



# City of San Mateo Parks and Recreation Memorandum

*Dennis Frank*  
*San Mateo Parks and Recreation*  
*330 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue*  
*San Mateo, CA 94403*  
*T. 650.522.7544*  
*F. 650.522.7541*  
[frank@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:frank@cityofsanmateo.org)

To: Park and Recreation Commission  
From: Dennis H. Frank, Landscape Architect  
Re: Kingridge Tree Mitigation Project in Laurelwood Park  
Date: July 30, 2014

---

This cover memo explains the Department of Parks and Recreation's involvement and position regarding the Kingridge Tree Mitigation Project in Laurelwood Park.

About three years ago Public Works staff informed Park and Recreation staff about the need for a mitigation site to satisfy impacts that were created by a sewer project known as the Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Line Improvement project. Please refer to the staff report, including the Vicinity Map, for the description and location of Sewer Improvement Project. The biological consultants that were hired by Public Works to find a suitable mitigation site were the same biological consultants that were involved in the Management Plan for Laurelwood Park/Sugarloaf Mountain that was adopted in 2007 by the City Council. These consultants therefore were familiar about the potential improvements contained in the adopted Management Plan that may serve as a mitigation project. After initially looking at various options for mitigation projects within limits of the Management Plan, the project that made the most sense was the expansion of the existing Riparian Corridor within Upper Laurelwood Park along the fork of Laurel Creek that lies adjacent to the existing turf area. The expansion of the riparian corridor in this area is called for in Management Plan's Master Plan Site Plan for Upper Laurelwood Park (See Exhibit A).

Staff agreed to allow Public Works to proceed with the design for the mitigation work but required Public Works Staff to present the project to the Park and Recreation Commission for their comments and provide proper noticing to the public regarding the meeting. Staff also required that the final improvement plans to be submitted for staff review include certain provisions that describe how the impacts from the mitigation project would be mitigated to the approval of Parks and Recreation. Such impacts include how the existing turf area would be affected during the construction period and where the staging areas would be located in Upper Laurelwood Park. These issues have been addressed in the staff report.

The proposed mitigation area includes a 3' high wooden split rail fence adjacent to the lawn area to protect the trees and plant material to be planted since they will be relatively small in size due to a regulatory requirement that plants be grown from seeds gathered at the site. During the management plan review process, members of the public expressed concern about initially proposed fences along Laurel Creek as a subtle means of habitat protection and consequently restricting public access to the creek. In response to this concern, the provision of a fence along the creeks was removed from the Management Plan except where needed for safety reasons, such as along steep drop-offs along the creek where nearby improvements designed to accommodate public access (such

as trails, open turf areas) are located. Staff however believes that in this case the fence along with proposed signage is justified as a means to protect the newly planted vegetation until the riparian trees and plantings have established themselves. The required tree establishment and environmental monitoring period as mandated by the regulatory agencies that have jurisdictional review authority over the Sewer Line Improvement Project and the Mitigation Project ranges from 6 to 10 years. Once established the low fencing could be removed.

The Master Site Plan for Upper Laurelwood Park also includes the provision for a trail along and within the Riparian Zone adjacent to the open lawn area designed in a way that would foster nature discovery and observation (See Exhibit A). Development of this Discovery Trail will therefore will need to occur after the 6 to 10 year tree establishment and environmental monitoring period.

Staff supports the proposed mitigation project in Upper Laurelwood Park as these improvements would accomplish another phase of improvements within Laurelwood Park per the adopted Management Plan.

NOTE: CREEK LOCATION SHOWN IS APPROXIMATE BASED ON AERIAL SURVEY

## LEGEND

- EXISTING LIGHT FIXTURE
- PROPOSED BOLLARD LIGHT FIXTURE
- Ⓞ PROPOSED TRASH AND RECYCLING RECEPTACLES

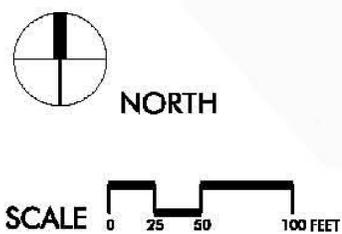


## PARKING REQUIREMENTS

LAND USE	QUANTITY	REQUIRED PARKING
PASSIVE TURF AREA	28,000 SF	6 STALLS
PLAY AREA	5,000 SF	2 STALLS
PICNIC TABLES	6	15 STALLS
<b>TOTAL PARKING REQUIRED</b>		<b>23 STALLS</b>
<b>TOTAL PARKING PROVIDED</b>		<b>29 STALLS</b>
<b>ACCESSIBLE PARKING PROVIDED</b>		<b>2 STALLS</b>
<b>PARKING RESERVE PROVIDED</b>		<b>16 STALLS</b>

# UPPER LAURELWOOD PARK MASTER SITE PLAN

CITY OF SAN MATEO  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
JULY 2006



MOORE IACOFANO GOLTSMAN, INC.  
800 HEARST AVENUE  
BERKELEY, CA 94710  
TEL: 510/845-7549  
FAX: 510/845-8790  
www.migiam.com

FIGURE 11