Approximately 56 members of the public attended the first community meeting for the southern Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) on June 7, 2017. As part of the sign-in process, participants were given an opportunity to identify their favorite public access points and recreation activities within Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve (Las Trampas).

During the presentation on the project, staff provided a brief overview of the approximately 760-acre southern Las Trampas study area and the various conditions tied to each of the project elements. This meeting also served as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meeting. A link to the meeting following the presentation, attendees had the opportunity to pose questions and provide comments relating to the southern Las Trampas LUPA and provide input into subjects to be addressed during the environmental analysis of the proposed project.

A summary of these public comments follows.

- Community members requested that sight line safety of the staging area ingress and egress, analysis of vehicle acceleration and deceleration, road frontage setback, aesthetics and landscaping amenities all be taken into consideration with regards to the proposed Chen staging area.
- There was consensus on prioritizing pedestrian, bicycling, and vehicle safety along Bollinger Canyon Road, particularly in regards to reduced speeds and coordinating with Contra Costa County on road safety designs.
- Community members asked for a summary of the District’s grazing practices at Las Trampas and staff confirmed that a grazing program will continue in the Long-Term Management Plan as part of an effort to reduce wildfire hazards in southern Las Trampas, including within the conservation easement properties. Staff also confirmed that the District’s own fire department has a mutual aid agreement with the local fire department to address fire safety in the project area.
- Community members were interested in the multi-use trails within the project area, including trails for mountain biking, and trail amenities, such as wayfinding signs and additional public access through trailheads.
- Community members wanted to know more about the land use planning process and how they can provide their input. Staff went over the timeline of the land use plan amendment and reiterated that the meeting was the first public scoping meeting with the primary purpose being to provide information about the project and to receive input from the community.
- The level of analysis under CEQA required for the project has not yet been determined, but will cover all new trails and the new staging area. All amenities on the Podva property are covered under the Redhawk (Podva) Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The open staging area and trail on the Elworthy properties were covered under the Quail Ridge EIR. These project components will not require further environmental analysis.

Staff will take all input from the community into consideration as the Land Use Plan Amendment is developed. Staff anticipates having a draft document ready for public review by the fall/winter of 2017/2018.

STAYING INVOLVED
There are several easy ways for you to receive information and participate in the southern Las Trampas Wilderness LUPA process and other District activities:

- Request to be placed on the southern Las Trampas Wilderness LUPA e-mail mailing list
- Visit the District website at the following link: http://www.ebparks.org
- Volunteer - Information about our volunteer program can be accessed at the following link: http://www.ebparks.org

For more information, please contact Neoma Lavalle at nlavalle@ebparks.org or (510) 544-2626, or Kim Thai at kthai@ebparks.org or (510) 544-2320.