




**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
**Inter-Departmental Correspondence**

Department of Parks

**DATE:** August 3, 2009  
**BOARD MEETING DATE:** August 25, 2009  
**SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING:** None  
**VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** David G. Holland, Director, Department of Parks 

**SUBJECT:** Request for a One-Time Waiver of the \$5.00 Vehicle Entry Fee to San Mateo County Parks

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing a one-time waiver of the \$5.00 vehicle entry fee to Coyote Point Recreation Area and Flood, Huddart, Junipero Serra, Memorial, San Bruno Mountain, and San Pedro Valley County Parks for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 26, 2009.

**BACKGROUND:**

National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with three federal agencies and 700 volunteers. Last year 120,000 volunteers worked at over 1,800 locations and in every state. Now eight federal agencies and many state and local lands participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands. The focuses of National Public Lands Day are to educate citizens about critical environmental and natural resources issues and the need for shared stewardship of our public lands; to build partnerships between the public sector and the local community based upon mutual interests in the enhancement and restoration of public lands; and to improve public lands for outdoor recreation, with volunteers assisting land managers in hands-on work.

This will be the third year that County Parks will participate in National Public Lands Day. For the first year of participation, open houses were held at several parks to provide information on the natural resources specific to those parks through walking tours and printed material. Last year two volunteer activities were held with hands-on trail work. This year, there will be open houses at the Crystal Springs Trail, and Huddart and San Pedro Valley Parks, with opportunities for guided walks and



dialogues about volunteer opportunities in County Parks. As in the previous two years of participation in National Public Lands Day, the Board is requested to authorize a one-time waiver of the vehicle entry fee to certain County parks.

**DISCUSSION:**

Allowing a one-time waiver of the \$5.00 vehicle entry fee to these various County Parks supports the 2025 Visioning Plan for an environmentally conscious community in providing residents with an incentivized opportunity to visit our public lands and learn how these environs may best be protected and enjoyed.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

**Performance Measure(s):**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>FY 2008-09 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2009-10 Projected</b>
Education and Volunteer Development	Three volunteer events	Three open houses

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

In 2007 and 2008, the resultant revenue loss from the one-time waiver of the vehicle entry to various County Parks on National Public Lands Day was approximately \$6,500 for each year. Staff expects a similar amount this year if the waiver is authorized. Staff believes however that this revenue loss is offset by the opportunity created to attract new visitors to our parks, the potential recruitment of future volunteers, and the value of volunteer contributions to County Parks. According to the Independent Sector, which is the leadership forum for charities, foundations, and corporate giving programs committed to advancing the common good in America and around the world, the 2007 average value of an hour of volunteer time in California was \$22.79, and the 2008 nationwide estimated value was \$20.25 an hour.