



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: April 3, 2015

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: April 3, 2015

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Brenda Bennett, Executive Secretary
SUBJECT: Park News

Attached are news items of interest for the Commission.

- February 12, 2015 The Daily Journal article: Push to protect an urban oasis
- February 18, 2015 Examiner article: A soulful stroll through San Pedro Valley County Park
- March 12, 2015 Half Moon Bay Review article: Moss Beach Park Transformed
- March 12, 2015 Half Moon Bay Review article: Spending from Measure A to point B
- April 2015 Northern News article: Devil's Slide Trail
- April 2, 2015 San Jose Mercury News article: Devil's Slide overlook named after late environmentalist Ollie Mayer

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Push to protect urban oasis: San Bruno Mountain eyed for preservation

February 12, 2015, 05:00 AM By Bill Silverfarb Daily Journal Staff

A broad effort is underway to make San Bruno Mountain a priority for conservation as cities and environmentalists team with San Mateo County to leverage grants to preserve the "urban oasis."

San Bruno Mountain Watch and the county parks department has applied to designate the park's 2,326 acres as a Priority Conservation Area with the Association of Bay Area Governments.

The conservation program was established by ABAG, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in 2007 to identify Bay Area lands for environmental conservation and protection.

If San Bruno Mountain, the Bay Area's largest urban open space, is designated a priority, it will allow the county, cities and nonprofits to apply for regional grants to conserve and improve access to the park that is circled by Brisbane, Daly City, Colma and South San Francisco.

Monday night, the Daly City Council unanimously endorsed the county's effort to make the mountain a priority for conservation that will include privately-owned Daly City parcels that will be dedicated to the county for conservation.

Daly City Councilman David Canepa said the endorsement is an important first step in protecting open space.

Additional funding will help pave new trails and walkways to increase access to San Bruno Mountain, part of which is a state and county park.

Canepa is on the air quality board.

"This is a clear message that San Bruno Mountain matters," Canepa said.

The park is especially critical for Daly City residents, he said, who live in the county's densest city.

"Open space is vital to quality of life. The ultimate goal is to see no development whatsoever and to maintain it as an urban oasis," Canepa said.

Seven properties in San Mateo County have already been designated Priority Conservation Areas including:

- Miramontes Ridge;
- Ravenswood;
- Teague Hill;
- Purisma and El Corte de Madera Creek;
- Tunitas Creek and La Honda;
- Windy Hill and Coal Creek; and
- Russian Ridge, Skyline Ridge and Long Ridge.

If approved, San Bruno Mountain would become the eighth.



San Mateo County, cities and environmentalists are seeking to designate San Bruno Mountain as a priority for conservation.

The nonprofit San Bruno Mountain Watch is also looking to preserve 20 acres on the northeast side of Sign Hill in South San Francisco. The land, habitat for the Mission Blue Butterfly, is up for sale now.

“This designation can make it possible for us to think big, by seeing what we can do to connect bike lanes, and walkways from the Pacific Ocean and Bay to San Bruno Mountain. While San Francisco and San Mateo counties are experiencing an economic boom, it is important that we protect existing open space,” Canepa said.

ABAG’s executive board will decide in July whether to add San Bruno Mountain to its Priority Conservation Area list.

bill@smdailyjournal.com

(650) 344-5200 ext. 102

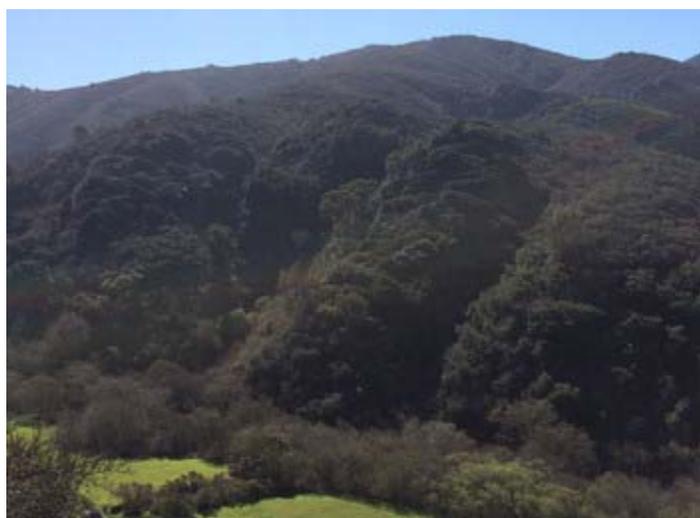
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See also: [local travel](#), [parks](#), [hiking trails](#), [pacificca](#)

A soulful stroll through San Pedro Valley County Park

February 18, 2015

9:01 AM MST



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5 photos



Valley View Trail vista

Beverly Mann

Bay Area residents and visitors looking to escape the crowds and stressful city life don't have far to travel for a mental respite. Just off of the exquisite California coastline, nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountain Range at the foothills of [Pacifica](#), are hidden stretches of scenic trails for the beginner to veteran hiker at [San Pedro Valley County Park](#).

The 1,100 acres of endless greenery is enlivened by a diversity of flora and fauna, several year-round creeks, self-guided nature trails, and scenic Brook Falls in San Mateo's precious coastal town. It is quite frequent to see turkey vultures and hawks soaring overhead, come in full view of deer, brush rabbits, and raccoons. During spring



season, the meadows and neighboring coastline are miraculously laden with wildflowers, and rare plants—such as giant golden chinquapin and western leatherwood, to name a few. Don't be stunned to see a bobcat or gopher snake appear out from nowhere.



Beverly Mann

Just after entering, stop by the Visitor Center for information and maps on trails, and get a sneak preview of the park's rich natural history at the tiny bookstore and library. Each month there are talks presented by Friends of San Pedro Valley to educate visitors on the richness of these surroundings.

It all started in 1769 when explorer Captain Gaspar de Portola was in search of Monterey Bay and discovered San Pedro Valley which became an important link to the Spanish Missions for some valuable resources. The park was an outpost for cattle grazers and provided the fertile soil to produce wheat, fruits, and vegetables. The South Bank is a seasonal water source for the city today.

Hiking Trails:

- **Plasken Nature Trail**, the shortest trail of .1 miles, crosses two short bridges along the South Fork of San Pedro Creek with a lineup of signs describing the fauna and flora found within the park. It's right behind the Visitor Center.
- **Old Trout Farm Trail** is an approximate one-mile loop, and an uphill and downhill trek shaded by trees with calming sounds of running water from the adjacent creek. A pleasant walk for beginners as well as veteran hikers.
- **Weiler Ranch Trail** is one mile each way along a more expansive stretch of greenery banked by the grandeur of mountains in the distance. It is not uncommon to sight a family of deer along the way.
- **Valley View Trail** continues at a 1.6 mile switchback above Weiler Ranch Trail for a more breathtaking landscape view of [Pacifica](#) and the verdant tree-studded mountain range.

Montara Mountain Trail, 2.5 miles one way to the Summit, **Brooks Creek Trail**, one mile, and **Hazelnut Trail**, 3.7 miles, are all reachable in the vicinity of each other and near Old Trout Farm Trail.

Directions: Just a 30-minute drive from San Francisco's Great Highway, take Highway 1, exit on East Linda Mar Boulevard, make a right at Oddstad Boulevard.

Park Hours/ Location:

- Opens 8 am to 5 pm (changes seasonally) with \$6.00 parking fee. Note that seniors get in free Mondays through Friday.

- Located at 600 Oddstad Boulevard, Pacifica, 650-355-8289
- Ranges from easy strolls to challenging climbs
- Reservations for group picnics, call 650-363-4021

Park Rules:

- No pets allowed
- Barbecues are allowed only in barbecue pits using charcoal but no portable barbecues
- No smoking in County [Parks](#), on trails, or at historical sites

Places nearby for lunch, snack, or coffee break:

- [Beach Monkey Café](#) is a great stop for a cappuccino and housemade crispy croissants before or after the hike. Practically everything is made from scratch, with a leaning toward organic. It is in the Adobe Plaza Shopping Center at 986 Linda Mar Boulevard, minutes from the park.
- [Puerto 27 Peruvian Kitchen & Pisco Bar](#), enhanced with ceiling to floor glass windows, has the best views of the coastline as well as creative fare featuring Jalea Mixta (crispy calamari, shrimp, and scallops with yucca and black mint tartar sauce and Lomo Saltado (sautéed sirloin steak strips with onion, cilantro, and soy sauce). Try the Chicha Morada, a purple corn cider drink with unforgettable cinnamon accents.
- [Sun Valley Fine Foods](#) is a grocery store that has a great deli in the back and barbecue every weekend out in front. Good place to stock up for a hike on beverages, snacks, or fresh fruit. Located at 1015 Terra Nova Boulevard at Park Mall Shopping Center which is across the street and opposite the park's main entrance.

For more articles by Beverly Mann, visit website at www.beverlymann.com. To receive her future Examiner.com stories, **press subscribe**.

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Beverly Mann

San Francisco Travel Examiner

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Moss Beach Park transformed

By Julia Reis [julia@hmbreview.com] | Posted: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:31 pm

Midcoast playground built from the ground up by an impassioned group of volunteers is expected to close today for a months-long, \$250,000 facelift.

Moss Beach Park will reopen within two or three months after San Mateo County Parks, with assistance from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, completes the improvements. Changes to the park will include drainage upgrades, new bark chips and fence repairs, in addition to playground structure improvements like two new swing sets and new slides. Sheriff's crews will help County Parks staff with installing new bark chips and improving park drainage, as well as repairing the park fence.

The renovation comes not long after Moss Beach Park was nearly sold at auction to a private developer. The auction occurred because the previous owner — a volunteer group organized to build out the park — neglected to pay property taxes for several years. After an outcry from Midcoast residents, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors voted to assume ownership of the park in December 2013.

Shortly after acquiring the park, the county brought in playground inspectors to note fixes that needed to happen immediately and other components that did not meet current playground safety standards. Crews filed off the ends of bolts and removed the tire swing and surfboard to address safety concerns in the interim while planning for these additional upgrades.

“We had a list of components that don't meet current playground safety standards and worked with Friends of Moss Beach Park in identifying replacements for those components that didn't meet standards,” said San Mateo County Parks Director Marlene Finley.

Friends of Moss Beach Park held a “cocoon play date” at the park Saturday afternoon to raise awareness about the park's impending closure, encouraging children to bring blankets and sleeping bags and dress up in pajamas decorated with animals or characters that change. The group indicated it would hold a “coming out party” once the project is complete.

San Mateo County Parks Ranger David Vasquez fielded questions about the project at Saturday's event and said about a dozen children brought their sleeping bags and crawled into them on the playground as part of an impromptu ceremony recognizing the forthcoming changes. He added that the decent turnout, considering the event was not planned far in advance, is indicative of how much the community cares about Moss Beach Park.



Moss Beach Park is changiong

Seven-year-old Laura Ekeberg comes down the slide at Moss Beach Park on Saturday.

Mark Foyer / Review

“We’ll get it done as quickly as we can, but we want to do a good job on this,” Vasquez said.

The park celebrated its 10th anniversary in October. It was closed for several weeks last spring for the installation of a restroom.

Spending from Measure A to point B

By Mark Noack [mark@hmbreview.com] | Posted: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:29 pm

In November 2012, San Mateo County voters overwhelmingly agreed to pay a little more in taxes with the goal to improve the general quality of life on the Peninsula. By tacking on a half-cent surcharge on purchases, the sales tax dubbed “Measure A” is projected to generate a total of \$925 million by the time it sunsets in 2023.

Measure A is just beginning to bear fruit. In recent days, San Mateo County leaders reviewed their first full year of spending from the sales tax measure. An oversight committee report detailed how the extra funding is beginning to transform public service on the Peninsula.

That lofty goal is very much in the early stages, and so far it’s proven to be a slow, deliberate process to direct that money toward the public good. The initial county report tracked spending for the fiscal year 2013-2014. During that time, Measure A generated just less than \$75 million in revenues, but county departments ended up spending only a fraction of that sum, about \$24 million.

Deputy County Manager Reyna Farrales emphasized that the departments were experiencing a gradual rollout of the program. During the recent economic recession, the county shed about 500 positions. It took time to find the right people to bring back into the fold, she said.

“For the most part, it was about a delay in having to hire people and buying things, and that meant it took awhile to ramp up things,” she said. “Moving forward, you’re going to see better numbers as we start to really spend the money.”

Even though the rollout has been incremental, the first year of Measure A gives a glimpse of the county’s priorities going forward.

San Mateo County Parks Director Marlene Finley credits Measure A for essentially reviving her department. For about three years, the county’s parks had to take a backseat as the government was dealing with recession-driven budget cuts. In 2011, county leaders decided to merge the parks system with Public Works in order to save on costs.

The Parks Department was rebuilt in 2014 after voters passed Measure A and Finley was hired. Today,



Follow the money

A look at where your sales tax dollars go in San Mateo County. Illustration by Bill Murray

county leaders put forward the parks system as a prime example of what the added money can accomplish.

“My position, a few of my rangers, my executive assistant — that’s all paid by Measure A,” Finley said. “We’ve been able to do more with what we have.”

The parks system completed 19 separate projects during the last fiscal year by making use of a \$3.7 million pool set aside for the department. Most of those projects were based on the Bayside to improve or fix deferred maintenance at sites such as Coyote Point, Junipero Serra Park and the Bay Trail.

Finley pointed out that since then many projects had started on the Coastside, including water-system upgrades at Memorial Park and a link to connect the Devil’s Slide Trail to Gray Whale Cove. Mirada Surf, the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve and Quarry Park had also seen improvements, she said.

But determining exactly how much money from Measure A went to individual projects is difficult. Finley pointed out that many projects were funded by an amalgam of sources, such as matching grants, donations and general-fund money. While she couldn’t necessarily break it down by project, Finley could show exactly how her department spent its Measure A money between salaries, travel, conferences and even office supplies.

“It’s pretty complicated for how the pie is sliced on some of these projects,” she warned. “We’re trying to be cost-effective and we’re using a combination of donations, grants and other funding to supplement as much as we can.”

Other departments struggled to detail some expenditures. County Health System spokeswoman Robyn Thaw provided estimates when asked for more information on how a \$995,000 allocation for “Health Prevention” was spent. Of that sum, she believed \$300,000 went toward medical services on the South Coast, including a health campaign to provide vaccines, diabetes screenings and primary health care. She couldn’t provide specifics on how the Health System had spent \$33,000 earmarked for adult mental health care.

Many departments emphasized they were still in the early stages of planning how to make use of the Measure A funding for the best long-term benefit. For example, the County Human Services Agency was provided \$100,000 for veterans’ services in the first round of allocations from Measure A. The agency began using the money last year, spending \$75,000 to prepare a report on veterans’ needs and the remaining \$25,000 on a November forum to discuss how to best address the issue. Those steps were critical in order to build an intelligent solution, said HSA spokeswoman Effie Verducci.

“We won’t throw money at a problem. We’ll seed money to thoroughly examine what we think is an issue or a need that’s being under-met,” she said. “You don’t want to speed through that process. It’s a matter of garbage in, garbage out.”

If anything, county officials are making a concerted effort to demonstrate they’re spending the money shrewdly even as they begin dramatically expanding Measure A to include other programs. The county collected more than 300 new ideas for how to use the special tax money in preparation for a new round of

allocations. Deputy County Manager Farrales pointed out that every program was being tracked and measured on a special county website, performance.smcgov.org. Eventually that website would show how the money was being spent by each geographical area, including the Coastside, she said.



NORTHERN NEWS



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The Devil's Slide Trail

How a state highway became a scenic paradise

By Jonathan Berlin

California has several trails to hell: the Devil's Backbone Trail in the San Gabriel Mountains (precipitous falls to either side), the Devils Kitchen Trail in Lassen Volcanic National Park (boiling and hissing mud pots), and the Devil's Slide Trail (treacherous landslides).

The last trail, which hugs a spectacular rocky coastline south of Pacifica in San Mateo County, is a recent addition to this list. Since its grand opening on an abandoned stretch of State Route (Highway) 1 in March 2014, the 1.3-mile Devil's Slide Trail has already become the most popular destination managed by the San Mateo County Parks Department.

Visitor counts show that an average of 1,100 people come to the trail per day, which amounts to more than 400,000 people per year. This level of interest greatly exceeds the County's early expectations of more than 60,000 people per year. Sam Herzberg, a senior planner at the Parks Department, believes that as awareness of the Devil's Slide Trail grows, it "might become a national or international attraction."

This success story in-the-making did not, however, come easily. It depended on a controversial re-routing of Highway 1 that involved decades of political strife among planners, engineers, and activists.

Bedeviling the engineers

Since the late 19th century, engineers have waged war against the Devil's Slide formation. The first County road was abandoned in 1914, due to rock falls, and replaced with a winding bypass route to the east over San Pedro Mountain. In 1906, the Ocean Shore Railroad between San Francisco and Santa Cruz was under construction when the Great San Francisco Earthquake caused the Devil's Slide section to plunge into the ocean. Following in the shadow of these



1953 slide. Credit: Caltrans.

doomed routes, Highway 1 opened between Pacifica and Half Moon Bay in 1937.

Landslides at the Devil's Slide have resulted in road closures every decade since, some lasting months at a time. In the worst instance, a landslide during heavy winter rains in January 1995, the roadbed dropped about 30 feet, says Herzberg, and Highway 1 remained closed for 159 days.

(continued on next page)

To stabilize the roadway, engineers installed “a 50-foot-long metal girder holding up the road” and bolted a steel net to the slope above to catch detached rocks.

Despite these repairs, the highway remained vulnerable to shifting rocks. The landslide-prone area extends from an elevation of about 900 feet down to at least sea level at the coastline, with a width of about 4,000 feet, according to a guidebook published by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers in 2001. Given the long-term instability of this area, Caltrans considered its repairs to be stop-gap measures until a bypass route for Highway 1 was selected and built.

Political struggle over bypass routes

As early as 1958, the California Division of Highways determined that the Devil's Slide should be abandoned and began studying alternate routes. The California Highway Commission approved a six-lane overland bypass route in 1960 that would have required extensive grading on Montara Mountain. Between 1969 and 1972, Caltrans acquired 55 percent of the right-of-way needed to build the adopted bypass.

However, a coalition of environmental advocacy groups sued Caltrans in 1972 for not preparing an Environmental Impact Statement, as required by the recently enacted National Environmental Policy Act for federally led or funded projects. This lawsuit halted the construction contract for the bypass and directed Caltrans to study environmental impacts.

An overland bypass remained the preferred alignment until the catastrophic landslide of 1995 motivated the County Board of Supervisors to set up an independent panel of technical experts to identify the best alignment. Although the panel recommended building a pair of tunnels through San Pedro Mountain, the Board decided in favor of an overland route.

But San Mateo County citizens took matters into their own hands and approved Measure T in November 1996 to amend the County's Local Coastal Program to select the tunnels as the preferred bypass. The initiative also required that a separate trail for pedestrians and bicyclists be provided outside the tunnels.

Birth of the trail

Through the tunnels' permitting process under the California Coastal Act, the County agreed to assume responsibility for the Devil's Slide Trail. As a condition of approval of the Coastal Development Permit to build the tunnels, approved in May 2004, the County would accept the deed to the old roadway and improve it for non-motorized transportation. The permit also required

that Caltrans build parking lots at the future northern and southern trailheads, says Herzberg.

The County's commitment to building the Devil's Slide Trail was effectively an unfunded mandate. By the time that the Board of Supervisors approved \$2 million for this purpose in the County's 2012–2013 budget, almost a decade later, Herzberg notes that a whole new set of Supervisors had been elected and the expense had to be justified.

Once the tunnels opened in March 2013, the Parks Department used this funding to coat the abandoned roadbed with a polymer to smooth out the surface for bicyclists, to re-stripe it for two six-foot-wide bike lanes and an eight-to-12-foot pedestrian path, and to erect signs and fencing. Two scenic overlooks also were constructed, with benches and coin-operated telescopes.

“I think they did a fantastic job with the benches and lookout points,” says Anthony Ricarte, a resident of Pacifica, who walked the trail on February 15 with Monika Hanson and his two-year-old daughter, Sophia. To improve the aesthetics of the trail, the Parks Department painted three-foot-high concrete barriers known as K-rail in a tan earth tone that approximates exposed bedrock. The inner K-rail serves as a barrier to protect the trail from small falling rocks, says Carla Schoof, a community programs specialist with the Parks Department.

Structural improvements dating to the 1995 landslide remain visible. To Monika Hanson, a first-time visitor from Walnut Creek, old elements such as the series of giant bolts supporting the rock face at Devil's Slide, serve as points of historic interest.



K-rails and bolts. Photo: Andrew Boone, Streetsblog SF.

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Scenic views

But visitors most appreciate the opportunity to enjoy scenic views of the coastline and exposed bedrock.

Jeffrey Chang, a South Bay resident and founder of a high-tech start-up, remembers when the Devil's Slide was open for motorists. "Sometimes we'd stop on the side of the road illegally, just to enjoy the view," he laughs.

After taking his 13-year-old son Andrew to a soccer tournament in Pacifica this February, Chang was excited to find the route open as a trail. Chang brought his entire family to walk the trail, including Andrew, still wearing soccer cleats, and his parents visiting from Taiwan. An avid hiker who has explored Yosemite, Mount Diablo, and other parks, Chang says that the view here is "one of the best" and reminds him of the rocky northeastern coast of Taiwan.



The pow! view. Mount Tamalpais floats in the distance above San Pedro Point. Photo: Jonathan Berlin.



The Chang family. Photo: Jonathan Berlin.

"It's the *pow* of the view," agrees Wendy Antipa, from San Francisco. On a clear day, her husband Greg notes, it is possible to see the Farallon Islands, about 25 miles off the coast, and Point Reyes to the north.

The Antipas were visiting the Devil's Slide Trail "to size up the site for a geology walk" for the Retirement Association at San Francisco State University. The southern end of the trail features exposed granite from Montara Mountain, while road cuts at the northern end reveal rough sedimentary layers of shale and sandstone.

Trail ambassadors

Because the Parks Department anticipated high use of the Devil's Slide Trail – if not 400,000 people per year – and lacked staffing to fully serve the completed trail, it created a Trail Ambassadors program. To date, 50 members of the public have registered as Ambassadors, receiving training in radio use, the history of the trail, and environmental features. In the field, they report trail conditions, answer visitor questions, and communicate with park rangers, says Schoof.

Ambassadors are present on the trail on all weekends, some weekday mornings, and "when there's a really good sunset," says Schoof. One benefit of this program is the skills and knowledge base that local citizens bring, including expertise on native plants and birds.

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Challenges

As a consequence of its popularity, parking at the Devil's Slide Trail can get competitive. About 40 parking spaces exist at the northern and southern trailheads combined.

Immediately after the trail opened, the parking lots filled and visitors resorted to parking on Highway 1, where California Highway Patrol officers ticketed them, says Herzberg. Anthony Ricarte adds that "the parking is kind of a nightmare" on weekends.

To improve parking capacity, the Parks Department is working with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. This partnership may lead to shared parking nearby, with a shuttle running to the Devil's Slide Trail, says Herzberg. Currently, a free weekend shuttle runs from Pacifica to the trail, and SamTrans Route 17 stops at the trailhead, but Herzberg says that there is a lack of awareness about these transit options.

The trail's lifespan also depends on the stability of the Devil's Slide. Heavy equipment operated by the

Parks Department can clear minor rockslides from the trail. But in the event of a catastrophic landslide, if the trail "goes off into the ocean, it's just gone," says Schoof. The Parks Department does not foresee restoring the trail in that case. Herzberg hopes that the trail will last longer than it would have as a motorized route because of the lighter impact of non-motorized users.

In the meantime, the project has underscored the popularity of trails as a means to provide access to valued landscapes and open spaces. And the Devil's Slide Trail has become an active interpretive site informing Californians about coastal geology and our storied state highway system.

*Author **Jonathan Berlin** is an associate environmental planner at Rincon Consultants, where he serves as a lead analyst and project manager for trails and open space planning projects. Berlin also specializes in CEQA/NEPA review and noise impact studies. He holds a master in environmental science and management (MESM) from UC Santa Barbara and a BA in journalism from the University of Maryland. You can reach him at jberlin@rinconconsultants.com ■*

Google's proposal for North Bayshore. In a stunning 10-minute video published on February 27, Google vice president of real estate Dave Radcliffe and architects Thomas Heatherwick and Bjarke Ingels discuss their proposed master plan for Google's new campus in Mountain View. The proposal "focuses on creating space for people, nature, and ideas to thrive." — <http://youtu.be/z3v4rlG8kQA>



Devils Slide overlook named after late environmentalist

Ollie Mayer

By Aaron Kinney akinney@bayareanewsgroup.com

Updated: 04/02/2015 05:58:24 AM PDT

MercuryNews.com

MONTARA -- San Mateo County will name the northern overlook at Devils Slide Trail after late environmentalist Ollie Mayer, whose work helped preserve the rural character of the surrounding coast.

Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Hillsborough, and Mayer's family are among those who will take part in a dedication at 1 p.m. Saturday on the trail, which opened last year after Caltrans completed the Tom Lantos bypass tunnels in 2013.

Lennie Roberts, legislative advocate for Committee for Green Foothills, said the Ollie Mayer Overlook will be a fitting tribute to her friend, a longtime Woodside resident. Mayer died in 2013 at the age of 94.

"She was an avid hiker," Roberts said, "who introduced many people to the joys of hiking in San Mateo County."



The northern overlook at Devils Slide Trail will be named after late environmentalist Ollie Mayer, whose work helped preserve the rural character of the

Mayer was a leader of the grass-roots movement to block Caltrans' original plan to replace Highway 1 at rockslide-prone Devils Slide: an inland bypass cut into the shoulder of Montara Mountain. The group eventually forced Caltrans to build the twin tunnels instead.

The opening of the tunnels rendered obsolete the coastal highway at Devils Slide, located between Pacifica and Montara. The San Mateo County Parks Department now oversees a 1.3-mile trail on the former roadway that offers spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean.

For more information about Saturday's event, go to <http://parks.smcgov.org/ollie-mayer-dedication>.

Contact Aaron Kinney at 650-348-4357 . Follow him at [Twitter.com/kinneytimes](https://twitter.com/kinneytimes).