

# County of Santa Clara

## Parks and Recreation Department

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[www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org)



April 21, 2008

City of San Jose  
Attn: Allen Tai  
200 East Santa Clara Street, Tower, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113-1905

**Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration for a General Plan Amendment & Urban Growth Boundary Modification (GP06-02-02/ UGB06-001)**

Dear Mr. Tai:

The Santa County Parks and Recreation Department ("County Parks Department") is in receipt of an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for a General Plan Amendment and Urban Growth Boundary modification for the proposed project site at the intersection of Piercy Road and Silicon Valley Road. The County Parks Department's comments are primarily focused on potential impacts related to the *Santa Clara County Countywide Trails Master Plan Update* relative to countywide trail routes, public access, and regional parks.

The IS/MND should include a discussion related to the *Santa Clara County Countywide Trails Master Plan Update*, an element of the Parks and Recreation Section of the County General Plan, that the Board of Supervisors adopted on November 14, 1995. In addition, the IS/MND should also consider the goals, objectives and guidelines of the *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Master Plan for the Coyote Creek Parkway County Park*, that the Board of Supervisors adopted on March 20, 2007. The Natural Resource Management goals stated in the Master Plan include but are not limited to the following:

- **GOAL NRM-4:** Preserve, and where appropriate, enhance a continuous, multi-tiered riparian habitat corridor with dynamic physical processes that promotes native biodiversity and supports threatened and endangered species.



- **GOAL NRM-5:** Preserve and enhance wildlife linkages through the riparian habitat corridor and to adjacent natural areas for the benefit of native biodiversity and support threatened and endangered species.
- **GOAL PR-1:** Consistent with resource programs, retain existing recreational use areas and facilities where feasible.
- **GOAL PR-2:** Enhance the multi-use trail system of the Parkway while providing manageable access points.

## **PUBLIC SERVICES**

### **4.13.1.4 Parks (Page 78)**

The IS/MND states “the City of San Jose provides parklands, open space and community facilities for public recreation and community services. Some of these facilities are provided in conjunction with or are supplemented by other public uses such as schools, county parks and land uses for flood control purposes.” The IS/MND should acknowledge the nearby Coyote Creek Parkway and Hellyer County Parks and regional trail routes as regional facilities for public recreation.

## **RECREATION**

### **4.14.2 Setting (Page 83)**

The IS/MND does discuss the nearby Coyote Creek Trail (Route S5), however, the IS/MND should also describe the following countywide trail routes, which offers opportunities for non-motorized transportation connections to the surrounding neighborhoods, parks, trails, and open space areas.

- ***South Metcalf Connector Trail*** (Route C23) – designated as a route within other public lands for hiking, off-road cycling and equestrian use. The South Metcalf Connector Trail route runs along the southern edge of the project site. The nearby Coyote Creek Trail would connect to the future South Metcalf Connector Trail.
- ***Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail*** (Route R1-A) -designated a trail route within other public lands, for hiking, off-road cycling, and equestrian use. This trail follows the established paved trail along Coyote Creek.
- ***Bay Area Ridge Trail*** (Route R5-D) from Santa Teresa to Anderson Lake – designated as a trail route within other public lands for hiking, off-road cycling and equestrian use. This trail follows the established paved trail along Coyote Creek.

The IS/MND includes discussion on Basking Ridge Park, a local city neighborhood park in the vicinity of the project site. The IS/MND should also include a discussion of the Coyote Creek Parkway and Hellyer County Parks and how they provide regional recreational opportunities for future residents.

The IS/MND does acknowledge the future use of residents benefiting from the recreational facilities in the area. However, the IS/MND should also address the impacts of the increased usage on the nearby Coyote Creek Parkway County Park.



**Board of Supervisors:** Donald F. Gage, Blanca Alvarado, Peter McHugh, Ken Yeager, Liz Kniss  
**County Executive:** Peter Kutras, Jr.

## TRANSPORTATION

### 4.15.2 Setting (Page 86)

The IS/MND does acknowledge that the Coyote Creek Trail is the nearest designated bikeway path. However, the IS/MND should also acknowledge the proposed South Metcalf Connector trail route (C23) along Silicon Valley Road, immediately adjacent to the project site, as an opportunity to provide trail connections between the project site and the nearby parks and countywide trails network.

The IS/MND should evaluate the project's potential traffic and circulation conflicts that may impact the planned regional trail route along Silicon Valley Road. In addition, the design of ingress and egress from the project site should take into account the future trail routes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Initial Study and Negative Declaration for a General Plan Amendment and Urban Growth Boundary modification. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please feel free to contact me at (408) 355-2230 or via email at [Kimberly.Brosseau@prk.sccgov.org](mailto:Kimberly.Brosseau@prk.sccgov.org).

Sincerely,



Kimberly Brosseau  
Park Planner III

cc: Jane Mark, Senior Planner



Board of Supervisors: Donald F. Gage, Blanca Alvarado, Peter McHugh, Ken Yeager, Liz Kniss  
County Executive: Peter Kutas, Jr.

## Tai, Allen

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**From:** Tai, Allen  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2008 4:51 PM  
**To:** 'Kimberly.Brosseau@prk.sccgov.org'  
**Cc:** Danielsen, Akoni; 'Kristy Le'; 'Bryan Kientz'  
**Subject:** Comments on the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration for a General Plan Amendment & Urban Growth Boundary Minor Modification (File Nos. GP06-02-02/UGB06-001)

**Attachments:** Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Dept Comment Letter.pdf

Dear Ms. Brosseau,

Thank you for your comment letter on the matter referenced in the subject line. Unfortunately, we just received your letter today, and the ND was adopted on Monday, April 21st at 5:00 p.m. The project was heard by the Planning Commission Monday evening, and the Commission had recommended approval of the Urban Growth Boundary minor modification and denial of the General Plan amendment and Urban Service Area expansion. The recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council, who will be considering the project on Tuesday, May 20th at its evening session here in the City Hall Council Chambers starting at 7:00 p.m.

We have thoroughly reviewed your comments and we acknowledge that the nearby Coyote Creek Parkway, Hellyer County Parks and regional trail routes as facilities and opportunities available for public recreation. With regard to your comment regarding potential traffic and circulation conflicts and increased usage of the planned trail route along Silicon Valley Road, since there is no actual development proposal on file the subject environmental analysis for the General Plan amendment was completed at a program level. Future development on the site will be required to conduct a near-term traffic analysis and assess any operational conflicts with trail routes and address the impacts of increased usage on Coyote Creek Parkway County Park.

Your comment letter will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration along with the project on May 20th. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you.

Regards,

Allen Tai, AICP Project Manager  
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