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**DATE:** August 13, 2019

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Don Rocha, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Metcalf Motorcycle County Park Track Construction and Maintenance Project

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Consider recommendations relating to Metcalf Motorcycle County Park Track Construction and Maintenance Project.

Possible action:

- a. Adopt Resolution adopting Negative Declaration based on findings that the Negative Declaration was prepared in accordance with law and reflects the County's independent judgment and analysis; that the Board of Supervisors has considered the Negative Declaration and all comments received during the comment period; and, that there is no substantial evidence in the record that the Project will have a significant impact on the environment. (Roll Call Vote)
- b. Identify the Clerk of the Board and County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department as the location and custodian of the documents or other material that constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no impact to the General Fund. Funds for the Metcalf Motorcycle County Park Track Construction and Maintenance Project at Metcalf Motorcycle County Park are available in Parks Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

**CONTRACT HISTORY**

None.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Adoption of the Negative Declaration will fulfill the requirements of CEQA and enable the Parks Department to implement the Metcalf Motorcycle County Park Track Construction and Maintenance Project (Project) at Metcalf Motorcycle County Park (Park).

The Parks Department filed the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration (NOI) and the Initial Study and Negative Declaration (IS/ND) with the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. The filing commenced a 20-day public review period (circulation) that began July 11, 2019 and ended July 30, 2019 (CEQA Guidelines §15105(b)). For the Project to proceed, the Board of Supervisors would need to consider the findings and adopt the proposed Negative Declaration for compliance with CEQA.

The Project consists of combining the existing Motocross and Grand Prix motorcycle tracks, creating or enhancing temporary soil amendment storage areas at five locations, and making modifications to the existing emergency and service access trail used by Park staff.

The new Motocross track will include construction of approximately 2,950 feet of new track. Minor adjustments to final mileage may occur during construction. Approximately 3,870 feet of the existing track will be abandoned in favor of re-routes; the abandoned track routes will be planted and restored to a natural condition. Throughout its length, the track will be widened to 16 feet generating fill that will be used to reinforce berms at banked corners. The total grading area of the track widening portion of the project is approximately 1.37 acres, however approximately 1.07 additional acres of former track alignments will be obliterated and restored to a natural condition post-construction. A net loss of 530 linear feet of developed track area will result from track abandonment and narrowing in several locations. Figure 2 in the IS/ND provides a graphic representation of the project description. Additional track work includes redesigning and enhancing the existing features as well as cleaning and dressing track edges and infield areas to ensure proper drainage and remove obstructions.

Four temporary soil amendment storage areas will be created adjacent to the emergency and service access trail to house soil to be spread on the new Motocross track. A fifth storage area is existing and will be enlarged consistent with the dimensions of the four new storage areas. Baserock material will be added to the existing access trail from the parking lot to each storage area. The cubic feet of each storage area may change annually depending on need but will not exceed 75 x 75 feet with an approximately 3-4-inch deep baserock pad. The distance range from the parking lot to the furthest storage area is approximately 1,405 feet.

An existing 10- to 12-foot-wide emergency and service access trail runs along the perimeter of the existing Motocross and Grand Prix tracks. Approximately 470 feet of new emergency and service access trail will be graded, which will provide staff safer and quicker emergency and service access without driving along or across the Motocross track. Two sections of the existing emergency and service access trail, totaling approximately 1,100-feet or 0.3 acre, will be abandoned and returned to a natural condition.

The Project site is entirely within the perimeter of the existing service trail and can be divided into two distinct zones. The eastern zone, which consists of the existing Motocross

track and existing/proposed temporary soil storage areas, is located in a previously disturbed area. The western zone or the area of the existing Grand Prix track, is relatively undisturbed, except for the Grand Prix track and service trail, and vegetation consists primarily of coyote brush. The majority of the approximately 0.3 acres of vegetation, consisting of coyote brush, invasive species, and non-native grasses, that will be permanently cleared during construction is located in the western zone. The dominant soil type in the project area is clay. Drainage will flow to existing silt catchment basins. Straw waddles will be in place during construction and the area will be revegetated with native plants and grasses post-construction.

### **CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action will have a positive impact on children and families as the new Motocross track will be redesigned to be a competition-level facility and the redesigned service and emergency access road will provide safer and quicker emergency response.

### **SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action will have a positive impact on seniors as the new Motocross track will be redesigned to be a competition-level facility and the redesigned service and emergency access road will provide safer and quicker emergency response.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action will have a positive impact on sustainability since the five new soil amendment staging areas will be strategically located near the areas of need. This will prevent depositing soil in the parking area and repeated hauling of soil to the Motocross track.

### **BACKGROUND**

Metcalf Motorcycle County Park is a 459-acre off-highway vehicle (OHV) park located on Metcalf Road in Santa Clara County. The Park, the only OHV park in the County, offers over 20 miles of OHV trails and tracks including 12 miles of main trails (beginning and intermediate) and 8 miles of single-track expert trails. Other park facilities include a motocross competition track, mini-motocross track, beginner's oval track, shaded picnic areas, public restrooms, paved and unpaved parking areas, and a park office/visitors center. The Park also includes a Quarter Midget racetrack, which is owned and operated by Baylands Quarter Midget Racing Association in an area leased from the Parks Department.

Park staff pursued and secured a motocross track construction and maintenance training opportunity as part of the Motocross and Grand Prix track redesign project. Via this training,

the Department is poised to undertake the improvements identified following adoption of the ND. Site improvements will better accommodate existing users by providing a competition-level Motocross track. The project area and project details are described within the Project Description of the IS/ND.

The County of Santa Clara is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), §15051(b)(1) and the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed project. In accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code §21000 et seq., the Parks and Recreation Department (Parks Department) prepared the Initial Study (CEQA Guidelines §15063(a)) and Negative Declaration (CEQA Guidelines §15070(a)) for the Metcalf Motorcycle County Park Track Construction and Maintenance Project at Metcalf Motorcycle County Park (Project), provided as Attachment A.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to adopt the proposed Negative Declaration will result in the Parks Department not being able to implement the Project. As a result, the staff will not receive training on constructing and maintaining a motocross track, the Park's Motocross track will not be designed as a competition-level facility, the Grand Prix track will remain underutilized, soil will continue to be hauled across the Park to areas in need, and staff will need to drive on or beside the Motocross track during emergencies, potentially creating a hazardous situation.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Within three days of adoption of the resolution adopting the Negative Declaration (CEQA document), notify Michael Hettenhausen, Associate Planner, Parks and Recreation Department, at [Michael.Hettenhausen@prk.sccgov.org](mailto:Michael.Hettenhausen@prk.sccgov.org).

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution- Metcalf Motorcycle Park Track Construction and Maintenance (PDF)