

## CONCORD HILLS REGIONAL PARK LAND USE PLAN

### WORKSHOP SUMMARY

#### Public Meeting #3: Draft Preferred Alternative Review

Concord Senior Center | 2727 Parkside Circle | Concord, CA 94519

March 24, 2016 | 6:30- 8:30pm

### EVENT OVERVIEW

Approximately 34 members of the public and stakeholders participated in a workshop to review the Draft Preferred Alternative for the future regional park at the Concord Naval Weapons Station. The workshop included a presentation of the project background and interactive stations where participants were asked to provide feedback on various elements of the Draft Preferred Alternative, including:

- » Interpretive programming
- » Park Naming
- » Roads, Trails, and Staging Areas
- » Recreational and Educational Facilities
- » Other Comments and Ideas



An overview of next steps for the development of the land use Plan and Environmental Impact Report was also included in the presentation. Questions and comments from the public following the presentation indicated general support and enthusiasm for the Preferred Draft Alternative, as well as concern regarding access to the Visitor Center from Bailey Road and concern that key topics such as Native American history and railroad history be incorporated into the Plan.

All of the stations included a site map and questions that participants were asked to answer directly on the board or by drawing on the map.

### Interpretive Programming

The interpretive programming board outlined the approach to interpretation in the Draft Preferred Alternative, which includes two key interpretive zone areas and multi-thematic interpretive nodes throughout the park. The board additionally outlined the overarching themes presented as part the Draft Preferred Alternative and asked participants to weigh in on these themes, as well as potential methods to engage the public through interactive elements.

Workshop participants voted on their preferred method of interpretation using stickers. As shown in the results above, permanent and temporary exhibits and interpretive signage received the most votes. Workshop participants were also asked to record additional thoughts about interpretation on separate pieces of paper. These included:

- » David & Goliath Story - Port Chicago town story
- » Port Chicago (NPS) visitors often don't know about town - oral history collection
- » Big picture of life pre/post Port Chicago story
- » Oakland Museum examples of good interactive exhibits
- » Can't go home again: the town of Port Chicago
  - o How to compare/contrast with the Black Diamond ghost towns

- » Protests – anti-war, etc.
- » Native people’s history
- » Current descendants [of Native people]
- » Landscapes layered with history (noted as Jerusalem-layers)
- » Railroad history (rail along Diablo Creek identified as important)
- » Interpretation: Use of “Zoo Key” to turn on audio interpretation at key sites (Noted on Recreational and Educational Facilities Board)



Method	Number of Votes
Permanent and Temporary Exhibits	5
Interpretive Signage	3
Walks, Talks and Tours	2
Interactive Elements	2
Multimedia Tours	1
Living History	1
Other	1
Performances and Film Screening	0
Public Art	0

## Park Naming

The naming board included a list of names for the park that had been recommended in future workshops and asked participants to vote on those names or to add a new one. Diablo Valley Regional Park was added as a suggestion but was also included as a recommended name from a previous meeting. The naming board also asked participants to suggest names for different features within the park; no names were suggested.



# Roads, Trails, and Staging Areas

The roads, trails, and staging areas map asked participants three questions:

## 1) How would you change the proposed road network?

Participants indicated that they would like to have access to the Visitor Center complex from Bailey Road.

## 2) How would you change the proposed trail network?

Participants would like to add trail (pedestrian connections) from existing neighborhoods to the north (Mariners/Evora). Participants would also like to maximize ADA access for trails and create longer segments of ADA trails.

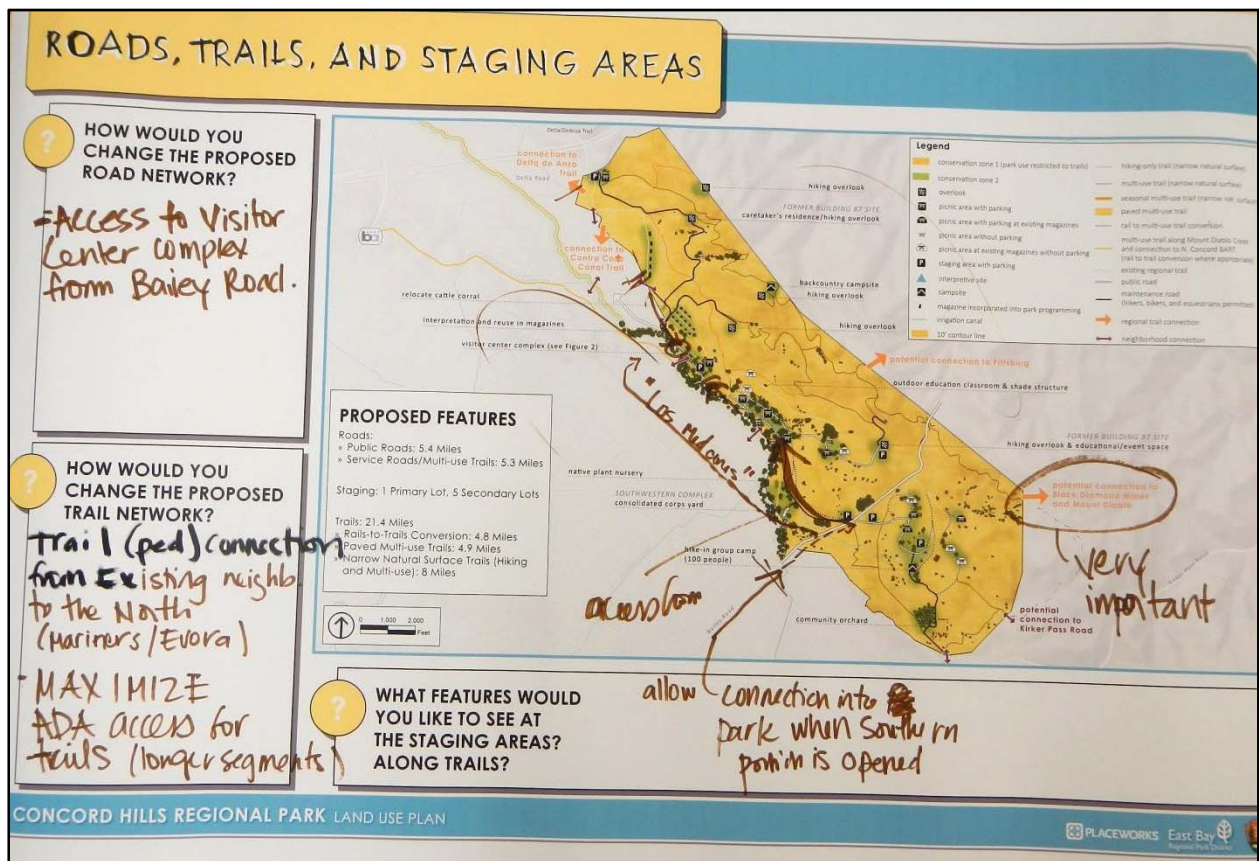
## 3) What features would you like to see at the staging areas? Along trails?

Participants did not add anything to this section.

Participants additionally marked up the map with notes. These included:

- » Marking the potential connection to Black Diamond Mines and Mount Diablo as very important.
- » Extending vehicular access to Bailey Road.

Participants also indicated that it would be helpful to see the park in the context of regional trails and open space and to have more labels for roads on the map.

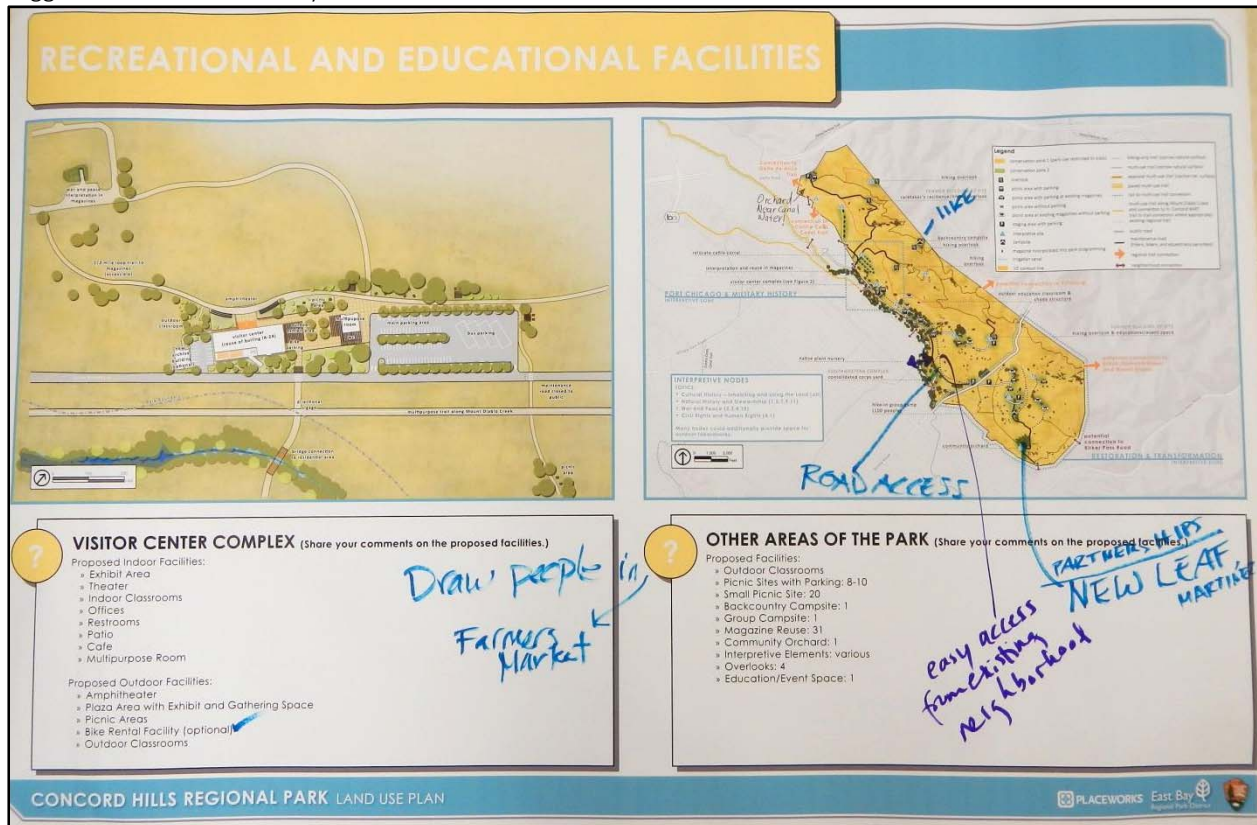




## Recreational and Educational Facilities

The recreational and educational facilities board included a plan for the Visitor Center Complex in addition to the park as a whole, and asked participants to provide feedback on the facilities presented in both plans.

For the Visitor Center Complex, a farmers market was added as a potential facility as a way to draw people into the site. For the full site map, the backcountry campsite was highlighted as being a popular idea. A neighborhood connection point was added near the southwestern complex, and a partnership with New Leaf in Martinez was suggested for the community orchard.



On additional paper, participants added the following items as potential facilities or interpretive elements:

- » Park benches with shade or umbrellas
- » Manual pump or push car for railroad/races

## Other Comments and Ideas

The other comments and ideas board asked participants to share any additional thoughts on the Draft Preferred Alternative and prompted ideas within the following categories: habitat protection and enhancement, volunteer programs, operations, and other comments. Participants did not write directly on the board, but added the following items on a separate page:

- » Several people agree – Desire to see Bike/Ped Access from Clayton Canal/E. Concord developed concurrently with park
- » Minimize off-leash dogs & cattle (or designate areas)
- » Room for horse Trailers
- » Maps are hard to orient/add more labels
- » Support for regional trail connections
- » Provide guided walks before park opens (like Save Mount Diablo does)