Appendix VI

Neighboring Facilities Report

Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve Interpretive Center Conceptual Plan

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Partial list of Edgewood’s neighboring facilities and organizations that offer interpretive and environmental education opportunities (within a 17 mile radius):

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**Alameda County Office of Education**

Educational resources and opportunities for teachers within the boundaries of Alameda County include the residential environmental education center at Camp Arroyo (located in Livermore [beyond this 17-mile radius]), printed curricula, access to the Davis Street Smart Environmental Education Center in San Leandro (where the four Rs are showcased in exhibits) and a host of student activities.

**Ardenwood Historic Farm**

Located in Fremont as part of the East Bay Regional Park District*, Ardenwood is a 205-acre farm site recreated as a late 19th century homestead. The Victorian Patterson House, domestic animals, gardens, craft demonstrations, farm equipment displays, plantings and harvests are all designed to impart awareness of local agrarian history. Nature walks, evening programs, seasonal events, and self-guided walks are available.

**Bay Trail**

The Bay Trail is a recreational corridor that, when completed, will encircle San Francisco and San Pablo Bays with 400 miles of continuous cycling and hiking trails. The San Francisco Bay Trail Project is a nonprofit organization advocating implementation of this trail system.

**Butano State Park**

Located on the San Mateo Coast, this 2,200 acre state park** is situated in a redwood canyon. Trails and camping facilities are available. Education programs consist of guided natural walks, weekend campfires, and a Junior Ranger program.
Coyote Hills Regional Park

Located in Fremont as part of the East Bay Regional Park District, Coyote Hills is best known for both its archaeological features (shellmound sites of the Ohlone Indians) and abundant bird life. A boardwalk traverses the marsh and a one-mile self-guided trail connects the Park to the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Naturalist-led hikes and other programs are offered; Coyote Hills also features a Visitor Center where the public may view exhibits, receive literature, or attend a program.

Coyote Point Museum

Located in Coyote Point Park, the Coyote Point Museum for Environmental Education features an Environmental Hall (four descending levels from the Bay to the Pacific Ocean) with exhibits that integrate dioramas, interactive media and graphics. Fifty live animals are displayed in wildlife habitats; a small walkthrough aviary and series of gardens (Hummingbird Garden, Butterfly Habitat and Nature’s Marketplace) are also featured. Programs are extensive, ranging from tours in the museum and in the field (to Fitzgerald Marine Reserve to the marsh at Coyote Point, as well as to five San Mateo county parks) to theme-based programs, four-week programs, teacher workshops, group learning and family activity days, and service-learning projects.

Coyote Point County Recreation Area

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation facilities, Coyote Point is a large recreation complex located on San Francisco Bay. Swimming, fishing, picnic facilities, marina, boat launching ramp, fully accessible swim ramp, footpaths, firing range, and playgrounds are available.

Deer Hollow Farm

Located within the Rancho San Antonio Open Space Reserve, owned and operated by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and funded by the City of Mountain View, Deer Hollow Farm serves as a 10-acre working homestead, complete with gardens and a reconstructed Ohlone Village. Classes for students range from two to four hours in length.
Elkus Ranch

Situated five miles south of Half Moon Bay, the 600 acre Richard J. Elkus Ranch is operated by the University of California Cooperative Extension Service. The Ranch features a farmhouse, new 4,400 square foot Ranch center, network of hiking trails, platform sleeping tents, two barns, gardens, greenhouse, lathhouse, and an array of farm animals. Programs include ranch tours, content-specific programs (i.e. energy flow, cycles, adaptations, world of food and fiber) and overnight stays where students explore the Ranch and coastal environment and participate in ranch chores.

Environmental Volunteers

Based in Palo Alto, but well represented through the Bay Area, Environmental Volunteers provide hands-on, inquiry-based, volunteer-driven natural science educational opportunities through school services, projects, and summer camp programs. At any one time, a variety of K-8 programs is offered on such topics as baylands ecology, foothills ecology, marine ecology, geology, and early California Indian life.

In partnership with UC Santa Cruz Extension, Environmental Volunteers also offers an Environmental Education Certificate Program for academic credit for K-6 teachers.

Exploring New Horizons

A private, non-profit environmental education organization that operates from two different locations along the San Mateo coast: Camp Loma Mar and Pigeon Point (as well as the Sempervirens Outdoor School in Santa Cruz). Resident and field trip excursions are offered for primary and secondary students. The Loma Mar program focuses on redwood and oak woodland ecology, sandy beach and intertidal ecology. The Pigeon Point program focuses on marine and redwood ecology, and lighthouse history.

Flood Park

Located in Menlo Park, Flood Park is part of the original Flood Estate, well known for its large specimens of oaks and bay trees. The park is managed by the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division, and features group picnic areas, sport facilities, and playground.
Half Moon Bay State Beach

Managed by California State Parks, Half Moon Bay State Beach has three access points at Francis Beach, Venice Beach, and Dunes Beach. The Coastside Trail runs along the eastern boundary, parallel to a horse trail. A new interpretive center is scheduled to open in the summer 2002. Field trips, environmental living programs, Junior Rangers, and Litter Getters programs are offered through the park system.

Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center

Managed by the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District, the Center is located along the Hayward Shoreline adjacent to a salt marsh harvest mouse preserve, marsh, mudflats, and salt evaporation ponds. Exhibits focus on the human and natural history of the Shoreline, as well as changing art exhibits in the foyer. A large classroom and wet lab accommodates school groups, and naturalist programs are offered on a variety of topics, including the Ohlone culture, migratory waterfowl, preschool Nature Detectives, and mud ecology.

Heritage Grove

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Heritage Grove consists of one of the last remaining stands of old-growth redwoods in the region. Its trees may be the largest redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Trail construction and patrol, exotic plant removal, and habitat restoration volunteer opportunities are available through the Park Division’s Volunteer Program. Trails connect to parts of Pescadero Creek Park.

Hidden Villa

Located on 1600 acres of farmland and wilderness in the Los Altos Hills, Hidden Villa is a private, non-profit institution whose programs teach environmental and multicultural awareness through summer camps, elementary programs, community programs, weekend youth and family programs, and volunteer and internship opportunities (organic gardening, office work, and trail maintenance).

Huddart Park

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Huddart Park is located in Woodside adjacent to Crystal Springs Riding and Hiking Trail on the north and Wunderlich Park on the south. This 900-acre hillside park is home to
several plant communities including coast redwood forest, chaparral, and mixed evergreen forest (tanbark and coat
live oaks, madrone, California laurel, and Douglas fir). Equestrian and hiking trails transect the park and include the
Richards Road Trail and ¾ mile (fully accessible) Chickadee Nature Trail. Family picnic sites, five group picnic areas,
three shelter buildings, three youth campgrounds, amphitheater, play fields, and archery range are available.
Volunteer activities through the Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Parks include trail construction, habitat restoration,
and trail patrol.

James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

A San Mateo County Parks and Recreation site and home to a host of intertidal organisms, Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
at Moss Beach is designated as an “Area of Special Biological Significance” due to the richness of its shoreline and
reefs. Facilities include a picnic area, restrooms, and a small building that houses an office and displays. Staff, docents
(Coyote Point Museum) and volunteers (the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Life Refuge) offer educational and
interpretive programs, including tours, workshops, seminars, and classes.

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve

Managed by Stanford University and located in the eastern foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, the 1189 acre
Preserve is home to serpentine grasslands, chaparral slopes, mixed evergreen forests, oak woodlands, and
freshwater wetlands. It is designated a biological field station and remains the focus of extensive ecological research,
including landmark studies by Paul Ehrlich and Harold Mooney. Docent-led tours of the Preserve are offered to the
general public. Interpretive walks are scheduled from fall to spring; wildflower tours take place almost daily from mid-
March through April. Elementary and secondary students gain access to the Preserve through the efforts of the
Environmental Volunteers and through Stanford students who train as docents.

Junipero Serra Park

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Junipero Serra Park is located near the cities of San Bruno
and Millbrae. Its views of the Bay Area are spectacular, as are its spring wildflowers in both the grasslands and
wooded foothill communities – remnants of the natural landscape before European settlement. The park offers several
short hiking trails along its 108 acres, family picnic areas, overnight and day use youth group facilities, and small visitor
center at Park Headquarters with exhibits on the park’s varied habitats. Trail construction and patrol, exotic plant
removal, and habitat restoration volunteer opportunities are available through the Park Division’s Volunteer Program.
Memorial Park

Established in 1924, Memorial Park is the oldest park in the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division. The 499-acre Park features old-growth redwood forest, wintering habitat for steelhead in Pescadero Creek, ten miles of trails including the self-guided one-mile Mt. Ellen Nature Trail and Tan Oak Nature Trail for those with disabilities, family picnic sites, six youth group areas, group picnic sites, two group camping area, amphitheater, and camp store. The interpretive center has exhibits on natural and cultural history, live animal displays, and other media. Park staff provide campfire and naturalist programs, guided walks, and nature programs during the summer months. Trail construction and patrol, exotic plant removal, and habitat restoration volunteer opportunities are available through the Park Division’s Volunteer Program.

Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District

Located in the San Francisco Bay area, the District currently manages 46,500 acres within 26 open space preserves. Docents who have completed a district training program offer a variety of free, guided walks throughout the preserves.

Palo Alto Baylands

Representing the largest tract (1600 acres) of undisturbed marshland in the San Francisco Bay, the Baylands Preserve is owned and operated by the City of Palo Alto. A salt marsh boardwalk and 15 miles of multi-use levee trails offer some of the best bird watching opportunities on the west coast. The Lucy Evans Baylands Nature Interpretive Center features an interpretive center with exhibits and classroom/laboratory. Programs include guided nature walks, tours by canoe, slide shows, preschool programs, two- and three-hour salt marsh explorations, bird watching programs, and mud labs.

Pescadero Creek Park

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Pescadero Creek Park is comprised of three county parks: Sam McDonald, Memorial, and Heritage Grove Parks. Pescadero Creek flows year-round and serves as steelhead habitat. The land also offers nesting habitat for the endangered marbled murrelet. Future plans may include restoration for coho salmon as well. Park features include the Shaw Flat and Tarwater Trail Camps, and hiking and equestrian trails.
**Pescadero Marsh Natural Preserve**

Located across the road from Pescadero State Beach, Pescadero Marsh comprises 360 acres of wetlands formed where Pescadero Creek and Butano Creek drain into the Pacific. The marsh is north of Pigeon Point Lighthouse, off Highway 1, and is well known among birders for its abundance of migratory waterfowl and shorebirds (as well as largest single populations of the endangered San Francisco garter snake and red-legged frog). Free guided walks are offered through California State Parks.

**Portola Redwoods State Park**

Operated by California State Parks and located near La Honda, Portola Redwoods is comprised of canyons filled with coast redwoods, Douglas fir and live oak, as well as ancient marine deposits. Peters Creek and Pescadero Creek cross the land, as do eighteen miles of trails, including a short nature trail along Pescadero Creek. Ranger-led field trips, Junior Ranger and Litter Getters programs are offered.

**Pescadero State Beach**

Operated by California State Parks and located south of Half Moon Bay, Pescadero State Beach offers one mile of shoreline with sandy coves, tidepools, and cliff formations. Fishing and picnicking are allowed, and ranger-led field trips are offered.

**Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve**

Located in Woodside along the western slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains, established through the efforts of the Save-the-Redwoods League, owned and operated by the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District, the Preserve encompasses 2,633 acres in Purisima Creek Canyon. A series of trails, including the ¼ mile fully accessible Redwood Trail and portions of the Bar Area Ridge Trail, are found here.

**Rancho San Antonio County Park**

One of Santa Clara County’s most popular parks, the 165-acre Rancho San Antonio County Park is leased by the County to the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, resulting in 2,300 acres of contiguous open space and trail systems.
The County offers interpretive services throughout its park system. Park interpreters offer on-site and classroom programs in natural and cultural history.

**Sam McDonald Park**

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Sam McDonald Park in Loma Mar consists of 850 acres of redwood forest contrasted with open ridges and brush areas which, in spring, offer wildflower displays. Interconnecting trails, accessible to hikers, joggers, and equestrians, link Pescadero Creek, Memorial, and Sam McDonald Parks. Three youth group campgrounds and one horse camp are available for reserved use. The Hikers' Hut is operated by the Sierra Club, and offers rustic group accommodations.

**San Bruno Mountain State and County Park**

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, San Bruno Mountain is located at the northern end of the Santa Cruz Mountains in Brisbane. Comprised of 2,267 acres – home of 14 species of rare or endangered species including the bay checkerspot – San Bruno is well known for its ecological significance. Coastal scrub and grasslands are dominant habitats, and hiking is the most popular activity in the park. Family and group picnic sites, overnight and day camp, and eight trails are found here. Volunteers with the Friends of San Bruno Mountain provide educational opportunities and habitat restoration. Heart of the Mountain volunteers work within the San Bruno Mountain Stewardship Project, a partnership between the California Native Plant Society and the San Mateo County Park and Recreation Department.

**San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail**

The ridge trail is a 400-mile trail that connects open space districts and parks, including those of San Mateo County, along the ridges of San Francisco Bay. The Bay Area Ridge Trail Council is a nonprofit organization that offers outings and volunteer opportunities on the ridge trail system.

**San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Don Edwards)**

Part of the National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) System, the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR has two centers of operation: refuge headquarters and visitor center near Fremont and the refuge environmental education center near Alviso. Perched on a hillside above salt marsh, sloughs, mudflats, and saltponds, the visitor center features wildlife
exhibits, bookstore, and auditorium. A network of trails, boardwalks, and bridges allows for bay exploration. The environmental education center is located at the southern end of the Bay, surrounded by uplands, marshes, salt ponds, and freshwater tidal sloughs. Two classrooms, auditorium, enclosed observation tower, trails, and boardwalk are heavily used by educators and students. Two types of all-day free field trips are offered: Wetland Round-Up and Trekking the Refuge. Field trip orientation workshops, environmental education workshops (i.e. Aquatic Project WILD), audiovisual lending library, and educator guides (i.e. Salt Marsh Manual) are also available for teachers.

**San Mateo County Historical Museum**

Located in the old courthouse of Redwood City, the San Mateo County Historical Museum interprets the history of the Peninsula through permanent and changing displays and exhibits, including “Nature’s Bounty” and the recently installed “Journey to Work!” Guided tours of the Museum are available (single classes only). Docents from the Museum also handle the education programs at the Sanchez Adobe (4th grade) and Woodside Store (4th grade). Programs include Providing Plenty: The Natural Resources of San Mateo County, Riding High: Life on the Great Estates, and History Mystery: Archaeology and the People of San Mateo County. School outreach programs and three traveling trunks are also offered.

**San Mateo Fishing Pier**

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation facilities, the pier is actually a portion of the old San Mateo Bridge. Additionally, it serves as a trailhead for the Baylands Trail.

**San Mateo Outdoor Education – San Mateo County Office of Education**

Located in La Honda at the YMCA’s Camp Jones Gulch, the San Mateo Outdoor Education program is a week-long residential program for 5th and 6th grade students. The program focuses on both experiential and environmental education. Course content includes the physical and social sciences, art, and music, in addition to providing the opportunity for students to gain social skills.

**San Pedro Valley Park**

Located in Pacifica and one of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, San Pedro Valley Park is situated on 1250 acres of grasslands, scrub, oak woodlands, and riparian areas along the middle and south forks of San Pedro
Creek – home to spawning steelhead. The Park offers group picnic areas, family picnic areas, self-guiding nature trail, eight hiking trails, and a Visitor Center. The Center features exhibits on the ecology of the San Pedro Valley, a park library, and bookstore, staffed by volunteers who also perform trail repair and habitat restoration.

**Sanchez Adobe**

Located in Pacifica and one of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation historical sites, the Sanchez Adobe (1846) provides a venue for historical interpretation. The adobe is furnished with period pieces; archaeological evidence of the 17th century Mission Dolores Outpost is also found here. Docents from the San Mateo County Historical Association offer a living history program depicting life on an early California rancho for fourth grade students in San Mateo County schools. Storytelling and demonstrations such as brickmaking and corn grinding are also offered. The five-acre adobe site is reached using the lower trails from San Pedro Valley Park.

**Sawyer Camp Trail**

One of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation sites, the multi-use 6.2 mile Sawyer Camp Trail begins at Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir in San Mateo and ends in Millbrae.

**Stevens Creek and Upper Stevens Creek County Park**

Part of the Santa Clara County Park system, the 1042-acre Stevens Creek and 1,095-acre Upper Stevens Creek Parks are located in the foothills between Saratoga and Cupertino. Stevens Creek includes a large reservoir accessible to fishermen and non-power boaters. Both parks are located in densely wooded areas and offer many recreational resources including picnic facilities, group picnic area, archery course and range. Upper Stevens Creek may be accessed through Stevens Creek Park and functions as one of a chain of many publicly owned lands located along the peninsula skyline. The Bay Area Ridge Trail also passes through Upper Stevens Creek.

The Friends of Stevens Creek Trail are currently working on extending the existing 3½ mile Stevens Creek Trail in Mountain View. School district and Environmental Volunteers representatives serve on the Friends Advisory Council and are working together to provide access to the creek for hands-on and service-learning opportunities.
Sulphur Creek Nature Center

Located in Hayward, Sulphur Creek Nature Center is a wildlife education and rehabilitation facility supported by the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. Naturalists and docents offers classes, family programs, and summer camp using live animals. The Center is comprised of the Discovery Center, exterior enclosures (wildlife exhibits), local grasslands and a riparian corridor within the canyon.

Sunnyvale Baylands Park

Managed by the City of Sunnyvale, Baylands Park consists of 70 acres of regional parkland and an additional 105 acres of seasonal Wetlands Preserve at the south end of the San Francisco Bay. Group picnic facilities, small group picnic areas, play features, Baylands Grove Amphitheater, and two miles of unpaved pathways are found here. A boardwalk and overlook onto the Wetlands Preserve provide wildlife watching opportunities. The San Francisco Bay Trail can be accessed from the park.

Walden West, Santa Clara County Office of Education

Walden West Center is a residential outdoor program for 5th and 6th grade students, operated by Santa Clara County Office of Education. Students study forest, meadow, and stream ecology using the 35-acre site in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains near Saratoga as their laboratory.

Woodside Store

Located in Pacifica and one of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation historical sites, therestored Woodside Store (1854) served as a general store, post office, and dental office during the region’s redwood lumber era. Docents from the San Mateo County Historical Association offer a living history program depicting life in the 1880s for fourth grade students in San Mateo County schools. Among their activities is an opportunity to launder clothes using a washboard and wringer, saw wood, and fill orders from the shelves of the general store. Special programs, including horse shoeing and blacksmithing demonstrations, are also scheduled. The site can be accessed through Huddart Park.
Wunderlich Park

Located in Woodside and one of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation parks, Wunderlich Park consists of equestrian and hiking trails set amidst 942 acres of open meadows, coast redwoods, and woodlands of oaks and madrones. Equestrian use is heavy – the old Wunderlich barn is used for horse boarding. Volunteer activities through the Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Parks include trail construction, habitat restoration, and trail patrol.

*East Bay Regional Park District has produced educator guides on the natural and cultural history of the park district, Parkland Discoveries and More Parkland Discoveries. Naturalist services are available for schools and other groups—a calendar of programs is published in their monthly newsletter, Regional in Nature. Portable displays and study kits for classroom use are also available for rent. Youth program offerings are published in Special Programs for Youth brochure.

East Bay Regional Park District and the Regional Parks Foundation, in cooperation with CSU Hayward Extending and Continuing Education, also offer an Educators Academy for academic credit.

**California State Parks offers guided field trips that focus on natural history, cultural history, and environmental living at many park sites. In addition, the Park system offers environmental studies programs (heavily emphasized in their sites within the Counties of Santa Cruz and Monterey where the beach Garden Project and Snowy Plover Guardians program have been launched), school outreach programs, Junior Rangers, Junior Lifeguards, and Litter-Getters.

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