



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION CASCADE CANYON BRIDGES AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Cascade Canyon Open Space Preserve, Fairfax, California

February 16, 2021

The Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) is proposing a project that would install two recreational trail bridges and implement trail improvements at Cascade Canyon Open Space Preserve and has prepared an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Declaration (IS/MND) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The purpose of this Notice of Intent to Adopt an MND (NOI) is to initiate the 30-day public review and comment period on the IS/MND. The document and the online comment form is available for review on the Marin County Parks website at [Cascade Canyon](#). Due to restrictions associated with COVID-19, hardcopies of the document are not available to review at the MCOSD administrative office or the local library.

The comment period is February 16, 2021 through March 19, 2021 at 5:00pm.

Comments can be submitted online using the online comment form at [Cascade Canyon](#), by email, or USPS as follows:

Jon Campo, Principal Natural Resources Planner; jcampo@marincounty.org
Marin County Open Space District; 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260; San Rafael, CA 94903

A public meeting is scheduled via ZOOM on March 4, 2021, 5:00 – 6:30pm. The meeting can be accessed from this link: <http://bit.ly/CascadeMeeting>. The purpose of this meeting will be to present information regarding the proposed project and the CEQA document, and to answer questions from attendees submitted during the meeting.

PROJECT TITLE: Cascade Canyon Bridges and Trail Improvement Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Cascade Canyon Open Space Preserve, Fairfax, CA

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. The purpose of the proposed project is to implement the MCOSD Road and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) to provide the public with a safe multi-use trail system to enhance the visitor experience, reduce the environmental impacts of the road on sensitive resources by reducing sedimentation and erosion, and establish a sustainable system of roads and trails that meet design and management standards and would provide year-round access along the trail alignment. The project includes the following elements, which are summarized below and fully described in the Project Description section of the IS/MND:

New Trail Bridges

- Bridge 1 at the Lower Crossing along the Canyon Trail
- Bridge 2 at the Upper Crossing along the Canyon Trail

Trail Improvements

- Realign the Canyon Trail and install bicycle speed control features between Cascade Canyon Fire Road and the south end of Bridge 1
- Change use on the segment of the Canyon Trail between Cascade Canyon Fire Road and the south end of Bridge 1 from hiker/equestrian only to a multi-use, which would provide hiker, equestrian, and cyclist trail use
- Realign trail to align with the bridge approaches
- Install new fencing and signage
- Install a bicycle rack at the preserve entrance

Trail Decommissioning and Restoration

- The High Water Trail
- The Canyon Trail spur segment connecting to the Cascade Canyon Fire Road

The IS identified potentially significant environmental impacts in the areas of Biological Resources and Transportation. Mitigation measures to reduce the significance of these impacts to a less-than-significant level are included in the IS/MND. The IS/MND concludes that, with implementation of the mitigation measures, the proposed project would not result significant environmental impacts.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Jon Campo at jcampo@marincounty.org.