software"**

TopTenReviews



selected The Survey System as the Best Survey Software.

"The Survey System gains our highest marks for survey creation, analysis and administration methods, making it the best survey software in our ranking... This is the only product in our lineup that offers all features and tools we considered. For these reasons, The Survey System earns our TopTenREVIEWS Gold Award." [Read More](#)

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Sample Size: How Many Survey Participants Do I Need?

In order to have confidence that your survey results are representative, it is critically important that you have a large number of randomly-selected participants in each group you survey. So what exactly is "a large number?" For a 95% confidence level (which means that there is only a 5% chance of your sample results differing from the true population average), a good estimate of the margin of error (or confidence interval) is given by $1/\sqrt{N}$, where N is the number of participants or sample size (Niles, 2006).

The following table shows this estimate of the margin of error for sample sizes ranging from 10 to 10,000. (For more advanced students with an interest in statistics, the Creative Research Systems website (Creative Research Systems, 2003) has a more exact formula, along with a sample size calculator that you can use. For most purposes, though, the $1/\sqrt{N}$ approach is sufficient.)

Sample Size (N)	Margin of Error (fraction)	Margin of Error (percentage)
10	0.316	31.6
20	0.224	22.4
50	0.141	14.1
100	0.100	10.0
200	0.071	7.1
500	0.045	4.5
1000	0.032	3.2
2000	0.022	2.2
5000	0.014	1.4
10000	0.010	1.0

You can quickly see from the table that results from a survey with only 10 random participants are not reliable. The margin of error in this case is roughly 32%. This means that if you found, for example, that 6 out of your 10 participants (60%) had a fear of heights, then the actual proportion of the population with a fear of heights could vary by $\pm 32\%$. In other words, the actual

proportion could be as low as 28% (60 - 32) and as high as 92% (60 + 32). With a range that large, your small survey isn't saying much.

If you increase the sample size to 100 people, your margin of error falls to 10%. Now if 60% of the participants reported a fear of heights, there would be a 95% probability that between 50 and 70% of the total population have a fear of heights. Now you're getting somewhere. If you want to narrow the margin of error to $\pm 5\%$, you have to survey 500 randomly-selected participants. The bottom line is, you need to survey a *lot* of people before you can start having any confidence in your results.

Bibliography

- This webpage calculates the sample size required for a desired confidence interval, or the confidence interval for a given sample size:
Creative Research Systems, 2003. "Sample Size Calculator," Retrieved June 28, 2006 from <http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm> (<http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm>).
- This website has information on statistics and statistical tests, written for the non-mathematician:
Niles, Robert, 2006. "Robert Niles' Journalism Help: Statistics Every Writer Should Know," RobertNiles.com. Retrieved June 28, 2006 from <http://www.robertniles.com/stats/> (<http://www.robertniles.com/stats/>).

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SECTION: 8.0

ITEM: 8.8 CAPRI ELECTION BALLOT FOR 2017

DESCRIPTION: SHALL THE AUBURN RECREATION DISTRICT (ARD) BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE FOR THE 2017 CAPRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

INFORMATION: SEE ATTACHMENT

**STAFF
RECOMMENDATION: REVIEW INFORMATION, VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE**



DATE: October 5, 2016

TO: Members, CAPRI

FROM: Pat Cabulagan, Administrator

RE: CAPRI Election Ballot for 2016

Attached is the CAPRI Election Ballot for 2016, for terms of office commencing in 2017. Per the Bylaws, each participating member district shall have one vote for each category to be elected, and shall vote for its choice of individuals willing to serve on the Board of Directors. The individual receiving the highest number of votes in each category shall be elected to serve on the Board of Directors. All CAPRI Board members must be either a member of the Board of Directors or a management employee of a participating member district. Only one representative from any district may serve on the CAPRI Board at the same time.

This year, there is only one seat up for election, an “at large” seat. So please vote for one individual.

The date of the election is October 28, 2016. The district may choose to return its ballot by mail, fax or email, but the ballot must be received at the CAPRI office prior to the close of business, 5:00 P.M., on October 28, 2016 to be considered valid and be counted. **You must return an executed/signed ballot.**

Your vote is important, so please return your ballot by the October 28, 2016 deadline. Also enclosed is each candidate’s letter of interest/qualifications for your review.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation in the continued success of CAPRI.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Cabulagan". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Pat Cabulagan
Administrator

Enclosure

CAPRI Board of Directors Election

2016

Election's Ballot

Membership At Large (vote for one)

Mark Johnson.....
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

Manie Meraz.....
Orangevale Recreation and Park District

Brigitte Shearer.....
Highlands Recreation District

Please Return by October 28, 2016. Thank you.

X _____
(District Name)

X _____
(Signature)



RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

1692 Sycamore Drive, Simi Valley, California 93065 • (805) 584-4400 • FAX (805) 526-7025
Web Page: www.rsprd.org

September 26, 2016

Pat Cabulagan
Administrator
CAPRI
6341 Auburn Boulevard, Suite A
Citrus Heights, Ca 95621-5203

Re: Letter of Interest in Serving on the CAPRI Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Cabulagan,

Please consider this letter as my expression of interest in serving on the CAPRI Board of Directors. I am currently a Member of the Board of Directors for the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. I was first elected to this position in December 1990. I also currently serve as a Member of the Board of Directors for the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts. I have many years of experience with Board governance, special districts, and the field of parks and recreation. My professional experience includes serving as a math teacher for our local school District. I also served as a soccer coach for many years. I am retired and have the time to participate on the CAPRI Board. I would enjoy my service to CAPRI and its member agencies, and I am confident that I can meaningfully contribute towards its mission should I be elected to serve on the Board of Directors. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or if you require anything further.

Sincerely,

Mark Johnson
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

Qualifications of Manie Meraz
Orangevale Recreation & Park District - Board Member
jmmeraz@surewest.net

Thank you for considering me for election to the CAPRI Board of Directors. My extensive experience in the public sector has prepared me well to serve on this Board. Particularly helpful are my previous participation as a PARDEC Board Member, service on the CARPD Board of Directors from 2012-2016, and my current long term service as a Board Member for the Orangevale Recreation & Park District. I would be pleased to represent you and contribute my experience to providing our member Districts the most cost effective, comprehensive coverage. I would appreciate your vote.

- CARPD Board Member: 2012-2016
- Director with the Orangevale Recreation & Park District. Elected position: 2000-present. Served as Chairperson of the Board and as committee chair for the District's Finance, Personnel/Policy, Planning, Recreation, Trails, and Maintenance committees.
- Member of SACOG (Sacramento Area Council of Governments) alternative transportation planning group. 2003 to 2010.
- PARDEC Board Member: 2003-2008 (Park and Recreation District Employee Compensation) Served on Joint Safety Committee that blended the PARDEC and CAPRI efforts in supporting Districts safety and risk management efforts. Experience with Workers Compensation, Safety, and Insurance Coverage for Special Districts.
- Served on numerous Sacramento County Boards and Committees by appointment by Sacramento County Board of Supervisors from 1978 to present.
 - Hazel Avenue CAC: (Community Advisory Committee) 2002-2010. Project was a major multi-year commitment which included the Hazel Avenue redesign from Madison Avenue south to Hwy 50 and American River Bridge redesign (\$68M project) with trail/pedestrian/equestrian construction elements.
 - Worked on numerous projects with the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and developers including the: General Plan, Master Plans and local Community Plans from 1978 to present.
 - Served on numerous other committees within the Sacramento County government including areas of health, budget, planning, water, transportation, social services, etc.
- Served on numerous State and Federal Boards and Committees while assigned as Federal Officer with The U.S. Department of Human and Health Services Administration, 1974 to 1992. Departments ranged from U.S. Treasury, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Marshall Office, EEOC, U.S. Public Health Department, IRS, plus many others.
- American Red Cross Disaster Planning: Human Relations Liaison Officer, 1992-1998 Planning and coordination of disaster relief services with all local, state and federal authorities.
- Hazel Avenue Task Force Committee: Planning and design elements for Hazel Avenue north of Oak Avenue to Placer County line and related transit corridors 1988-1992.
- CPAC: Community Planning Advisory Committee (Orangevale and NE Sacramento County 1982-1984).
- Municipal Service Advisory Council (1978-1982), Sacramento County Planning and Community Service needs. Supervisor Jim Streng appointment.
- Orangevale Advisory Committee: 1976-1984. Founder and past president. Advisory to Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and Sacramento Planning Department.
- Education: BA (Gerontology), Minor: Urban Planning. CSUS 1974. post graduate work: Planning. Related education: University of the Philippines-Manila (1971).



Highlands Recreation District

1851 Lexington Avenue • San Mateo, CA 94402

(650) 341-4251 • Fax (650) 349-9627

www.highlandsrec.ca.gov

"Where Family Traditions Begin"

CAPRI Board of Directors
Pat Cabulagan
CAPRI
6341 Auburn Boulevard, Suite A
Citrus Heights, CA 95621-5203

RE: Letter of interest

Dear Pat and CAPRI Board of Directors

I am hereby submitting my letter of interest in joining the CAPRI Board of Directors by election of its member districts later this fall. My educational background, experience, and desire to better understand the foundation of the CAPRI organization lead me to request consideration for this honor.

Prior to joining the Highlands Recreation District as its General Manager in April of 2012, I was a Board Member at 'the Rec' for 13 years. I've participated in the District's Master Plan, countless community engagement events, design and planning of our Early Education Center building, and much more. Since becoming GM, the Rec's operations have grown significantly. Operating near capacity inevitably strains a facility, its staff and its community. As a result, several things needed attention and new opportunities for improvement abounded. I've helped optimize the operation of our Early Education Program and many other programs and activities, ensured that our policies and procedures were compliant with changing laws, and worked diligently to maintain positive relations with our County government and our community. And yet, as is the nature of Parks and Recreation, new challenges, new opportunities, and new risks arise almost daily!

Working with CAPRI for the past four years has enlightened me to the issues surrounding risk assessment and mitigation in every aspect of our agency. I welcome the biennial inspections as they test our resolve to confirm our commitment to safety in everything we do. I am proud to report that, thanks to the diligent efforts of past and present staff and management, the District has passed these inspections with flying colors for many years now.

I am fortunate to serve with a fantastic Board of Directors, a dedicated staff, and a very supportive patron community. That and a solid economic base provide Highlands Recreation District with financial stability and peace of mind. It is a pleasure to serve this community, and I am passionate about ensuring that my district and others like it throughout the State remain operational and safe, financially and otherwise, in the face of the challenges we encounter every day. It would be an honor to learn more about risk management and its best practices by serving on the CAPRI Board.

My resume is attached to further describe my experience. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,


Brigitte Shearer

RECEIVED SEP 07 2012

BRIGITTE S. SHEARER

1577 BRANDYWINE ROAD, SAN MATEO, CA 94402
650-740-8717 SHEARERB@GMAIL.COM

EXPERIENCE

4/2012 to present **Highlands Recreation District**

San Mateo, CA

General Manager

- Manage community center with \$3MM annual budget, 70+ employees.
- Responsible for daily operations of 130-child in licensed childcare programs, year-round aquatics facility, and classes and events for all ages.
- Negotiate with vendors for business services, supplies, and employee benefits.
- Monitor District's financial performance and prepare projections
- Report to Board of Directors at monthly meetings
- Manage all aspects of special district relationship with San Mateo County and Highlands Community

9/2001 to 4/2012 **Pierce & Shearer LLP**

San Mateo, CA

Business Manager

- Managed monthly and year-end accounting of 15-employee, 2-office law firm with \$2 million annual revenue.
- Implemented all aspects of human resource management, including recruiting, hiring, training, benefit enrollment, compensation, development and termination.
- Coordinated installation, maintenance and upgrades of all office hardware and software.
- Negotiated with vendors for business services, legal services, employee benefits and office leases.
- Managed accounting and administrative staff.
- Oversaw office space renovation, office relocation and maintenance.

4/1998-9/2001 **Shearer Law Offices**

San Mateo, CA

Business Manager

- Developed and implemented all business processes for start-up law firm.
- Oversaw expansion and subsequent relocation of office.
- Helped increase annual revenues and staff.
- Managed all logistics of restructuring of firm as a partnership, including accounting, vendor contract renegotiation, technology and staffing.

9/1996-6/1998 **Stanford Graduate School of Business**

Stanford, CA

Operational Director, Center for Entrepreneurial Studies

- Assisted Stanford faculty in establishing academic center to promote and support entrepreneurial research and experience for students, alumni and Silicon Valley community.
- Developed informational materials and conducted presentations for visiting scholars and executives.
- Redesigned program for entrepreneurial internships for graduate students.

12/1992-9/1996 **CSC Index**

San Francisco, CA

Senior Associate

- Co-developed new operating model for major auto club/insurance company.
- Modeled staffing changes which would result from reengineering implementation.
- Designed and coordinated pilot program of reengineered business processes; resulted in 15% increase in sales within 3 months.

EDUCATION

Stanford Graduate School of Business: M.B.A., Business Administration
Princeton University; B.S.E, Chemical Engineering

INTERESTS

Vice President, Highlands Recreation District Board of Directors, 1999 to 2012
Travelling, skiing, hiking, reading, volunteering

SECTION: 9.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. November and December 2016 committee and board meeting schedule -- see attachment.
2. Railhead Soccer Fields and dogs.
3. County Mitigation Fund, current balance, \$255,141. (Standing Finance Committee).

The schedule for November and December 2016 committee and board meetings is as follows:

November, 2016

Acquisition & Development Monday, November 7th at 4:00 p.m.

Standing Finance Wednesday, November 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Program, Personnel, Policy, Fee & Legal Review Wednesday, November 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m.

December, 2016

Acquisition & Development Monday, December 5th at 4:00 p.m.

Standing Finance Wednesday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m.

Program, Personnel, Policy, Fee & Legal Review Wednesday, December 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion Item 9.2 Cover sheet – Railhead Park Additional Fencing

**Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Acquisition and Development Committee
October, 2016; Board of Director's meeting October 2016**

The Issue

A discussion of a proposal to add fencing at Railhead Park in an effort to keep dogs off of the soccer fields.

Background

Railhead Park is a 9 acre park consisting of two large soccer fields, a bathroom, pond, shade structure, playground and parking lot. Railhead Park is owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and managed by ARD via a Management Agreement signed 2/3/2000.

One of the issues that soccer players and ARD staff have dealt with over the years is dogs being on the soccer fields. A good portion of the people in the community believe that Railhead Park is home to a second dog park (the first being at Ashford Park). Dogs can do significant damage to a soccer field, and their urine and feces pose health hazards to soccer players.

Staff has tried signage, letters (see attached) and having discussions with dog users. These attempts to keep the dogs off the field have been met with limited success.

Alternatives have been considered over the years, the two most discussed being actually creating a second dog park at Railhead or fencing off the fields.

At this point, staff is interested in pursuing the fencing of the fields. This would require approximately 1,500 feet of new fencing, most likely 4 foot chain link fence. An aerial showing existing fencing and proposed new fencing is attached.

Recommendation

Review and discuss.

Fiscal Impact

The estimated cost for 1,500 feet of 4 foot fence is approximately \$15,000 - \$20,000. This number is based on costs to install 4 foot fence at a recent project. Should the Board decide they want to pursue this further, estimates will be sought.

Attachments

Aerial photograph - fencing at Railhead Park
Signage and letter used at Railhead Park



Railhead Park

- Yellow lines = approximate existing fence lines (4' chain link)
- White dashed lines = approximate location for new fence (approx. 1,500')
- Main. = maintenance gate (10'). Yellow is existing
- Man G. = Man-gate. Yellow is existing

We Love Our Dogs Too...



**BUT THEY DON'T
BELONG ON
ATHLETIC FIELDS**

We get it. Just like you, our dogs are part of our family. We also understand that dogs need lots of exercise and that an athletic field is a great place to let your dog run to its heart's content. The problem is that dogs cause many problems for athletic fields, including turf damage and urine/fecal residue.

ARD Ordinance #1, 1(?) states: "Dogs may be permitted on all non-athletic fields while under the control of a competent person and restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length".

ARD has a world class dog park, the Ashley Memorial Dog Park at Ashford Park. Check it out!

**Please help us maintain your parks and athletic fields and
respect our youth sports teams.**



THANK YOU,

AUBURN AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

October 12, 2016

Dear Railhead Park user,

Railhead Park is a wonderful community asset enjoyed by thousands each year. Whether it be soccer, visiting the playground, flying a kite or using the park as a jumping off point for the trails in the canyon, Railhead Park has much to offer.

What Railhead Park does NOT offer is a dog park. The Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD), the managers of Railhead Park, have never designated the area as a dog park.

The California Public Resources Code, section 5786.1, empowers the District's Board to adopt and enforce ordinances, rules and regulations for the administration, operation, use, and maintenance of the recreation facilities, programs, and services provided by ARD.

ARD Ordinance #1, L(2) states: "Dogs may be permitted on all non-athletic fields while under the control of a competent person and restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length".

ARD Ordinance, Section 8 states: "Each District park ranger, Auburn City Police, Placer County Sheriff or duly authorized law enforcement officer is hereby granted permission to enter upon both public and restricted areas of all park and park facilities within their respective jurisdictions to maintain public order or to prevent, remedy, or take other appropriate action with respect to violations of the provisions of this ordinance or of other applicable laws or regulations".

Please respect other park users, ARD Ordinance #1 and the community by not allowing your dog on the athletic fields at Railhead Park.

Sincerely,

Kahl Muscott
District Administrator

Cc:
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors
Auburn City Council
Auburn Police Department
Auburn Journal

SECTION 11.0

ITEM: CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATIONAL

1. Thank you letter to the Auburn Recreation District from Betts Stroh regarding the 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race.

9/26/2016

Hello Hello - Community & Friends @
Auburn Recreation Department

Thank you for all
the efforts (and love
of community) that
ARD put into making
the 2016 Great
Auburn Obstacle
5K Race an exciting
event!

For the time you give,
the hearts you warm,
the smiles you make—
you're appreciated.

See you next year!

Regards,
Kette Steak



Auburn Journal

Friday Sep 23 2016 | 0 comments

1

You can bet on Betts Stroh

At 84, sprinter is ready for obstacle race

By: Michael Mott, Reporter



Do you know someone who should be featured in "Forever Young?" Please contact Ike Dodson, sports editor, at iked@goldcountrymedia.com.

Editor's note: This story kicks off an intermittent series celebrating seniors with a passion for sports and recreation

Betts Stroh says she was born with sprinter muscles.

The 84-year-old Auburn runner eats a high protein diet of vegetables, fish and chicken.

On Thursday, she hopped up and down in warming up for a 30-second side plank and enthusiastically showed off her routine.

Stroh isn't intimidated by obstacles - either on the course that lies ahead Sunday or in life. She's a selfstarter who never looks back.

"I have to give back and pay it forward," said Stroh, gleaming under her strawberry-pink hair, hoop and diamond earrings. "I've been blessed with these happy feet."

Stroh spoke with the Journal about her second run in the Great Auburn Obstacle Race, a wet, muddy 5k set for Sunday. She also touched on supporting veterans and staying joyful.

Stroh is a relatively new Auburnite, moving here last March after a life spent mostly in the Midwest. After her husband of 20 years died in 2009, she decided, at age 80, to participate in a community run or 3k or 1.86 miles.

She surprised herself.

"I found out I was fast!" the 4-foot-9 woman said ecstatically. She was only going to walk and signed up for other races. "If you get involved, you do better when you're with other people."

When Stroh moved to Auburn, she trained with former Del Oro High football coach Steve March, Placer track coach Amanda Roberts and competed in sprints in the Bay Area Senior Game. In July of 2016, she took second in the state and fifth in the nation in the National Senior Games.

Since then, she's run in numerous races, including an Alzheimer's benefit where she raised hundreds of dollars.

This year, she's running in honor and memory of late U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Michael P.D. Shannon, who died in 2010 after earning the Medal of Honor. It's an effort for the nonprofit Medals of Honor, which honors fallen military veterans and their families.

Shannon died in 2010. When Stroh heard from his family that Shannon loved running through the mountains during the fall, she broke down in tears.

"You and I are sitting here today because this man died for our freedoms," she said. "Freedom to run. Freedom to live."

This year, she'll wear an olive shirt, camouflage shorts and hat to honor Shannon.

Stroh credits her coaches, Auburn's Lifestyle Fitness Gym and Auburn Recreation District classes for keeping her active. She wakes up at 5 a.m. and reads her Auburn Journal, walks her dog, and shows up to the gym around 7:30 a.m., six days a week, for 30 minutes. In training, she'll spend two hours there.

With a former career in marketing, she said it came natural to her to be a self-starter and get out and talk to people, though running with others always provides motivation.

She gushed about the gym on Enterprise Drive, where she's usually greeted by staffer Ronnie Houston and goes to work on ellipticals, her circuit routine and other exercises. Her insurance covers the gym fee, and she encouraged anyone older to check if theirs does, too.

Houston first met Stroh at last year's obstacle race.

"She came through with such pure joy on her face. Everyone was clapping for her. I was happy when she ended up in the gym here," Houston said.

Stroh said it's necessary to get out and about when you get older.

"It's like going to work here, when people say 'Hi' it brightens your mind," she said. "If you're home alone, you think backward. Getting out, I enjoy the sights, smells and am going to have a good day."


She's excited to run in this year's obstacle race. And afterwards, she'll keep on running and meeting friends at the gym.


"It's fun! I feel like a kid again," she said, describing pumpkin mash and mud awaiting her Sunday. She also has two grandchildren, who, "say they don't have to do any running because I do it for them."


Keywords:


Betts Stroh ARD Great Auburn Obstacle Race

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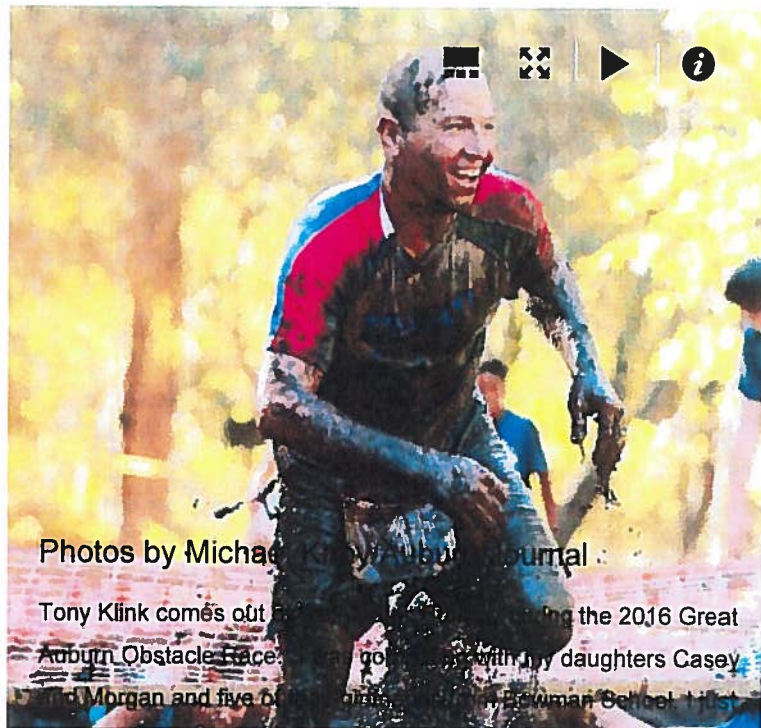
Monday Sep 26 2016 | 0 comments

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MIRTH AND MUD: 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race

By: Michael Kirby

Buy This Photo Now



Over 300 participants of all ages gathered at the Regional Park in North Auburn Sunday to test their abilities in the Auburn Recreation District's 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race. More than 20 creative and physically challenging obstacles stood in the way between the start and finish lines of the 5K, including a rope wall, a mud pit, a creek crossing, tire ladders and a rat maze.

Covered with mud at the finish line, all challengers were smiling as they hosed off.

"This is a good, active family event that has grown every year," Manouch Shirvanioun, ARD marketing and customer service representative, said.

The course takes about a week to set up and ARD crews are assisted by service groups and volunteers to oversee the obstacles on the course.

Spencer Burke, 19, was the first overall finisher of the 5K with a time of 24:23, followed closely by Trevor Burke, 23, just two seconds behind him.

Keywords:

MIRTH AND MUD 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race

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Great Auburn Obstacle Race



Michael
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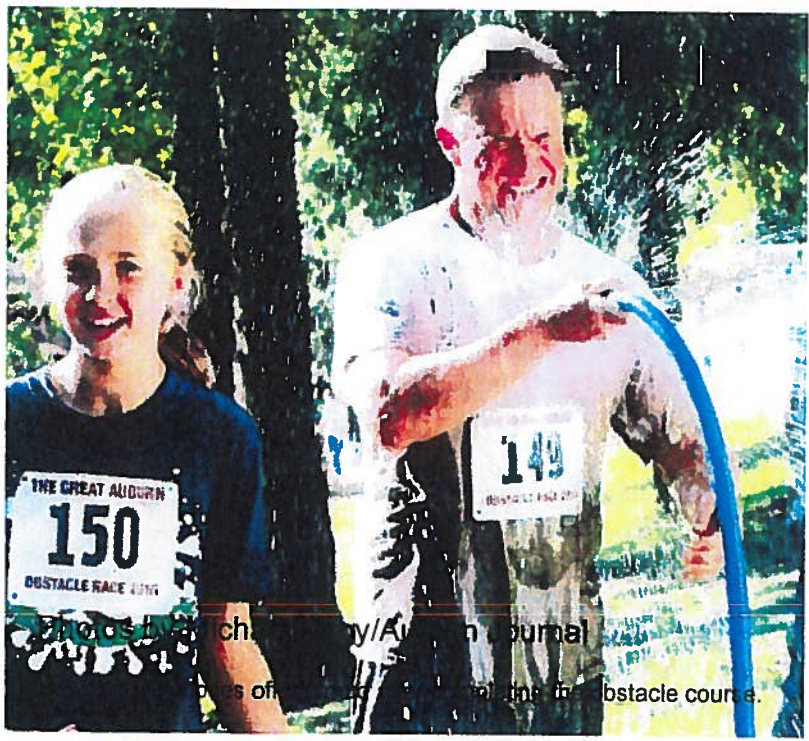
Auburn Journal

Sep 26 2016 | 0 comments

HAND AND MUD: 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race

Michael Kirby

Photo Now



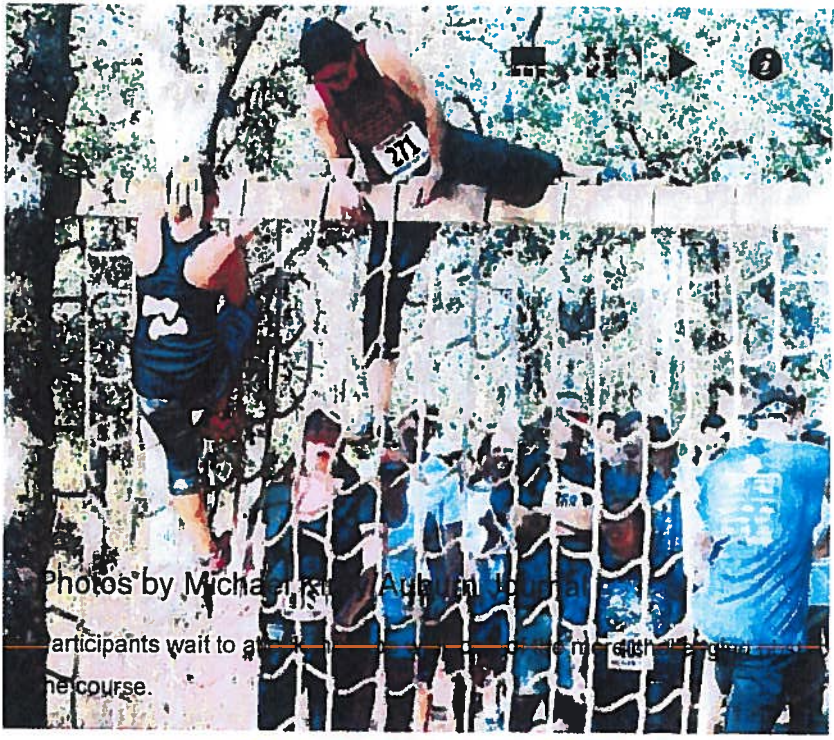
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H AND MUD: 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race

Michael Kirby

Photo Now



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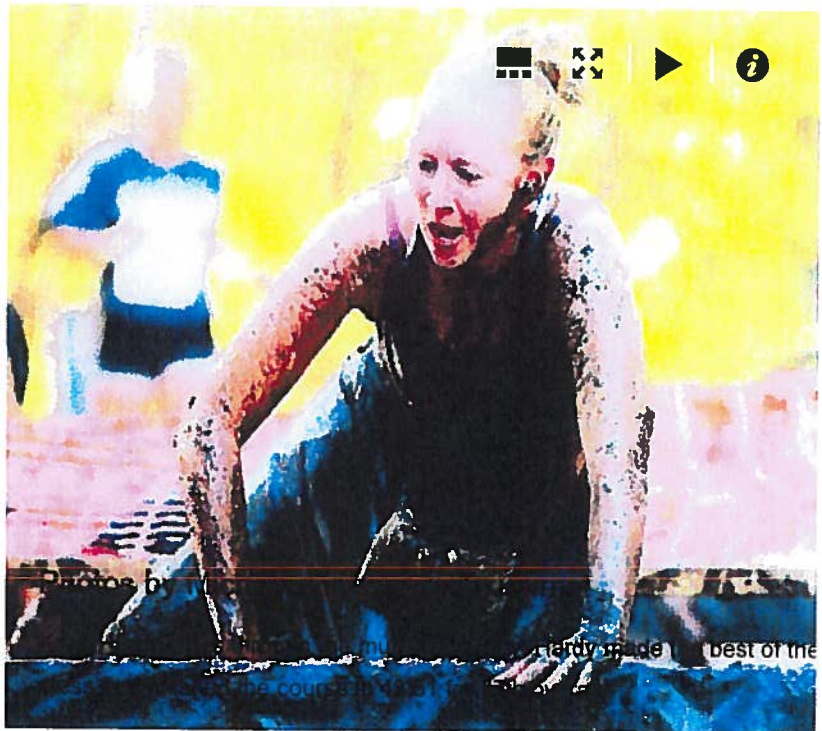
Sep 26 2016 | 0 comments

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H AND MUD: 2016 Great Auburn Obstacle Race

Michael Kirby

is Photo Now



ARD supports Herschel Young Park

Brings total up to two-thirds projection

BY MICHAEL MOTT
OF THE AUBURN JOURNAL

The Auburn Recreation District (ARD) has agreed to contribute \$12,800 to the Herschel Young Park revitalization effort, bringing the funding up to two thirds of what planners estimated was needed.

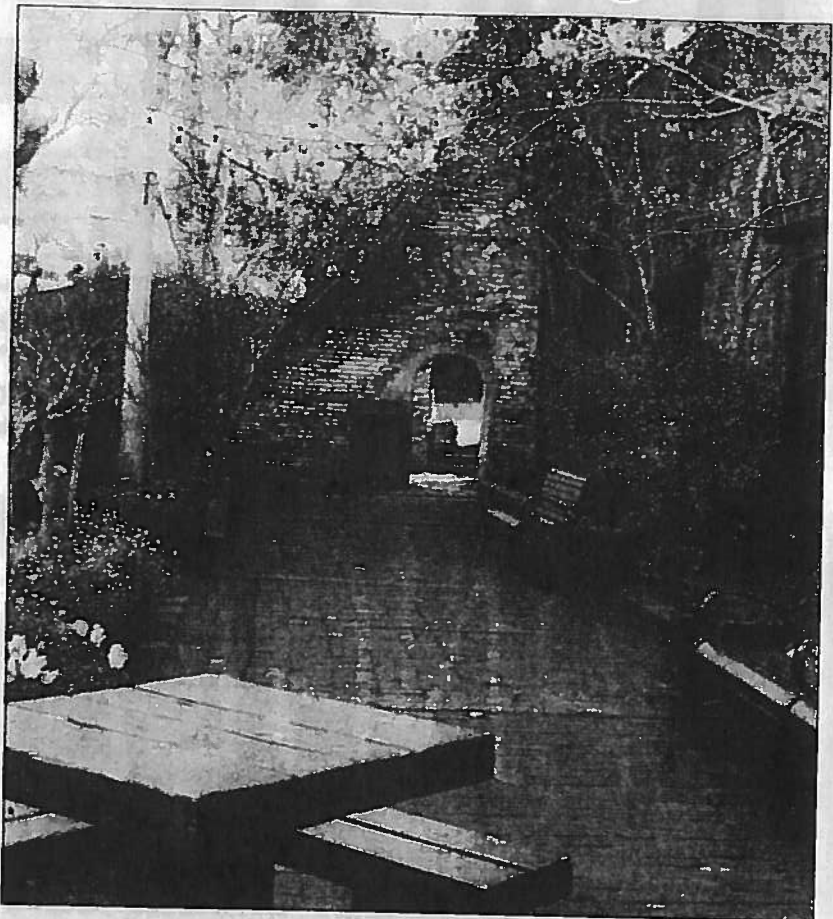
The district board approved the funds to match the City of Auburn's contribution, which now totals \$25,600 of the project's estimated \$35,000 cost. While Auburn owns the park, ARD has maintained it for years and staff will work with organizers of the renovation, said ARD Director Scott Holbrook.

"ARD staff will also be working with organizers to help reduce costs and make it as nice a place as we can," he said. Holbrook, an event organizer, will also be sponsoring the community bulletin board. "I feel it is a valuable addition and feel it will create a win-win."

The ARD contribution was a unanimous vote. ARD's district administrator said the board wanted to support the community.

"We are the main recreation and parks provider, and we think we should be part of it," Muscott said.

Next steps for organizers and Old Town Business Association representatives Gary Moffat and



AUBURN JOURNAL FILE PHOTOS

Herschel Young Park has been the subject of discussion at city council and other community meetings.

Michael Murphy will be fundraising from business owners and others who appreciate the park.

The proposed changes include a large portal gate and sign identifying the park, replaced tables and

chairs; brick repair; new landscaping; and more.

The park is named after former Police Chief and WWII veteran Herschel Young, who served as Auburn's chief from 1958 to 1971.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL KIRBY • AUBURN JOURNAL

Tenzin Page, of Auburn, sits on this year's pumpkin contest winner. The 15 month old got a close up look at the giant gourd Saturday at the Auburn Community Festival. The pumpkin was grown by Granite Bay's Richard Westervelt.

1,560 -pound pumpkin wins contest

BY MICHAEL KIRBY
FOR THE AUBURN JOURNAL

The weather was a little damp but it felt like fall was really finally here at the 20th annual Auburn Community Festival that took place at the Auburn Recreation Park on Saturday.

Held rain or shine, the event went off as scheduled after a day and night of rain.

Along with the tons of pumpkins waiting to be weighed, numerous scarecrow entries were assembled on the lawn, and craft and food vendors lined the walking path. "It has been a great run, it's hard to believe that it has been 20 years," said Barbara Jicha, Auburn Community Festival committee member. "The biggest change I think is the increase of the size of the pumpkins and growers coming from all over to enter our contest, we're on the map."

There were 10 pumpkins in the contest, and Richard Westervelt had the winning gourd weighing 1433.5 pounds. This was the third time Westervelt - a Granite Bay resident - had the biggest pumpkin. Really big and heavy, his pumpkin was still over a hundred of pounds off from the Placer County record Keith Goodrich set in 2012 with his 1,560 pound pumpkin. "I thought it would be heavier," said Westervelt. "It's been a hot year and that is not good for growing."



Trish Schieber, of Meadow Vista, won the open scarecrow contest with her Edgar Allan Crow entry.

PUMPKIN CONTEST RESULTS

NO.	NAME	POUNDS	CITY
1.	Richard Westervelt	1433.5	Granite Bay
2.	Brenda Timmins	905.5	Roseville
3.	Madison Thomson	825	Fort Bragg
4.	Tom Wilson	781	Grass Valley
5.	Karen Root	553.5	Citrus Heights
6.	Guy Hinnchs	440	Quincy
7.	Kelly Warman	429.5	Auburn
8.	Brian Myers	349.5	Penryn
9.	John Brewer	327.5	Ophir
10.	Randy Warren	135	Auburn

SCARECROW CONTEST RESULTS

OPEN

1. Trish Schieber
2. Kelly Liebert
3. Ellen Copeland

TRADITIONAL

1. Aliana Daley
2. Bill Burdick

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Monique Meador

Auburn Journal 10-18-11

FESTIVAL: Costumes, parade

continued from A1

Still, Westervelt took home \$1,000 first prize for overall biggest pumpkin and \$500 for the largest Placer County pumpkin.

Team B, Brenda and Donald Timmins took second place with a pumpkin weighing 905.5 pounds grown just outside of Roseville. "We've been coming for four years, but this is our biggest pumpkin yet," said Brenda Timmins.

Another highlight of the festival is the scarecrow-building contest. Very creative builders assemble their scarecrow installations to be judged in several divisions.

This year's first place open division winner was Trish Schieber with her Edgar Allan Crow entry. In a new division this year, Aliana Daley won the traditional division with a scarecrow entry that could keep scarecrows away in a farmer's field. Monique Meador was the people's choice winner with her Trick or Treat entry.

Also on the day's schedule was a recipe judging, and in the afternoon, a costume contest and parade led by the Sugar Plump Fairies.

It was great festival attended and enjoyed by young and old.



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Luke Sauer, 3, decorates a pumpkin with the help of his nanny Grace Boal.