



Alameda-Tesla Classification and General Plan Project **STAKEHOLDER MEETING SUMMARY**

Event Name: Recreational Organizations Stakeholder Meeting

Time & Date: Thursday, March 14th | 6:00pm-7:30pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Participating Organizations: Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, California Mountain Biking Coalition, Livermore Hill Hikers, Sierra Club California, Friends of Tesla, Mount Diablo Trails Alliance, NICA, Boy Scouts, Bay Area Ridge Trail, Bay Area Bike Project, San Ramon Valley Mountain Bike Club, Mountain Bikers of Mount Diablo, Oakland Composite MBT, Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay

MEETING OVERVIEW

The Alameda-Tesla Plan project team conducted a virtual stakeholder meeting on Thursday, March 14th via Zoom with representatives from various recreational organizations in the area. The goal of the meeting was for the project team to meet with representatives of local recreation groups and listen to any concerns that representatives had related to the project. The meeting was the second of four stakeholder meetings.

The meeting began with a presentation of the project by the project team, included a Question-and-Answer period, and segued into a facilitated discussion that allowed the representatives to voice concerns, share ideas, and provide feedback on the planning process.

WHAT WE HEARD

The following summarizes what the project team heard during the meeting. The project team will be evaluating this input as work progresses.

Questions

Questions asked by participants during the Question-and-Answer session were addressed by Parks staff and touched on the following topics:

- Communication and social media channels to learn more about the project.
- Methodology to assess potential recreation opportunities.
- Studies conducted to evaluate protected species.
- Protection for sensitive zones at the Alameda-Tesla property compared to similar State Park units.
- Process and differentiation between different classifications and subclassifications.
- Studies on compatible recreation usage and type.
- Construction and maintenance of new and current trails.
- Plans for the 300 acres of land on the north side of Tesla Road.
- Equitable trail access.

- Soil types within the property.
- Meeting date to share the classification recommendations.

Facilitated discussion summary

The following main themes were brought forward by participants during the facilitated discussion.

- **Equitable trail access:** Equitable trail access means access for multiple types of trail users, including hikers, bikers, equestrian users, people with limited mobility, para-cyclists, and more. As part of the planning effort, State Parks should conduct outreach to all user groups to understand their needs and balance resource preservation with recreation interests.
- **Plan a State Park unit for future generations:** Outdoor recreational biking is a popular youth sport. As youth age, they will likely create more demand for new bike trails and facilities. The Alameda-Tesla property is an opportunity to provide new bike facilities while preparing to meet future demand.
- **Design of bike trails and facilities.** State Parks should provide new bike trails that are more suitable for youth or beginners. Currently, many of the trails are too steep for young riders. Participants expressed interest in more single-track trails, as well as facilities for bikers to level-up their skills.
- **Create a mini-destination in the area:** New trails for biking and overnight camping at the Alameda-Tesla property could create a destination for weekend trips.
- **Studies conducted on natural resources:** Overlaying maps of different wildlife species and topography could help the public better understand the site.
- **Preserve Native American resources:** The Alameda-Tesla property has many Native American resources. State Parks should preserve these resources and maintain them as a living classroom for future generations.
- **Conflicting views on natural resources protection and recreation.** Participants were conflicted over the discussion of balancing natural resource protection with recreation. Some participants pointed out that it is possible to protect natural resources and have outdoor recreation, sharing trails (bikers, hikers, runners, etc.) and taking part in volunteering events to restore habitat and repair trails. Authorizing mountain biking will prevent people from creating trails. Other participants recognized the interest in mountain biking; however, they felt that riders who deviate from trails could damage resources and would like to prevent this use altogether.