

2950 PERALTA OAKS COURT P.O. BOX 5381 OAKLAND CALIFORNIA 94605-0381 T: 1-888-EBPARKS F: 510-569-4319 TRS RELAY: 711 WWW.EBPARKS.ORG

12:30 p.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee
FROM: Mimi Waluch, Business Services Manager
DATE: September 13, 2018
SUBJECT: Review of Anthony Chabot Equestrian Center Request for Proposals

The Anthony Chabot Equestrian Center (ACEC) is an East Bay Regional Park District equestrian concession located in Anthony Chabot Regional Park. ACEC is open to the public and offers horse boarding, riding lessons and other programs such as horse day camps, horse shows, and educational and instructional clinics. There are 65 stalls available for boarding, an indoor arena, an outdoor arena and a large turn-out paddock. Two stalls may be used for the Park District’s Public Safety horses. There is a hay barn, a shavings bin, a manure bin, a clubroom, and two residences. Mona Ellingson has operated this facility since January 2010, and along with park staff have overseen many improvement projects to the facility and worked diligently to maintain all regulatory and safety related needs.

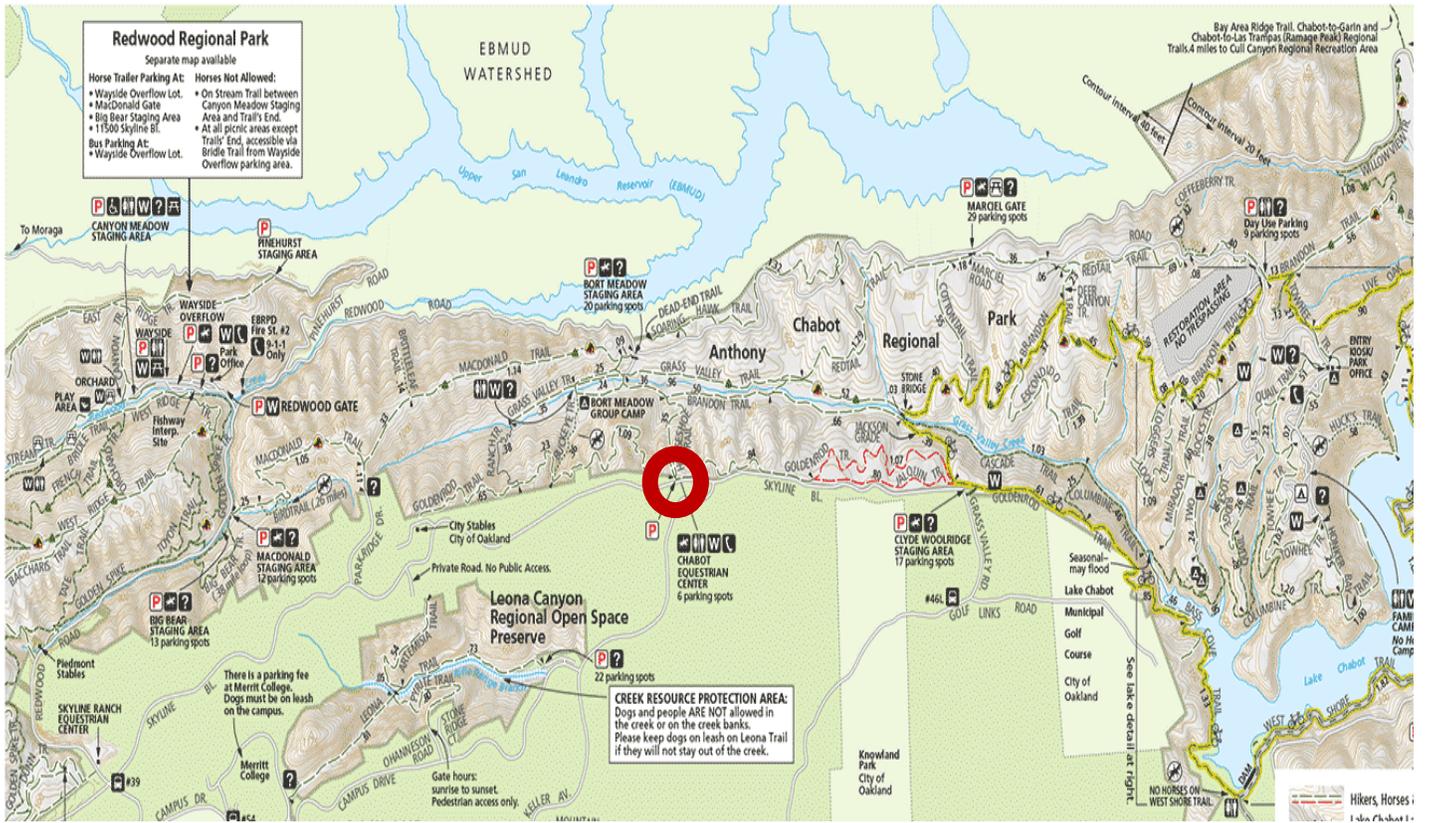
On June 29, 2018, the Park District issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking an experienced operator to manage the equestrian concession at the end of the current operator’s term of December 31, 2019. To offer open competition to the public, the equestrian center RFP was advertised in the local newspapers, posted on the Park District’s website, posted on a government RFP advertising website, sent to three local horse associations, and fourteen local horse barns. The Park District received one submittal from Mona Ellingson, the current operator of ACEC.

Park District staff and representatives from Mid-Peninsula Open Space District and City of Oakland Recreation and Parks Department reviewed the proposal and interviewed Mona Ellingson to determine how she would best accomplish the defined expectations listed in the RFP and meet the Park District’s concessionaire agreement requirements. After consideration of the proposal and interview, it was determined that Mona Ellingson best met the Park District’s criteria and confirmed that she would continue to be a responsible and reliable stable operator, accomplish the Park District’s expectations, and accept the Park District’s concession agreement requirements if awarded the contract.

District staff recommends the Board Operations Committee approve and recommend to the full Board a two-year concession agreement with one five-year option period at the Park District’s discretion, to Mona Ellingson to operate the Anthony Chabot Equestrian Center, term starting January 1, 2020. There is no cost to the Park District for this action. The Park District can expect annual concession fees of \$13,300 and concession maintenance fund fees of \$31,050, based on a percentage of gross sales from the operation of a full-service equestrian facility at Anthony Chabot Equestrian Center.

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12:50 p.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee
FROM: Ira Bletz, Interpretive and Recreation Services Northwest Regional Services Manager
Jeremy Saito, Recreation Supervisor
DATE: September 13, 2018
SUBJECT: Update: District-wide Bus Transportation Program

Interpretive and Recreation Services Manager Ira Bletz and Recreation Supervisor Jeremy Saito will provide an update of the District-wide Bus Transportation Program.

The presentation will include a recap of the expansion of the bus program beyond Parks Express to include all of the Park District’s transportation support for groups. The program coordinates transportation for groups participating in a wide range of Interpretive and Recreation programs including school field trips for low income students, Kids Healthy Outdoor Challenge (KHOC), Community Outreach, Fish Friends, Richmond Rangers/Adventure Crew, Teen Eco Action, special events at visitor centers and Vasco Caves tours.

Beyond Interpretive and Recreation Services, the transportation effort supports programs in other divisions and departments including, Public Affairs and Aquatics. Buses are provided for Multicultural Wellness Walks, the Stay Healthy in Nature Everyday (SHINE) program, Jr. Lifeguards, and Aquatics Adventure Camp. The transportation program eliminates a substantial barrier that can prevent many groups from visiting their Regional Parks to enjoy nature and participate in environmental education, recreation, health, and wellness activities.

Each year the demand for buses increases as programs expand and new initiatives are launched. The District-wide Bus Transportation Program has seen a 30 percent growth over a three-year period, with 340 buses scheduled for field trips to throughout the Park District in 2015, and a total of 478 in 2017. To meet the demand, the Park District has entered into contracts with seven different bus companies.

One of the biggest challenges is fulfilling requests with limited bus availability from the service providers. A recent trend being experienced across the charter bus industry is a lack of driver availability, as they leave for higher pay to drive for Bay Area “tech companies,” including Google, Apple and Facebook. Over 800 shuttle buses transport an average of 34,000 passengers per day throughout the Bay Area.

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