SAN MATEO COUNTY

Environmental Services Agency

Date:

October 22, 2001

Hearing Date: October 30, 2001

TO:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Marcia Raines, Director, Environmental Services Agency

SUBJECT:

APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION RECREATIONAL

TRAILS PROGRAM FOR THE EDGEWOOD PARK SUNSET

TRAILHEAD PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$128,000

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adopt a resolution approving and ratifying an application to the California State Department of Parks and Recreation for the Edgewood Park Sunset Trailhead Project in the amount of \$128,000.

2. Authorize the Director of the Environmental Services Agency to execute and submit any agreements or other documents related to the grant application and related project.

BACKGROUND:

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides funds for recreational trails and trails-related projects. The procedural guide contains program information and application materials. The RTP is administered, at the federal level, by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) administers it at the state level.

Nationwide, \$30 million was available for Federal Fiscal Year 1998, \$40 million in Fiscal Year 1999 and \$50 million a year for Fiscal Years 2000 through 2003. California's share is expected to be approximately \$2 million in FY1998, \$2.7 million in FY1999, and \$3.5 million in FY2000 through FY2003.

Eligible projects include, in part:

- Maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails; 1.
- 2. Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for recreational trails:
- Purchase and lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment; 3.
- 4. Construction of new recreational trails:

- 5. Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors:
- 6. Operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection.

The application has been signed by Director Marcia Raines and submitted to State Parks conditioned on the receipt of an authorizing resolution from the Board of Supervisors.

DISCUSSION:

The neighborhood adjacent to the Sunset gate has changed considerably over the years from a more rural to suburban character. As a result, County Parks would like to bring this gate more into character with the neighborhood. Several issues at the Sunset gate will be addressed including developing mobility-impaired access, restricting after-hours entry to the park (but allowing egress), equestrian access, and maintaining emergency, County and PG&E vehicle access.

The Sunset Gate Accessibility and Improvement Project at Edgewood Park will include development of schematic designs, preliminary design through scoping meetings with County Park staff and public meetings with interested community groups, development of construction documents and bidding and construction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no significant impact on the Parks and Recreation Division's budget. There is a local match requirement of 20% of the total project cost. County Parks will meet this match requirement using Per Capita funds. The Per Capita Grant Program is a program of the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 approved by voters in March 2000. The Bond Act of 2000, commonly referred to as Proposition 12, is intended to revive state stewardship of natural resources by investing in neighborhood parks and state parks, clean water protection, coastal beaches and scenic areas.

As part of the process for the County to receive its predetermined allocation of Per Capita grant funds, County Parks requested of the Board of Supervisors a resolution authorizing the Director of Environmental Services to contract with State Parks for the Per Capita funds. With the request for a resolution, County Parks included a list of potential projects that could be delivered with the Per Capita grant funds. The Sunset Gate project was part of the list of projects.

Existing staff resources will be utilized to oversee proper project implementation.

REVIEW BY OTHERS:

The Parks and Recreation Commission has reviewed this application and recommends its submission.

The County Counsel's Office has reviewed the resolution and finds it in order.

Resolution No.	
----------------	--

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE EDGEWOOD PARK SUNSET TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$128,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AGENCY TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT ANY AGREEMENTS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION AND SUBJECT PROJECT

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Equity Act For The 21st Century provides funds to the State of California for grants to state, local and non-profit organizations to acquire, develop and/or maintain motorized and non-motorized trail purposes;

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the program within the State, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the program;

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State;

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into an agreement with the State of California to complete the project(s); and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED, that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors by adoption of this resolution hereby approves and ratifies the submission of an application to the Recreational Trails Program for the Edgewood Park Sunset Trailhead Improvement Project in the amount of \$128,000 and certifies that San Mateo County has or will have available prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Director of the Environmental Services Agency of the County of San Mateo is hereby authorized and empowered to conduct all negotiations, accept grant funds in the amount of \$128,000 for the Edgewood Park Sunset Trailhead Improvement Project, and execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and other documents that may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

State of California DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM APPLICATION

PROGRAM TYPE: Check Appropriate Boxes				
<i>7</i>	APPLICANT TYPE			
✓ Non-Motorized	Municipal	State		
Motorized PROJECT NAME	Non-Profit AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUEST!	ED \$128,000		
Sunset Gate Accessibility and Improvement Project at Edgewood Park	ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT C (State Grant and other funds)	OST \$160,000		
and Natural Preserve in San Mateo Count	y ESTIMATED DATE OF COMPLET	TION		
APPLICANT Agency and address, include zip code	COUNTY OF PROJECT COUNTY OF SAN MATEO	NEAREST CITY REDWOOD CITY		
San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division 455 County Center, 4 th Floor	PROJECT ADDRESS 10 Stage Coach Road, Redwood	PROJECT ADDRESS 10 Stage Coach Road, Redwood City, CA 94062		
Redwood City, CA 94063-1646	NEAREST CROSS STREET Edgewood Road	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CD 14—Anna Eshoo		
COUNTY OF APPLICANT County of San Mateo	SENATE DISTRICT NO. SD 8—Jackie Speler	ASSEMBLY DISTRICT NO. AD 21—Joe Simitian		
Person with day-to-day responsibility				
Ross Nakasone Mana	gement Analyst	650-363-4027		
NAME TITLE Description of Project (include types of facilities)		PHONE		
The neighborhood adjacent to the Sunset gate has changed considerably over the years from a more rural to suburban character. As a result, County Parks would like to bring this gate more into character with the neighborhood. Several issues at the Sunset gate will be addressed including: developing mobility-impaired access, restricting after-hours entry to the park (but allowing egress), equestrian access, and maintaining emergency, County and PG&E vehicle access. The Sunset Gate Accessibility and Improvement Project at Edgewood Park will include development of schematic designs, preliminary design through scoping meetings with County Park staff and public meetings with interested community groups, development of construction documents and bidding and construction.				
		·		
For Development Projects Land Tenure-Project is <2acres				
Public LandPrivate Land	Acres owned in fee simple by Grant	Applicant		
•				
	cres other interest (explain)			
Acres available under a		curate.		

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION from governing body

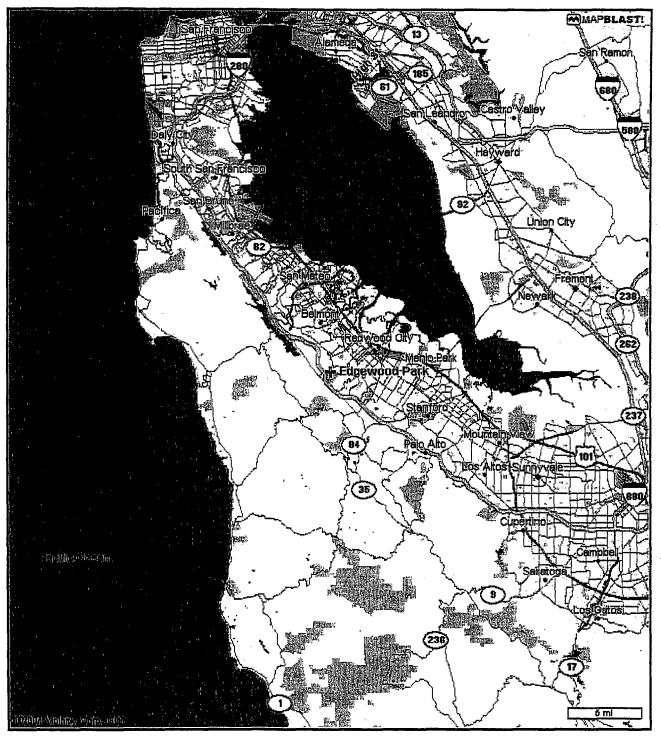
To follow by mail.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Environmental compliance and review cannot be conducted until completion of the planning phase and development of a conceptual plan. At that time, County Parks will satisfy any required environmental review.



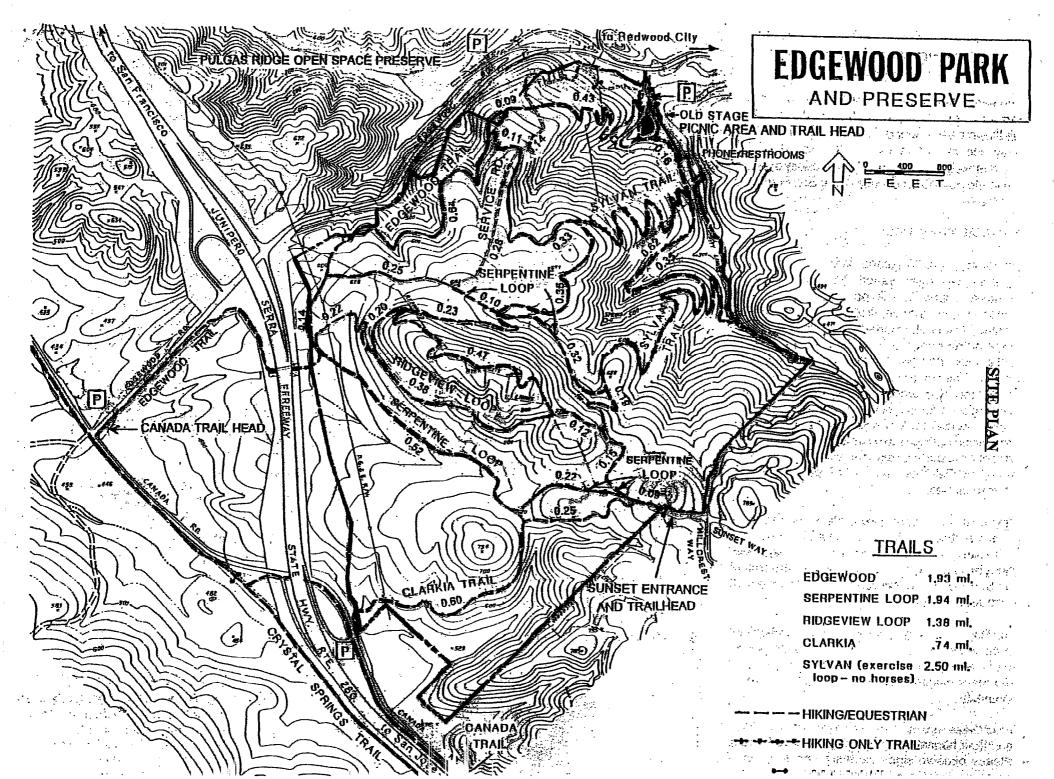
10 Old Stage Coach Rd Redwood City, CA 94062-3822



[Icon Latitude: 37.468781, Longitude: -122.284678]

EVIDENCE OF LAND TENURE

N/A—County Parks owns and operates the subject lands.



Shooled area is owned and operated as good good.

Bush hesidemich

SUNSET GATE ACCESSIBILITY AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT EDGEWOOD PARK AND NATURAL PRESERVE IN SAN MATEO COUNTY Project Cost Estimate and Source

Cost Description	Budget		
	Grant \$	Öther's	Other Source
Scope and preliminary planning for the Sunset Gate—including:		7,700	Per Capita (Prop 12)
 Discouraging enter after closure 			
 Providing after hours exiting only 			
Providing equestrian access			
Maintaining emergency vehicle (County and PG&E)			
access			
Creating mobility-impaired accessibility			
Survey		8,700	Per Capita (Prop 12)
Development of Construction Documents		14,000	Per Capita (Prop 12)
Planning and Construction Document Reimbursable Expenses	200	1,600	Per Capita (Prop 12)
Environmental review and permitting	12,000		
Construction document review, bidding and construction review	10,000		1
Construction	105,800		
	128,000	32,000	
PROJECT TOTAL COST	\$160	,000	

PROJECT PROPOSAL

A. NEED FOR THE PROJECT (60 Points)

Deficiency of similar opportunities in the project area

While there are smaller, urban-recreation parks located within a short distance of Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, none provide the as extensive access to hiking trails and habitats of threatened and endangered species. With over 450 acres, Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve provides visitors an array of activities including hiking, equestrian access and exploration of sensitive habitats of endangered species. The nutrient poor serpentine grasslands at Edgewood Natural Preserve support one of the last remaining populations of the threatened Bay Checkerspot butterfly on the San Francisco Peninsula, along with a dazzling diversity of native wildflowers and bunchgrasses.

The Sunset gate is one of four entrances to Edgewood Park. Located on the eastern boundary, the Sunset gate attracts neighboring residents and equestrians. The adjacent neighborhood has grown considerably since San Mateo County first acquired Edgewood Park on October 10, 1980. The neighborhood has developed from a rural community to an established suburb of Redwood City (pop. 80,000). However, the entrance has not kept pace with the changing character of the neighborhood.

Several issues have developed as the surrounding community has grown. The Sunset Gate is the regular entry point for much of Edgewood Park's unauthorized and after-hours use. An adjacent hilltop (see the Site Plan), is a popular location for after-hours loitering and alcohol consumption. Sunset Gate neighbors complain regularly about the disturbance created by after-hours trespassers. Since 07/26/98, there have been 71 recorded incidents of such activity. While an existing chain-link fence deters some unauthorized entry, many trespassers simply scale the fence or squeeze around it.

Despite high attendance proximity to urban centers including Redwood City and San Carlos, Edgewood Park provides only one entrance (the main entrance) that can accommodate mobility-impaired visitors. The difficulty experienced by mobility-impaired visitors, particularly neighboring residents to County parklands, has prompted the San Mateo County Commission on Disabilities to identify County Parks and Recreation facilities as a high priority for providing mobility-impaired access and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, the Commission has begun a site-by-site evaluation of the 17 parks, 14,000 acres, three regional trails and numerous local trails of the County Parks system. This project is part of a concerted effort to better accommodate mobility-impaired park visitors.

While equestrian access has been a part of Edgewood Park since its inception, access at Sunset Gate has been curtailed by the lack of sophistication of the existing gate. Equestrians can enter and exit during park hours. However, when the park is closed and the existing chain-link fence at the Sunset Gate is locked, equestrians can find themselves "locked-in." To exist the park after the Sunset Gate would require exiting from the main entrance which is on the opposite side of the park. This possibility has significantly curtailed use of the Sunset Gate by equestrians.

The deficiencies of equestrian access, limiting unauthorized use and trespassers and making better accommodations for mobility-impaired visitors drive the Sunset Gate Accessibility and Improvement Project at Edgewood Park.

Who will be served by this project and what is the estimated use?

Expanded trail use by diverse populations, including special and economically disadvantaged populations, will receive higher priority. High use will receive higher priority. Projected visitation figures should be cited.

Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve receives approximately 110,000 annual visitors. Approximately 20,000 visitors currently use the Sunset Gate entrance.

Unfortunately there are no quantifiable data on the existing need and projected use by mobility-impaired visitors at the Sunset Gate. Irrespective of the statistical and empirical demand for accessible park facilities or the availability of accessible parks in adjacent park jurisdictions, the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division has an obligation to provide service to all parks visitors. Permitting accessibility barriers based on a demand formula is contrary to the County Parks mission, which is to provide "safe, accessible parks, recreation and learning opportunities to enhance the community's quality of life." County Parks "believes in treating everyone with dignity and respect."

This project will increase the number of mobility-impaired visitors to Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve by increasing the number of entries accessible to mobility-impaired visitors.

This project will also allow equestrian visitors an additional entrance and egress.

Is your project supported by others (non-profit groups, public agencies, or citizen groups)? If so, attach letters of support. Is there additional support for the project (outside funding, donated materials, volunteer labor, trail patrols)?

The Friends of Edgewood support this project. Please find attached a letter of support from the Friends of Edgewood.

How is the project consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), Statewide Trails Plan, city, county, or regional master plan or the applicant's general plan.

This project is consistent with the County general plan as well as the Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve master Plan. Specifically, the Edgewood Park master plan calls for providing access and amenities for disabled visitors where feasible.

This project is also consistent with the California Outdoor Recreation Plan (1993). This project responds to the demand for trails¹. Specifically, the project fosters multi-use by accommodating both pedestrian as well as equestrian use. The project also works to remove barriers for mobility-impaired visitors.

How will this project connect or compliment other trails or result in the development of urban trail linkages near homes and workplaces?

¹ The California Outdoor Recreation Plan 1993, p. 136. Issue 8: Responding to the Demands for Trails.

Located within an adjacent neighborhood, this project will greatly facilitate the linkage between the neighboring residents and the expansive network of trails connected to Edgewood Park.

This project enhances the quality and quantity of recreational opportunities and link with other trails available in the community and the region. From the Sunset Gate, visitors have access to all of the trails within Edgewood Park (over 8 miles). In addition, the Edgewood Park network of trails provides access to other trails including the Crystal Springs Trail Complex (a nearly 14 mile long network of trails that runs along San Francisco's Crystal Springs Reservoir, Huddart and Wunderlich County Parks network of trails (approximately 52 miles) and the San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Are there additional points of interest that contribute to the project (historic, cultural, geographical or scenic)?

Projects providing natural, cultural, historic or scenic characteristics will receive a higher priority. This project links visitors to the wealth of scenic and natural resource assets Edgewood Park has to offer. Edgewood Park is home to a variety of endangered species including the Bay checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha bayensis). The park also possesses habitats supporting endangered species. Visitors have the opportunity to travel through these areas (on designated trails) and see firsthand these areas.

Describe how the project provides for diversified recreational uses and/or trail corridor sharing?

Projects meeting the highest demonstrated demand in terms of compatible trail uses will receive higher priority.

This project provides for both equestrian and pedestrian use through the trailhead. The project will also include bicycle racks for those who travel to the Sunset Gate by bike. Unfortunately, bicycle access is not allowed in Edgewood Park due to the sensitive nature of the habitat.

B. ACCESS (20 Points)

Describe the available access to the project site (public transportation, bicycle lanes, staging areas, etc.) and/or how the project will improve access.

This project will allow for greater access by equestrians and mobility-impaired visitors. It will also accommodate bicycle travelers by providing racks on which they can secure their bicycles. While there are no class-2 bicycle lanes approaching the project site, the low traffic volume facilitates bicycle travel.

Describe the degree to which your project provides trail linkages near homes, workplaces and other recreational open space.

As noted above, this project enhances the quality and quantity of recreational opportunities and link with other trails available in the community and the region. From the Sunset Gate, visitors have access to all of the trails within Edgewood Park (over 8 miles). In addition, the Edgewood Park network of trails provides access to other trails including the Crystal Springs Trail Complex (a nearly 14 mile long

network of trails that runs along San Francisco's Crystal Springs Reservoir, Huddart and Wunderlich County Parks network of trails and the San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail.

C. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY (10 Points)

Discuss your capability for developing, operating, or maintaining trail projects or similar projects.

San Mateo County Parks has a good record of initiating and completing grant projects in a timely manner. County Parks has a history of delivering Land and Water Conservation Grant fund projects. Most notably, County Parks received \$1 million in 1977 for Coyote Point Park Development project. In addition, County Parks has delivered several projects using other grant funds administered by State Parks and Recreation including the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Booklet Production project (HT-41-002) and the Pillar Point Marsh Acquisition Project (HW-41-001). County Parks currently has several grant projects with the State Department of Parks and Recreation. These projects include the Old San Mateo County Courthouse (GF-41-013), the Pescadero Performing Arts Center (GF-41-007), and the North Fair Oaks Playground (GF-41-006).

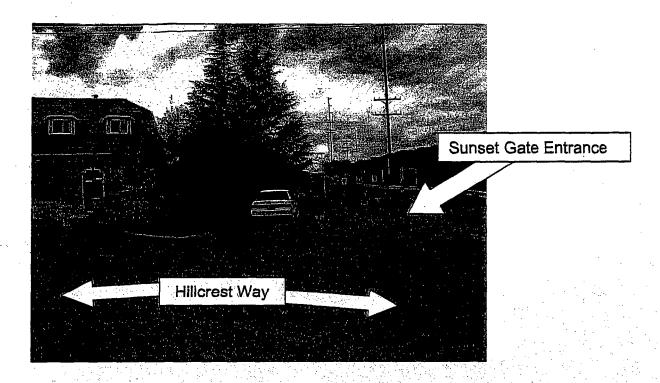
As the grant applicant, San Mateo County Parks is responsible for the operation and maintenance of all playground facilities within Coyote Point Park. County Parks has developed, operated and maintained Coyote Point since its acquisition in 1962. Coyote Point Recreation Area has a \$1.2 million operation and maintenance budget from County Parks \$8 million annual budget.

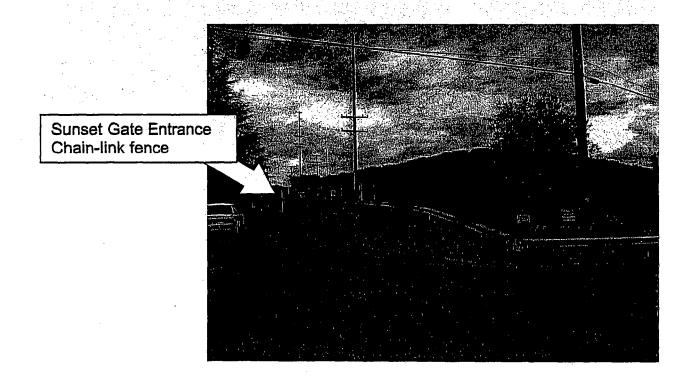
In addition, the San Bruno Mountain State and County Park unit supervisor completed the first phase of paving for Old Guadalupe Trail.

D. PROJECT READINESS (10 Points)

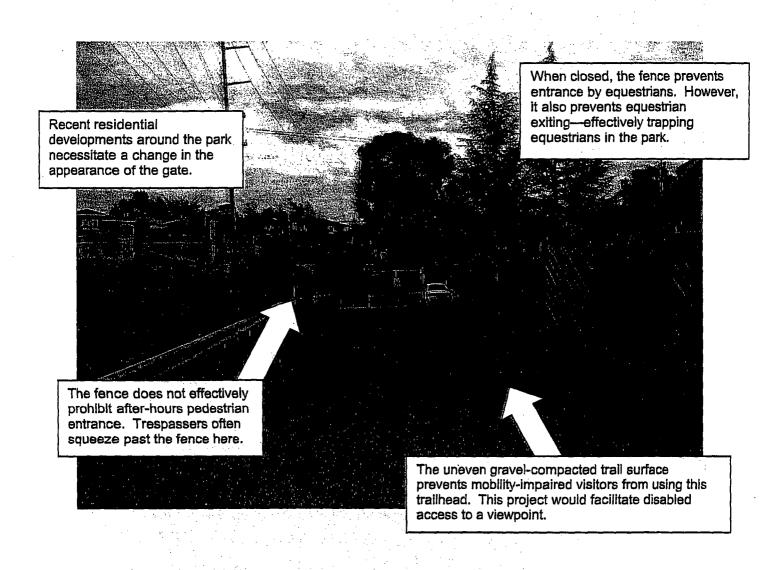
County Parks is prepared to begin the project shortly after approval of funds. County Parks staff has had initial conversations with a landscape architectural firm and conducted cost estimates.

Sunset Gate Entrance at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve





Reverse Angle looking from the entrance to Hillcrest Way



COMPLIANCE WITH HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT MEMORANDUM UNDERSTANDING – RTP GRANT

APPLICANT: SAN MATEO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

PROJECT(S): Sunset Gate Accessibility and improvement Project at Edgewood Park and Natural

Preserve

I have determined that the applicant's acquisition and/or development project's will not adversely affect cultural properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. This determination is contingent upon the applicant's concurrence that any plans for development, not to exclude minor improvements involving ground disturbance, will be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer for review and comment at the earliest opportunity. In the event that development plans will not be formulated and/or implemented by the applicant, but by another agency or group, the applicant will assume the responsibility for ensuring that all provisions and stipulations contained herein are executed, as needed, jointly with that agency or group or independently by the agency or group. This determination is further contingent upon the applicant's commitment to implement in good faith the following program of compliance with 36 CFR 800, Executive Order 11593 and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

- 1. The applicant accepts the premise that proper cultural resources identification. Evaluation and management will be an integral part of the planning process for the project(s).
- 2. Accordingly, prior to the commencement of any physical development activity, the applicant or his designee will arrange to have appropriately qualified professionals perform such investigations as may be necessary to:
 - a. Identify, evaluate and manage any cultural values located within the project(s)'s potential area of environmental impact that are included in or may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
 - (1) If, after consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, any values not already included in the National Register are determined to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, the applicant or his designee will nominate them to the Register according to established procedures. Nominations shall be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer no later that six months after the adoption of a final development plan.
 - b. Determine, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, if and to what extent, these values may be adversely affected by planning, development, operation and maintenance activity.
 - a. Develop and implement prudent and feasible measures, acceptable to the applicant or his designee and the State Historic Preservation Officer, capable of either effectively mitigating or avoiding adverse effects on National Register and National Register values. Avoidance and protection will be preferred objectives. However, should discussions indicate that only something less is achievable, that course action which is likely to cause the least unnecessary damage to these values will proceed. Documentation of compliance with each of these stipulations as needed will be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer of review and comment in a timely fashion.

The applicant or his designee will unliaterally determine the time most suitable for the commencement of cultural resource investigations acknowledging, however, that:

1. They will constitute a part of the planning process providing data for sound, advance-planning decisions.

2. They will be completed before a final development plan is adopted and any physical activity begins.

Failure to comply with any of the provisions and stipulations therein contained shall constitute ground for revocation of a no adverse effect determination and shall require full application compliance with the Advisory Council procedures.

	Main	_
Ву	Marcia Raines, Director, Environmental Services Agency Authorized Representative	
	10/01/01	
Date		
	To Be Completed By State	
Ву	STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER	
		_
Date		



FRIENDS OF EDGEWOOD NATURAL PRESERVE

P.O. Box 3422, Redwood City, CA 94064-3422 • (866) GO-EDGEWOOD • www.friendsofedgewood.org

Board of Directors John

2001

Allen Carol Belew

Toni Corelli

Peter Ingram

Kathy Korbholz

> Lennie Roberts

> > Bob Young

September 28, 2001

State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
Recreation Trails Program

Attention: Grants Administrator

Subject: County of San Mateo Recreation Trails Program Grant Application

Reference: Sunset Gate Accessibility and Improvement Project at Edgewood

Park and Natural Preserve in San Mateo County

Dear Grants Administrator,

I am pleased to write to you in support of the above-referenced grant application. The Friends of Edgewood have been advocating since 1996 that improvements for better accessibility and higher security occur at this, the primary neighborhood entrance to Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve. We have been especially concerned about the continuing problem of after-hours ingress into the sensitive habitats just inside the Sunset gate. Over the past 6 years, our volunteer trail patrol has documented numerous incidents of illegal trespass, many of which have resulted in damaged and trampled grassland habitat as well as vandalism to trail barriers and signs. There have been many evidentiary reports of illegal smoking and even small fires in the chaparral-covered hillsides above the grasslands. We fear that it is only a matter of time before there is a significant wild fire in Edgewood that will be considered avoidable. A secure gate at the Sunset Entrance would be the most effective tool to mitigate both the continued damage and fire threat to Edgewood. We urge you to approve this grant so that this important project may proceed.

The Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve is a California Public Benefit Corporation incorporated under the endorsement of the Secretary of State, State of California, April 10, 1996. We are exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the tax code. Our current membership numbers 195 households. Our purpose — and sole focus — is "Preserving Edgewood for

the Human, Plant and animal Generations to Come". We see this proposed project as consistent with preservation of this unique place.

Thank you for your consideration of the County's grant application. If there is any additional information that we can provide, please don't hesitate to contact me through the County of San Mateo Parks & Recreation Division.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Ingram

President and Board Member

Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve